

GIVING OF OUR TIME AND TALENT



St. Regis Parish
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

The Parish Council and Finance Council

Councils are the primary consultative bodies to the parish pastor or administrator, working directly with him in the areas of pastoral planning and financial matters. Each parish in the Archdiocese of Detroit is to have both an active Parish Pastoral Council and an active Parish Finance Council.

The Pastoral Council is the primary visioning body of the parish, assisting the pastor in determining the overall mission of the parish.

The Finance Council assists the pastor in the proper administration of the finances and material assets of the parish, especially in regard to any strategic planning brought forth by the Pastoral Council.

As the primary visioning body of the parish, the Parish Pastoral Council assists the pastor in:

- † Soliciting the wisdom of the parish community on pastoral matters.
- † Forming a consensus about pastoral planning, this addresses the needs of the parish.
- † Communicating that pastoral vision to the parish as a whole.
- † Involving the parish commissions in implementing the vision.

Parish Pastoral Council membership is through a process of election/selection.

An essential aspect of such visioning is the work of evangelization. Evangelization invites all people to a full and active life of faith, sharing in the mission of the Church. The work of evangelization is not something done “in addition to” everything else. Evangelization is to inspire all that a parish does and is to be the foundation of its very identity.

For that reason, evangelization is at the heart of all a Parish Pastoral Council does. It is to be a priority in any pastoral planning and is to be at the forefront of the work of all parish groups and activities. To help the importance of evangelization to become a reality, the Parish Pastoral Council is to have an Evangelization Committee as a direct subcommittee to the Pastoral Council.

The Parish Finance Council will now be constituted as a stand alone council, distinct and separate from the Parish Pastoral Council and its Commissions. The Parish Pastoral Council’s Stewardship Commission will continue to focus on helping parish members discern and use their talents and gifts for the building up of the community.

Finance Council members are to have a clear understanding of the parish's mission, goals, structure and demographics. The Finance Council does not set the pastoral priorities for the parish – this is the essential work of the Pastoral Council. The Finance Council is to help facilitate the accomplishment of the pastoral priorities identified by the pastor and Pastoral Council. In this regard, the Pastoral Council helps the pastor to be a good shepherd to the people of the parish and the Finance Council helps him to be a good administrator of the parish goods to accomplish the parish goals

Christian Service Commission

The Christian Service Commission exists as a model and resource of Catholic social teaching to enable the entire parish community to put the social teaching of the Church into action. The Commission empowers the members of the parish to fulfill the Church's mission of love, justice, freedom and peace under the mantle of evangelization by communally responding, in an organized way, to societal and individual needs. The commission creates and/or promotes programs that strive to address human needs and achieve justice whether locally or in the broader communities of vicariate, region, Archdiocese, state, nation and world.

The Commission's education responsibilities are to:

- † Educate the members of the commission regarding Catholic social teaching.
- † Gather and share accurate information about human needs in the parish and total community.
- † Gather and share accurate information about service and service providers in the area.
- † Evaluate and report on Christian service in response to changing communion needs.
- † Bring the parish community to an awareness of action needed to resolve human needs and achieve justice and human dignity.
- † Provide information to the parish and staff concerning opportunities that address justice and life issues.

The Commission's ministerial responsibilities include:

- † Maintain effective communication and strong working relationships with the pastoral staff, Parish Pastoral Council commissions and the Archdiocesan Offices.

- † Continually increase the number and variety of parishioners involved directly with Christian service.
- † Work with the parish pastoral leadership in discerning how to respond to the needs of the poor and vulnerable throughout the area and, especially, within the parish boundaries.
- † Support existing social ministry programs that adequately meet the needs of the parish and community, linking with other parishes and/or community groups whenever possible.
- † Develop and implement parish social ministry programs to address needs not met by parish or community programs.
- † Develop and help implement, in concert with community service providers, necessary programs that are beyond the resources of the individual parish.
- † Provide training for volunteers in social ministry activities.
- † Develop new social ministry leadership among lay people of the parish communion.

