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SAINT MARY'S PARISH

## MINISTRY DIRECTORY

# Harvesting the Fruits of Stewardship



## GATHER IN!

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October 2008, Fifth Edition

Saint Mary's Catholic Church  
406 East Savidge Street  
Spring Lake, MI 49456

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**Saint Mary's Parish Mission Statement**

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Catholic Christian Community of Saint Mary's dedicate ourselves to living the Good News of Jesus Christ, primarily through worship, education, love and service to all.

**Saint Mary's Stewardship Prayer**

Heavenly Father,  
 We know that Your love is caring and giving.  
 May the Holy Spirit open our hearts and guide us to willingly give of our time, talent, and treasure to better the lives of our families and others. Help us reach out to those in need and to be guardians of the earth and all its beauty and resources. Teach us to be true disciples as we share the Good News of Your Son, Jesus Christ.  
 May our faithful stewardship bear fruit as we witness Christ's love in our lives. With grateful hearts we pray in Jesus' name.  
 Amen

This book is a publication of Saint Mary's Parish,  
 406 East Savidge Street, Spring Lake, Michigan 49456,  
 www.saintmaryspringlake.org; (616)842-1702.  
 Every effort has been made to collect current, helpful information.

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**TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**

Saint Mary's Technology Committee provides information technology and audio-visual support and services to both the parish and school. Our group of volunteers assists with planning for technology needs, recommending and acquiring equipment and software, training, troubleshooting, networking and more!

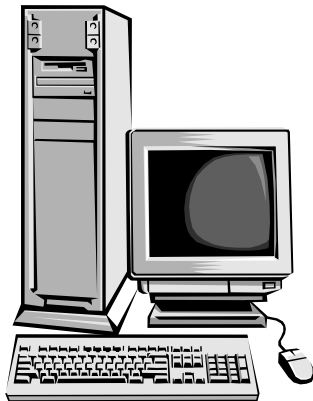
If you have PC, networking, or A/V skills to share—or just a technical aptitude and the willingness to do a little research to find a solution—our ministry may be for you.

Our meetings are group working sessions held monthly.

**Contacts:**

**Kristin Krieger 842-1282**  
kkrieger@remc7.k12.mi.us

**Paula Whisman 847-8377**  
whisman@chartermi.net.



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**A Message from Father Len Sudlik, Pastor:**

**“Whoever sows bountifully will reap bountifully.”  
2 Corinthians 9:6**

The Scriptures are filled with images of planting and reaping, vineyards for grapes and fields of wheat to harvest. The Lord gives us so many opportunities to join in his labor: the work of his salvation.

In this booklet, we hope that you find some ways to join your brothers and sisters at Saint Mary's in the work that Jesus sets before us.

**A Message from the Stewardship Committee**

A Christian steward receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible manner, shares them in justice and love with others, and returns them with increase to the Lord. Opportunities are plentiful for young people and adults to be involved in services to others and to help spread the Good News. Together, as a vibrant, welcoming and generous faith community, we can show our gratitude for God's bountiful gifts by continuing to sow the seeds of stewardship.

In His Service,

Saint Mary's Stewardship Committee

- |                    |                 |                  |
|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Mike Secory, Chair | Gail Lahr       | Dan Robinson     |
| Arinda Howell      | John Lahr       | Peg Secory       |
| Mike Howell        | Frank Marciniak | Logan Williamson |

**ADULT MEN AND WOMEN ALTAR SERVERS FOR FUNERALS**

In this ministry, men and women of our parish assist the priest and all those gathered to celebrate life. Funerals are generally celebrated at 10:00 or 11:00 am. Therefore, these people need to have somewhat of a flexible schedule. Usually two men and/or women serve at each funeral liturgy. The servers meet in the sacristy thirty minutes prior to the funeral to prepare the altar and all the items that are needed during the funeral liturgy. This ministry usually meets once each year in the Fall. At that time, we review techniques and procedures and also discuss and plan for the annual Ministry Fair. Training is done on an individual basis. Please contact the chair.

**Chair:** **Mike Secory 846-1927**  
mikesecory@yahoo.com

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD**

Children's Liturgy of the Word is a ministry for children aged four through eight. The children are excused by Father after the opening prayer to go to the Abbey where they hear the same Scripture readings that are being proclaimed at Mass. We read the readings and the Gospel which have been adapted to the level of understanding for children. The children also hear and respond to a reflection on the Scripture readings. Prayers of the Faithful may also be a part of their experience before returning upstairs to the church to celebrate the remainder of Mass with their families. Saint Mary's provides the children with a bulletin called "Explaining God's Word" that we strongly encourage the families to review with their children at home.

Currently this ministry is provided at the 9:00 and 11:00 masses during the school year.

**Contact:** **Susan Martin 846-8774**  
jakesmar@chartermi.net

**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

The goal of the Stewardship Committee is to encourage our parish community in the practice of stewardship. We coordinate and work collaboratively with all parish ministries.

Christian stewardship is based on an individual's need to give. The giving of time, talent, and treasure is not limited to the Church but encompasses the whole community and the universal church. Stewardship is a way of life based on Scriptural principles. In order to be true disciples of Christ, we must be good stewards.

We are always looking for new ways to enhance the practice of Stewardship at Saint Mary's. Please contact anyone on the Stewardship Committee with questions or concerns.

**Contacts:**

- Mike Secory, Chair 616-846-1927  
mikesecory@yahoo.com
- Arinda Howell 616-402-2101
- Mike Howell 616-402-2884
- Gail Lahr 616-847-0149
- John Lahr 616-847-0149
- Frank Marciniak 616-557-7978
- Dan Robinson 616-842-3855
- Peggy Secory 616-402-5815
- Logan Williamson 616-638-7109

**SAINT MARY'S SCHOOL FOUNDATION  
FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION**

**YOUTH ALTAR SERVERS**

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**THE MISSION**

The mission of the foundation is to provide a means and opportunity for friends of Saint Mary's School to support the school during and beyond their lifetime through donated gifts. This is accomplished by the maintenance of a permanent endowment that serves to support the operation of the school.

**DESCRIPTION**

The fund and board of trustees were formed in 1992. The fund is invested in the Catholic Foundation of West Michigan at the Diocese. The trustees determine the annual grant based on the request of school administration. Gifts can be made in cash, stock, insurance policies, real estate or other personal property. We encourage parish members to remember the fund in their wills and life insurance beneficiary designations.

