

## **Saint Thomas More Parish: Stewardship Information Sheet**

### **ALTAR SERVER MINISTRY**

The Ministry of Altar Server serves a key role in the celebration of the Liturgy. Altar servers can range in age from 9 years to adult. They may be either male or female and able and willing to assist the priest and deacon by carrying the cross, candles, the Sacramentary, and assisting in other various ways during the Liturgy. Contact: Joe Mecham at 573-4979 or [jmecham@cox.net](mailto:jmecham@cox.net).

### **BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE**

The Bereavement Committee is responsible for ministering to the family and friends of parishioners following the death of a loved one. This ministry includes cooking a meal; serving the meal following the funeral Mass celebration; then performing basic clean-up chores after the meal. The three critical needs are volunteers to (1) prepare and bring the main course, side dishes and salads and desserts; (2) make pre-meal preparations and serve the meal; and (3) clean up following the meal. The great challenge for this committee is that there is seldom more than two or three days notice prior to a bereavement meal. The reward is found in knowing that you have performed a critical service to the family and those close to a loved one during a time of emotional need. Contact: Ellen or Don Huntington at 321-5541.

### **CAMPUS MINISTRY**

Contact: Erin Cleto, 321-0990 Ext. 205.

### **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

Contact: Becky at 872-0139.

### **COFFEE AND DONUT DUTIES**

Those who volunteer to serve coffee and pastries after the 8:30 and 11 a.m. Masses spend about 15 minutes before Mass making coffee and preparing a tray with sugar, creamer and stir straws. After Mass and fellowship, the cleanup takes about 10 minutes. This is a great way to meet fellow parishioners without a large time commitment. Servers take a turn about every six weeks. Two people usually perform these tasks: sometimes couples, sometimes two individuals. Come join us. Contact: Sue Hinton at 447-9421.

### **COMMUNION AND LIBERATION**

Communion and Liberation is a movement in the Church that stresses two interconnected aspects. The first is an education that teaches us to recognize and embrace Christ specifically working in all aspects of our lives for our happiness. The second is experiencing His embrace through a true Christian friendship that encompasses our need for love and fellowship on our journey through life. We meet most Thursdays at 7:30 in the lounge. For more information, contact Peter and Teresa Keupen at 366-8763.

### **COMMUNION MINISTERS**

Serve the Lord and parish as a Communion Minister. Communion Ministers are needed for all Masses! The Archdiocese commissions faithful Catholic Communion Ministers for 3 year periods to serve in this holy and important ministry. Contact Dan Lawrence at 872-8010 or Gloria at STM 321-0990.

**FINANCE COUNCIL**

Contact: Becky at 872-0139.

**FOCOLARE**

The Focolare Movement is an ecclesial movement dedicated to building unity based on Jesus' prayer "that all may be one" (John 17:21). There is a monthly meeting in our homes, an annual retreat, and several other opportunities for gatherings during the year. Contact: Sharon Peelor, 253-4315

**FOOD FOR FRIENDS**

Description of Ministry: Parishioners prepare and serve a meal at Food for Friends, a United Way Community Assistance Agency, on the 1st Tuesday every other month at 104 W. Comanche Street from 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Announcement of the date will be listed in the bulletin. A Sign-up sheet will be available in the Atrium.

Training: When one attends the scheduled date for the first time.

Questions: Call Gerry Whitman, 360-1174.

**GALA AND AUCTION**

Held each fall, the annual Some Enchanted Evening gala is campus ministry's largest fundraising event of the year. It supports special projects, such as the mission trip to Mexico, as well as ongoing operating expenses.

As this event continues to grow, so does the amount of money it raises for campus ministry. As with any event, the success of the event depends on volunteers like you.

Volunteer positions available for most any talent you have to offer. We need planners and organizers, dreamers and brainstormers, data entry people, decorators, auction item solicitors, sponsorship solicitors, hosts, people with computer skills, people with publicity and marketing skills, those who like to make phone calls, those who like to collect and count money, entertainment planners, errand runners, envelope stuffers, sign makers, muscles to move things, menu planners, and much, much more. Questions, call Debbie Kohls 321-0990.

**GRADUATE AND YOUNG ADULT GROUP**

Contact: Erin Cleto, 321-0990 Ext. 205.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

The Knights of Columbus are Catholic men, 18 years of age and older, who are committed to making their community a better place, while supporting their Church. Being a Knight is more than camaraderie; it is being involved with your community; supporting your local Parish, while enhancing your own faith and protecting and enhancing your family life. Guided not only by our belief in God and the Catholic Church, but by our belief in each other, we believe a man is defined by his actions as a follower of God and leader in his community. Believing that a man is more than simply a man, when he bears the title of "Knight", IN SERVICE TO ONE, IN SERVICE TO ALL! Contact: Kelly McElhaney, Grand Knight, 360-1768.

