

MINISTRIES

Each day, a parish depends upon the generosity of its people. As Christian stewards, we are called to reflect God's love in our community. In a world weakened by a lack of love, we make progress toward "Peace on Earth" by offering loving service to others. All parishioners, whether young or old, have special gifts to share with their faith community. Their gifts of prayer, ministry and finance help bring Jesus' healing touch to our world. The following is a list of St. Paul ministries that provide an opportunity for you to share your gifts and talents.

Pastoral Council is of the utmost importance in the life of the parish. According to the Pastoral Policy Handbook of the Diocese of Toledo, "The Parish Pastoral Council is to be an effective body providing spiritual leadership in the parish community. The Pastoral Council is a recommending and evaluating body, functioning as a faith community with general operational guidelines determined during the life of the group, with prayer and faith sharing as integral parts of Council meetings and pastoral planning effecting the spiritual renewal of the parish. The council serves a three-year commitment as an advisory group to the Pastor/Pastoral Leader." Contact Person: John Evans 419 663-2219 or Marcia Roth 419 668-2262.

The ***Finance Council*** helps our parish provide for all the activities and ministries we support. These people use their business experience, knowledge of the parish and its people, and the religious ideals of the Church to help the pastoral staff make sound financial and business decisions. The ministry team meets monthly to review financial statements, set budgets and financial priorities, and generally provide parish input and advice for the pastoral staff. Contact Person: Tim Fitzgerald 419 668-312.

Nursing Home Masses

Gaymont

Third Wednesday of the month: 2:30 PM; St. Paul
Communion every Wed.

Twilight

First Wednesday of the month 2:00 PM; Fr. Speier
Communion every Wed.

Norwalk Memorial

Second Wednesday of the month 1:30 pm; Fr. Speier

Brairfield, Milan

Fourth Wednesday of the month 1:30 PM; Fr. Speier

Carriage House

Communion is given every Sunday and Tuesday by St. Paul Eucharistic Ministers

LITURGY

Altar servers are students (6th grade and older) who assist the priest during Mass. They fill many roles, including the procession before and after Mass, assisting with offertory gifts, and other tasks that aid the celebrant and enhance the liturgy. Also, ***adults*** may be ***Altar Servers***, and are particularly needed for funeral Masses and other celebrations where students are unavailable. Contact Person: Anthony Catalano 419 499-3241 or Mike Roth 419 668-5445.

The ***Adult choir*** provides musical leadership at worship services. Members are not required to read music. The choir rehearses on Wednesday's from 7:30-9:00 PM and has a 40 minute vocal warm-up before the liturgy. The choir sings on Sundays at 9:00 AM Mass and sometimes at 11:00 AM. Babysitting is available during Wednesday evening rehearsals and liturgies in which the choir sings. Contact Person: Mark Niese 419 668-6044.

The Choristers helps provide musical leadership for song at worship. This group is open to 3rd grade through 6th grades of NCS and PSR students. A vocal audition is not required. The choir practices on Thursday after school from 3:20-4:15 PM. They sing once a month at a weekend Mass or all school liturgy. Contact Person: Mark Niese 419 668-6044.

Cantor The primary role of the cantor is to provide musical leadership at worship. Those called to this ministry must have vocal/musical skills including good breath support, rhythmic precision, a pleasing tone and an inviting personality. A vocal interview/audition is therefore necessary to determine a person's ability and gifts. This ministry is open to high school age students and older. Personal preparation at home is essential. Ongoing vocal training and workshop experiences are encouraged to develop musical skills. The cantors are scheduled on a weekly basis according to their availability. Contact Person: Mark Niese 419 668-6044.

The **Folk Choir's** primary role is to provide musical leadership at the Saturday 4:30 PM Mass. The group includes vocalists and instrumentalists. The music tends to lean toward the contemporary style. The group rehearses one hour prior to the liturgy. Extra rehearsals are required for Christmas and Easter. The ministry is open to high school students and older. Contact Person: Mark Niese 419 668-6044.

The **Funeral Choir** helps provide musical leadership and support for song at the funeral liturgy. This choir is extremely important in the celebration of the funeral Mass. Their presence is appreciated even more when there is a small gathering of mourners. Most funerals occur in the morning usually at 10:30 AM Monday through Saturday. The commitment of time for this ministry is relatively small. There are no regular scheduled practices with only a periodic warm-up rehearsal immediately preceding the funeral Mass. Contact Person: Mark Niese 419 668-6044.