The fund assets total approximately \$613,000. Over the last 16 years, the foundation has given about \$200,000 to Saint Mary's School for operations.

**MEMBERSHIP**

The Board is selected by the Pastor and consists of eight members, including the pastor, Father Len Sudlik and the school principal, Mike Devitt. The other current members are Tim Conroy, Steve Harvey, Bill Kordupel, and Tim Platt.

**Contact: Mike Devitt 842-1282**



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**Function**

This ministry serves the parish in many ways. First, it provides trained assistance for Parish liturgies and devotions- the Mass, Prayer services, Stations of the Cross, etc. It also helps educate our youth about their faith, especially concerning the Sacramentals used in various liturgies and the meaning of the many different areas of the church building. This ministry also serves as a means for the youth to get to know one another through their training and their service.

**Who may Participate**

Anyone in the fifth grade or older may train to be an altar server. Training runs from 6 to 8 hours and is held once per year. Individual training has been provided in exceptional cases. Refresher training is provided when new changes affecting the servers are enacted. Each server is furnished with a study guide as well as hands on training in the various tasks assigned.

**Scheduling**

Servers indicate their preference of mass time for scheduling. Families are scheduled together whenever possible, especially with family members serving as lectors, commentators or Eucharistic ministers.

**Contact: Jim Hurst 935-6974  
irishcowboy36@yahoo.com**



**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF  
HOLY COMMUNION  
LECTORS/COMMENTATORS/SACRISTANS**

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

The special ministers of Holy Communion assist the priest in offering the Body and Blood of Christ to the assembly at Liturgy. Open to Baptized and Confirmed Catholics 16 years of age and older. Training is required.

**Contact: Jim Burke 844-0109**

**LECTORS/COMMENTATORS**

Parishioners who proclaim the Word of God at Liturgy. Open to Baptized and Confirmed Catholics. Training is required.

**Contact: Jim Burke 844-0109**  
jfandbjburke@sbcglobal.net

**SACRISTANS**

Sacristans prepare the elements before Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses. They assure that Altar Servers, Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers are present. After Mass, Sacristans purify the sacred vessels. This ministry is open to those who are Baptized and Confirmed.

**Contact: Father Len Sudlik 842-1702**  
lsudlik@catholicweb.com



**PLANNED GIVING**

The purpose of this ministry is to identify and cultivate significant gifts that are structured and integrate sound personal, financial and estate-planning concepts with the donor's plans for lifetime and testamentary giving. These gifts might be in the form of bequests, life insurance, retirement plan beneficiary designations, or charitable trusts or annuities, which are often planned donations upon the death of the donor.

In September 2005, Saint Mary's Legacy Society was launched to educate parishioners about planned gifts and to seek a commitment to remember Saint Mary's in their estate plan.

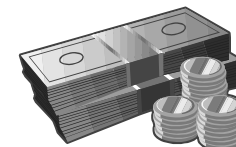
**Contacts:**

<b>Father Len Sudlik</b>	<b>842-1702</b>
<b>Ted Fuger</b>	<b>846-7028</b>
<b>Paul Winter</b>	<b>844-2651</b>
<b>Mike Zacek</b>	<b>846-3189</b>
<b>Lou Draeger</b>	<b>842-9665</b>

**COUNTING TEAMS**

The weekly offering is counted each Monday morning after the 8:00 a.m. Mass under business office supervision. Teams rotate and count approximately once per month for two hours. Team volunteers and substitutes are welcome.

**Contact: Parish Office 842-1702**



PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Pastoral Council is a visioning body designed to represent all of Saint Mary's parishioners. In collaboration with our pastor and Saint Mary's other ministries, it is responsible for strategic planning and making sure the needs of the parish are met. The Pastoral Council reviews requests for new ministries and the organizational structure of Saint Mary's. Parishioners with ideas and concerns on parish life are encouraged to bring those to Pastoral Council.

The Pastoral Council is currently comprised of eight Saint Mary's parishioners: Anne Rumpitz, John Biliski, Greg Stempky, Jill Downs, Carole DeRouin, Molly Cutie, and Deacon Bill Charron.

We generally meet once a month. We begin with prayer and reflection so that the Holy Spirit may inspire and guide us. We are not a decision making body but attempt to advise Fr. Len by consensus on the issues brought before us.

Please contact us if you have an interest in Pastoral Council or have ideas or concerns that affect overall Parish life.

Contact: Anne Rumpitz, Chair 842-8192 or any other member listed above.



LITURGICAL ARTS & ENVIRONMENT

Purpose: Our ministry creates a liturgical climate that reflects the mood of the Church season that is currently being celebrated. Our goal is to create the essence of the season through the use of color, texture, symbols and flowers.

Meetings: Before major feasts and liturgical changes to order flowers and decide the theme; otherwise, as needed to insure proper décor in the worship space each week. New members welcome!

Contacts: Barb Burke 844-0109
Barbara Brown 842-5779

LITURGY MINISTRY

Purpose: The Liturgy Commission of Saint Mary's Parish will ensure that the liturgies, the Prayers of God's people, will be spirit-filled, joyful, hopeful, and inviting, always encouraging active participation.

The Liturgy Commission is an integral committee of the parish, which will evaluate liturgies and will ensure cohesiveness of plans from its subcommittees during the commission's monthly meetings. Subcommittees will meet periodically as needed, provide one representative to the liturgy meetings with summary of plans and help to carry out the liturgical plans of the subcommittee.

Commission members include Pastor, Music Director, representatives from Arts & Environment, Liturgical Ministers (lector, commentator, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, altar servers), RCIA, Sacristan/Preparatory helpers and other at large members. Current members: Jim Burke, Mike Galinis, Dave Gibson, Susan Martin, Diane Murray, Jim Penrice & Father Len.

Meetings: Quarterly on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. as announced in the bulletin. New members welcome!

Contact: Diane Murray 842-1702

**MUSIC MINISTRIES**

**Diane Murray, Director of Music**

Office hours: T, W, and Th  
H: 616-846-3111 W: 616-842-1702.  
raydimurr@yahoo.com

**SENIOR CHOIR**

**How to join:** Contact Music Director. Also, check the weekly bulletin.

**Purpose:** To praise God with music. Music is an integral part of the liturgy. Members will have the opportunity to sing many types of music and also to lead and teach the congregation.

