

SACRED HEART PARISH MINISTRIES

Sacred Heart Church / St. Philip Neri Church

TIME & TALENT

"Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit give your lives completely in the service of all, as did Christ, who came not to be served, but to serve."

Rite of Confirmation, #22



OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE ... TO GLORIFY GOD BY YOUR LIFE

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

MINISTRY OF READER

Joann Corrao (SHC) 607-214-4022

Readers use the gift of their voice to proclaim the Word of God at Mass. Reading the scriptures is both an honor and a responsibility as one's voice makes divine revelation come alive for God's people. God's Word must be proclaimed from the heart with clarity and feeling to facilitate both the worship and understanding of the assembly. It is therefore crucial that readers sufficiently prepare their delivery by practicing readings out loud well in advance of the masses for which they're scheduled. God's words are not like those of anyone else. They bring us life, hope, strength, truth and most of all...love. As a reader, you can truly show your reverence and love for God fulfilling this vital liturgical role, and help foster the same in your fellow parishioners.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF THE EUCHARIST

Joann Corrao 607-214-4022

This liturgical ministry offers the wonderful opportunity to assist the priest in the most mystical and important part of the Mass. What greater joy and privilege could there be during Mass than to offer the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of our crucified and risen Lord to the assembly for their spiritual nourishment and healing? In addition to helping to distribute Holy Communion during mass, extraordinary ministers clean the vessels after mass and either put them away, or prepare them for the following liturgy.

MINISTRY OF USHER

SHC: Vigil Mass Joe Macaluso 607-538-1315

Sunday Mass George Bergleitner 607-652-3311

SPN: Dave Pickett 518-827-7373

Ushers perform the important function of logistical coordinator for the liturgy. They help people find a comfortable place to sit, escorting them to their pew if necessary, and offering to assist them in any other way they might need. They oversee the offertory collection, securing volunteers to assist in that effort before Mass begins. They consolidate those monies into the security bag, put the bag in a large basket, and carry it to the altar in behind those they've chosen to present the bread and wine. Ushers are also responsible for getting a head count of mass attendees and recording that number on a form that's submitted to the pastor each month.

MINISTRY OF GREETER

SHC: Vigil Mass Carmen Garcia 607-652-2073;

Sunday Mass Rosalie O'Connor 607-652-2212

SPN: Dave Pickett 518-827-7373

One of the most frequent complaints people have about Catholic churches is that they aren't very welcoming or friendly. Greeters play a most important role in dispelling this stereotype. They are, in a very real sense, the face of the parish. Warmly greeting those who come to worship with a handshake, hello, and a smile, makes them feel valued as desired members of the community, and that affirmation sets the perfect tone for the celebration that's about to begin. Greeters should try to get to know the names of our parishioners, and extend an extra welcome to those they recognize as visitors, offering to answer any questions those folks might have about our parish.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Usha Tagliaferro (SHC) 607- 437-9923

Eddie Mesick (SPN) 607 607- 326-7164

The music ministry plans, leads and inspires the congregation's song during parish liturgies, including weekend Masses, Holy Days, weddings, funerals, penance services, prayer rituals, and others. Hymns, prayers, psalms, and other responses are routinely offered in song, and singing is a beautiful way to praise the Lord. Music is an invaluable element in our communal worship. It helps us glorify God as he deserves, and it also greatly enhances the worship experience for God's people. If the Lord has graced you with the gift of music, please come forward with your voice and / or your instrument to share that blessing. Angels sing God's praise...you can too.

ALTAR SERVER

Fr. Michael 652-7170 x 101

Serving at the altar is available to youth and adults. Altar servers play a vital role at Mass. They lead the procession at the beginning of mass and the recession at the end; they manage the missal for the priest's prayers; they set and clear the altar; they receive the gifts of bread and wine from the community; they wash the priest's hands after he has prepared the gifts; with the priest they help lead the community in prayer and song throughout the liturgy, and they share the sign of peace with them as well. We could use a lot more dedicated people, kids and adults alike, who are committed to reliably serving at the altar.

