

FORMED IN THE HEART

Stewardship Renewal 2019



St. Joseph Parish & Nativity of the BVM Parish

FORMED IN THE HEART

Stewardship

As the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops tells us in *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*, "Stewardship involves a lifelong process of study, reflection, prayer, and action. To make stewardship a way of life, it requires a change of heart and a new understanding of what it means to follow Jesus without counting the cost."

This conversion of mind and heart begins with a strong foundation in the principles of our Faith. Ongoing personal formation strengthens our faith, both as individuals and ultimately as a parish community. Ongoing Catholic education for children and adults is vital to our own personal growth as disciples of Christ. This education of the mind and conversion of the heart help us to live the stewardship way of life rather than simply understand it.

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STEWARDSHIP OF *Time*

The foundation of our prayer lives and our ongoing formation as Catholic stewards begin with the Mass. The celebration of the Sunday Mass Liturgy gives us the spiritual nourishment that we need to live our lives as faithful stewards. The Eucharist not only feeds us, but also challenges us to share the gifts we have received with others. We are sent “to love and serve the Lord” at the conclusion of the Mass. A constant challenge exists for us to make the correlation between our call to discipleship as stewards and the liturgies we celebrate.

Each time we pray, we invite God into our lives at that moment, strengthening the foundation that we stand upon. During this year’s Stewardship Renewal, will you seek to strengthen your relationship with God?

Strengthening Your Prayer Life

- Pope Francis’ encouragement is to spend time in prayerful study of the Scriptures, asking God what He would have you learn about Him and His will for your life through His Word.
- Go before Him in the Blessed Sacrament in Adoration, giving Him thanks for the good things He has brought to your life and asking for help in the challenges.
- Research the lives of the saints, read their works, and ask God for the grace to live as they did.
- Utilize Catholic phone and tablet apps such as iBreviary, Magnificat, Divine Office or The Pope App to pray and learn more about our Catholic faith.



STEWARDSHIP OF *Talent*

The work of stewardship and evangelization always begins at home — “home” in our own hearts, and then the “home” of our parish. Of course, a faithful steward shares his or her talents by serving others, but an important step toward growing closer to Christ is through a personal commitment to a life of continual conversion in Christ through the life of the Church.

As Catholic adults, our continued formation is a talent we must cultivate for our entire lives. Whether it is regularly reading Scripture, attending Scripture study classes, participating in retreats, or engaging in meaningful discussions on the faith with our Catholic friends and fellow parishioners, there is a multitude of ways we can grow in our faith. Thanks to modern technology, the Internet gives us a seemingly endless supply of formational opportunities. Ultimately, by emphasizing our own personal formation, we in turn will have something more meaningful to give back to our loved ones, our parish family and the Church.

Deepening Your Faith

- Search usccb.org (the website for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) or vatican.va (the website for the Holy See) for the daily readings, documents regarding faith and morality, and wisdom from Pope Francis.
- Read one paragraph from the *Catechism* every day.
- Seek out answers to the questions you’ve had about our faith by talking to priests and knowledgeable parishioners.
- Participate in faith formation opportunities available at our parish.



STEWARDSHIP OF *Treasure*

God has a plan for every aspect of your life, including your finances. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (2404) tells us to be “stewards of providence,” and calls us to use our resources not just for our own good, but also for the good of God’s work in the Church. Creating a personal budget is one way to apply God’s principles to our finances and become better managers of the resources He has entrusted to us. We must learn how to take the gifts God has given us – our skills, our abilities and our income – and use them for His work.

Our parish invites each family to give 10% of its gross income to God — 5% through the offertory and 5% to the diocese and other worthy causes — according to the scriptural title. In order to accomplish this goal, however, we also must learn how to manage the remaining 90%. By setting goals, creating a budget and sticking to the plan, and most importantly coming to a greater understanding of the role generosity plays in our financial and spiritual lives, we can all exercise good stewardship of our treasure. How will you work making a specific, percentage-based commitment to God through the offertory?



2019

Ministry Guidebook

ST. JOSEPH AMHERST AND NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, SOUTH AMHERST

Liturgical Ministries

ALTAR SERVERS (ADULT)

Mission: We are servants of the celebrant at Mass. We are there to help Father in all aspects of the celebration.

Talent: Be a regular member at either parish. Having been a server in the past as a youth does help, but is not necessary. Being a reliable member of your serving team for the month assigned.

Time: Each serving team (three members) has two months during the year that they are assigned to serve. You are not scheduled two consecutive months, but you are given a full year schedule. There may be two short meetings prior to the Christmas Eve and Easter Vigil Masses.

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Dave Kukucka, 440-452-5887, Kookjr@msn.com;

Co-Leader: Erma Camp, 440-985-1282

ALTAR SERVERS (STUDENTS GRADES 4 THROUGH 12)

Mission: To provide altar servers to assist the priest(s) during Mass on Saturdays, Sundays, weekdays, funerals, weddings and special occasions.