**Who may join:** High school age or older Saint Mary's parishioners.

**Rehearsal:** Thursday - Music Room - 7:00-9:00 pm - September through May. Special practices will be announced. No interview required.

**Opportunities:** Large and small group singing, Song leader, Cantor.



**HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR**

**How to join:** Contact Diane Murray

**Purpose:** To participate in the liturgy with choral singing. To learn about being a cantor and leading songs in our Catholic liturgies.

**Who may join:** Students in sixth to eighth grade.

**Rehearsal:** Wednesday evenings before Religious Education classes.

**FINANCE COUNCIL**

The Finance Council is one of two consultative bodies the Diocese of Grand Rapids requires each parish to establish and maintain. Our Council consists of members who are appointed by the Pastor after conferring with the Pastoral Council.

Parishioners with experience in areas such as accounting, finance, legal, human resources, and small business administration are asked to serve. Upon appointment, members commit to a three-year term and may serve up to three successive terms.

Our charter states that we are to advise the Pastor on financial matters and the administration of the Parish property while encouraging Stewardship. We accomplish this through prayer and deliberation in regular meetings presided over by Saint Mary's Pastor and attended by our Parish Business Manager.

We work with the Business Manager on Parish administrative and personnel functions and are responsible for developing long-range financial plans to fund the needs of the Parish as identified by the Pastoral Council.

We also collaborate with the Pastoral Council to monitor the funds collected by the Parish, help decide where these funds are applied, and review, approve, and monitor the parish budget, which encompasses the church, the school, and other parish ministries.

**Contacts: Mike Zacek, Chair 846-3189  
Mary Cassleman 842-1702**



**BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMISSION**

This commission was formed to oversee the general up-keep of the parish property. Commission members meet monthly to gather information on the repair needs of the church, the school, parish housing, grounds, and facilities and then prioritize those needs. We recommend contractors and assist in obtaining bids for repairs and new installations. We are currently working to implement an inspection program for all the parish facilities in order to ensure regular maintenance is performed in a timely manner.

We welcome new members who will actively participate in this work. Even if you cannot commit to the monthly commission, there are numerous opportunities to help. At times, a project or repair may require several helping hands, and we invite any parish member who has time or skills in these areas to call the parish office and volunteer to help on these special projects. May God continue to guide us as we work to be good stewards of these buildings and grounds.

**Meetings:** First Wednesday at noon in Meeting Room C

**Committee Members:** Don Munster (chair), Ken Johnston, Bill Berns, Mike Novakoski, Jerry Shear, Ken Boerma, Nancy Doornbos. **Staff Members:** Bill Boyer, Earl Martin & Father Len

**Contact:** **Earl Martin 842-1702, x228**  
emartin@catholicweb.com

**GARDEN ANGELS**

The Garden Angels are a group of volunteers who love to work outside, garden, get dirty, and have fellowship while beautifying our special campus. They will be assisting the Buildings & Grounds Commission and maintenance staff with such things as: flower planting, weeding, mulching.

**Contacts:** **Kim Zonca 616-844-2204**  
**Ken Johnston 231-265-6777**

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**MUSIC MINISTRIES**

**JOYFUL JUNIORS**

**How to join:** Contact Diane Murray or Wendy Glasgow.

**Purpose:** To learn singing & participating in the liturgy.

**Who may join:** Students in first to second grade.

**Rehearsal:** After school on Wednesdays.

**Opportunities:** Singing in and as a group.

**CHIMING BELLS**

**How to join:** Contact Diane Murray.

**Purpose:** To learn the proper methods of singing church music. To meet students from other schools who are part of our ONE church.

**Who may join:** Students in third to fifth grade.

**Rehearsal:** After school on Wednesdays.

**Opportunities:** Choral singing. Beginning part-singing.

**ACOUSTIC ENSEMBLE**

**How to join:** Contact Music Director or Patrick Boruta at 638-8020.

**Purpose:** To participate musically in liturgies.

**Who may join:** Anyone who plays an acoustic instrument or would like to sing with a more contemporary group.

**CANTORS**

Anyone interested in leading the sung prayer and service music of our liturgies should contact the Music Director.

**INSTRUMENTALISTS**

Trumpets, flutes, oboes, strings, keyboards: if you are proficient at playing an instrument and would like to help at liturgies, please contact the Music Director.

**PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

**Mission**

The mission of Perpetual Adoration is continual worship of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, which is exposed 24 hours each day, 7 days per week by volunteers who commit to an hour or more of adoration each week. We, the adorers, are there because He is deserving of our unceasing worship, praise, thanksgiving and loving adoration.

**Description**

This ministry is in conjunction with Saint Patrick's, which is where the Anima Christi Chapel is located. The Diocese has encouraged regional adoration chapels due to the resources required to be successful. Over 300 volunteers are involved. Normally each volunteer commits to one hour each week, or they can be part of a group that commits to an hour each week. Two adorers for each hour is the goal, in order to allow for sickness or absence of one of the adorers. Jesus is never to be left alone. Many adorers currently take more than one hour per week since there are 168 hours each week that need to be covered. The only hours that the Blessed Sacrament is reposed are during the Masses.

**Who to Contact**

Coordinators for Saint Mary's Parish are Chris and Mary Cassleman, 846-9272 or Joan Blasky, overall Schedule Coordinator at 842-5776.