SACRISTAN

SHC: Carmen Garcia 607-652-2073

SPN: David Pickett 518-827-7373

The sacristan is responsible for setting up the church for Mass, and cleaning up afterwards. Setting up includes everything from turning on the lights, to putting out the linens, vessels, bread, wine, and water, to lighting the candles at the proper time. Once familiar with his or her duties, a sacristan should arrive at least a half hour before mass begins to ensure everything is prepared in time. Currently, we have dedicated sacristans each for Sacred Heart and St. Philip Neri churches. They would be happy to train a few others to help them in this important ministry.

ALTAR LINEN CUSTODIAN

Chrissy Blanck 652-7170 x 102

SPN: Theresa Gier, 607-588-9470

The linens used on the altar for the sacred liturgy include corporals, purificators, and finger towels. These need to be regularly and reverently washed, ironed, and folded for use during Mass. It is a tedious and time-consuming ministry that is performed behind the scenes, but with the proper disposition and generosity of heart, truly becomes a labor of love for the Lord. Only a few women currently serve in this ministry; a few more hands and hearts would be warmly welcomed.

PARISH LIFE

FAITH FORMATION CATECHISTS / YOUTH MINISTRY

Chrissy Blanck 607-652-7170 x 102

As a community of faith, we have an obligation to God and to the Church to pass on that faith to our children. Parents need to show their children, by both word and example, what our faith means and how it should be lived. The parish helps parents fulfill their responsibility through the faith formation program. In order for our program to be successful we need dedicated, committed catechists to teach our kids the beauty of the Catholic faith that comes to us through Scripture and Tradition.

Teaching children is a wonderful experience. Teaching children *about our faith* and about all that *God has done for us and expects from us* is an extraordinarily important job. Yes, it requires substantial personal sacrifice of time and energy, but it also rewards with deep personal fulfillment. You will be helping form the future members and leaders of our Church, and you will grow in your faith as well.

RCIA TEAM / ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Fr. Michael 607- 652-7170 x 101

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the process by which non-Catholics are prepared for and received into full communion with the Catholic Church. Team members meet with catechumens (non-Christians) / candidates (non-Catholic Christians) regularly to lead both instructional and faith sharing sessions. They also prepare for and participate in the liturgies celebrated for catechumens / candidates along the way to their reception into the Church at the Easter Vigil. Depending on where a person is in his or her life of faith, that journey can take one to two years.

There's no better way to evangelize than to help people come to the fullness of the truth in the Catholic Church. Seeing the joyous response of catechumens / candidates as they discover Christ in their lives can spark renewed faith in one's own life, as well as in the lives of fellow parishioners.

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

Paul Wenner 607-652-4055

The Respect Life Committee promotes awareness and coordinates activities to foster and strengthen a deeply felt and lived respect for the sanctity of all human life, from the moment of conception to natural death. All of us are responsible for witnessing to the Gospel of Life in this world. The respect life committee works hard to advocate for human life and to keep the manifold moral issues related to human life and its sacredness front and center in our Catholic Christian consciousness. Advocacy can include trips to meet with elected officials and participation in the annual March for Life. The committee also helps protect and support those whose lives are vulnerable to violence or neglect both materially and spiritually, through our Mother's Day Baby Shower collections, School Supply collections and collecting clothes for the homeless. Coming to the aid of others whose lives are not as blessed and secure as our own is a natural response to the commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Joann Corrao 607- 214-4022

Parishioners on this committee are responsible for planning, organizing, and hosting social events for the parish to provide fun and fellowship for our people, thereby fostering a stronger sense of identity and belonging among the community. Committee members won't be expected to do all the work for these events themselves, but will be free to tap the time and talent of people in the parish to help out as needed. Events include regular bingo and other family fun nights, as well as those described elsewhere in this booklet.

