

# **University Parish of Holy Ghost**

## ***Groups & Activities***

### ***Welcoming Committee***

Individual contact with new parishioners will be made to provide them with information about the parish and the activities available.

### ***Basics in Faith Program***

Under the leadership of the Pastor, a review of the Catholic faith is undertaken.

### ***Liturgy Committee***

In collaboration with the Pastor, the worship of the parish family is planned.

### ***Eucharistic Ministers***

Parishioners assist in distributing communion at masses, First Fridays and home visitation.

### ***Lectors/Commentators***

Proclaim the word at daily/weekend masses. A reference listing the readings is provided and training is held. A bi-monthly schedule is developed.

### ***Altar Servers***

Students (fourth grade and above) assist at the weekend masses. Adults serve at the morning masses and at funerals. Training is provided.

### ***Choir***

The choir practices in church on Thursday evenings from 7:15pm- 9:00pm. Both men and women, ages 16 and older, are encouraged to participate. Reading music is not a requirement and there is no audition. The choir sings at the 10:15am mass each Sunday from September through June. They also enhance the liturgies for all the major holy days. Consideration is being given to developing contemporary worship music as well.

### ***Ushers***

Greet parishioners/visitors and help take up the collection at masses. They distribute the bulletins.

### ***Sodality***

Usually meets six times a year (check the church bulletin for dates). Members attend an 8:00am weekday mass, recite the rosary after mass and then have a brief meeting/refreshments in Msgr. Billinger Social Hall. They also sponsor two bake sales a year.

### ***Prayer Chain***

A group of concerned parishioners who dedicate their time in prayer for the needs of parishioners and anyone requesting prayerful assistance. This program is in the process of organization.

### ***Religious Education Classes***

Religious education for students in grades 1 through 8 attending a non-catholic school, is held on Sunday mornings (September to May). Classes are held in Magnificat Hall (formerly the convent) from 9am-10am.

### ***Share Care Faith in Action***

A parish out- reach program, whose volunteers assist the elderly and/or disabled parishioners living independently. Services include friendly visits, grocery shopping, transportation to appointments, assistance with paperwork, etc.

### ***Parish Nurse Ministry***

Staffed by licensed registered nurses. They function as personal health counselors to parishioners. They maintain contact with parishioners needing monitoring of health issues, help them to make decisions about health needs and assist in making referrals for community services, etc. This program is in the process of organization.

### ***Prime Time Seniors (Age 55 plus)***

This group meets the first and third Monday of each month at 1:00pm in Msgr. Billinger Social Hall. A brief business meeting is held, followed by games, a speaker or other activity. Annual membership dues are \$5.00. Membership is open to parishioners and non-parishioners.

### ***Noodle Makers***

Participants gather at 8:45am in Msgr. Billinger Social Hall on the second and fourth Monday of each month. No experience is necessary. Training is provided. Donations of 5 lb. bags of Gold Medal All Purpose Flour and large eggs are always appreciated. Noodles are sold at Prime Time Seniors' meetings and at specified times during the year (check the church bulletins for dates).

### ***Pierogie Makers***

Pierogies are made three times a year (February, May and October). No experience is necessary. Training is provided. Assistance is needed with organizing order requests, making and bagging the pierogies, getting the orders ready for pick-up and helping with clean- up.

### ***Fall Fair Committee***

The annual Fall Fair is held the third weekend of October. There are many ways to participate. It takes hours of planning, preparation, set-up and clean-up to make this a successful fundraiser. Watch the church bulletins for details.

### ***Kitchen Specialties***

Jam, jellies and other kitchen items are made during the summer and fall months (up to the time of the Fall Fair) to prepare items to sell. The group meets every Monday evening in Msgr. Billinger Hall from 6:30pm- 8:30pm. No experience is required and it is not necessary to attend every Monday.

### ***Southside Ministries***

The University Parish of Holy Ghost is a member of Southside Ministries which is an ecumenical group made up of five southside churches. Non-perishable food is collected the third weekend of every month. Parishioners transport the food to New Bethany Ministries. They also volunteer at the Thrift Shop and the Meal Center. Parishioners are representatives on the Directing Council and host a Friday night “kids” gathering the second Friday of each month. An ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service is held each year at the various churches.

### ***Bereavement Ministry***

A parish out-reach program to those who are experiencing the loss of a loved one. Participants are trained through the diocese. This program is in the process of organization.

### ***Other Helpers***

*Pastry Makers* - Parishioners are asked to bake for church events.

*Church Clean Team* - Volunteers are needed to assist in the cleaning of the church.

*Assembly of Christmas Crèche and Christmas Trees* - This will be done in preparation for the first Sunday of Advent.

*Kitchen Helpers*- Volunteers assist in the kitchen for social events.

*Flowers to Shut-Ins* - Flowers are taken to parish shut-ins at Christmas and Easter. Deliveries are made to their homes and to assisted living/nursing facilities.

*Garden Club* - Parishioners help plant and maintain the flowers on the parish grounds.

*Church Decorating Team* - Parishioners assist in coordinating the liturgical environment thematically with the seasons, solemnities and feast days. [University Parish of Holy Ghost](#)