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**SAINT MARY'S PARISH & SCHOOL STAFF**

**Parish Office: 406 East Savidge, 616-842-1702**  
**[www.stmaryspringlake.org](http://www.stmaryspringlake.org)**

Pastor-Reverend Len Sudlik	ext 222	lsudlik@catholicweb.com
Receptionist/Secy - Staci Stroud	ext 246	sstroud@catholicweb.com
Business Mgr - Mary Cassleman	ext 226	mcassleman@catholicweb.com
Census/Contribs -Shirley Koteles	ext 227	skoteles@catholicweb.com
Bookkeeper -Irene Barbera	ext 231	ibarbera@catholicweb.com
Communications-Elyse Winter		elysewinter@charter.net
Maintenance Supervisor-Earl Martin	x228	emartin@catholicweb.com
Christian Svc Coordinator & Facility		
Scheduling-Dorothy Raha	ext 221	deraha@catholicweb.com
Deacon Bill Charron		842-0843

Maintenance Staff

Earl Martin, Kevin Perfect, Bill Boyer, Sue Hager, Mary Epplert

**Religious Education Department**

Director-Jim Penrice	ext 229	jpenrice@catholicweb.com
Youth Minister-Jim Hurst	935-6974	irishcowboy@yahoo.com
Elem Educ Co-Coordinator		
Andrea Williamson	842-2840	awilliamson@catholicweb.com
Kath Roberge	842-2840	kroberge@catholicweb.com

**Music Department**

Church Director -Diane Murray 842-1702 raydimurr@yahoo.com

**Saint Mary's School: 421 East Exchange, 616-842-1282**  
**[www.stmaryschoolspringlake.com](http://www.stmaryschoolspringlake.com)**

Principal -Mike Devitt	ext 23	mdevitt@remc7.k12.mi.us
Secretary -Michele Smith	ext 21	
Admin Asst-Ann Pendery	ext 22	

**Teaching Staff:** K-Judy Tejchma, 1st-Jan Bator, 2nd- Marlene Guzek, 3rd-Karen Parsons, 4th-Rhonda Michels, 5th-Jean Jannenga, 6th-Tricia Suchecki, 7th-Amy Giroux, 8th-Katie Carlson, Music-Ambre Scott, Computers-Kristin Krieger, Art/PE-Tami Lesneski, Spanish-Barb Hosmer, Band-Dave Schallert, Resource Room-Andrea Cotter, Lunch Coordinators- Mary Jo Airo & Bonnie Schmitt, SCRIP-Ann Pendery

**School Board:** Nancy Doornbos, President; Ken Johnston, School Improvement; Mike Galinas, Finance; Pam Mettler, Public Relations; Lisa Olszewski, Fund Raising; Phyllis Ventocilla, Liaison; Julie Meyers, Marketing/Secretary; John Conroy, Policy

**WOMEN'S CLUB**

Saint Mary's Women's Club is open to all women of the parish. Our goal is to encourage fellowship within our parish community and to support our parish spiritually on many special and ongoing projects. General meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month. Come join us, make new friends, and enjoy the company of other women from our parish.

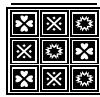
General Meeting Schedule:

- Rosary 1:30 pm
- Business Meeting 2:00 pm (odd months)
- Program immediately following business portion.
- Social Event (even months)

All meetings are noted on the parish calendar and in the weekly bulletin.

**Board Members**

President	Joyce Berns	616-850-8578
Vice President	Susan Cochrane	616-847-6740
Treasurer	Anita Bouma	231-865-3207
Secretary	Mueril Tuggle	616-842-3061



**QUILTING**

Quilting members of the Women's Club meet each Thursday in the Quilting Room to work on their Festival Raffle Quilt for the year.

**Contact: Virginia Johnson 842-8243**

**EUCCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR**

Each Monday evening at 7:00 pm, members of our parish and surrounding parishes gather for an hour of prayer, Scriptural readings, hymns, and silent adoration giving each person an opportunity to bring before Jesus, in the Blessed Sacrament, the cares, concerns, joys, sorrows and thanksgivings that we all experience each day.

This Holy Hour is a time for Him to talk to us in his own special way, a time for us to reverently acknowledge His love and mercy for us, His people, and a time to listen for the direction of the Holy Spirit. Devotion to the Blessed Sacrament has been recommended over the centuries by saints, popes, bishops, priests, deacons, and lay persons as a means to grow in grace and favor with God. The evening liturgy complements the holy sacrifice of the Mass and extends the opportunity for us to be with Jesus.

Is there something special in your life that you would like to bring to God? Do you have a particular need, a special situation, that you would like God's help with, or a special joy that you wish to share with Jesus? Come join us as we pray together, as the Apostles did, in the presence of Jesus. Come as a family or as an individual-all are most welcome.

**Contact: Mike Galinis 844-1981**

**USHERS**

**Purpose:** To welcome all persons as they enter before Mass, assist with seating, prepare for an orderly collection of offertory baskets, distribute all bulletins, and tidy up the church for the next Liturgy.

**Meetings:** As needed/no more than four per yr

**Contact: Jack Gardner 842-2083**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION—ELEMENTARY**

**Contact: Elementary Co-Coordinators 842-2840**  
**Andrea Williamson awilliamson@catholicweb.com**  
**Kath Roberge kroberge@catholicweb.com**

There are many ways adults and students may serve as volunteers in our parish elementary Religious Education programs and the advisory group for our catechetical programs (Saint Mary's Parish Religious Education Board). Prayerfully consider volunteering in this rewarding ministry of working with the children of our parish and supporting the families of Saint Mary's in the Catholic-Christian faith formation of their children. For more information or if you are interested in sharing your time, talent and treasure for any of the following opportunities contact Andrea:

**Elementary Catechists:** There are opportunities to share your faith with children in First through Fifth grade religious education formation classes and sacramental preparation classes for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. All class sessions are held on Wednesdays, 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM, beginning in September. Classes meet weekly until the first of May. Catechists are provided individual grade level training in the curriculum, ongoing formation, and support are provided through Saint Mary's Religious Education Department. Staff development sessions are also offered by the Diocese of Grand Rapids and made available to all catechists. Adults are invited to be catechists, although confirmed high school students may become catechists after serving as classroom aides and participating in a two-year mentorship with an adult catechist.

**Elementary Aides:** Adult volunteers or Middle School and Senior High School students are invited to assist catechists in the classroom or provide assistance in cooperation and support of the administrator.

**Vacation Bible School Leaders and Assistants:** A fun-filled, thematic Catholic-based Vacation Bible School program is offered each June for children in grades K-6. Sessions are held mornings for one week, Monday–Friday. Adult leaders are asked to assist the Vacation Bible School Coordinator and share their time and talent in a variety of daily activities as students in all age groups are led through several rotations—sharing Bible stories and participating in stewardship opportunities, music, arts and crafts, games, snacks and a culminating presentation for families and friends. Students in Junior and Senior High are welcome to assist the adult leaders.

