

Epiphany of the Lord Parish Stewardship Directory

Introduction: This booklet contains a list of ministries and activities here at Epiphany of the Lord Parish. Its purpose is to acquaint not only newcomers but to encourage all parishioners, new and old, to be involved in at least one ministry.

I. Parish Ministries, Committees, Fundraising, Societies.

Pastoral Council - Epiphany of the Lord Parish has a pastoral council whose members are chosen in a discernment process and are responsible for pastoral planning. Terms last 2 years. The council meets 4 times per year. The purpose is to provide the pastor with input, feedback and other duties defined in the by-laws.

Epiphany of the Lord Parish Altar Rosary Society - An organization of dedicated men and women (all women of the parish are considered members) whose main focus is to encourage love for the Eucharist and Mary through practice of prayers and devotion. Our goal is to assist our Pastor in a variety of ways needed for the parish by encouraging the men and women of our parish to work for the Church and the community. Our society takes on the responsibility for the costs of the hosts and wine; maintaining all altar linens; cleaning of the church carpets; and meeting other parish needs. Upon the death of a parishioner the Society prays the rosary when requested by the family. Meetings to be determined but are generally monthly.

Properties and Maintenance Committee - This committee monitors the ongoing maintenance, upkeep, and capital improvements of the properties. The committee needs parishioners who have knowledge and expertise in the area of maintenance. They will be in contact directly with the business/facilities manager. The time commitment for this committee varies.

Contact: Wallace Friedel, businessmanager@epiphanyofthelord.org

II. Liturgical Ministries

Children's Liturgy of the Word - A ministry for children during the Sunday Liturgy of the Word. This program consists of readings and activities to help children more fully participate in the Liturgy of the Word at an age-appropriate level. It is generally intended for children 3-7 (or through 2nd grade until First Communion). No registration is needed for your child to participate. This takes place at our Genesee St. Campus at St. Stephen Church during the 9:30 AM Mass. Adult and young adult leaders, helpers, and aids are needed. The person/persons responsible leads the children out before the first reading to a room located within the Church. The children are returned back to their seats during the Preparation of the Gifts. (*Safe environment course is required, and available online.)

Contact: Kathy Singlar ksinglar@oregoncs.org 419-262-4216

Eucharistic Ministers - Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are lay persons who help administer the Eucharistic Body and Blood at Mass. These ministers are given training with on-going enrichment. Scheduling depends on the person's availability, and the needs of the parish. Men, women, and young persons (16 yrs. plus after Confirmation) are invited to join this ministry after a period of discernment.

Contact: Kathy Singlar ksinglar@oregoncs.org 419-262-4216

Eucharistic Ministers - Home Visitors - Eucharistic Ministers are welcome to extend their ministry to the homebound, hospitals, and nursing homes of the parish. This is a special ministry to parishioners who are permanently or temporarily unable to come to church. Contact: the Parish office 419-698-1519 if you have any questions, or please place an "I" on the line on the last page on this form and someone will contact you directly.

Greeters - Parishioners, both men, women, young, and old are welcome to minister in the welcoming of all to our Liturgical Celebrations in order to support our faith journeys. Schedules are worked out according to both greeter's and parish needs. **Contact:** Kathy Singlar ksinglar@oregoncs.org 419-262-4216

Lectors - Anyone both men and women, of any age who feel the call to proclaim the Word of God at Eucharist and other liturgical celebrations are invited to participate. Initial training is given with on-going enrichment. Schedules are worked out according to both readers' and parish needs. **Contact:** Kathy Singlar ksinglar@oregoncs.org 419-262-4216

Sacristans - These are the behind-the-scenes people who take care of the ordinary but necessary needs of the liturgical celebrations: opening & locking up the Church, cleaning, care of candles, vessels, etc. (*Safe environment course is required.) Schedules are worked out according to both sacristan's and parish needs. **Contact:** Kathy Singlar ksinglar@oregoncs.org 419-262-4216

Servers - They are usually the younger members of the Parish community. Adult servers have become necessary for Holy Days and funerals and are welcome to serve at weekend Masses. Schedules are worked out according to both server and parish needs. **Contact:** Kathy Singlar ksinglar@oregoncs.org 419-262-4216

Ushers - helping people to find seats, and taking up the collection and greeting.

Choir Members and Musicians - The community welcomes all parishioners to join in song and prayer with the choirs, either as a singer or a musician during the Masses and celebrations. Your gifts will enrich our choir. Practice times are customarily Tuesday evenings but can vary with seasonal needs. **Contact:** Tony Zsigray musicdirector@epiphanyofthelord.org 419-360-1902

Decoration Committee - Committee members are responsible for the decoration of the liturgical spaces with emphasis on major feasts and seasons such as Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. If interested, contact: the Parish office 419-6981519 if you have any questions or place an "I" on the line on the last page on this form and someone will contact you directly.