The Commission's administrative responsibilities include:

- † Maintain a close working relationship with, and coordinate the efforts of, all parish social ministry organizations to maintain the strength of individual organizations within the effectiveness of the whole.
- † Engage Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan and other Archdiocesan charities, organizations and institutions, as well as other local community resources when appropriate and, when necessary, after consultation with pastor/vicar.
- † Coordinate parish response to national Catholic action for justice programs, e.g., Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Campaign for Human Development and others designated by the Archdiocesan Department of Parish Life and Services.
- † Provide within the Christian service budget a model of good stewardship and, within the social ministry goals and objectives, a functional model that takes into account parish, community and global outreach.

Christian Service Opportunities

Commission Member

The Christian Service Commission actualizes the social teaching of the Church by fulfilling specific, educational, ministerial, and administrative responsibilities. Members of the Christian

Service Commission enable the parish community to put the social teaching of the Church into action. It empowers the members of the parish to fulfill the Church's mission of love, justice, freedom, and peace by communally responding to the needs of individuals and our society. Representatives from various outreach committees meet regularly with the Christian Service Commission to update the Commission on their projects, discuss future plans and opportunities for service and to generally brainstorm with other commission members.

Altar Server Robe Repair Team

This is a ministry for those enjoy sewing. Volunteers periodically make basic repairs (stitching seams and hems) to the altar server robes and they keep the robes clean and pressed and fitting for serving our Lord.

Bereavement Luncheons

Members of this ministry assist with providing a light lunch for the family and friends of the deceased following the funeral Mass. Volunteers participate in this ministry by providing desserts, calling others to donate desserts, helping serve the catered lunch and helping clean up. Many hands make for light work. This is a great ministry for parishioners of all ages.

Blood Drive

Each year St. Regis Parish teams up with the American Red Cross to host a blood drive. Parishioners may participate in this very important ministry in more ways than the giving of blood. Members may assist with registration and refreshments. Training for any specialized tasks is provided by the Red Cross.

Bulletin Stuffer

This ministry requires an occasional and sporadic commitment on a Friday morning to stuff flyers into the church bulletins. The time requirement is approximately two hours. Volunteers are usually provided notice of two to three days. The task is generally done by our volunteers following the Friday 8:30 Mass.

Business Network

This group offers business leaders and owners the opportunity to share business strategies, develop relationships, share business referrals, interface with other business groups, and work cooperatively. Meetings are held monthly.

Canned Food Collections

Parishioners of all ages may participate in this ministry by providing non-perishable food items for the Ladies of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul pantry each week when coming to Mass. Volunteers help move the items from the hunger baskets in the vestibules to the storage closet each week, and other volunteers serve on a rotating basis to transport the food to the pantry.

Catholic's in the Public Square

Catholics in the Public Square (CPS) is an organization of faithful lay Catholics formed in response to Pope John Paul II's outreach to the laity and to the U.S. Catholic Bishops' pastoral letter [*Living the Gospel of Life: A Challenge to American Catholics*](#). Conscious of the great need for a Catholic voice to be heard in the Public Square, CPS is dedicated to bringing Catholic teaching and values to bear on our culture.

Coffee and Donuts

On select week-ends after the 10:00 Mass, parishioners and guest are invited to the Father Shields Club Room for coffee, donuts and juice. Volunteers are needed to host the week-end hospitality. For a small amount of time and a little effort, one can enjoy the satisfaction of contributing to an important ministry. Members participate by picking up the donuts from the bakery, brewing coffee, setting up, serving the donuts, and cleaning up.

Giving Tree

The Giving Tree is an important outreach ministry. Volunteers assist in preparing and distributing over one thousand tags for the Giving Tree and in organizing the gifts donated to the Giving Tree project during the Advent season. In addition, volunteers assist in the coordination and delivery of the gifts to the participating inner city parishes. Parishioners of all ages may participate in this ministry. This is a wonderful family ministry.

Grounds Beautification

The Grounds Beautification ministry assists in the design and maintenance of the parish campus gardens. Members help to enhance the beauty of our church and school campus by planting and caring for the flowers and shrubs in one of the various parish gardens. Anyone who enjoys gardening or working outdoors is welcome to help. Weeders are especially welcome during the summer months. Let us know your interest and we'll find a way for you to help that fits your schedule.