Talent: Responsibility and willingness to make a commitment.

Time: Moderate

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Angie Niehart, 440-988-8328, AngieN@oh.rr.com;

Ministry Leader at Nativity: Ed Klimczak, 440-320-3508, nativitysouthamherst@gmail.com

ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY (HELD AT NATIVITY OF THE BVM)

Mission: The Altar and Rosary Society is composed of women of the parish dedicated to promoting devotion of the Rosary, and serving God and the parish through behind-the-scenes tasks, including care of the altar.

Talent: All women are welcome and invited to take part in this ministry by helping with a variety of tasks, such as preparing altar cloths, general cleaning and maintaining the church, preparing meals for funerals, assisting in our "Christmas in July" event for the needy, and more.

Time: Variable

Ministry Leader: Marilyn Siekeres, 440-823-2061, mlsiekeres@gmail.com;

Co-Leader: Marianne Pellitieri, 440-320-3875



CHURCH ENVIRONMENT

Mission: To create an atmosphere that is welcoming and inviting to parishioners throughout the Liturgical Seasons. We complete this work behind the scenes and welcome new ideas.

Talent: Any parishioner who has creative decorating and/or craft skills.

Time: Variable. Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter are the biggest times to decorate the church, but with planning, God's direction and willing hearts — the work gets done.

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Sue Cotton, 440-986-1725 (seeking new Leader, training will be provided)

Ministry Leader at Nativity: Marrienne Pellitteri, 440-984-2875, mpellitteri@yahoo.com

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT MASS

Mission: To assist the celebrant priest in distributing the Body (Holy Communion) and Blood (Consecrated Wine) to parishioners present at Mass.

Talents: Must be a member in good standing with the Church and possess an inner spirituality and a firm belief that you are handling the Body and Blood of Christ and not just bread and wine. A firm desire to honor the commitment to be present when scheduled.

Time: Rotating monthly schedule(s) based on the number of ministers available per Mass. Ministers are typically scheduled to work one month at a time. There is an initial class sponsored by the diocese, and an introductory class at St. Joseph's. Thereafter, there is usually a yearly review and prayer session.

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Tim Nye, Scheduler, 440-988-3565, tnye92884@gmail.com;

Co-Leader at St. Joseph: Ross Maenza, 440-258-1764, rmmaenza@yahoo.com;

Ministry Leader at Nativity: Ed Klimczak, 440-320-3508, nativitysouthamherst@gmail.com

GREETERS

Mission: To provide a team of parishioners to greet parishioners and visitors at the doors as they arrive for Mass and special events.

Talents: To be a welcoming and warm ambassador of our parish.

Time: Low, 30 minutes before the weekend Mass you usually attend. **(St. Joseph is seeking new Leader, training will be provided.)**

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Pam Belskis, 440-985-1054, pambelskis@wowway.com;

Ministry Leader at Nativity: Ed Klimczak, 440-320-3508, nativitysouthamherst@gmail.com

LECTORS

Mission: To proclaim the Word of God to the people of the parish during Mass.

Talents: The ability to read confidently and to have time to prepare prior to the Liturgy.

Time: Varies depending on availability, usually reads two to four months of the year rotating with others and occasionally filling in as needed.

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Chris Annable, 440-668-0308, christineannable7@gmail.com;

Ministry Leader at Nativity: Ed. Klimczak, 440-320-3508, nativitysouthamherst@gmail.com



SACRISTANS

Mission: To work as a team to clean the church and chapel. Also, to help set up before and clean up after special Masses such as funerals and weddings.

Talent: A desire to keep the Lord's house clean.

Time: We have four teams that tidy up around the sanctuary and pews. This light work takes no more than two hours a week; each team straightens up for a two-week period and rotates every eight weeks. The time is flexible, so you can fit it into your week of activities.

We welcome new volunteers to help out.

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Sue Cotton, 440-986-1725 (seeking new Leader, training will be provided)

Ministry Leader at Nativity: John and Marilyn Lux, 440-985-1584, jmlux423@gmail.com

USHERS

Mission: To provide a team of parishioners to greet, usher, and distribute bulletins at weekend Masses and to usher at holy days and special events as needed. Would like to have at least six regular ushers at every Mass.

Talents: A warm smile and the ability to make parishioners and guests to our parish feel welcome.

Time: Low, one hour per week during Mass when scheduled.

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Jeff Mount, 440-984-4223, JJmount182@gmail.com;

Ministry Leader at Nativity: Marrienne Pellittieri, 440-320-3875, mpellittieri@yahoo.com

Music Ministries

ADULT CHOIR AND CANTORS

Mission: To encourage active participation in the Liturgy through song.

Talents: The enjoyment of singing or the ability to play an instrument, as well as the willingness to learn the music. The ability to read music is not necessary.

Time: Moderate. Practice for one hour typically every week.