III. Educational Ministries

Family of Faith (formerly Religious Education)- This is our twice monthly program (September-May) for students in grades K-8 not enrolled in Catholic school. Parents are the primary catechists for their children and we do not utilize classroom catechists as we once did in a more traditional program. Our current program includes monthly presentations for all adults of the parish. All adults in the parish are encouraged to attend presentations.

Volunteer needs: If you are knowledgeable on a faith topic and comfortable speaking to groups, we would love to have you as a guest presenter in areas you are interested in.

Sacrament Preparation: This describes programs for baptized Catholics in 2nd grade through adulthood preparing for First Reconciliation/First Communion and/or Confirmation (8th grade through adulthood).

Volunteer needs: Eligible, vetted parishioners open to serving as a Confirmation sponsor when a Confirmation candidate (8th grade or older) does not have a suitable sponsor in his/her life. Volunteers must be approved by the pastor as well as meet all requirements by the Church. If you will be a sponsor to someone under the age of 18, Safe Environment training and background screening are also required. Commitment may include accompanying to regular classes, sitting with the person at Mass, as well as attending Confirmation and remaining a support to that person after Confirmation.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (formerly RCIA)- This is a process for anyone over the age of 7 years who is either unbaptized or converting to the Catholic faith from another faith tradition.

Volunteer needs: OCIA Team members to help with instruction for either youth, adults, and/or families joining the Catholic faith. Safe Environment training and background screening are required for working with those ages 7-17. Additionally, we need sponsors (same requirements as found above under Sacrament Preparation).

Adult Formation – Adult Formation includes bible studies or other learning opportunities for adults as well as parish missions or special guest speakers which may be offered at irregular intervals.

Volunteer needs: Individuals or small groups to lead bible studies or other faith sharing opportunities (materials and staff support provided).

Educational Ministries- Please contact Kathy Fech, Director of Faith Formation, for more information on any of these ministries. kfech@epiphanyofthelordparish.org

IV. Youth Activities

Deanery Youth Group: Serves the 7th-12th grade students of our parish and surrounding parishes. Meets approximately 3 times/month. Some gatherings are Sunday evenings at Cardinal Stritch and others are Tuesday evenings at Epiphany of the Lord.

Volunteer needs: Individuals to help with leading activities, small groups, helping the teens grow in their faith. For Tuesday night gatherings, individually packaged snack donations are helpful. For Sundays, we need individuals or small groups to prepare, bring, and serve a full meal for 15-20 teens and adults. **Contact: Kathy Fech**
kfech@epiphanyofthelord.org

Summer Programs/Totus Tuus: Depending on the program, serves 1st-12th grade students at our parish.

Volunteer needs: Teen volunteers needed to help with the younger youth. Need housing and meals provided for a team of 4 (when we have the Totus Tuus program). Other misc. needs depending on the program.

Youth Retreats: Retreats for the 3rd-6th grade students of the parish.

Volunteer needs: Teen volunteers needed to help with the younger youth. Need meals and snacks provided for the group. Need adults to help with set up and clean up as well as be on hand for emergencies. **Contact: Kathy Fech**
kfech@epiphanyofthelord.org

* Safe Environment training and background check required for active volunteering in any of these ministries. You may assist in other ways such as donating supplies/food without any training.

V. Outreach Ministries

St. Vincent de Paul Society - The Epiphany of the Lord Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. This lay organization leads men and women to join together to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to those in need within our parish boundaries. We sponsor the neighborhood Birmingham Food Pantry, Funding comes from donations, memorials, and the poor box. Blue monthly envelopes are included in your yearly box of envelopes.

Birmingham Food Pantry - Distributes food on the 2nd Monday of each month from 9 AM to noon. Volunteers are welcome for assistance with the distribution and preparation prior to.

Contact: Andy Lucas, President of the St. Vincent de Paul Society 567-277-7528

Helping Hands of St. Louis- Located at the Father Robert Armstrong Outreach Center on 443 6th street at the former St. Louis property, is an ecumenical service to the needy of the area. Daily meals are offered from Monday through Friday, Breakfast is served on Monday, Wednesday, & Friday from 8-10am. Other social services and food pantry, hygiene, and aid for utilities are available. Volunteers are also welcome and you could volunteer individually or with a group. Green envelopes are included monthly in your yearly box of envelopes.

Contact: Sue Shrewsbury, 419-691-0613 ext. 101

Fellowship/Fundraising Committee - This committee determines, plans, and organizes fundraising events plus hosting receptions of the Parish, for the calendar year. Committee members decide on the nature of the event, locate the resources needed, and develop publicity. The events themselves then need volunteers for miscellaneous jobs as cooks, servers, hosts, etc. Watch the bulletin for upcoming events, or consider becoming a committee member. This is a great opportunity for students or families that need service hours for school.