VOCATIONS COMMITTEE

Jim & Roxie King 518-299-3011

As a Roman Catholic parish community, we seek to support the Diocese's effort to assist others in determining if they are called to a vocation. We encourage women and men who through prayer and direction wonder if God is calling them to be a priest, to inquire into the life of Sisters who live in Religious Communities and share a community's spirituality, or to know if the brotherhood in a monastery will be one's home. At the present time Sacred Heart Parish is sponsoring two people in our diocese who are discerning their call. Our sponsorship includes regular prayer support for their discernment process, invitation and transportation to various parish activities and individual parishioners providing material and spiritual support to these persons. **In addition, individual parishioner households in each of our churches are assigned to make a weekly commitment to pray intensely for more vocations to the priesthood, taking a prepared prayer booklet and a chalice from Father at the end of mass. More families are needed to commit to this public support of vocations.**

COMMITTEES FOR ANNUAL PARISH EVENTS

Parish office 607-652-7170, x 102

Flag Day Parade Committee- As a part of our evangelization effort, the parish participates in the Flag Day Parade held every June 14th in Stamford. Parishioners are needed to build and maintain our parish float, and to march in the parade: carrying signs and distributing candy to the children who are watching the parade.

Annual Picnic Committee – our annual parish picnic is held on the 3rd Sunday in August at Mine Kill State Park in Gilboa. Volunteers are needed to help organize the activities at the picnic and to cook, set up and clean up at the picnic.

National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC)

Pat Dengler 607-267-7862

Every two years, the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM) holds a national conference in Indiana for high school students who are sent by their parish. In a distinctly Catholic setting, the National Catholic Youth Conference invites participants to **encounter** Christ, **experience** church, and be **empowered** for discipleship. Sacred Heart Parish historically has sent 10 – 14 youth and 2 or 3 chaperones to the event. The next NCYC will be in November 2019.

PRAYER GROUPS

Opening ourselves to God through prayer is at the heart of our Catholic experiences. Our parish has a number of prayer groups that meet regularly. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Parish Prayer Group, Mondays 5 pm at SHC – Janet Wenner 607-652-4055

Men's Prayer Group, Mondays 7 pm at SHC – Paul Wenner 607-652-4055

Life in the Spirit Prayer Group, Fridays at 1 pm at SPN – Edie Mesick 607-326-7164

Rosary Prayer Group, last Wednesday of every month at 10:30 am at SHC –

Mary Jane Butler 607-652-3709

COMMUNITY SERVICES

CARING CUISINE

Sandy Eighmie 607-435-1158

This ministry provides home cooked meals for people in need within our parish area. The temporary need for such a service could include a recent death in the family, hospitalization of a family member, severe illness, etc. Parishioners are asked to bring such needs to the attention of the parish coordinator. Volunteers are needed to cook meals and to deliver cooked meals to these households.

DANIEL J PALM TEEN CENTER

66 Main St. Stamford
Dan Palm 607-652-1305

This Teen Center operates under the sponsorship of Sacred Heart parish in Stamford. It offers games, educational and recreational programs, and a safe space for teens to spend their summer days or free time after school. It's open Mon.-Thurs., 3-7 p.m., and Fridays from 3-9 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help staff the Center.

FOOD PANTRY & Community Garden

Mike & Carol Hogan 607-326-4073

The community Food Pantry is located in the Parish Hall. Volunteer pantry responsibilities include picking up food delivered by the Regional Food Band to Oneonta; stocking our storage rooms with supplies; distributing food to clients who come every other Thursday morning and receiving them with the Spirit of Christ, i.e. with warmth, kindness, patience, and compassion; setting up and cleaning up the hall before and after distribution days; preparing and distributing gift baskets for Thanksgiving and Easter. The Community Garden is located outside of SHC. Volunteer opportunities include seasonal garden work and assistance harvesting.

Feeding the hungry is one of the corporal works of mercy, and the Lord tells us whenever we do these things for the least of his people, we do it for him.

POUCHES FOR WALKERS EQUIPMENT MINISTRY

Priscilla Marigliano 607-652-9088

Volunteers in this ministry create pouches for people using walker equipment. Volunteers to help with sewing and delivery are needed.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Liz DeJoy: 607-652-2738

Volunteers in this ministry prayerfully knit shawls for parishioners and others who are in Nursing Homes, hospitals or ill at home.