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal organization that was formed in 1882 by Father McGivney. This fraternal organization espouses the principals of: charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. The St. John Francis Regis Council has been commissioned to promote vocations in our parish. The Council sponsors speakers who address theological topics, and it holds pancake breakfasts and other activities throughout the year. All Catholic men are invited to join the Council. The Council meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month.

Office Volunteers

Office Volunteers assist the staff by periodically lend a hand to help stuff parish mailings. Join our friendly group of volunteers who offer assistance as their schedule permits; they are generally given several days' notice when needed.

Offertory Counter

Members of this committee assist on a rotating basis with the counting of the weekly collection. They are invited to be on the committee by the parish administration.

Respect for Life

This ministry promotes respect for life at all stages - from womb to tomb, and encourages involvement in pro-life education programs, Forty Days for Life, and the annual parish baby shower for Mother and Unborn Baby Care.

Scouting

The Scouting program provides adult volunteers the opportunity to use the gift of leadership to guide our youth as they grow and develop. Scouting itself provides a values-based educational program for boys, girls and young adults, building desirable qualities of character, training in spiritual growth, citizenship, and sportsmanship, and developing personal fitness. Most troops meet once per month.

Senior Care Luncheon

Each spring, members of this hospitality ministry host a Mass followed by a festive luncheon for local nursing home and assisted living residents. Committee members' work together to plan the event, organizes transportation, schedule the meal preparers, set-up and decorate.

South Oakland Shelter

Annually the St. Regis community provides food and shelter for homeless guests from the South Oakland Shelter (S.O.S.). Our week for providing shelter is usually the third week of June. Approximately 250 volunteers are needed to make the week a reality. There is a full range of commitment opportunities from 30 minutes to as many hours as fit your schedule. Parishioners of all ages may participate.

St. Anne's Healing Mass

In this outreach ministry, volunteers from the parish prepare, transport, and serve a delicious lunch following the Healing Mass at Saint Anne Parish in downtown Detroit. This annual event is generally held the first Tuesday in December.

St. Vincent de Paul - Clothing Collection

Young and old are invited to participate in this ministry. Volunteers accept drive-up clothing donations from parishioners and load them on the St. Vincent de Paul trucks during the semi-annual clothing drives. The time commitment is one hour, twice a year on Saturday or Sunday following Mass.

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers are parishioners trained to provide one-on-one emotional and spiritual support that is confidential, empathetic, and non-judgmental. They receive fifty hours of training in preparation for this care-giving ministry. The ministers bring understanding and compassion that allows parishioners to reflect on and share current difficulties in their life.

Women of St. Regis

Utilizing the varied gifts of its members, the Women of St. Regis (WSR) host many spiritual, social, charitable and fundraising activities throughout the year. The organization provides a great opportunity to do God's work while also making new friends within the parish. One may become involved in as many or as few of the projects and events as one is able. The Board of the WSR encourages and invites all women of the parish to become members.

Christian Education & Formation Commission

The Christian Education & Formation Commission assists, promotes and supports parishioners in understanding that the entire parish communion has responsibility for participating in the

evangelization and teaching mission of Jesus entrusted to the Church. The commission's responsibilities include developing, promoting and evaluating programs that address all aspects of education and evangelization, in cooperation with archdiocesan and parish staffs.

The Commission's educational responsibilities are to:

- † Discern the parish's formational/educational needs at all levels.
- † Assist in providing an array of informational and formational opportunities for people at every stage of life.
- † Ensure compliance with educational directives, guidelines, norms, and policies of the parish, Archdiocese and universal Church.

The Commission's formational responsibilities are to:

- † Assist commission and committee members in their understanding of Church catechetical documents and best practices, emphasizing the lifelong aspects of Catholic formation in its broadest sense.
- † Support the continuing education and formation of all educational ministers according to Archdiocesan directives, guidelines, norms and policies.

The Commission's administrative responsibilities are to:

- † Annually establish and recommend objectives to the Parish Pastoral Council. Objectives should flow from the parish vision, mission statement and goals, and address the educational and formational needs in the areas of Adult Faith Formation, Catholic Schools, Family Ministry, Faith Formation/Catechetics, Vocations, Youth Ministry, and Campus Ministry/Young Adults.
- † Quarterly review and evaluate the progress of the commission's objectives.
- † Promote and support the Archdiocesan policies of the Department of Evangelization, Catechesis and Schools, as they pertain to the parish.