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Ed Klimczak, 440-320-3508, edwardklimczak@gmail.com;

Ministry Leader at Nativity: Ed Klimczak, 440-320-3508, nativitysouthamherst@gmail.com



CONTEMPORARY CHOIR

Mission: As a music ministry, our primary mission is to magnify and glorify Jesus Christ through sacred music. Furthermore, the mission of the music ministry is to facilitate the fulfillment of the overall vision of St. Joseph Church through the delivery of spiritual and spirit-led music that enhances the liturgy, and anointed music that edifies, inspires and challenges the Body of Christ, enabling them to experience Christ on a personal level.

Spiritual Life and Evangelization Ministries

Talents: The only qualification needed is the desire to glorify God through your voice, with the purpose of rejoicing in and worshiping the Lord through music and singing. We accomplish this by recruiting new choir members and teaching new music.

Time: Commitment of time is one weekly rehearsal for about an hour, generally in the afternoon; on occasion in the evening and the Saturday 4 p.m. Mass.

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Ron Renick, 440-233-4386, ronrenick@roadrunner.com

INSTRUMENTALISTS

Mission: To provide support to the choir and enhance the liturgy through music. To find a nice spiritually moving liturgy on Sundays and Holy Days.

Talents: The ability to play almost any musical instrument that would support a worship service.

Time: Variable/Moderate, typically practice every week for one hour.

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Ed Klimczak, 440-320-3508, edwardklimczak@gmail.com;

Ministry Leader at Nativity: Ed Klimczak, 440-320-3508, nativitysouthamherst@gmail.com

RESURRECTION CHOIR

Mission: To sing for funeral liturgies and provide a sense of parish support to the families of the deceased.

Talents: Availability during the day and the ability to sing.

Time: Variable — Approximately one hour per funeral. No rehearsals or meetings required.

Ministry Leader: Sheila Montgomery, 440-988-5367, alsheila20@hotmail.com;

Co-Leader: Sue Underwood, 440-988-5765, junderwood801@oh.rr.com

ADORATION

(HELD AT NATIVITY OF THE BVM)

Mission: To help parishioners experience grace in their lives through spending time in meditation, prayer, and adoration in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

Talent: A desire to spend time with our Eucharistic Lord.

Time: One hour per week, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 11 a.m. and 10 p.m.

Ministry Leader: Josie Tornabene, 440-988-7773, josie19114@yahoo.com;

Co-Leader: Larry Zaleski, 440-396-9853, mustanglz@yahoo.com;

Co-Leader: Zoila Johnson, 440-365-7345, zoyndave@yahoo.com

PRAYER CHAIN

Mission: To invoke the power of prayer by praying for parishioners' special intentions. That people continue to contact them with their needs so they can pray for them.

Talents: A willingness to pray for others.

Time: Daily — Pray for special intentions.

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Sue Underwood, 440-988-5765, junderwood801@oh.rr.com;

Ministry Leader at Nativity: Nancy Smith, 440-731-2369, JNSLWKSHP@aol.com

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (R.C.I.A.)

Mission: To welcome all inquirers — those not yet baptized into a Christian faith, those of other Christian faiths, and Catholics who have not yet celebrated the Sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation — to help them feel comfortable and eager to learn about Christianity and the Catholic Church, and to prepare those who choose to continue, to receive the Catholic Church's Sacraments of Initiation.

Talents: All that is required to participate in the R.C.I.A. program at St. Joe's, as one pursuing either entry into the Catholic faith or completion of their Sacraments of Initiation, is an open heart, some regular homework, and regular attendance at the meetings and events. To be a member of St. Joe's R.C.I.A. team, one must (1) be at least 18 years of age and a baptized, practicing Catholic who has celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist, (2) have a good knowledge of the Catholic religion and its beliefs and teachings as shown by Scripture and Tradition, (3) have a willingness to learn more about and teach our religion, and a willingness to share her or his own personal journey of faith with the other team members and the R.C.I.A. participants, (4) have a regular prayer life, and (5) keep confidential the private information others share in the R.C.I.A. process.

Time: Team members and the R.C.I.A. participants meet for approximately one-and-a-half hours one evening a week, from September until approximately Pentecost. All are expected to prepare for the meetings with assigned readings and tasks to be completed prior to the meeting. In addition, from the First Sunday of Advent through Palm Sunday, each R.C.I.A. participant is expected to attend a Mass on Sunday morning (currently the 11 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph) through the homily, and then leave the congregation with some team members and the other R.C.I.A. participants to

participate in a post-homily discussion and reflection until that Mass is concluded. There are additional celebrations and events involving the team and participants throughout Holy Week. The program's meetings, preparations for our meetings, and event commitments, as related above, require a fairly high level of time commitment. The additional time required of team members, in program development and participation, is medium.

Ministry Leader: Tom Theado, 440-320-8652, TomTheado@aol.com;

Co-Leader: Brian Sarvas, 440-396-8329, Sarvii@hotmail.com



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Mission: For children ages 4-9, includes Scripture lessons, singing, and arts and crafts.

Talent: A desire to work with and share your faith with children. VIRTUS training is required.