The St. Paul **CLOW Ministry** Team celebrates the Liturgy of the Word with children ages 4 and up during the regular Sunday Mass. CLOW is intended to immerse young children in the Word in ways that are understandable to them. CLOW is celebrated bi-monthly alternating once at the 9:00 AM Mass and once at the 11:00 AM Mass. The schedule is published regularly in the Sunday bulletin. The team members meet for one hour every three months to evaluate how things are going and set the schedule for the next four months and sign up for the dates they will be available to lead. Initial training is provided for new team members. Contact Person: Lisa Hedrick 419 668-0470.

Church Environment This committee strives to enhance the worship environment for each of the liturgical seasons with colorful banners, plants, floral arrangements, candles, swags, and wreaths. All of these elements help create a meaningful atmosphere. Those called to this ministry should possess the gift of creativity and have some artistic ability. Members who can carry, lift, climb, or clean-up are most welcome. Contact Person: Paula Hackathorn 419 681-2444.

The role of a **Eucharistic Minister** is to distribute the Body and Blood of Christ during celebration of the Mass. All ministers are asked to serve a 2-year renewable commitment. Lay distributors receive initial training and participate in ongoing formation throughout the course of their ministry. Ministers should be persons of mature faith who have shown a commitment to the life of Christian service. Contact Person: Denise Missler 419 668-7841.

Homebound, Hospital, & Nursing Homes These ministers distribute Eucharist to those in the hospital, nursing home or at home who are unable to come to Mass. This is also a two year renewable commitment and lay people need initial training. Contact Person: Barb Wurzel 419 688-3960.

Lector The primary role of the lector is to proclaim the Word of God in such a way that it comes to life in the hearts of the assembly. The lector is the biblical storyteller of our faith community. Those called to this ministry must have a loud, clear speaking voice and possess good communication skills. The time commitment involved in this ministry is largely personal preparation, which takes place at home. Contact Person: Mary Linder 419 668-5075.

Liturgy Committee The ministerial role of the liturgy committee is three-fold: planning/preparation, evaluation and education. The group collaborates on seasonal planning for Sunday worship throughout the liturgical year, and plans various sacramental celebrations and other prayer experiences. The liturgy committee evaluates our worship experiences and liturgical ministries to ensure high quality and prayer filled celebrations. Committee members continue to educate themselves through reading and attending various seminars and workshops. The committee provides initial and on-going training for all liturgical ministers and also gives liturgical catechesis to all parishioners. Contact Person: Mark Niese 419 668-6044.

Mass Coordinator This ministry team assists the priests by preparing the church and sacristy for daily and weekend Masses. They ensure that the gifts are ready, lights and microphones are on, vestments are out, and other necessary tasks completed so that the priest celebrating the Mass has more time to focus on his personal preparations. After Mass, the Mass coordinators will clean up and put away items used during the Mass, allowing the priest more time to visit with parishioners. Contact Person: Pam Reichert 419 668-6044.

The role of the **Usher** is to create an atmosphere of hospitality through word and gesture, welcoming parishioners and visitors as they gather for worship. They arrange items that need to be readied for Mass, reserve pews, help people find seats when needed, take up the collection, distribute bulletins, pass out materials to parishioners, and select a family to carry up offertory gifts. This ministry is open to both men and women. Contact Person: Mark Niese 419 668-6044.

Hispanic Community

Holy Hour

This group comes together every Thursday at 7 PM to pray the rosary and reflect on the scriptures. Contact person: Jose Pedro y Rosa Carrillo 419 663-0147

Small Faith Communities

Community of Pan De Vida

Reflection and Bible Study every Monday 7:00 PM

Contact Person: Rosa Papai 419 929-2515

Community of Esperanza y Fe

Francisco Carrillo 419 668-5731

Reflection and Bible Study alternating Wednesday and Thursday every other week at 7 PM

Community of Luz de Cristo

Francisco Carrillo 419 668-5731

Reflection and Bible Study every Tuesday at 9:30 AM

Registrations for Baptism and New Members

Patricia Carrillo 419 668-5731

Altar Servers

Minerva Domínguez 419 663-0412

Parish Choir

Jose Jonathan Carrillo 419 663-0147

Youth Group

ACJM (Actino Catholic Mexican Youth)

Every Friday 7:00 pm Bible Study, games and reflections

Contact Person: Jose Torres 419 929-3140

Lectors

To proclaim the word of God in such a way that touches in the Heart of the assembly. Contact Person: Maria Guadalupe Enriques 419 660-9528

Eucharistic Ministers

Distribute the Body and Blood of Christ during celebration of the Mass. Contact Person Patricia Carrillo 419 668-573.