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**PRIME TIME SINGLES**

Prime Timers is a group of single men and women from the parishes of Saint Anthony (Robinson Township), Saint Mary (Spring Lake), Saint Michael (Coopersville) and Saint Patrick (Grand Haven). Members are about 50 to 80 years young and like to participate in various social activities. We gather for picnics, movies, dances, concerts, bike rides, dinners, boat cruises, hikes, ball games, parlor games and breakfasts. Any unmarried person is welcome to join any activity at any time. An RSVP may be necessary for certain events. A detailed schedule of activities is posted periodically on the churches' bulletin boards. Announcements are also in the weekly bulletins. Visitors and seasonal parishioners are always welcome.

Breakfast meetings are held at Jack's (Spring Lake Holiday Inn) on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month at 8:45 am.

**Contact: Grace Stanton 842-2622**  
gretz@altelco.net

**SAINT MARY'S SENIORS**

Saint Mary's Senior Group welcomes all men and women (ages 55 and over) to their meetings on the second Thursday, September through June. We gather in the activity center of Country Estates Mobile Home Park on State Road in Spring Lake. Some months we have a potluck; some months we provide a planned menu of traditional foods according to the season, such as Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. When we feature something special, we ask for an RSVP, so we know how many to plan for. We try to begin serving at noon. Following the meal we may play free bingo or a game of your choice. This is meant to be a social time, providing seniors with the opportunity to get better acquainted. There are no "dues", but we ask for donations to cover the costs of providing table settings, coffee/tea, feature items on the menu, as well as many other expenses approved by the steering committee.

**Steering Committee**

Val Race (842-9084) Doris Chartrand (842-3805)  
Charli Flanagan (842-3278) Helen Szubinski (842-1720)  
Steve & Delores Gulis (842-5126)  
Joe & Fran Sedlock (844-3013)  
Warren & Joyce Anderson (842-8649)

**SUNDAY NURSERY**

The nursery is located in the Parish Activity Center. It is available for infants six months through three years of age at the 9:00 am and 11:00 am masses. This is a free service and is open year round. Rita Langlois is responsible for caring for the children and has been trained in CPR. She provides a safe, caring, and nurturing environment for the children in the nursery.

**Contacts:**

**Rita Langlois**                    **231-773-7242**  
**Jennifer Fricano**                **842-0202**

**HEALTH & WELLNESS CABINET**

The Health & Wellness Cabinet is an umbrella group which promotes the healing ministry in a church. The Health & Wellness Cabinet is the catalyst: it encourages individuals and groups to be involved, making them aware of the importance of the healing that can come from each of them. Cabinet members provide leadership in setting up programs to help educate the church community on matters of health, nutrition, exercise, cardiac health, mental health, etc.

The Health & Wellness Cabinet can be a source of influence in the life of the church community to ensure that the stewardship of health is expressed in worship, education, and networks of support and recreation. The goal is to promote healthy behavior and ensure strong support to individuals well and unwell in the church community—parish members helping parish members, helping to create a welcoming environment in which everyone can find their place.

The ministry is still in the developmental stages. Some of the activities that are planned for are: blood pressure clinics once a month, a yoga group, work with the walking group, and also to bring in a speaker on nutrition for the kids.

**Contact:**                    **Ellen Carey**            **616-296-0784**

**SPIRIT GOLF LEAGUE**

For information, call Grand Haven Golf Club at 842-4040 and ask for Lew Gorbach or Chip Ferlaak.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION—JUNIOR HIGH**

**Contact: Jim Hurst, Youth Minister            935-6974**

**Junior High Catechists:** There are opportunities to share your faith with children in grades six through eight. Sessions are held on Wednesdays, 6:00–7:00 pm from September through early May. Initial training, curriculum, ongoing formation, and support are provided through Saint Mary's Religious Education Department. Training and formation are applicable towards diocesan catechist certification. Adults are invited to be catechists, although high school students who have been confirmed and have served as classroom aides may become catechists. They participate in a two-year mentorship with an adult catechist.

**Junior High Resonate:** Resonate is a Junior High youth outreach ministry that seeks to engage today's youth with the saving message of Jesus Christ. Resonate meets two Friday nights per month in the Parish Activity Center from 6:30–8:30 pm. Resonate nights consist of Spirit-led praise and worship, food, games, exciting music, guest speakers and time for fellowship.

**Junior High Resonate Team:** The Resonate Team serves the Junior High youth of the parish along with the youth minister. Senior high students tenth through twelfth grade who really desire to grow in ministry skills and in their faith are welcome to apply. Resonate team members commit to a year of building positive relationships with Junior High youth, bi-weekly programming for Resonate Nights, and helping the youth minister organize, plan, and put on the Confirmation retreat.

**Junior Discipleship Week:** Running in conjunction with Vacation Bible School, Junior Discipleship week ministers to upcoming sixth grade youth. Youth are encouraged to grow in their faith through a week of programming that includes: games, skits, worship, scripture, fellowship and parish stewardship activities.



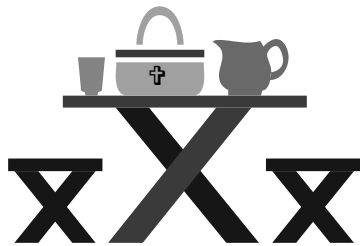
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION—SENIOR HIGH**

**Contact: Jim Hurst, Youth Minister 935-6974**

**Senior High Youth Ministry:** Youth nights begin every Wednesday in the Parish Activity Center from 7:30–9:00 pm from early September through early May. This is a dynamic ministry that seeks to proclaim the Gospel message to today's youth through events that incorporate prayer, the sacraments, fellowship and service. All Senior High youth, grades 9-12 are welcome.

**Senior High Ministry Team:** The Senior High Ministry Team works with the Director of Youth Ministry in serving the young people of our parish by helping to provide a safe, faith-filled environment where teens can encounter Christ and grow in the knowledge of their Catholic Faith. Adults of the parish who desire to build relationships with young people, grow in their own faith, and love to serve are welcome to apply for the team. Adults commit to a year of service, which includes weekly meetings, program planning, and personal faith growth opportunities, which are provided by the Director of Youth Ministry.