Christian Education Opportunities

Commission Member

Members of the Education Commission are responsible for seeing that the parish communion's teaching mission is addressed in ways that assist each individual to grow in faith throughout

their life. Through the commission's committees, it determines programs that promote and support total parish education and formation. The commission supports the parish professional staff in working toward that goal.

Baptism Preparation Team

Volunteer parent members assist in preparing parents and godparents for the baptism of their child by providing hospitality and support, and assisting the facilitator during the sessions which are held every other month.

Bible Study

Weekly sessions are held in the fall and winter semesters, both in the morning and evening for those who wish to grow in the life of Christ and in an understanding of the teachings of the Church. Participants study class material prior to attending each week. They have the opportunity to learn from Scripture scholars (via DVD), to share insights, to support one another, and to pray together.

Catechist for Faith Formation

Catechists share and teach the Catholic faith to our children, preschool through grade eight. The ministry is open to any Catholic who has been confirmed, is actively practicing his/her faith, is in good standing with the Church, and has a working knowledge of Church teaching and doctrine. Class materials are provided; there is a time commitment for planning class lessons. Catechetical certification classes are provided through the Archdiocese. Catechists must attend a one evening Protecting God's Children workshop prior to teaching.

Children's Sunday School

Catechist – Adult catechists share the Catholic faith with our three and four year old children on Sunday mornings during the 10:00 Mass, September through April. The ministry is open to any Catholic who has been confirmed, is actively practicing his/her faith, is in good standing with the Church, and has a working knowledge of Church teaching and doctrine. Class materials are provided; there is a time commitment for planning class lessons. Catechists must attend a one evening *Protecting God's Children* workshop prior to teaching.

Student Helper – Young people sixth grade and older are invited to assist the catechist in the classroom during the 10:00 Mass, September through April.

Christian Meditation

Christian Meditation, a form of silent, imageless, contemplative prayer which uses a mantra, originated with the Fourth Century Desert Fathers. Two meditation groups are offered each week, on Tuesdays 7:00-8:00PM and on Wednesdays 10:00-11:00AM.

Catholic Men's Fellowship

St. Regis Catholic Men's Fellowship meets at 7:30 on Monday evenings from September through May, gathering for prayer, reading, meditating and discussing the upcoming Sunday Scripture readings. The members encourage and challenge each other to grow in their faith as they share what they have learned on their own faith journey. All men of the parish are welcome; registration is not necessary, only a desire to meet with Jesus.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

The RCIA is the process through which adults learn about the Catholic faith while growing in their relationship with God and preparing for incorporation into the Body of Christ, the Church.

Inquirers, Catechumens, and Candidates are those who desire to learn about the Catholic faith and desire to become Catholic. They include anyone age seven years and older who has never been baptized, was baptized in another Christian faith tradition, or who was baptized Catholic but never received the sacraments of First Eucharist and/or Confirmation.

Sponsors are parishioners who support the catechumens and candidates as they move through the RCIA process, attending Sunday Mass and participating in the Wednesday evening formation sessions. Sponsors must have received the Sacrament of Confirmation and be in good standing with the Church.

Team Members rotate in facilitating reflection on the Sunday Scripture passages, *Breaking Open the Word*, with the candidates and catechumens on Sunday mornings during the 10:00 Mass. Some team members assist with hospitality during the Wednesday evening formation sessions.

St. Regis School

St. Regis School is accredited to serve students in grades K-8, offering a quality, well-rounded education enriched with faith. It is the mission of the school to prepare the students to be successful as they further their educational careers, as well as to develop good character by living the Gospel. Students learn to be responsible citizens, and they are encouraged to maintain a high standard of academic achievement. In addition to core classes, students are offered a variety of classes, including physical education, music, art, computer, foreign language, and other enrichment opportunities.

Vocation Committee

Committee members take the lead in shepherding the parish in fostering vocations, reminding parish members of every age and experience to be involved in calling forth the next generation of Church leaders. The principal activity of the committee is vocation awareness. The committee plans special events and observances such as the Desert Meal, vocation awareness weekends, and other events, and it offers support to any parish member discerning a religious vocation.