PSR

First Reconciliation, First Communion for children: Rosa Papai 419 929-2515.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The St. Paul **Adult Formation** Ministry Team is committed to and responsible for implementing the parish vision and plan for adult faith formation. Its role is consultation, planning, and program implementation in the area of adult faith formation in the parish. Contact Person: Marian Bermudez 419 668-6044.

Through **Parish School of Religion (PSR)**, St. Paul parish assists Catholic parents who send their children to public school in the task of passing on the faith to the next generation. Our parish program serves children in grades K-8 and strives to provide the following: knowledge of the faith, liturgical education, moral formation, prayer, education for community life and missionary initiation. The team consists of the Parish Youth Director and the Catechists who serve our young parishioners. Contact Person: Sara Fitzgerald 419-668-6044.

SPIRITUAL

Adoration Chapel Members of our parish and other surrounding communities take part in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament by maintaining a continuous prayer vigil in the Perpetual Adoration Chapel. This is open to all people of faith for quiet prayerful reflection and adoration of the Eucharist. People are needed to commit to specific one-hour periods throughout the week to ensure the Blessed Sacrament is always accompanied. Contact Person: Marilyn Kocher 419 668-8742.

The **Bereavement Ministry** is a group of lay people that come together with the family at the time of death of a loved one, to help plan and carry out the funeral liturgy. This ministry team helps the family plan the funeral liturgy. They print a funeral program, visit the funeral home in the name of the parish community, and greet people coming to the funeral Mass. They also participate in a Holy Hour in the name of the deceased, and celebrate a special liturgy the beginning of November. Contact Person: Ruth Weisenberger 419 668-6044.

Crown Financial Ministries is an interdenominational ministry that uses a remarkably effective small group study to train people to apply the financial principles from the Word of God to their everyday lives. The study is very practical, and with this study many are now enjoying the freedom, contentment, and economic stability that comes from implementing these biblical principals into their daily lives. Ministry team members help in organizing for the small group study, babysitting, teaching and promoting the classes. Contact Person: Marcia Roth 419 668-2262

The **Good News Prayer Group** meets every Monday night in the basement of St Mary's rectory at 7:15 PM. Anyone from the area is welcome to join. The style of prayer expression for this group is primarily Charismatic, meaning that they try to pray with an openness and receptivity to the Holy Spirit's presence and the power of the Spirits Gifts. These various charismatic gifts are manifested through the community's prayer and ministry. Contact Person: Bev Reichert 419 668-1146.

Jail Ministry is one of the outreach endeavors of the Good News Prayer Group. Its purpose is to help the jail inmates develop and deepen their relationship with God. Bible Study and the celebration of Mass are offered each Wednesday afternoon with women and men inmates alternating in attendance. The opportunity for confession and personal counseling is offered on a regular basis. Contact Person: Sr. Cyrilla 419 668-6044.

Prayer Chain Our parish has a group of people who serve by praying for people in need of prayer during times of illness, injury, and other difficulties in their lives. Prayer help is generally requested by calling the parish office, and the Prayer Chain is then started. This is a very powerful way to help serve our families, friends and neighbors in their time of need. Contact Person: Marge Mitro 419 668-4320

Stewardship Committee As caretakers of the many gifts and talents that God provides, this ministry provides opportunities and encourages parishioners to receive Gods gifts gratefully, nurture them responsibly, share them justly and charitably, returning them with abundance to God. Through prayer, service and sharing, we develop a stewardship way of life and a closer relationship to God. Meetings last one hour, and are held the second Wednesday of each month. Contact Person: Sue Riley 419 668-4795.

Vacation Bible School The parishes of St. Mary and St. Paul in Norwalk collaborate each year to sponsor a summer Vacation Bible School - usually scheduled for the 2nd or 3rd week of June. The program is held Monday - Friday at St Mary parish campus from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. Children ages 4 to 10 participate while adults lead them in a variety of activities. Volunteers are needed to teach, help, lead games, provide snacks, learn crafts, decorate, or just come join the fun. All are invited to help even if only for a few days or hours during the week. Contact Person: Cassie Shella 419 663-0585.

OPERATIONS

The **Cemetery Board** is comprised of members of the parish who make decisions regarding St. Paul Cemetery and the Shrine of the Sorrowful Mother. This team plans and coordinates the improvements and upkeep of the grounds as well as ways to enhance the beautiful country setting of the main cemetery and the general day to day operations at both facilities. Contact Person: Fr. Frank Kehres 419 668-6044.