**Summer Power Hour:** Our summer programming intends to help young people keep their faith alive during the summer. Power Hour takes place in different Tri-Cities area parks and recreational facilities. Youth gather for a time to give thanks to God and for food and fellowship. Power Hour is run in conjunction with Saint Patrick's Youth Ministry in Grand Haven.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

The Knights of Columbus is a lay Catholic family fraternal service organization. Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to all practicing Catholic men in communion with the Holy See, age eighteen and above. The term *practicing Catholic* implies that a person accepts and abides by the Commandments of God and the precepts and tenets of the Catholic Church.

**REASONS TODAY TO BE A MEMBER**

- It is an opportunity to become part of the world's largest Catholic fraternal organization.
- It is great way to make a personal contribution to the Church and community through charity and fraternity.
- Active participation in Council activities serves as a "school of leadership" which will enable you to develop qualities that enhance your strengths and abilities.
- A sense of "belonging" in an organization that shares your religious beliefs and brings together like-minded men joined in a common cause.
- Concerns for your family and your retirement years can be addressed by the Order's optional, low-cost life insurance.
- A sense of pride, knowing that the Knights of Columbus is second to none in support of our Holy Father, our Bishops and Priests, and our fellow man.

**The Knights of Columbus in the Tri-Cities Area**

The Knights assist in charities within church, school and community. They have worked to help fund seminarians from the diocese of Grand Rapids. Knights support our local priests and local religious personnel.

**Contact: Jim Burke 844-0109**  
[jfandbjburke@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jfandbjburke@sbcglobal.net)

**K. of C. WOMEN'S AUXILIARY**

In support of the Knights of Columbus, we the wives of the Knights of Columbus have formed a Ladies Auxiliary. As with the Knights, our membership is open to any practicing Catholic woman age 18 or older. We, as an Auxiliary of the Knights, support all of the Council functions. Our Auxiliary is in support of the Church, the community, and charities. **Contact: Cheryl Gibson 231-798-7545**

**SAINT MARY'S FESTIVAL**

The Saint Mary's Festival is held in July of each year. Many children's games, run by our fellow parishioners, are available every year at our Festival. We conduct a big raffle with significant cash prizes. In addition to games and the raffle, our Festival includes a meal, most recently a pig roast, a food court, a country store and a big tent with adult beverages and entertainment. The White Elephant sale is a huge part of each Festival. Of course, our annual Festival is a lot of fun.

The annual success of our festival is the result of countless hours of volunteer work. More than one hundred individual volunteers spend some or all of festival day working to deliver a fun day for those who attended. This is a great opportunity to get together with fellow parishioners for a good cause and some fun and it is open to the entire community.

Proceeds from the event are used in direct support of Catholic Education here at Saint Mary's.

**Contacts:**

**Jennifer Nordman                      850-0858**  
**Suzanne James                         842-3623**

**M.O.M.S. (Mothers Of Many Seasons)**

We are a fellowship of women who are mothers providing each other with spiritual, social, emotional and practical support in the vocation of motherhood. This support will be provided through sharing and learning together in a casual atmosphere to increase our spirituality and feeling of community. Membership is open to mothers of any age at any stage of mothering. We meet weekly from September through June on Thursdays from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Saint Patrick's Center. Our activities and topics change weekly. Loving child care is provided and donations are welcome.

**Contact: Samantha Cutler            231-755-0134**

*www.stmaryspringlake.org*

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Contact: Jim Penrice                      842-1702**

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd:** A Montessori-based religious education program for children ages 3-Kindergarten, utilizing hands-on experience of Scripture and Liturgy. Ninety hours of training is required to serve as a catechist in this program. Classroom aides are trained by our catechists. We can also use people with artistic and/or woodworking skills to make materials.

**RCIA Team Members and Sponsors:** The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process through which adults and children over the age of seven are welcomed into the Catholic Church through Baptism (if not yet baptized), Confirmation and Eucharist. Team members form a welcoming community, assisting catechumens and candidates in making their transition into the greater parish community. Team members meet weekly with the catechumens and candidates to participate in prayer, study and discussion. They also lead "dismissal" sessions on Sunday mornings to help the catechumens and candidates reflect on the Sunday readings. The team's primary function is to accompany catechumens and candidates on their journey and learn with them; an "expert" knowledge of the faith is not required! Sponsors form a personal relationship with a catechumen or candidate and journey with them through the process. We seek fully initiated parishioners (baptized, confirmed and who have received Eucharist) age 16 and up to join our team.

**Bible Study Facilitators:** There are opportunities for adults to study individual books of the Bible in 10-week sessions with resources that facilitate group discussion. No Bible expertise is needed to facilitate a group, just good "people skills" and a desire to learn. Training is provided.

**Religious Education Board:** An advisory group to the Pastor and Religious Education Staff, this group meets four times a year to assist in making decisions affecting parish education programs. Members serve two-year terms and may be reappointed. Ages 16 and up.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**Contact: Jim Penrice**

**842-1702**

**Adult Small Group Facilitators:** Many small group studies and faith sharing opportunities are available, including studies of the Mass and The Catechism of the Catholic Church. Self-directed programs are available that enable anyone to facilitate a study, with training and guidance from the Director of Religious Education.

**Parish Library Volunteers:** Helpers are needed to start and maintain a parish lending library of books, videos, and audiotapes. Initial activities will include soliciting materials, setting up shelves and tables, cataloging materials, and publicity. Ongoing tasks will include staffing the library during visiting hours, cleaning, continued acquisition and cataloging of materials, and maintaining records. Ages 16 and up.

### MARRIAGE PREPARATION

The marriage preparation ministry consists of two primary components—the Pre-Marriage Workshop and the Sponsor Couples Program. Both of these ministries provide opportunities for engaged couples to prepare for marriage by discussing practical and spiritual issues pertaining to married life.

Topics discussed at the Pre-Marriage Workshop include communication, finances, faith in marriage, and family planning. Married couples from Saint Mary's, Father Len, and parishioners with expertise in specific areas are the presenters during the workshop. Completion of a Pre-Marriage Workshop is a Diocesan requirement for a Catholic Christian marriage.

In addition to completing the Pre-Marriage Workshop, the engaged couples also have the opportunity to meet with a sponsor couple from the parish. Sponsor couples are parishioners that have been married for several years, have a strong Christian marriage, and are willing to share their experiences in married life with those contemplating marriage.

