

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF THE BLESSED TRINITY

PARISH MINISTRIES

We serve God and neighbor through our God-given gifts.



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author

I am only one, but still, I am one.

I cannot do everything, but still,

I can do something.

And because I cannot do everything,

I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.

Why do we promote Parish Ministries?

Because we recognize the generosity of God who has given each of us unique gifts and talents, that each of us could and should use to serve God and neighbor. Our parish ministries exist because we must recognize the needs in our parish and local communities, and afterwards, seek to timely and generously respond to these needs through our God-given time, talent, and treasure.

How Should I get involved in Parish Ministries?

First and foremost, *pray*. Ask God to help you become more aware of the gifts that He has given you—time (availability), talents (serving, teaching, organizing community activities, welcoming, reading, etc.) and treasure (how do you support the mission of Jesus through our parish – monetary, goods?). CCBT welcomes any individuals wishing to assist us, even those who are seasonal!

Second, read through this brochure and see if anything speaks to your time and talents. If so, feel free to contact the person who is listed as the point person for that ministry. They will direct you as to how to become involved or offer you more information.

Third, take the time to *visit the 'ministry table'* in the parish hall during the ministry fair this coming Fall. (More information to come)

What is the time commitment when getting involved in a parish ministry?

Good question! At times, people choose to stay in one ministry or two. But it is good that after three years of active involvement in a parish ministry, one should start exploring what his/her God-given gifts are and what he/she can do with these gifts.

Note that in this brochure, our parish ministries are classified according to the five areas of parish life:

1. Liturgy and Sacramental Life
2. Membership and Community Life
3. On-Going Faith Formation
4. Social Ministry and Outreach
5. Stewardship (Parish Councils)

LITURGY AND SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Ministry of Welcoming (Greeters and Ushers)

Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God. – Romans 15:7

To a visitor, a greeter/usher provides the first impression of what a parish might be. Greeters and ushers welcome all who enter the church, assist them in locating seating, take up the collection, etc. Greeters and ushers must be attentive to the needs of the congregation during liturgical celebrations so that they may assist someone who becomes ill and call for medical assistance, if needed. A greeter/usher must be a welcoming person, able to greet graciously the Christ in others and is willing to sincerely engage with others.

For more information, contact Cathy Immerman (SMM) 315-594-8574 or Chuck VonHoltz (ST/SJ) 315-402-9519.

Ministry of Music

Hallelujah! Sing to the LORD a new song, His praise in the assembly of the faithful. – Psalm 149:1

We are looking for cantors to lead our congregations in singing. Music and singing enhance the religious experience of worshipers when praising God. If you were blessed with a beautiful singing voice, would you consider leading the congregation in prayerful song? We so need you to share your talent with us.

For more information, please contact Terry Van Fleet, Organist at SMM (315) 594-9505.

Ministry of Lector

The Lord God has given me a well-trained tongue that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them. – Isaiah 50:4

During the Liturgy of the Word at Mass, we believe that God continues to speak to His people. As such, the Word of God must be proclaimed with care so that people may hear the God who comforts and challenges. Lectors must have an articulate and clear speaking voice and must be willing to go over the readings and other resources that will help them prepare for the weekend Masses. Training and formation are provided. Children and youth are encouraged to lector both at the Youth Masses and regular Weekend Masses.

For more information, contact Kathy DeMass (ST/SJ) 315-341-8598 or Jill Lee (SMM) 315-744-4932 or talk to any lector after a weekend mass.

Altar Server

Serve the Lord with gladness... - Psalm 100:2

Serving at the altar is open to boys and girls in the parish who have completed 3rd grade and have received their First Holy Communion. This ministry enables our youth to gain deeper understanding and greater appreciation of the Mass – the source and summit of the Christian life – where they witness, close at hand, the self-sacrificing love of Jesus. This ministry teaches our youth responsibility, service and leadership.

During training, potential servers become familiar with the parts of the Mass, and the roles they undertake. Servers are scheduled for the weekend Masses. During the summer months and holy days, servers are encouraged to offer their time for our liturgical celebrations.

For more information, contact the parish office, 315-902-4130.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me. – Matthew 25:35-36

While bishops, priests, deacons and acolytes are the Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, there are instances when assisting ministers are called to help in distributing communion. For example: unduly long communion lines, inability of the priest to distribute communion, bringing communion to the sick/homebound. Communion ministers must be baptized and confirmed and are in good standing in the church. Formation, training and certification is provided.

For more information, contact the parish office, 315-902-4130.

Sacristans

Others were appointed to take care of the utensils and all the sacred vessels, as well as the fine flour, the wine, the oil, the frankincense, and the spices. - 1 Chronicles 9:29

As Christians, we find ourselves privileged to be invited to partake in the Supper of the Lamb. That the People of God may be properly nourished with Word and Sacrament, we prepare the sacred space where the liturgies are celebrated. Are you one who likes to prepare the table, a meal for your loved ones? Consider being a sacristan at daily and/or weekend Masses.

For more information, contact Eileen Bielemeier (SMM) 315-594-2385 or Marie Smith (ST/SJ) 315-591-1051.

MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNITY LIFE

Membership and Parish Life Committee

Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up. So then, while we have the opportunity, let us do good to all, but especially to those who belong to the family of the faith. – Galatians 6:9-10

God calls each of us unique members of His family. The presence of one is a gain for the entire faith community. Each has God-given gifts that could truly enrich our parish life

through our fellowship and friendship with one another. We plan & carry out activities like the Parish Picnic, Movie Night, and receptions for liturgical and sacramental celebrations. If you like to organize social events and to meet new people, this committee is for you!

For more information, contact Maryrose Balloni 315-378-7893.

Buildings and Grounds

By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches. – Proverbs 24:3-4

We welcome all who desire to assist in the general upkeep of the interior and exterior of our churches including light carpentry and painting, yard clean-up, snow removal and overall maintenance awareness.

For more information, call Paul Statskey (315) 398-0922.

Housekeeping/Altar Flowers

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.” – Col 3:23-24

Do you ever wonder how our church building never seems to get dirty or messed up or where the beautiful altar flowers come from? Indeed, the church does get messy; just like any other house, it needs to be cleaned regularly. And the flowers do not miraculously appear. Parishioners take their time and talents to provide that clean, adorned space that allows us to worship in a space worthy of our Lord. Truly it is a gift to spend time cleaning and “decorating” in front of our Lord – what a conversation you could have with only you and He present!

For more information, call Gary Berthold (flowers) (ST/SJ) 585-615-8146, Marie Smith (Housekeeping) (ST/SJ) 315-591-1051 or Eileen Bielemeier (Housekeeping) (SMM) 315-594-2385.

Coffee Hour (weekly @ ST)/ Monthly Dinners (monthly in the fall and winter @ SMM)

Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels. – Hebrews 13:2

We welcome parishioners and serve at the Coffee Hour after weekend Mass at St. Thomas in the fall, winter and spring. During that same timeframe SMM puts on monthly dinners after the Saturday evening liturgy. Both events are open to all parishioners of either parish. Do you have hospitality, time and talent? Looking to meet other parishioners? This might be for you. We work on a rotating basis for set-up, serving and clean-up. Sign up for as many or few times as you want. We always appreciate helping hands.

For more information contact: Maryrose Balloni (ST/SJ) 315-378-7893 or Jill Lee (SMM) 315-744-4932.

Catholic Daughters of the America (CDA)

For Wisdom is mobile beyond all motion, and she penetrates and pervades all things by reason of her purity. – Wisdom 7:21-24

Founded in 1903, the CDA is one of the largest national organizations of Catholic women in the world dedicated to strengthening women's spiritual life through Christ and his Church, support the Holy Father and the Clergy, encourage vocations, participate in right to life activities, promote educational contests, support women and children in need, promote patriotic activities. St. Joseph the Worker Parish has an active group and would be very happy to include any interested women from our parish. Please call St. Joseph's parish office for more information 315-902-4130 or Sharon Ferindino (SJTW) 315- 923-7151.

Men's Group

I urge you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship. -Romans 12:1-2

Blessed Trinity Men's Group is an informal group offering a warm and inclusive space for lay Catholic men to come together, build connections and foster fellowship through prayer and scripture. It provides an ideal setting for meaningful conversations and the sharing of insights on topics relevant to men in the Church. Individuals can openly address common challenges they encounter in their daily lives and collaboratively explore prayer and faith-based strategies to overcome these obstacles. While other Catholic men's groups emphasize ministry and spirituality or service, we remain focused on fellowship and scripture as our core.

For more information, contact Bob Lee 315-744-4933.

Women's Book Group

For where there are two or three gathered in my name, I am there in the midst of them. -Matthew 18:20

The Women's Book Group gathers on Friday mornings to read and discuss a chosen book which encourages spiritual growth and Catholic maturity in current times. It includes faith-sharing, laughter, prayer, and fellowship in a welcoming and safe environment.

For more information contact Jill Lee 315-744-4932.

Leadership in Prayer

On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. - Psalm 145:5

Prior to each mass our parishioners are led in the recitation of the rosary. This requires someone willing to stand before the congregation to lead the scripted prayers of the rosary. Furthermore, every Tuesday evening throughout the year adoration takes place at SMM church. This requires the church door to be unlocked/locked, lights turned on/off, etc. There would be rotating schedules of when people would be needed at their convenience for either role via sign-up sheets.

For more information call Cathy Immerman (SMM) 315-594-8574 or Marie Smith (Rosary, ST/SJ) 315-591-1051.

Martha Ministry

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. - Revelation 14:13

Through the Martha Ministry, our parish accompanies those who through death, have lost a loved one. Our presence and service seek to bring comfort to the family of the deceased in a time of grief. We fulfill the last of the corporal works of mercy by assisting at the funeral liturgy, and, if requested, we help prepare and serve at the reception after the funeral mass. For the reception, members of the Martha Ministry may need to supply the following: salads, assorted breads and cookies, casseroles, relish trays and condiments.

For more information, contact Kathy DeMass, 315-341-8598.