Festival Team The primary role of the festival team is to provide a parish and community gathering, which takes place on the first weekend in August. Hundreds of people in the parish working together help make the festival a success. Parish members get involved in all aspects of the festival; being a chairperson, cooking delicious homemade foods, setting up activities and games, working shifts at the activities and creating hand crafted items for sale. Contact Person: Pat Furlong 419 668-6044

Bulletin, Office, & Bulk Mailing Volunteers St. Paul office volunteers are indeed a group that is very important to our parish and office staff. Their duties include: answering phones, greeting visitors at the door and general office tasks. This helps everyone on staff with their daily work load. Some of our volunteers work half days, whole days, weekly, and every other week. Our daytime volunteer arrives at 9:00 AM and stays til 5:00 PM. Our evening volunteers are here from 6:00 – 8:30 PM. We also have volunteers who prepare our weekly bulletin on Tuesday mornings and volunteers who help with bulk mailings. Contact Person: Carol Chandler 419 668-6044.

The **Funeral Luncheon Committee's** purpose is to support the bereaved families of St. Paul with a luncheon for family and friends after a funeral Mass and burial. There are no meetings to attend. There is generally short notice for this ministry to do their work. Contact Person: Betty Smith 419 668-6044 or Dorothy Dudics 419 668-8884.

Green Thumb Committee This ministry works to continue to enhance the beauty of our church and school campuses. Volunteers are needed to plant flowers, trim trees, spread mulch and prepare beds for planting. Anyone who enjoys gardening or working outdoors is welcome. Just let us know your interest and we'll find a way for you to help. Contact Person: Steve Slauterbeck 419 663-0540.

Heavenly Dusters This ministry team consists of over 50 volunteers, with 5 teams of 8 volunteers per team. Dusters alternate weekly to enhance the beauty of the church. Additionally there are substitute volunteers who help out when needed. These individual teams work together twice a week for about 2-3 hours at a time. Contact Person: Ruth Weisenberger 419 668-0236.

The Hospitality Committee is a group who are called to prepare and serve food for special Diocesan and Parish events. Contact Person: Barb Wurzel 419 668-3960.

The role of the **Maintenance Committee** is to help advise on decisions regarding major repairs, large maintenance improvement projects, and preventive maintenance within the church, school and all the facilities in our parish. The **Jesus Patrol** is a group of parishioners that will do anything around the parish. They have gutted offices, painted, moved just about everything and helped with landscaping. The list is endless. They have a lot of fun and love having new people willing to help. Contact Person for both or these groups is: John Riley 419 668-4795

SACRAMENTAL

The **St. Paul Baptism Ministry Team** meets with parents to explore the implications of the Sacrament of Baptism for them and their children. Team members facilitate the parent sessions and assist at the baptism ceremony. Initial training is provided for team members. Contact Person: Marian Bermudez 419 668-6044.

The **Engaged Couples** is a ministry of married couples assisting those who are preparing for the sacrament of marriage in the Catholic Church. The objective of this ministry is to draw from the wisdom and life experience of our married couples, so that these may be shared and passed on to those preparing for marriage. Initial training is provided. Contact Person: Marian Bermudez 419 668-6044.

The First Reconciliation/First Communion Ministry Team helps with the preparation of our parish children and their families for these "first" sacraments. Two "Family Gatherings" for each sacrament are held at the Parish Center. The Gatherings consist of meals together, child and family activities, and parent meetings. Volunteers are needed to serve meals, make reminder calls, baby-sit younger family members, and help with children's activities. Contact Person: Marian Bermudez 419 668-6044.

The **Confirmation Ministry Team** helps with the preparation of young people of the parish for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Four Confirmation Candidate/Sponsor Gatherings are held in the Parish center. The gatherings consist of candidate/sponsor activities, and retreat-like prayer and reflection elements. Volunteers are needed to make reminder phone calls. Contact Person: Marian Bermudez 419 668-6044.

The RCIA is a Liturgical/Catechetical process designed to prepare adults for initiation into the faith community and for the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Parish members are needed to help in various ministries of the RCIA: as sponsors, catechists, and hospitality ministers. Contact Person: Fr. Eric Mueller 419 668-6044.

OUTREACH

Child Care: The St. Paul Key Club provides babysitting services for parents with young children at the 9:00 AM Sunday Masses each weekend during the school year. The ministry is held in the Upper Room of the Parish Center. Parents wishing to use the service simply need to bring their children to the Upper Room before the 9:00 AM Mass. Students should contact Mrs. Nickoli for more information. Child Care is also available on Monday evenings and Friday mornings. Contact Person: Dina Lukasko 419 668-5269.