Finance Council -Our parish needs parishioners willing to be on this committee which oversees the parish expenditures, develops the yearly budget, and advises the pastor on general parish economical issues. Both men and women are welcome. The committee meets quarterly. **Contact:** Wallace Friedel, businessmanager@epiphanyofthelord.org

Hospitality Committee - The primary focus is to welcome newly registered parishioners and encourage them to be active participants in our Parish Community. Members prepare and deliver informational packets to the new parishioners and personally invite them to become active in our various parish functions and ministries.

Prayer Line - Our parish has prayer lines available when prayers are especially requested for anyone in need. This important ministry is a powerful source of healing and strength. To take part in this ministry or to request prayers call the following.

Contact: Names and phone numbers are in the bulletin.

Emmaus Charismatic Prayer Group - This ministry is part of the Ministry to Catholic Charismatic Renewal, an affiliate of the Diocese of Toledo. We support the parish by offering an opportunity to understand how the Holy Spirit gives us gifts to help strengthen us, and empowers us to serve in the Church. We gather to praise God in song and prayer, listen to the Lord, teach/share, and intercede in prayer for the parish. All parishioners are invited weekly at Epiphany of the Lord, St Thomas chapel, Wednesdays 1:30-2:50 pm.

Contact: Irene Bland ibland777@gmail.com 419-410-2812

Prayer Shawl Ministry - In this ministry we reach out to our sick, the loved ones of parishioners and any one else who calls us. We respond with shawls or lap blankets made by knitting, crocheting, or sewing. We pray as we make them, and they are blessed before they are given out. We want to extend the healing arms of our Savior Jesus to all who need to be blessed and loved.

Contact: Jane Thompson 419-698-3078 or jnthompson@bex.net

Visitation of Homebound-Visitation of Nursing Homes and Hospitals - Parish members visit parishioners who are in hospitals and nursing homes. We are specifically assigned to minister to the residents of Majestic Care, formerly known as the Lutheran Home. If interested please contact the Parish office, 419-698-1519, or place an "I" on the line on the last page of this form and someone will contact you directly.

Bereavement Ministry - Members of the parish staff meet with the family of the deceased to plan the funeral liturgy. At both of our campuses the St. Stephen and St. Thomas Aquinas church halls are available for use for a funeral luncheon. Call the Parish office as soon as possible to make arrangements.

Volunteer needs: **Bereavement Committee** to follow up with individuals/ families that have experienced a loss of their loved one. By reaching out to them for example sending a card, email, making a phone call, text message, 1wk, 2wks, 1 month, 3 months, etc. Please Contact Holly at the Parish office 419-698-1519 or hcerveny@epiphanyofthelord.org

Knights of Columbus, Mother Teresa Council - Membership is open to the men of our parishes who meet at St. Thomas and lend their time and talents to parish projects at any of the member parishes. **Contact: Jason Tabb 419-360-8361 or jasontabb@bex.net**

St. Anthony Society - Outreach ministry group for "senior parishioners" both women and men who are 55 plus. The St. Anthony Society is a great way for our senior men and women to build fellowship and unity. Watch for events in the bulletin. If you would like to be involved in planning events, or have ideas.

Contact: Karen Van Dyke, 419-356-4097 Kvans22@yahoo.com

Holy Name Society - Holy Name is open to all Men of Epiphany of the Lord Parish. The main purpose is to serve as the Chartering Organization and to provide support for our Boy Scout Troop. Because of low turnout at our meetings we now have just two meetings each year. One is our Christmas Dinner and the other is our Nite with the Lord Dinner on Monday of Holy Week.

These dinners serve as a social event as well as helping raise funds not only for our Scout Troop but also for our Christmas Basket Program. We also have made contributions to Epiphany of the Lord Parish.

Contact: Denny Fairchild at 419-693-9517.

Boy Scouts - Epiphany of the Lord Holy Name sponsors our Boy Scout Troop 57. We have had a Chartered Boy Scout Troop for over 82 years. The Troop is open to all Boys ages 10 to 18 years of age. There are some Troops in the area for girls the same age, however we do not have a separate girls Troop. We have served many young men over the last 82 years and have 42 young men who have achieved the rank of Eagle Scout.

Contact: Kevin Thomas, Scoutmaster at 419-304-8835

Adoration - Eucharistic Adoration is an act of worship, spending time with Jesus in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. The Church is in the midst of a Eucharistic Revival whose mission is “to renew the church by enkindling a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist.” The present focus is on parish revival. Being involved in weekly Adoration is a blessed way to be involved. Epiphany of the Lord Parish has Adoration on most Wednesdays from 3:00-5:50 pm in St. Thomas Aquinas Church. Mass follows at 6pm for those who’d like to attend.