Time: Planning sessions plus one week in the summer during the actual Bible School.

Ministry Leader: Pat Vaccaro, 440-988-2848, ext. 204, pvaccaro@stjosephamherst.com

Co-Leader: Joanne Wagner, 330-219-6723, annie2037@hotmail.com

WONDERFUL WOMEN

Mission: For the women of our parishes to grow closer to God and to each other through scripture, discussion, prayer, and laughter. Each month will celebrate the lives of women with a different topic to help us grow in discipleship.

Talent: There are opportunities to play a role, or you can just come once a month and enjoy yourself. Because there are different topics each month, we will be looking for ideas on presentation topics and presenters. Volunteers will be asked to bring a snack or baked item. For anyone interested in music, a song or two will always be included.

Time: Meetings are monthly on a Monday from 7-8:30 p.m. Date and location will be announced in the Sunday bulletin. Each meeting is independent of the next, with no continuing content. Come when you can! For anyone baking or presenting, it's just the amount of time you want to commit for that month.

Ministry Leader: Olivia Sliman, 440-670-5933, olivia.sliman@gmail.com



Outreach Ministries

BAKERS

Mission: To help offer hospitality for various parish events, and to help offer comfort to people grieving the loss of a loved one, by baking for funeral luncheons. Please sign for one or more of the following: general baking, funeral baking, and/or making phone calls.

Talent: Baking or purchasing baked goods and/or making phone calls when baked goods are needed.

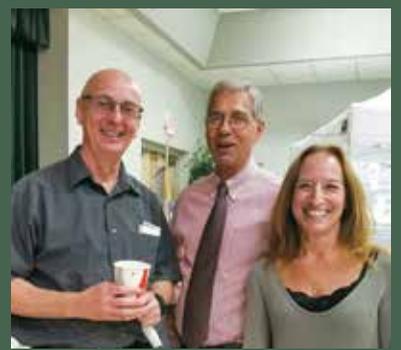
Time: Variable, dependent on parish activities and funeral luncheon needs, as well as the number of parish Bakers. Generally Bakers are asked three or four times a year.

Funeral Bakers may be needed more frequently. Calls are rotated through the list so no one is overburdened. Callers are provided with a list of people to call for each event.

Ministry Leader St. Joseph: Evelyn Caffarel, 440-452-4361, ecaff543@yahoo.com;

Co-Leader: Heather Weidner, 740-415-0622, cweidnerpo@yahoo.com







BEREAVEMENT

Mission: To provide ministry, understanding, and support for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Phone calls are made to families after funerals to offer support.

Talents: Good listening skills with an understanding and caring heart. A true understanding of how it feels to lose somebody close.

Time: There is also a need for parishioners to help with two four-hour workshop sessions, "Journeying with Loss," offered to those grieving the loss of a loved one. The workshops take place twice a year in the spring and the fall.

Ministry Leader: Sister Stefana Osredkar, SND, 440-988-2848, ext. 205 (seeking new Leader, training will be provided)

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA — CUB SCOUT PACK 429

Mission: Instill values in young men and prepare them to make ethical choices during their lifetime. To help instill solid values, confidence and citizenship in young people through Scouting, related activities, and events.

Talents: Willingness to assist the Scouts in meeting requirements for advancements to higher ranks.

Time: Pack 429 meets once a month during the school year. Dens of Pack 429 meet throughout the school year also to accomplish small projects and adventures required for advancement. Kids can also earn more badges through home projects and activities.

Ministry Leader: Russell Parsons, 440-309-6762, 429cubmaster@gmail.com;

Co-Leader: Lisa Brown, 440-213-0510, chair@gmail.com

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS TO THE HOMEBOUND, HOSPITALIZED, AND NURSING HOME FACILITIES

Mission: St. Joseph: To facilitate the reception of Holy Communion to those who are unable to be present at Mass due to illness or disability. Eucharistic Ministers distribute Holy Communion to those living in private homes, in nursing homes, and hospitals in the Amherst area. Personal transportation is necessary. We would like for anyone who cannot attend Mass to have the opportunity to be visited and receive the Holy Eucharist each week. Help is especially needed on Sunday Mornings after the 8:30 a.m. Mass for distributing Communion at Amherst Manor.

Time: One or two hours on Sunday mornings after Mass. Four to eight Sundays during the year.

Ministry Leader: Sister Stefana Osredkar, SND, 440-988-2848, ext. 205;

Co-Leader: Rita Hiser, 440-984-7087

COMMUNION TO SHUT INS

Mission: Nativity: To facilitate the reception of Holy Communion to those who are unable to be present at Mass due to illness or disability. Eucharistic Ministers distribute Holy Communion to those living in private homes, in nursing homes and hospitals in the general Amherst area. People wishing to receive Holy Communion are to contact the Ministry Leader directly. Personal transportation is necessary.

Time: One or two hours after Mass.