Caring Card Ministry

"Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others." - Phil. 2:4

Reaching out to others in need is one of the spiritual works of mercy. One can comfort the sick, the grieving, the lonely by letting them know our parish cares about what they are going through. The "caring card ministry" does just that when, from the comfort of their own home, parishioners send out an appropriate card to an individual in need. Do you have a few minutes to spare to send off a card to a fellow parishioner?

For more information contact Karen Kaindl, 315-559-9079.

ON-GOING FAITH FORMATION

On-Going Faith Formation Committee

Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope. – 1 Peter 3:15

To love God and to learn about Him and His Church is a journey of a lifetime. It is a journey we take under the guidance of Jesus Christ, the best revealer of who God is and he himself not only instituted the Church, but he also even closely identifies with her. Are you one who is fascinated by the Christian faith? Have you experienced concrete and valuable lessons in your journey of faith that might help others in their own journey? Consider being part of the On-Going Faith Formation Committee, to help plan and implement timely, meaningful and practical programs such as Advent/Lenten programming or retreats.

For more information, call Kathy DeMass (ST/SJ) 315-341-8598 or Susie Gallo (SMM) 585-703-0813.

Catechists (Religious Ed., Sacramental Preparation, Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults [RCIA])

And what you heard from me through many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will have the ability to teach others as well. -2 Timothy 2:2

We receive the valuable gift of faith, like a baton, and it is passed on from one generation to another. It is by our lived faith in Jesus Christ that we are transformed to become light of the world and salt of the earth. Catechists may work with children or teens for religious education and sacramental preparation, or with adults in the RCIA program. Supervision and resources are

provided. Catechists must have profound gratitude for the gift of our Christian Catholic faith and must joyfully give witness to the same faith.

For more information, contact the Parish Office at 315-902-4130.

Youth Ministry

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." – Matthew 19:14

While there are no formal programs currently, for youth @ CCBT we wish to be open to the potential needs of our youth providing them with programming that understands and suits their needs. Sharing resources with other parishes enables us to offer such programming and retreats. If you wish to assist in youth ministry programs or have a child who has an interest in such programming, please contact the parish office for directions.

Please note that volunteers need to be CASE trained.

SOCIAL MINISTRY AND OUTREACH

Social Ministry Committee

Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me. – Matthew 25:40

In Christ, we live not for ourselves but live for, and serve, others. Through the Parish Social Ministry, we can connect to our local communities: to know and seek to address the needs of our brothers and sisters. We coordinate parish participation in, but not limited to, such programs/activities as Care Net, Family Promise, Walking with Moms, Health and Hygiene Collection for Schools, Financial Assistance, Migrant Ministry, Winter Hat and Mitten Drive, visiting the sick and homebound and supporting the local Community Clothing Center located in Wolcott. Be the hands and feet of Christ.

For more information contact: Jill Lee (Community Clothing Center) 315-74-4932, Marie Smith 315-591-1051 or Pam AuClair 315-529-2742.

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship Committee

As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace. – 1 Peter 4:10

As Christians, we are entrusted with the Good News of Jesus Christ and with active participation in his mission. In addition to being disciples and missionaries, we too as stewards, place our God-given gifts of time, talent and treasure, at the service of God and His Church. Are you one who is thankful for your God-given gifts? Are you one who is happy to share your blessings with others? Consider joining the Stewardship Committee and help plan and implement strategies to encourage generous sharing to promote the mission of Jesus Christ through our parish. Or consider participating as a money counter for the Sunday collections.

For more information, contact the Parish Office 315-902-4130.

PARISH COUNCILS

While the parish pastoral and finance councils are governed by diocesan guidelines and parish by-laws, membership is open through parish nomination or by invitation from the pastor or current pastoral council member OR by general invitation for anyone interested in serving made during the announcements at mass.

Parish Pastoral Council

The Pastoral Council (PC) is a consultative body to the pastor. Its members actively help promote the mission of the parish by identifying parish needs and concerns and providing recommendations through attentive communication with the parishioners and the pastor. The diocese promotes the existence of pastoral councils in parishes. Members must be active in parish life, committed to prayer, discernment, and dialogue. The council meets once a month.

For more information, contact the current PC Chairperson or call the Parish Office 315-902-4130.

Parish Finance Council

In addition to providing spiritual care, the parish must look into attending to its temporal goods. The responsibility is entrusted to the pastor, with the parish finance council as a consultative body. To the council is entrusted the responsibility of helping the pastor plan, review and approve the budget and finance statements, care for the buildings and grounds, and promote stewardship in the parish. Members often have some background in finances, banking, business, investments or law. The council meets at least four times a year.

For more information, contact Doug Jablonski 315-594-6962.

Prayer for Discernment

*Lord our loving God and Father,
Grant that we may allow ourselves to be guided by you to
follow your plans and to accomplish your will.*

*Help us to be open, to hear, to accept, and to respond to your
promptings of love so that we may freely
and willingly do your will.*

*Send your Holy Spirit to our parish – in our minds, to show us
what you desire of us; in our hearts, to give us the courage to
obey you; and in our bodies, to love you and one another with
all our strength, every moment of our life.*

*May we be so open to your guidance that we become living
instruments of your healing love and joyful and gentle
presence in our world.*