Youth Ministry

The committee serves as an advocate for comprehensive youth ministry in the parish, helping the parish to empower youth to responsibly participate in the life, mission and work of the Church. Both adult and youth members of the parish serve on the committee.

The junior and senior high Youth Groups provide a variety of opportunities for each person to develop a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. Youth Ministry encourages teens to embark on a journey of faith and while developing their relationship with God through a combination of prayer, fellowship, catechesis, leadership, faith sharing, trips, service, and down-right unique experiences.

Adult Volunteer– Anyone willing to work with junior high and/or high school youth as a chaperone, discussion leader, and role model is invited to participate in this ministry. Volunteers sometimes offer assistance in preparing and/or providing refreshments for various events. Volunteers must attend a one evening *Protecting God's Children* workshop prior to volunteering.

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

VBS offers an invitation to be part of God's great get-together. Each year a different theme is presented using a Catholic curriculum. Children have the opportunity to listen to the Word of God, to be amazed by God's creation, and to be part of a supportive, fun community. The program is open to children three years of age through those who have completed the 4th grade. Thirty to forty-five youth 6th through 12th grade serve as volunteers along with catechists and parent volunteers. A Mass and potluck are held on the last day for all VBS families.

Stewardship Commission

The Stewardship Commission is concerned with the promotion of Christian stewardship as a way of life, and how living out our call to discipleship in service to the Church and her members provides a living example by which the spirit of evangelization is witnessed.

The Commission's education responsibilities are to:

- † Foster a parish environment in which Christian stewardship as a way of life is understood, accepted and practiced.
- † Develop programs that allow parishioners to discern their God-given skills and talents and how they may be put to use in the ministries of the Church.
- † Develop family finance study programs based on Scripture and The Catechism of the Catholic Church.
- † Encourage parishioners' endowment gifts through distribution of planned giving newsletters, wills awareness seminars and other materials.

The Commission's stewardship responsibilities are to:

- † Coordinate the process for encouraging parishioners to share their time, talents and treasure in parish ministries, activities and support.
- † Plan, recommend, and with Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Council approval, implement actions for the most effective use of parish resources; these resources include parishioners' time, skills and talents, and offered funds.

The Commission's administrative responsibilities are to:

- † Coordinate the annual parish Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) campaign following guidelines in the Archdiocese of Detroit manual, Catholic Services Appeal: Planning for Success.
- † Coordinate all parish fundraising programs and activities in accordance with Pastoral Council and Finance Council approval and in line with overall parish priorities and objectives.

Stewardship Opportunities

Commission Member

Working under the direction of the Parish Pastoral Council, members are responsible for the promotion of Christian stewardship as a way of life. They are responsible for assisting parish members to grow in an understanding of how living out our call to discipleship in service to the Church provides a living example by which the spirit of evangelization is witnessed.

Ministry Fair

The Stewardship Ministry Fair is held in the fall of each year bringing all of the parish ministries together under one tent to present the numerous stewardship and ministry opportunities available within the St. Regis community with the purpose of assisting community members opportunities to use their God given gifts. Members plan, prepare, and oversee this annual event.

Pastoral Planning Committee

Working with the pastor, members of the Pastoral Planning Committee are responsible for planning and executing the parish assembly to be held in November. They will develop and monitor the parish pastoral plan.

Technology Committee

This committee's responsibility is to review, evaluate, and recommend the technology needs and requirements for the St. Regis campus.

C.S.A. Steering Committee

Members coordinate the fundraising activities related to the annual C.S.A. campaign which is conducted each spring.

Changing Lives Together Campaign

The Archdiocesan wide capital campaign will begin in the fall of 2012 at St. Regis. This team of volunteers will assist with the planning and coordination of the campaign effort.

Worship Commission

The Worship Commission is responsible for guiding the continuing liturgical renewal of the parish, which is a communion centered on the Eucharist. It serves the parish by providing opportunities for liturgical education, by preparing the liturgical celebrations, and through mystagogical reflection evaluating these celebrations. The Worship Commission participates in the call for evangelization by its witness of sharing Christ with others through liturgical worship. In addition, it serves as the liaison for relations with other Christian and non-Christian churches and religious bodies.