**Contact:**

**Sarah McDonald**

**846-8623**

[www.stmaryspringlake.org](http://www.stmaryspringlake.org)

## SAINT MARY'S PARISH

### WELCOMING MINISTRY

Welcoming newcomers is one of the major steps to becoming a Stewardship Parish. Our parish welcomes approximately one hundred new members each year. The Welcoming Ministry uses a variety of methods to accommodate new members:

- Ministry makes personal phone calls or sends greeting cards to welcome new parish members;
- Giving tours of the parish grounds and school. Introduces new members to staff;
- Directing those interested in serving in the parish to the appropriate contact person;
- Helping them get acquainted with our community, hospitals, shopping, recreation, dining, etc; and
- Hosting annual dinners with new parish members with the Pastor and Saint Mary's staff members in attendance.

### GREETING TEAMS

Saint Mary's Greeting Teams help to promote a spirit of fellowship. Members of these teams greet before most Masses with a smile and a warm welcome. Team members can greet a minimum of two Masses per year and can choose what Mass they wish to serve. Those who cannot make the commitment but still would like to be a part of this team, can join as a substitute.

#### Committee Members

Maggie Boyer	846-1314
Susan Cochrane	847-6740
Paula Davis	846-2438
Michelle Gauthier	842-8856
Mitzi Milanowski	842-8016
Marilyn Reichardt	842-3012
Kirsten Reichel	844-5032

### SAINT JOSEPH HELPERS

Often widows, widowers and/or the elderly need help with simple household repairs. Sometimes, a consultation is needed before a plumber, electrician, etc. are called. Men and women of the parish, who possess knowledge of simple home repair, are invited to make themselves available to those in need. Please call the contact person if you would like to be part of this ministry or if you are in need of their assistance.

**Contact: Joe Ceglarek**

**616-895-7057**



**PRAYER CHAIN**

Saint Mary's Prayer Chain consists of parishioners willing to say a prayer for any ill parishioner, relative or friend who request prayers, then calling another member to do the same, until all members are notified.

A request for prayers begins by calling Carol Dull or the Parish Office at 842-1702, who will then begin the chain of prayers. Thanks! We need you!

**Contact: Carol Dull 842-1345**

**SANCTITY OF LIFE MINISTRY**

The ministry promotes the sacredness and inherent dignity of all human life from conception to natural death. The group leaders are parish representatives from the Tri-cities Right to Life, an ecumenical organization working on sanctity of life issues. The ministry also keeps abreast of various life issues facing contemporary society that may be in conflict with Catholic doctrine such as cloning, embryonic stem cell research, euthanasia, the unborn, the elderly, and the poor by recommending reading material on such topics, which conform to Catholic teaching.

**Contact: Laura Alexandria 231-286-9438**

[www.stmaryspringlake.org](http://www.stmaryspringlake.org)



**Academic Excellence in a Catholic Christian School**

Saint Mary's School students are very well-prepared for future education. The inspiring involvement of our pastors paired with the vast education and experience of our teachers play a vital role in their schooling and faith-life. By instilling Catholic Christian values, confidence and constant encouragement, Saint Mary's students are prepared for higher learning and for their life journey.

- K-8 school
- Weekly mass
- Stewardship/service learning
- Bussing/transportation options
- Standardized testing
- Learning center and tutoring
- Daily prayer
- Daily lessons in Catholic Teachings
- Shared time: physical education, art, band, Spanish, music, computer
- Classroom aides
- Financial assistance – scholarship, Scrip
- Hot lunch program
- Cheerleading in 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades
- Basketball: boys & girls for 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades
- Other sports: students in grades 7-8 have the opportunity to play other sports or join clubs offered at Spring Lake Middle School

**For more information call 842-1282 or visit our website**

[www.stmaryschoolspringlake.com](http://www.stmaryschoolspringlake.com)

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**SAINT MARY'S SCHOOL**

**School Volunteer Opportunities**

As a ministry of the parish, Saint Mary's School embraces stewardship. The example of adults, particularly parents, is the primary way that children learn to give. If we truly embrace stewardship we should never lack for volunteers to do the work, for time to get the work done, or for the resources to make things happen. With stewardship, we recognize that everything we have is a gift from God. Our attitude is that of gratitude and we begin to look for ways to give to others. Prayer should be a part of our daily lives, especially prayer to thank God for all that we have. Saint Mary's has many opportunities for individuals to share their time, talents and treasure. So say a resounding yes to one of these opportunities and experience the joy of giving! **Contact the school office (842-1282) if interested in any of the following opportunities:**

**Classroom helpers:** This includes a variety of activities. If you like to work with children, read to children, organize materials, tutor, have an area of interest to share, etc. this may be right for you. Teachers are always looking for that extra pair of adult hands to help with art projects, science experiments and other projects. This could be a regular time once a week or just an as needed help.

**Office helpers:** The office is always looking for people to help collate, staple, stuff envelopes or bulletins, etc. This is usually on an "as needed" basis.

**Coaches and helpers:** Saint Mary's School provides team basketball opportunities for boys and girls in the 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Coaches and helpers are always needed.

**Library helpers:** Adults help to supervise our K-3 students on the walk to and from the Spring Lake District Library. They also help students in the library to find books, etc. Each class needs at least one extra supervisor once or twice a month for a couple of hours. Times and days vary depending on the class.

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

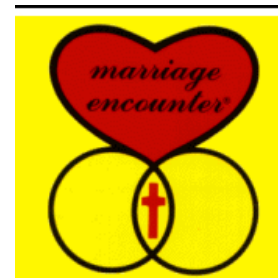
Marriage Encounter is designed to give married couples the opportunity to examine their lives together...a time to share their feelings, their hopes, joys, disappointments and frustrations...and to do so openly and honestly in a face-to-face, heart-to-heart encounter with the one person they have chosen to live with for the rest of their life.

The emphasis of Marriage Encounter is on communication between husband and wife, who spend a weekend together away from the distractions and the tensions of everyday life, to concentrate on each other.

It's not a retreat, nor a marriage clinic, nor group sensitivity. It's a unique approach aimed at revitalizing Christian Marriage.

This is a time for you and your spouse to be alone together...to rediscover each other and together focus on your relationship for an entire weekend. Every marriage deserves that kind of attention.

After the weekend, couples are invited to join other couples in monthly meetings to keep the spirit of the weekend alive and growing.