Ministry Leader at Nativity: Joe Siekeres, 440-965-4001, jsiekeres@zoominternet.net;

Co-Leader: Alexis Darin, 440-308-5782, Lexiebear@yahoo.com

FUNERAL LUNCHEON MINISTRY

Mission: To assist grieving members of the parish community by planning and serving a post-funeral luncheon either at St. Joseph or Nativity's social hall. Often after the Mass and burial, families choose to come together to share a meal and spend time remembering the person who died in a more informal setting. Together with the parish staff, this ministry not only provides information about area caterers, menus and venues to help in the decision making process, but also provides volunteers to help coordinate and serve the luncheon.

Talents: A willingness to help set-up, serve, clean up, provide baked goods or side dishes when requested.

Time: Two hours on the day of the funeral, and can select any or all of set up, serve and clean up.

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Helen Coughlin, 440-985-1569, markandhelenc@gmail.com;

Ministry Leader at Nativity: Marylin Siekeres, 440-823-2061, mlsiekeres@gmail.com;

Co-Leader at Nativity: Carol Brewer, 440-670-0858, clubber1950@twc.com

GIVING TREE — ST. JOSEPH

Mission: St. Joseph: To show Christian love and care for others by providing, collecting, and distributing gifts to the less fortunate through local organizations at Christmas time. Please sign up for providing gifts and/or to join the committee for helping with the collecting, and distributing of gifts. Parish children make and decorate the ornaments used for this ministry.

Talent: Ability to help: 1) make computer labels to be placed on ornaments showing gifts needed; or 2) decorate Christmas trees with paper ornaments (usually before or after a weekend Mass on the first and second Sundays of Advent); or 3) consolidate gifts on the Monday following the second Sunday of Advent; or 4) move gifts from the trees to the social hall lobby after weekend Masses on

the third Sunday of Advent; or 5) deliver gifts to an organization on the Monday or Tuesday following the third Sunday of Advent; or 6) act as a liaison to one of the organizations served by this ministry.

Time: As little as 15-20 minutes or as much as two hours for one of the listed jobs, longer if you are involved in more than one area of service.

Ministry Leader: Evelyn Caffarel, 440-452-4361, ecaff543@yahoo.com;

Co-Leader: Margie Januzzi, 440-988-7621, tomargie725@hotmail.com



GIVING TREE — NATIVITY

Mission Nativity: To collect toys and clothes for Catholic Charities in Lorain. We get family profiles from there which list children's ages and boy or girl. We only buy for younger children, not teenagers. The toys and clothes are unwrapped per family and delivered to Catholic Charities the week before Christmas.

Talents: Placing paper ornaments on the trees and the sorting/grouping of gifts.

Time: Approximately 12 hours per year, during the Advent Season

Ministry Leader: Diane Kirsch, 440-935-2301, dmk0259@centrurytel.net

GOLDEN AGERS

Mission: To share fellowship and offer informational programs on a monthly basis.

Talent: A desire to share fellowship.

Time: Various activities during the year.

Ministry Leader: Joyce Nye, 440-988-3565, tnye92884@gmail.com;

Co-Leader: Mike and Lori Pasztor, 440-985-1007, laurosie@gmail.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Mission: The Knights are Catholic men who are committed to supporting St. Joseph and Nativity BVM Parishes, enhancing our own faith and our family lives, and making our community a better place.

Talent: A strong desire to serve.

Time: Various service activities during the year.

Ministry Leader: Mike Hughes, 216-577-1107, hughesmcmvml@gmail.com



MEALS FOR THE SHELTER

Mission: To provide one hot meal the first Friday of each month throughout the year for the St. Elizabeth Center located at 2726 Caroline Ave. in Lorain. This ministry provides a way of continuing the mission of Jesus to evangelize the world by showing our love and care for our homeless brothers. Our members are organized into six groups, each with a captain who leads 12 to 15 individuals, who cook enough food to serve 50 people a meal.

Talents: The only prerequisite is the desire to serve the needy with your gifts and talents. All the meals are prepared at your own expense, but because of the number of parishioners involved, each individual is only asked to make enough food to feed approximately six people.

Time: Once part of team, the time for the individuals involved is fairly low, preparing a meal roughly twice a year.

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Linda Howell, 440-989-1513, howell@howellapparel.com;

Ministry Leader at Nativity: Diane Kirsch, 440-984-2970, dmk0259@centurytel.net;

Co-Leader at Nativity: Carol Zelmer, 440-984-2970, dmk0259@centurytel.net



PARISH HEALTH AND WELLNESS MINISTRY

Mission: To extend the healing ministry of Jesus by improving the health of the church community we serve. We provide education to raise health awareness to the church community through health screenings, health counseling and linking people to appropriate community resources.

Talents: A license in the State of Ohio as a RN or LPN, a person with a health related occupation or a person interested in wellness, the ability to understand and communicate the relationship of body, mind and spirit to health and wellness, understanding of the commitment of the church's mission in fostering wellness in today's society, good communication, interpersonal and caring skills, and the understanding that the Health Ministry/ Nurse Program is a health education service not "hands-on" nursing.