The Commission's education responsibilities are to:

- † Update its members with the knowledge, understanding and expertise needed to function effectively.
- † Oversee the continuing education and formation of the parish in liturgical matters.
- † Support the continuing education and formation of all liturgical ministers according to Archdiocesan directives, guidelines, norms and policies.

The Commission's worship responsibilities are to:

- † Discern the parish's worship/liturgical/prayer needs.
- † Assist in providing quality liturgical celebrations and prayer services through involvement in the preparation and evaluation of these.
- † Plan and prepare liturgical events and celebrations.
- † Ensure compliance with liturgical directives, guidelines, norms and policies of the parish, Archdiocese, and universal Church.
- † Collaborate on liturgical aspects of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), infant baptism, sacramental preparation, marriage preparation, Eucharist to the hospitalized and homebound, funeral celebrations and ministry to the bereaved and with those parish committees and other groups specifically charged with work in these and related areas.
- † Foster an atmosphere of hospitality and harmony in all aspects of its work.

The Commission's administrative responsibilities are to:

- † Make recommendations to the Parish Pastoral Council regarding the priorities, policies, guidelines, and directives of the parish, Archdiocese and universal Church which should be considered in the planning and carrying out of the worship life of the parish.
- † Coordinate the preparation of the liturgical celebrations for all seasonal and special feasts.
- † Coordinate and oversee the preparation, functioning and evaluation of all liturgical ministries in the parish, i.e., lectors, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, musicians, servers, ushers, and/or ministers of hospitality, sacristans, artists, etc.

- † Provide appropriate scheduling of celebrations and prayer services throughout the liturgical year.

Worship Opportunities

Commission Member

Since the liturgy is the “source and summit” (SC 11) of Christian life, the Worship Commission needs to be actively and directly connected and concerned with all aspects of parish life, including ecumenism. The Worship Commission collaborates with the Parish Pastoral Council, other parish commissions, the Vicariate Worship Commission, and the Archdiocesan Office for Christian Worship. It develops and establishes objectives to realize and accomplish parish and Archdiocesan goals and ecclesiastical norms in the area of liturgy and parish worship. It proposes and submits its priorities and budget to the Parish Pastoral Council and develops and oversees a program of evaluation of its own work as well as that of parish liturgical life. The primary task of the Worship Commission is in the areas of liturgy and ecumenism. This work includes educational, worship and administrative responsibilities.

Advent by Candlelight

Coordinated by the St. Bridget Circle and generally held on the first Sunday in December, Advent by Candlelight is a women’s evening of reflection and prayer to welcome the season of Advent and to share fellowship. A guest speaker, music and desserts are part of the evening.

Altar Servers

Altar servers assist the priest and deacon during the Mass. They have several supporting duties to carry out, such as carrying the processional candles, holding the missal for the priest celebrant when he is not at the altar, assisting the priest when he receives the gifts from the people, washing the hands of the priest before the prayer over the gifts, removing items from the altar during Communion, and assisting the priest celebrant and the deacon as necessary.

Communion Service Leader

Lay members of the parish minister to our elder brothers and sisters at local assisted living facilities, providing weekly Communion services. The Liturgy of the Word is celebrated followed by Holy Communion. Leaders are people of prayer who strive to live the Gospel in word and deed. Training and ongoing formation for this ministry is provided. Any Catholic who has been confirmed and who is in good standing with the Church may participate in the

ministry. Leaders must also participate in a *Protecting God's Children* workshop prior to beginning the ministry.

Epiphany Children's Program

Parish children re-enact the Visit of the Magi on the Feast of Epiphany. Adults are needed to help coordinate and produce the pageant, including assisting with the rehearsals that are held a few days prior to the event. Children, kindergarten through eighth grade, are invited to participate in the pageant.

Eucharistic Adoration

Parishioners have the opportunity for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following the 6:45AM Mass and concluding at 8:15AM on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and following the 8:30AM Mass until 10:00AM on Tuesdays and Thursdays. In addition, each first Wednesday of the month Eucharistic Adoration is available from 9:00AM and concludes with Prayers for Vocations at 6:45PM followed by recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Benediction at 7:00PM. Adorers are needed at all times of the day on the first Wednesday of the month.

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion assist the priest in the distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ during Mass and they carry Communion to our sick and homebound parishioners. Any Catholic who has been confirmed and who is in good standing with the Church may receive training for the ministry. Ministers must participate in a *Protecting God's Children* workshop prior to beginning the ministry, and they must participate in yearly formation.