The Communications Team *informs, teaches, promotes and communicates interactions that are occurring within the parish. They do this through the monthly newsletter, the church brief in the newspaper, the bulletin, and flyers.* Contact Person: Geri Dow 419 668-6044.

The Health Ministry Team *is made up of volunteer nurses, doctors, and caring people willing to help our St. Paul congregation by promoting good health practices. The Health Ministry Team focuses on wellness and disease prevention and takes a holistic approach to help the community of God's people. The team meets monthly to discuss the health needs of the St. Paul community.* Contact Person: Peggy Lonz 419 668-9367.

MOMS - Ministry of Mothers Sharing This ministry is designed to support and affirm women who are also mothers. Throughout history, countless women have shared the joy and miracle of bringing new life into the world. Those who have taken the time to reflect on their experiences and share their stories have realized more fully the sacredness of their call to motherhood and the challenge of personal spiritual growth. Check the newsletter and bulletin to see when MOMS is offered. Contact Person: Marian Bermudez 419 668-6044.

Our **St. Vincent de Paul Society** has been part of this international charitable organization since 1955, providing assistance for the less fortunate in our local community. They meet every week throughout the year to review each application received, determine what financial help can be given, and what referrals are available that also could be of help. So many desperately need someone who cares, who will listen, and who are willing to share their burden. It is during this time we can let them know God's love exists, and He can have a direct impact on their lives. Please contact the Parish Office at 419 668-6044 for more information.

The **Social Concerns Ministry Team** meets monthly to plan, implement and evaluate programs to educate the parish and community on the resources and opportunities to help those in need locally, nationally, and internationally. The team identifies specific opportunities to help people in need in our community and organizes responses to those needs. To participate on the outreach Action Team responding to specific needs, contact Marian Bermudez 419 668-6044.

The **SERRA Club** fosters vocations to priesthood and religious life and increases the spiritual growth of its members. The club supports vocations by supporting those who already serve the church and by encouraging vocations through prayer, education and collaboration with the bishop and the diocesan vocations office. The group meets monthly at St. Mary's rectory. Contact Person: Dick Alge 419 668-1830.

Widows/Widowers Group (WOW) This is a group of widows and widowers that meet socially once a month. Come enjoy laughter, fellowship, great food and lots of fun. Contact Person: Diane Wiles 419 660-5813.

St. Paul Shut-in Transportation helps transport those who are homebound and unable to drive or find a ride to church. This service is available for the 9:00 AM Mass on Sunday mornings and on Holy Days. If you are interested in driving or if you can use this service please call the parish office at 419 668-6044.

The St. Paul Welcoming Ministry Team plans programs to welcome new members to the parish, reach out to inactive members, and educate the parish on how “all of us” can be a welcoming community. The team organizes the “welcomer ministry” - parishioners who volunteer to serve as role models of hospitality at Mass and other parish events. Parishioners who wish to volunteer as “welcomers”, may contact Carol Chandler at 419 668-6044. Initial training is provided.

The St. Paul Youth Ministry Team - SPARK meets monthly to plan events and activities for all the high school age youth of the parish. Youth nites, service projects (Make A Difference Day), concerts, Heartland Youth Gatherings, and special liturgies are part of this ministry. Adult and youth members are needed. “A Renewed Vision of Youth Ministry” by the U.S. Bishops is used for training new members. Contact Person: Sara Fitzgerald 419-668-6044.

SPARK is for high school students in grades 9-12. They enjoy in-depth Catholic faith discussions and fun service activities. SPARK is a relaxed and fun setting to learn more about you and your Catholic faith. Contact Person: Sara Fitzgerald 419 668-6044.

Norwalk Catholic Schools-NCS

Catholic education is a very important ministry of the Catholic Church and an important part of St. Paul Parish. There are many opportunities for ministry work in the NCS. Volunteers are welcome on a daily basis to help with lunch duty, playground supervision, crossing guard duty, and in the classrooms. Many organizations exist to support various portions of the school program; FCEDO, Boosters, School Advisory Board, PTO, Champions of Education (Academic Booster Club), and individual sports groups, i.e. football moms. Parish members ensure that the mission and vision of the NCS is carried out by their involvement in and support of these groups. You are cordially invited to become actively involved with the ministry of NCS.

Norwalk Catholic School Administration

Walter Klimaski	President
Cindy McLaughlin	Early Childhood Center Director
Valerie French	Elementary Principal
James Tokarsky	Junior High/High School Principal
Fr. Eric Mueller	Chaplain
Chris Baker	Business Manager
Sue Riley	FCEDO Director