Time: Commitment of time is 30 minutes to one hour, six to eight times a year when health screenings are scheduled after weekend Masses.

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Kathy Northeim, 440-984-3366, 2weln@jetnet.org;

Co-Leader at St. Joseph: Michelle Bussard, 440-666-0439, michelle.bussard@yahoo.com;

Ministry Leader at Nativity: Debby Romes, 440-988-4515, debromes@yahoo.com



PARISH PICNIC COMMITTEE

Mission: To plan and coordinate the annual parish picnics with the hope of gathering parishioners, old and young alike, to enjoy food, fun, and games together. Even though the picnics are held individually at this time, parishioners are encouraged to attend one another's picnic and even join the committees from both parishes to help in the planning process.

Talent: The ability to help in planning, decorating, and overseeing games for children and adults.

Time: Moderate. Two or three monthly meetings, weekly meetings the month before (if needed), and your presence at the picnic. St. Joseph is currently looking for a parishioner to lead this ministry.

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Carol Shinsky, 440-989-1323, gabejonsmom@hotmail.com; (seeking new Leader, training will be provided)

Ministry Leader at Nativity: Ed Klimczak, 440-320-3508, nativitysouthamherst@gmail.com



PRE-BAPTISM FORMATION FOR NEW PARENTS AND GODPARENTS

Mission: The Sacrament of Baptism is the foundation of Christian Life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other Sacraments. The Pre-Baptism Preparation Team seeks volunteers to assist in facilitating classes that help parents and godparents prepare for their children's reception of this holy sacrament. Parents are required to attend classes.

Talent: The desire to assist parents in the formation process prior to baptism.

Time: Classes are held quarterly for one and a half hours.

Ministry Leader: Karen Schneider, 440-212-4920, kschneider27@hotmail.com

ST. JOSEPH MISSION TEAM

Mission: Sharing our God-given gifts by building relationships with many people, supporting projects, helping people in ways that are meaningful and lasting, and sharing the Gospel. More importantly, the mission team goals are to know our brothers and sisters in Christ, to love and serve them. Jesus gives us the freedom to go into our mission trips and serve others with the goal of just plain ministering, whether it is going on a mission trip to El Salvador, helping Catholic Charities, or donating to special causes in which the Mission Team has been involved.

Talent: Willing hands and hearts with the willingness to love people.

Time: One meeting every other month; one to two hours. Volunteering for fundraisers three to five hours twice a year. If desired a one-week mission to El Salvador.

Ministry Leader: John Sabo, 440-984-4429, stjosephmissionteam@gmail.com

VINCENTIANS

Mission: To assist those who are in need of the basic necessities of life in the spirit of St. Vincent de Paul.

Talents: A strong compassion for those in need and a desire to help them.

Time: Hourly meetings once every two weeks to review assistance given to those in need. Approximately 30 minutes to gather food from pantry when calls come in for assistance; longer if food is delivered.

Ministry Leader: Ed Molnar, 440-320-0120, e.molnar@oh.rr.com;

Co-Leader: Dave Wohlever, 440-988-7078



VOICES FOR LIFE

Mission: To build a team to develop and disperse information regarding opportunities to take action in support of human life in all stages. We will connect to Diocesan as well as County sources of information so the Parish Family can make informed decisions regarding actions each of us can take to support the gift of life we've been given by our Creator, who made each of us uniquely in His image.

Talents: A genuine interest in making a real difference in the way we as a community can support LIFE is vital. There are many more ways to participate than we now employ. A willingness to help find, prepare, and disseminate materials to help inform the Parish Family of these opportunities is all that is necessary. Many materials are available online. As a team, we will find ways to

utilize your talents to accomplish our mission so we can all make a difference in our world.

Time: If we form and organize a team, no one will be burdened to go it alone. We will have an organizational meeting and quarterly meetings thereafter. Individuals who want to meet to do research or prepare materials to make available to others may decide to work in groups beyond our regular meetings but that will be voluntary.

Ministry Leader: Evelyn Caffarel, 440-452-4361, ecaff43@yahoo.com;

Co-Leader: Julie Coughlin, 440-506-1081, juliecoughlin99@gmail.com

St. Joseph Parish School Ministries

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION/C.Y.O.

Mission: To promote Christ's teachings through athletics.

CYO Mission Statement: CYO inspires young people to know God, to love God, and to serve God through athletics.

Talents: A love of sports and a commitment to serving the youth of our parish. Coaches are first and foremost youth ministry leaders in athletics who serve the Church, young people, and families as compelling witnesses of the love, mercy, and compassion of Jesus Christ. Pope Francis reminds us: "How important it is that a coach be an example of integrity, of coherence, of good judgement, of impartiality, but also of the joy of living; of patience, of capacity to esteem and of benevolence to all, especially the most disadvantaged. And how important it is that he or she be an example of faith!"