**Contacts:**

**Bob & Jean Ann McCann**

**847-0582**

[mccannrandja@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mccannrandja@sbcglobal.net)



**SAINT MARY'S SCHOOL**

**Parents' Club**

Parents' Club is organized and staffed by parents and other volunteers. It provides a variety of services to and for the school. Parents' Club plans and funds various educational and social activities during the school year, enriching the educational experience of students at Saint Mary's School. In addition to providing funding for equipment and services, Parents' Club contributes to the sense of community within Saint Mary's School by providing hospitality related services throughout the year. Activities include staff birthday celebrations, classroom parties, Catholic Schools' Week celebrations, Alleluia Day celebration, etc. This group always has something going and always appreciates help with planning, set up, clean up, organizing, etc.

**Fundraisers**

Our major school fundraisers are the Festival and Unity Auction. Chairpersons and workers for Festival and Unity Auction are always needed. Festival usually takes place the second weekend in July. Unity Auction takes place in early November. It takes a lot of leadership and workers to make these two events a success. Throughout the year workers are needed to help with paper drives, candy sales and other fundraising events. Paper drives are held twice a year, once in the Fall and once in the Spring. The Candy sale is in the Fall. If you cannot work at the fundraising event, support for the event through purchases and attendance is greatly appreciated.



[www.stmaryspringlake.org](http://www.stmaryspringlake.org)

**EMERGENCY MEALS**

This ministry at Saint Mary's is centered on providing meals and/or visits to families with a seriously ill or hospitalized family member, or a family who is welcoming a new baby into their home. The intent is to help in "taking care of our own" within the parish family. It is our hope that all will feel welcome to participate in this service as the need arises. A call to the Parish Office will initiate this service. Volunteers are needed before this ministry can begin, to provide and deliver home-cooked meals, on a rotating basis, for these families.

**Contact: Gina Penrice 844-5307**

**HOMEBOUND MINISTRY**

The Saint Mary's Homebound Ministry is a group of very caring people who visit our homebound and shut-ins either in their homes, nursing homes, or hospitals, and bring God's love to them from our entire Christian community. They will pray with the homebound, bring them literature, and bring the Blessed Sacrament to them on a regular basis, if desired.

**Contact: Paula Kendra 846-5925**

**LOVE, INC.**

Tri-Cities Ministries/Love, Inc. (In the Name of Christ) is a Christian ministry founded by the local church community for the purpose of serving the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of the Tri-Cities area in a manner that models Jesus Christ. Saint Mary's Parish is pledged to provide annual support to this ministry and is a centralized site for Love, Inc. each Thursday. **Our representative is Dorothy Raha (842-1702).**

TCM assists the pastoral staff in evaluating financial needs of people requesting direct financial assistance from the parish. They also provide budget counseling to families having difficulty managing available or insufficient resources.

**Saint Mary's Parish Food Pantry**

The Saint Mary's Food Pantry is an emergency food pantry. We offer a variety of food items, personal care, and paper products to people in need of temporary grocery support. The Pantry is run by volunteers who shop, sort, pack and assist in any way they can to help those in need.

We also help families and anyone with special grocery needs during the Holidays, including food baskets packed with items donated by our generous parishioners and community.

In addition, we work along with Love, Inc. and are an on-site Central Pantry on Thursdays.

Volunteers are needed to sort food, pack and maintain our Pantry. **If you are interested in helping out in any way, please let us know by calling the Parish Office at 842-1702 and ask for Dorothy.**



**Transportation**

This group provides transportation to Doctor's appointments, hospitals and treatment centers. We serve requests from our parish families, Love, Inc., and area churches. Our objective is to assist with transportation whenever it is needed. A call to the parish office initiates this service. **We must not drift away from the humble works because these are the works that nobody will do.** Anyone interested in helping with this valuable service should contact Dorothy at the Parish Office at 842-1702.

**SAINT MARY'S SCHOOL**

**Stewardship/ Service Learning Opportunities for School Children**

- Lectors
- Commentators
- Offertory Gift Bearers
- Greeters
- Choir
- Cantors
- Servers
- Student Council
- Student Store
- Super Friends
- Older students working with younger students
- Calling All Colors
- Cleaning surrounding areas
- Unity Auction Projects
- Home and School events/ set up, clean up, serving
- Vacation Bible School helpers
- Festival Helpers
- Sister School in Haiti
- International Aid
- Diocesan Relief Fund
- Food Drives for the pantry
- Money for needy families (jeans days)
- Toys for Tots
- Gilda's Club
- Saint Jude's Hospital
- Center for Pregnant Women
- Raking yards
- Carrying Thanksgiving/Christmas baskets
- Baking cookies and delivering to homebound
- Making cards & visiting the Homebound; Nursing homes
- Christmas gifts for the needy
- Bernice's House

**BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY**

**CHRISTIAN SERVICE**

**Purpose:** Our goal is to assist families at the time of death of a family member. We do so by initially visiting families at local funeral homes at the time of loss and then by sending sympathy cards and Care Notes to family members of the deceased throughout the first year following death. We also host an All Souls Mass in autumn and a Spring Memorial Mass to remember our loved ones. To be a member you need to be eighteen years or older.

Saint Mary's Christian Service Ministry is comprised of Parish Volunteers dedicated to carrying out Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. We do our best to serve as Jesus served. Listed below are the ministries we offer. The Christian Service team consists of many parish members involved in the following activities.

**Committee Members**

- |               |                      |
|---------------|----------------------|
| Helen Alberts | Kate Casemier        |
| Mary Griffin  | Dave Lukasik         |
| Faith Marasco | Louise Randall       |
| Betty Sweet   | Michelle Teschendorf |
| Mary Todd     | Peggie Williams      |

**Chair: Dorothy Raha 842-1702**  
deraha@catholicweb.com

**Contact: Kate Casemier, Chair**  
**616-638-0808**

**Funeral Luncheon Committee**

We are a group of men and women who serve a funeral luncheon. We serve the bereaved family by offering food and a place to visit with family and friends after the service.

The family is responsible for the meat and rolls. We ask the members of our parish for donations of dishes to complete the meal. Coffee and punch are furnished.

We hope to show a spirit of compassion and caring by our service. We have seven teams at this time and work on a rotation basis. We could always use more workers.

**Co-Chairs: Joyce Berns 850-8578**  
**Mueril Tuggle 842-3061**



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