Volunteer needs: To commit to an hour of prayer each Wednesday from 3:00-4:00, 4:00-5:00, or 5:00-5:50. Also to substitute for someone who is sick or otherwise unable to keep the weekly commitment. (While rare, it is important that Jesus in the exposed Blessed Sacrament, is not left unattended.) Those who can’t commit to a schedule are encouraged to take time from worldly care to make a prayerful visit of any duration. Contact the Parish office 419-698-1519.

St. Teresa of Calcutta: “Jesus has made Himself the Bread of Life to give us life. Night and day, He is there. If you really want to grow in love, come back to the Eucharist, come back to Adoration.”

VI. Misc. Activities- Check out these other great ways to participate in the life of the parish!

Family Potluck Game Night: Parish game nights are the second Saturdays following the 4 pm Mass. They take place January-April and August-November. Volunteer needs: None but please bring a dish to share. Plates, bowls, utensils and drinks provided.

Parish Outings (ie. MudHens, Walleye Games) : Bring the family when we have occasional fun events. Volunteer needs: Help with sign ups/ticket selling after Masses. This is an as-needed ministry.

Devotion to the Irish Madonna - At our Genesee Street campus the portrait of the Irish Madonna was a gift to St. Stephen Church from Bishop Schrembs in 1914 at the dedication of the church. The original is in the Cathedral of Győr, Hungary where a miracle took place on the Feast of St. Patrick following devotion to the Madonna. Traditionally this novena is held ending or near the feast of St Patrick.

Memorial Garden aka Father Hernady Memorial Garden - A perennial garden, small rose garden, and hosta garden are located by the St. Stephen Rectory at our Genesee street campus. Seasonal volunteers are needed several times during the year, to help clean up the garden in spring and fall and weed in the summer. At times help is needed for planting of new flowers or laying down mulch. Volunteer times are flexible and can be arranged according to your schedule. Contact Parish Office 419-698-1519.

Not sure what is right for you? Here are some suggestions.

Want to help, but can't commit to a regular/weekly schedule? Consider:

- Landscaping
- Working for annual dinners [Paprikas, Mexican, etc]
- Greeter at Mass (Individually or perhaps with a friend, families are also encouraged to become greeters as well.)
- Lector
- Server
- Christmas Food Basket ministry
- Care packages to our Homebound/Nursing Home Parishioners (Twice a year Easter/Christmas)

Want to help, but transportation is an issue? Consider:

- Prayer Shawl ministry
- Prayer Line
- Bereavement calls, or mailing cards/notes to parishioners is a perfect way to participate from home.

Want to help, but you don't want to be in charge of anything? Consider:

- Baking for hospitality/receptions
- Cleaning the Church
- Decorate for the Holy Days
- Host the Totus Tuus team

Want to help and are open to more responsibility?

- Sacristans
- Ushers
- Offer rides to Mass
- Maintenance Committee
- Visiting the Homebound
- Subbing for Adoration on Wednesday
- Leading the Rosary before Mass
- Money Counter

Work during the day, but want to be involved?

- Choir/music ministry
- Pastoral or Finance Council
- Leading a prayer group
- Sign up to take up the gifts during Mass

Can't drive after dark? Consider:

- Helping Hands
- Birmingham Food Pantry
- Charismatic Prayer Group
- Visiting the Homebound

Please take a minute after prayer to fill out this commitment form and return it to the parish as a gift to the Lord. Ministries are for the parish. If you are currently active and would like to remain that way, please mark with the letter "C". If you are interested and would like to sign up to be contacted please mark with the letter "I".

Name's: _____ Phone _____

#/email: _____

Parish Ministries and Groups

- Pastoral Council
- Finance Council

- Properties/Maintenance Committee
- Fellowship/Fundraising Committee
- Bereavement Committee
- Hospitality Committee
- Stewardship Committee

- Altar Rosary Society
- Holy Name Society
- St. Anthony Society

Educational and Youth Ministries

- Family of Faith Formation
- OCIA formerly RCIA
- Small Faith Group, Bible
- Youth Group

- Other**
- Knights of Columbus
- Emmaus Charismatic Prayer Group
- Boy Scouts

- Adoration
- Money Counter
-

Liturgical Ministries

- Children's Liturgy of the Word
- Choir and Musicians
- Church Decoration Committee
- Eucharistic Ministers (Church)
- Eucharistic Ministers (To Homebound/Nursing Home)

- Greeters
- Lectors
- Sacristans
- Servers
- Adult Servers
- Ushers

Outreach Ministries

- Birmingham Food Pantry/SVDP
- St. Vincent de Paul Society
- Helping Hands
- Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Prayer Line

Other ideas you have or gifts you bring