Time: Moderate – Quarterly association meetings, helping with fundraisers. Coaches times also include practice and games.

Ministry Leader: Jim Yanosko, 216-496-5303, jyanosko@roadrunner.com

IMMERSION HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

Mission: To feed our teens' souls in an active, interesting, and practical way. IMMERSION is designed to uplift, motivate, encourage, strengthen and guide the youth in their relationships with our Lord. It should prepare them to face the challenges to their faith as Catholic young men and young women, and help them find the fulfillment God longs for them. This monthly youth ministry is also a comfortable time and place where teens can socialize, discover, and freely ask questions about their faith and the challenges they may encounter in today's world, living it out. Through fun activities and service, students are fortified with the importance of personal prayer, serving others, Scripture, Mass and the sacraments. Our motto is "Seek His will in all you do, and He will direct your paths." (Proverbs 3:6)

Talents: Genuine interest in the spiritual and physical welfare of high school teens and their daily interests and challenges. Volunteers must receive VIRTUS training with fingerprinting and a background check to serve. Most of this can easily be done through the parish. High School Students are welcome to volunteer.

Time: Third Sunday of the month from noon to 2 p.m. in the IMMERSION room in the convent basement. We also have special events such as a Nerf gun night, collections, work a fish fry, Christmas caroling, lead prayer nights, field trips, present the Stations of the Cross and more. Volunteers may be expected to arrive before or stay after a meeting or event for clean-up. Total commitment is three to six hours per month.

Ministry Leader: John Kowalski, 440-309-5006, johnkowalski@stjosephamherst.com



IMMERSION 7TH AND 8TH GRADE YOUTH GROUP

Mission: To deepen our middle school youths' understanding of the Mass and their faith in a fun filled environment. Through discussions, activities and games, we explore different aspects of God's great gift of the Mass in a fast-paced hour which brings the faith to life in a unique, memorable and fun way for our youth. Join us at our next meeting and see how our faith is fun and fulfilling.

Talents: Volunteers must receive VIRTUS training with fingerprinting and a background check in order to serve. Most of this can easily be done through the parish.

Time: Fourth Friday of each month in the social hall or MPR in the school from 7-8 p.m. Special dates include shared events with the IMMERSION high school youth group.

Ministry Leader: John Kowalski, 440-309-5006, johnkowalski@stjosephamherst.com

3 AND 4-YEAR OLD PRE-SCHOOL, KINDERGARTEN, GRADES 1 TO 8

Mission: To provide rigorous curriculum rooted in faith in an environment that fosters self-reliance. Students are immersed in social justice teachings and 21st century learning to help them achieve their maximum potential.

Talents: For the 2019-20 school year, SJPS is in particular need of: individuals with an engineering background that would be willing to work with the students to better understand this field of study, individuals who work for companies that would be interested in forming a mutually beneficial partnership with SJPS in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math, and individuals who can assist with graphic design projects and design of marketing materials to assist in providing professional marketing materials for distribution.

Time: Volunteering one or two days each week or for a specific number of hours.

Ministry Leader: Amy Makruski, 440-988-4244, ext. 211, amakruskisjs@yahoo.com



PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (P.S.R.)

Mission: To help parish children (from Kindergarten to Grade 8) develop as faith filled, committed Catholics ready to serve our Church and our world by instructing them in the ways of the Gospel. To continue to proclaim our faith as we have been commissioned to do by Jesus, "Go and teach all nations." Our P.S.R. program is a collaboration of both St. Joseph and Nativity parishes and is held on Wednesdays from 5:30 p.m. until 6:45 p.m. in the parish school building. Volunteers are always welcome.

Talents: A love of children and to witness your Catholic faith in word and action. A willingness to learn more about doctrine and catechesis at an adult level. Stipends are offered to volunteers who are willing to work towards diocesan certification or hold valid teaching credentials. VIRTUS training required.

Time: Large time commitment

Ministry Leader: Angie Eads, 440-988-4244, ext. 247, angela.eads@sjs_amherst.org

ST. JOSEPH PARISH SCHOOL PARENT CLUB

Mission: To provide support for the educational and recreational needs of children attending St. Joseph School and to promote a good working relationship between parents, teachers, pastor and principal. Our vision is to help people see SJPS as more than just a school their child/children attend, but to also encourage them to be part of this great group who share the same goals for our children, which is providing them with a faith filled education. We do a variety of activities from service, family fun, fundraisers and enrichment.

Talents: All parents with a student at SJPS are automatically members.

Time: Meetings are once a month and last about one hour. They are at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month in the

MPR room. As far as additional time, it is at each person's discretion. Someone can choose to just attend the meetings or volunteer for events, fundraisers or activities.

President: Amy Makruski, 440-988-4244, ext. 211, amakruskisjs@yahoo.com

Parish Administration Ministries

BULK MAILERS/BULLETIN STUFFERS

Mission: To process (fold, seal, and label) the 2,400-plus monthly joint newsletters and various once a year projects as necessary in preparation for mailing. This group also places inserts in the Sunday bulletins as needed.