Lector

Lectors are the storytellers of the community and lovers of God's Word who desire to communicate the Good News to the community. They proclaim God's Word during the weekend and weekday Masses and other special liturgical celebrations. They are scheduled to minister during the weekend Masses once a month. Training and preparation materials are provided. Ministers must participate in a *Protecting God's Children* workshop and participate in yearly lector formation

Lenten Day of Reflection

Coordinated by the Women of St. Regis, this day of prayerful reflection assists participants in entering more deeply into the season of Lent. It is generally held in March at Manresa Jesuit Retreat Center.

Liturgical Environment

Participants in this ministry may assist in planning and preparing the decorations for the church for a given liturgical season, or they may assist in the actual decorating of the church for a given liturgical season such as Advent or Christmas. Volunteers may assist as often as fits their schedule. Planning and preparation are generally done one season in advance.

Liturgy of the Word with Children (LWC)

LWC is a worship experience offered to all children grades K through five during the 10:00 Mass most Sundays of the year.

Adult Leaders are needed to share God's Word with the children. Leaders need: a love for God's Word, a heart open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit while reflecting on God's Word with the children, and love for children. Preparation materials are provided in advance. Leaders are scheduled approximately once a month. Leaders must have participated in a *Protecting God's Children* workshop in order to participate in the ministry.

Musicians lead the children in sung prayer during the celebration. Instrumentalists are welcome to participate. Music is provided in advance.

Student Lectors grades six through high school proclaim God's Word to the children during the liturgy. Yearly training is provided, and preparation materials are provided in advance.

Student Sacristans grades six through high school prepare the worship space in the Parish Office Center fifteen minutes prior to the beginning of Mass and put items away after Mass.

Student Helpers grades six through high school assist the leader as needed during the liturgy.

Music Ministry

Adult Choir

The adult choir is open to all parishioners high school age and older. The choir meets for rehearsal on Wednesday evenings and sings on Sundays at the 10:00 Mass. The ability to read music is helpful, as well as a desire to sing praise to God. Cantors, soloists, instrumentalists, and amateur singers are welcome to participate.

Contemporary Choir

The contemporary choir sings at the 5:00PM Mass on Saturday evenings. Instrumentalists, vocalists, and amateur singers are welcome to participate in leading the assembly in sung prayer each week.

National Day of Prayer

Each year on the first Thursday of May the Parents' Prayer Group coordinates a prayer service in celebration of the National Day of Prayer. The entire school community participates in the service which is held on the school playground. Students, parents, and staff offer prayers for the world, the local community, the school, and the parish.

Parent Prayer Group

Parents of school-age children are invited to join in prayer for their children, teachers, the school, the community, and their families each Friday morning from 8:15-8:30AM during the school year. Prayer takes place in the Father Shields Club Room.

Prayer Chain

Volunteers pray in their own homes for the petitions submitted by parishioners, family members, and friends. Promptness in passing on requests to people on the prayer chain is necessary. Prayer chain members pray using prayers with which they are most comfortable, remembering that "Happiness is praying for one another."

Usher

As ministers of hospitality, ushers maintain a comfortable and receptive atmosphere during liturgical celebrations as they greet and otherwise assist those who come to worship. They take up the Offertory collection, direct the orderly flow of communicants, straighten the pews after Mass, assist in emergencies, and distribute bulletins. Ushers arrive 15 minutes before Mass.

The ministry is open to all men and women of the parish high school age and older. Training and yearly formation are provided. Volunteers must participate in a *Protecting God's Children* workshop in order to participate in the ministry.

Wake Service Leader

Wake Service Leaders represent the parish community, extending the condolences and prayers of the parish community to the family and friends of the deceased and leading them in the celebration of the Vigil Rite on the evening before the funeral liturgy. Training is provided for this ministry.

Women's Funeral Honor Guard

At the request of the family, a women's honor guard is present at the funeral Mass for any deceased woman of the parish, in appreciation for the contributions she has made to the building up of God's Kingdom during her lifetime. Volunteers are contacted by phone when a request has been made, and they participate in the honor guard as their schedule permits.