PRISON MINISTRY

Edie Mesick 607-326-7164

Sacred Heart Parish parishioners are involved in the diocese's prison ministry at State Prisons, called Residents Encounter Christ. Its mission is to serve the Lord by encouraging the prison inmate population to become more active Christians during and after their incarceration. Volunteers from our parish attend monthly prayer meetings at Greene Correctional Facility in Coxsackie, as well as annual 3-day retreats held at the prisons for the inmates. Parishioners are welcome to join in this ministry in various ways, including: praying for the inmates, writing supportive notes to the incarcerated to be shared during the annual retreats or becoming a regular volunteer going into the State prisons in Coxsackie. Note: becoming a regular volunteer requires an involved application and approval process with the NYS Department of Corrections.

ROBINSON TERRACE NURSING HOME

Monthly Mass – parish office or Pat Dengler 607-267-7862

Eucharistic Minister for residents – Priscilla Marigliano 607-652-9088

Spiritual Visitor (reading the bible, praying together) - Pat Dengler 607-267-7862

Regular Visitor (relationship, conversation, reading books aloud, friendly pet visits): contact the Activities Department, Kathy Weisenbarger: 607-652-7521, x 158

Summertime & Valentine's Day Dances, Joann Corrao, Social Committee, 607-214-4022

ROBINSON TERRACE SENIOR LIVING CENTER

Monthly Mass– parish office or Pat Dengler 607-267-7862

Eucharistic Minister for residents – Pat Dengler 607-267-7862

Transportation of residents to Mass or parish functions, Pat Dengler, 607-267-7862

Slide Shows, Music or other Entertainment Programs – contact the Activities Department, Laurie Wehmeyer, 607-652-2960

SUNSHINE CARD MINISTRY

Joan Adams 607-588-8809

This ministry provides an encouraging contact to people in the parish and in the community who are experiencing life's struggles. Parishioners should let Joan know when the need arises.

TRANSPORTATION

Mike Hogan 607-326-4073

This ministry organizes and provides rides for individuals in need of transportation to doctor's appointments, parish events, etc. Volunteers are needed to provide rides.

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

WOMEN'S GUILD

Linda Palm 607-538-1305

The Sacred Heart Parish Women's Guild is a group for all women of the parish. Its purpose is to offer acts of charity and good works for our local communities after the model and with the heart of the Blessed Mother. Service activities include: supporting the ministry of Mary Knoll Missioner and fellow parishioner Peg Vamosy, sending faith-filled and hopeful literature to prisoners; the Christmas Giving Tree; sending donations to our troops abroad; offering donations to support the food pantry, the Parish Scholarship Fund, and other charities; assisting at funeral and other parish receptions; and helping with activities at Robinson Terrace.

The Women's Guild offers good Christian fellowship with other women, presentations by members to learn new things about our faith, the opportunity to create strong spiritual bonds as we journey together in faith, and a deep sense of joy that comes from sharing God's love with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Please join us!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

George Bergleitner 607-652-3311

As in the days of old, members of The Knights of Columbus are charged with the responsibility of protecting the sanctity of our Priests and *all of the teachings* of The Roman Catholic Church. Theirs is an ancient, fraternal organization working together throughout the world with over a million members who have made the commitment to perform works of charity and to assist those in need in our community. Members of the Knights of Columbus also attend and participate in important Liturgical Celebrations as a way of showing their support of the Church and their devotion and love of Christ and his people.

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Dan Palm 607-538-1305

The Building and Grounds Committee is responsible for both the day-to-day maintenance and repair of all buildings, facilities, grounds, and related equipment for the parish, and for identifying, coordinating, and executing longer-term improvement projects. Anyone with interest, expertise and skills related to the upkeep and enhancement of buildings and grounds, and who also has a strong sense of stewardship for parish properties as gifts from God, is a good candidate for this committee. Offering your talents in construction and its related trades and specialties, real estate, architecture, and /or engineering is a great way to help keep the Lord's House in the condition it so richly deserves.

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Len Marigliano 607-652-9088

Another corporal work of mercy is to bury the dead. Providing a place of burial to honor the people who have gone on to their eternal reward is an important service offered by the parish. Members of the cemetery committee oversee the condition of Sacred Heart Cemetery and ensure that it's kept a clean, safe and beautiful place for the faithful departed, and those who come to visit them there. The committee coordinates and participates in regular maintenance and repair of the cemetery grounds, and suggests and evaluates ideas for their enhancement.