Talent: The ability to work with others in a variety of tasks.

Time: This is a daytime ministry and requires approximately three hours for bulk mailings and one hour for bulletin inserts. Because of the large number of volunteers within this ministry, you may only be called once or twice a year.

*Ministry Leader: Pam Belskis, 440-985-1054, pambelskis@wowway.com (**seeking new Leader, training will be provided**)*

Co-Leader: Tillie Sroka, 440-988-3138, t717@centurytel.net



COLLECTION COUNTERS

Mission: Weekly counting of collections. In addition, individuals are responsible for reconciling the totals to the deposit sheet.

Talent: Must be able to keep information confidential and be able to follow directions.

Time: One time a month with a 90-minute time commitment. There are four teams with three people on each team.

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Sandy Schuler, 440-937-8229, sams2004@roadrunner.com;

Co-Leader: Sharon Angell, 440-988-2848, ext. 206, socialhalldirector@stjosephamherst.com;

Ministry Leader at Nativity: Betty Stock, 440-984-5735, bettystock222@gmail.com

(seeking new Leader, training will be provided)

GARDENERS

Mission: Beautify the grounds of the churches, school, rectory and convent.

Talents: Gardening skills

Time: Variable

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Toni Grissinger, 440-988-2892, toni7482@oh.rr.com;

Ministry Leader at Nativity: Carol Zelmer, 440-984-2970, dmk0259@centurytel.net



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Mission: To provide an ongoing response to the spiritual, social, educational and economic needs of the parish, local and global community.

Talents: A willingness to work with the pastor as part of a consultative body, a dedication to the mission and spiritual welfare of the parish, a commitment to work in a group process of prayer, consensus building and planning, a commitment and ability to give time to attend meetings and to prepare for them sufficiently.

Time: Up to eight one-hour meetings per year plus ad-hoc committee commitments.

Ministry Leader at St. Joseph: Dan Bullock, 440-989-1323, netcando@hotmail.com;

Co-Leader at St. Joseph: Jennifer Jackson-Ausperk, 440-670-2898,

Jennifer.jackson79@gmail.com;

Ministry Leader at Nativity: (New Council will be formed based on response from Stewardship Renewal Commitment Cards)



STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Mission: The Stewardship Council helps the pastor guide the development of stewardship within the parish. The first duties of Council members are to educate themselves and to live as good Christian stewards. Only in this way can members intelligently advise the pastor and become credible witnesses to other parishioners. The Council will also seek ways to promote stewardship within the parish through year-round communication and special initiatives, and most importantly, by supporting the annual Stewardship Commitment Renewal.

Talent: Council members should be very active in Parish activities and/or in other Ministries and have a strong commitment to making Stewardship a way of life in our Parish. Members should have organizational skills as well as planning, implementation, creativity, and communication skills.

Time: Council typically meets once a month for approximately one and a half hours. Planning meetings are held as needed, typically two or three a year.

Ministry Leader: Jim Pecchio, 330-631-9948, carminep49@yahoo.com;

Co-Leader: Pam Belskis, 440-985-1054, pambelskis@wowway.com



PARISH NEWSLETTER

Mission: To provide parish news and updates to all registered families of St. Joseph and Nativity BVM Parishes concerning items like parish ministries, people, pastor commentaries, photos, upcoming events and activities with a special focus on our Catholic faith and stewardship as a way of life.

Needs: A new ministry leader/editor – One for each of our parishes. Job entails organizational skills for developing content, photos, and editing of the monthly newsletter. Training will be provided. Note: Articles are written by Catholic Stewardship Consultants reporters. Formatting is also done by CSC.

Time: 10 to 12 hours monthly

Ministry Leader/Editor: Pam Belskis, 440-985-1054, pambelskis@wowway.com (seeking new Leader, training will be provided)

Stewardship Prayer

St. Joseph and Nativity BVM Parishes

Oh Lord, giver of life and source of our freedom. We are reminded by the Psalmist that Yours is “the earth and its fullness; the world and those who dwell in it”. We know that it is from Your hand that we have received all we have and are and will be. Gracious and loving God, we understand that You call us to be the stewards of Your abundance, the caretakers of all You have entrusted to us. Allow us to grow in a greater respect for all human life. Help us to use Your gifts wisely and teach us to share them and the resources of our planet generously. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Christ in our lives. We pray with grateful hearts, in Jesus’ name.

Amen

Time to Commit

The famous Christian author, C.S. Lewis, once wrote, “A person whose hands are full of parcels cannot receive a gift.” Stewardship is a lifelong conversion of heart, mind and soul, so that we are able to receive God’s love and return that love to Him. The better we understand our Catholic faith and our personal role within God’s kingdom, the better equipped we will be to share God’s love and resources — our time, our talent, and our treasure — with others. This year, how will you take the next step in your journey of sharing God’s love through personal formation and conversion?



St. Joseph Parish & Nativity of the BVM Parish

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