## KAIROS

Kairos Prison Ministry is a group of people from different denominations that reach out to those in prison. There are retreats that are given so that the inmate may experience God's love and on-going ministry to help him/her continue with the changes that began on the retreat.

Kairos Outside, which is under the Kairos umbrella, is a retreat and on-going ministry to women who have or have had a loved one incarcerated. They have many needs, often feeling shunned or lonely.

Kairos Torch is a retreat for teens in juvenile detentions at COJC, Tecumseh. It is similar to Kairos, but geared especially for teens. There are two retreats and on-going ministry.

Contact: Bill or Pat Urell, 447-1505.

## LANDSCAPING AND MAINTENANCE VOLUNTEERS

Contact: John at 329-0825.

## LECTOR MINISTRY

The Lector Ministry offers individuals the opportunity to read the scheduled selections from Scripture at each Mass. Two lectors read: the first selection is from the Old Testament; the second is from the New Testament. Lectors make a commitment to study the readings and practice them to share clarity, meaning, and reverence for the Gospel. In so doing, lectors become personally involved with the liturgy and experience a greater depth of understanding of the readings, a source of grace in our lives. Each lector has the opportunity to have a personal copy of the scheduled readings of the Mass for the year. They are ordered from the Archdiocese and are available for \$10 from the STM office. If the purchase is a problem, other arrangements can be made to cover the cost.

There will be a training Session to practice the routines of the Entrance and Exit from the Mass and to experience the sound of reading through our sound system. If you have any questions, you may call Ruth Loeffler, 329-5358.

## MARTHA & MARY'S GUILD

The purpose of the guild is for women to meet for socializing and make arts and crafts. In November of each year, we have a Bazaar & Bake Sale. All proceeds go to the St. Vincent de Paul Society to help the poor in the Norman and Noble communities. Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the parish kitchen. For more information about the Guild, call Jean Chelenza at 364-8682.

## MEN OF HONOR

A monthly meeting of college men discussing today's issues in light of the Gospel and Catholic teaching.

Contact: Erin Cleto, 321-0990 Ext. 205.

## MUSIC MINISTRY

Parish musical opportunities include the Parish Choir, for singers aged 16 years and older, which rehearses weekly on Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. These singers lead the assembly in song at the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass and at various feasts throughout the year. Our handbell ensemble, for people 16 years and older, rehearses weekly on Tues. evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. and provides special music for Mass at various times during the year. The Junior and Senior High Singers rehearse on the 2nd and 4th

Wednesdays of the month, from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. Contact Jon Roberts at 321-0990 Ext. 203.

#### NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

Natural Family Planning is a beautiful gift to the Church to help married couples celebrate the Church's teaching on the Gift of Life. NFP is more than 99% effective in family planning, easy to learn and easy to use. It fosters better communication between spouses and helps keep romance alive. To learn more about NFP or to inquire about becoming a teacher, please call Susan at 709-2707 or email [oknfp@yahoo.com](mailto:oknfp@yahoo.com).

#### NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

Nursery volunteers perform a valuable service for the youngest members of our parish community by caring for children ages one through five during Masses and providing child care for groups that meet throughout the week. Nursery volunteers provide a safe and fun environment for young children while their families attend Mass and other parish events. Contact: Cindy O'Brien at 321-0990 Ext. 202.

#### PARISH NURSES

We treat the Mind, Body and Spirit: help with Flu shots once a year (a CMA, LPN, RN, or Paramedic with current license is required); run specialty clinics such as B/P screenings etc.; accept calls from parishioners who need assistance finding doctors, understanding diagnosis's, medications, information; inform parishioners regarding seasonal health issues (i.e. tick bites, rabies, sunstroke...) through bulletin notices and pulpit announcements. Contact: Kathy Heiple at 321-7863.

#### PARISH OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Contact: Gloria at 321-0990 Ext. 200.

#### PRAYER LINE

We are a group of parishioners that pray for the needs of those in our parish and larger community. We especially enjoy seeing the fruits of our prayers. Contact: Virginia Dembinski at 447-7055.

#### PRIME TIMERS

Prime Timers are a jolly group of parishioners, who are retired, who are thinking about retirement or who wish that they were retired. We especially welcome new parishioners or those who have not joined us before. Come on, get to know your fellow parishioners and enjoy the fellowship of the evening and a great dinner. Most second Fridays during the year, Social hour starts at 6:00 p.m. with dinner at 6:30. (You may call Al Patrick at 360-4147 if you need a ride or information.)

#### PROJECT GABRIEL

Project Gabriel is an apostolate of the Catholic Church that offers loving encouragement and prayerful support to moms who find themselves in crisis because they are faced with a surprise pregnancy. Be a Gabriel Angel Volunteer! Women of every age and all backgrounds are needed to reach out to moms. Do you have a caring and generous heart? Have you felt drawn to offer a helping hand to new mothers and their babies? There are also auxiliary volunteers who help in indirect ways. Please consider joining us in this

rewarding volunteer opportunity. Call Susan Lepak at 709-2707 or email [okcgabriel@yahoo.com](mailto:okcgabriel@yahoo.com).

#### PROPERTY BOARD

Contact: Mark at 321-1131.

#### RACHEL'S VINEYARD

Do you know someone who is hurting after abortion? Rachel's Vineyard offers hope and healing for men and women who have been touched by abortion - whether mothers or fathers, grandparents or siblings. Volunteers are needed to offer prayers, write notes of encouragement, help with meals and hospitality, and creatively make angels and babies used on retreats. Team members are needed too. For more information, contact Susan at 709-2707 or email [susanlepak@yahoo.com](mailto:susanlepak@yahoo.com). More information is also available at [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org).

#### RCIA

Contact: Dr. John Pigott at 321-0990 Ext. 250.

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Religious Education Program of St. Thomas More is concerned with perpetuating the Christian message and aims to help the faith of the students, parents and teachers become living, conscious and active. You can help by volunteering as a: guest speaker, substitute catechist, serving on the RE Committee, or volunteering to help with any of our annual events: Christmas Program, Chili Bingo, and Parish Picnic. Contact: Cindy O'Brien at 321-0990 Ext. 202.

#### SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Contact Kim Pickens at 620-3229.

#### SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

Secular Franciscans follow Christ in the way of St. Francis of Assisi within the secular world. The St. Clare Fraternity of Norman meets the first Sunday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in faith and fellowship to study the life of St. Francis and to find inspiration in order to live the Gospel message in all aspects of our lives. Contact: Alice at 329-3994 or [ALS1PAL@aol.com](mailto:ALS1PAL@aol.com).

#### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The STM St. Vincent de Paul Society provides assistance to needy families and persons in the Norman and Noble Communities. Members conduct in-home visits with those persons who call the Voice Mail Assistance Line for help. During the in-home visits, members determine the type of assistance needed – usually financial assistance with bills or rent. Information is also provided to the clients on the many organizations which can help them with their problems. The group meets on Thursday after the 5:15 p.m. Mass. Contact: Jim Mattek at 872-5054.

#### STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry is a program that equips lay persons to provide a distinctively Christian one to one companionship with those - both in our congregation and community - who are experiencing various life needs and circumstances. Members visit clients regularly and dependably and offer, in a confidential manner, Christian support and companionship. Contact: Barbara Foley at 447-0657.

#### STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Stewardship Committee is in formation and facilitates the Stewardship Fair annually. Our mission is to establish communication between the various existing groups and committees which serve our parish and the members of the laity who wish to enrich their spiritual lives by volunteering their time, talent and treasure. Contact: Earl Whitman at 360-1174.

#### USHER MINISTRY

Ushers assist the priest and other liturgical ministers in creating an atmosphere of worship. This function has several aspects to it; the most readily observable is that of greeter. There are many other tasks and expectations associated with this role (i.e. distribute song sheets &/or bulletins; find gift bearers; seat late arrivals; assign roles for the collection; collect gifts; direct traffic during the Eucharistic procession; place hymnals back in holders; collect kneeling pads and papers left behind). The usher is a flexible position, so be ready to face the challenge of any given moment. Contact: Steve Patrick, 360-7827.

#### WOMEN OF GRACE

Contact: Erin Cleto, 321-0990 Ext. 205.

#### YOUTH MINISTRY

The St. Thomas More Youth Ministry exists to provide a safe environment, for young people in grades 6-12, to live out their faith in every day experiences while gathering for social, service, and spiritual activities. Volunteers are needed as chaperones; drivers for special activities; guest speakers; or coordinators for fund raising, special activities, or service projects. Contact: Cindy O'Brien at 321-0990 Ext. 202.