



2005-2006 Ministry Guide



St. Peter the Apostle Roman Catholic Church

445 Fifth Avenue
River Edge, New Jersey
201-261-3366
www.saint-peter.org

Mission Statement

In faithful **STEWARDSHIP**

To the mission of Jesus Christ,
St Peter the Apostle Parish commits itself to:

- Proclaiming the Gospel
- Celebrating the Liturgy of joy and thanksgiving
- Building a welcoming Community
- Serving the needs of our neighbors with special care for the poor and marginalized and
- Reaching out, inviting all to share this journey

In keeping with the archdiocesan mandate and out of our own concern for all of our children, we advise all parishioners of the existence of the program **Protecting God's Children**, participation in which is mandatory for all those who regularly minister to/with children (defined as all those below the age of 18).

If you are involved in any such ministry, you **MUST** attend this program, receive a certificate of completion, and participate in a background check. Three-hour training sessions are held at various times throughout the year, at this and other parish sites.

In addition, we urge ALL parishioners to attend this training program when it is offered, so that we all may do our utmost to Protect God's Children from harm.

For further information contact: Program Coordinator, Child Safety Officer - Donna Cirino, Youth Minister 201-261-3366 or email: youthgroupmrsc@aol.com.

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A Message from Our Pastor

When I read this new version of St. Peter's Good Stewardship Ministry Guide, I couldn't be anything less than amazed and pleased to see all the things we do as Stewards of God's gift to us of Time, Talent, and Treasure. Each of us may know parishioners who are involved in one or more ministries, but when all of St. Peter's ministries are compiled in one place, I really see how alive and vibrant this parish is. I offer my sincerest thanks to all those who give of their precious Time and Talent to help spread God's word throughout our community. St. Paul speaks in 1 Timothy 6:17-18 "Let them trust in the God who provides us richly with all things for our use. Charge them to do good, to be rich in good works and generous, sharing what they have."

The Ministry Guide is a resource for everyone in the parish. It is part of our ongoing effort to raise the awareness of Stewardship as an integral part of the fiber of the parish. New families joining the parish will find it useful in orienting themselves to what goes on in our parish community. Those who have heard God speaking to them in their hearts will use it to find ways to give back to others a share of the gifts God has given them. And we hope it will serve as a resource for everyone by fostering dialogue and ideas about what new ministries St. Peter's may need to offer.

Be sure to look at the section on how to identify your Talents. This should help you get past the biggest stumbling block most people have when we talk about Time and Talent - "I don't have any special talents, so how can I give back any?" We all have special Talents and skills, but we may need help in identifying them.

There is one ministry not listed here that we all should belong to. It's the ministry of prayer. Our parish and the larger church need your prayers on a daily basis. We need you to pray for lay leadership in the church. Pray that God will help all of us discover our Talents and give us the strength to come forward and use those Talents. Pray also for vocations, wisdom for church leaders, and that all those who minister to others in the name of the church will do so with compassion and caring.

The Ministry Guide will be available in the "Take One" rack in the Gathering Space. It will be given to all new members of the parish and copies will also be in the Parish Office. Please take one and if you find it useful, spread the word to others in the parish. I'm also interested in your comments about the guide, Stewardship, and our ministries at St. Peter's. Feel free to talk to me or any priest after Mass.

Yours in the love of the Lord

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Msgr. Robert A. DiPietro". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial 'R'.

How to use the Guide

What's the best way to use this Ministry Guide?

To be successful, start at the beginning. Read the definitions of Time, Talent, and Treasure provided below. Do the Self-Assessment. Read the descriptions of each Ministry. And most important, pray and ask God to help you decide how you can make the best use of the gifts of Time, Talent, and Treasure that He gave you.

What exactly is meant by the Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure?



Stewardship of Time- God gives us 8,760 hours each year. Most of the hours go to sleeping, working, taking care of the house, watching the kids, cleaning, cooking and so many other things that are part of our daily routine. After you subtract the hours for 'what has to be done', you're left with some hours of 'disposable' time – the time you can actually choose to do with as you please. A Steward of Time will say I'm going to make good use of these 'disposable' hours. I'm going to read a book, take a course, join that ministry at church, take a vacation, pray, play with the kids, go visit an elderly relative, call an old friend, or just take time to stop and smell the roses. A Steward of Time understands that each of us can get caught up in the 'what I have to do' part of life and not spend enough time on the care and feeding of our own needs – physical, emotional, and spiritual.



Stewardship of Talent – I'm pretty special in God's eyes. He loves me enough to give me gifts that no one else has. A Steward of Talent works to identify his or her gifts and talents and then acts on them. For every superstar athlete, there are a lot of regular folks who make the world a better place each day, one small step at a time. Don't ever say God didn't give me any special talents. He created you in His likeness. That alone makes you special. Take a look at the assessment form in this Guide for help on how to identify your Talents. And pray to God, asking Him to help you identify your special gifts. God will ask us "How did you make the best use of the Talents I gave you?" We need to be prepared for that question.



Stewardship of Treasure – We came into this world with nothing and we will leave this world with nothing. God will ask us, "What did you do with the Treasure you earned? Were you a good Steward and how did you use your Treasure to help my church and the community around you?" How will we respond? A Steward of Treasure understands that he/she can enjoy the fruits of his/her labor but must also see and respond to the needs of others and God's church. Is our need for the latest electronic gadget stronger than the need of a family who struggles to put food on the table? God won't ask about how many clothes you had in your closet, but He will ask how many people you helped to clothe.

Why are the Ministry descriptions broken down the way they are?

The Guide uses four groupings or clusters to describe like Ministries. They are:

- ***Ministries of Community Building*** – these ministries bring us together to help serve and grow as God’s people. We are called to be a community of believers.
- ***Ministries of Service*** – in our service to others, we help our community and ourselves.
- ***Ministries of the Word*** – we can grow in our faith by better understanding our Sacraments and evangelizing them to others. We are called to ‘Go and Make Disciples’. These ministries help us understand who we are and what we believe.
- ***Ministries of Worship*** – the Sunday Liturgy is the highlight of our spiritual week. These ministries work to make our Liturgies things of beauty.

What do I do after I’m done reading the Ministry Guide?

That’s simple. Pray to God for guidance. Then complete the Commitment form at the back of the Guide. It doesn’t have to be handed in, it’s a personal commitment between you and God.

What else should I look for in the Guide?

Look at the Ministries that serve special needs and all the other information about the Parish, our Mission Statement, and the various Councils that are active. Each part is there to help you better understand your role and responsibility as a Steward of your God given Time, Talent, and Treasure.

Mass Schedule and Spiritual Services

Mass Schedule (Celebration of the Eucharist)

On the Lord's Day:

- Saturday: 5:30 p.m.
- Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m. (A Senior Bus runs for the 11:00 a.m. Mass)

Daily:

- Monday through Friday: 8:00 and 11:15 a.m.
- Saturday morning: 9:00 a.m.

Holy Day and Special Masses

- Please see the weekly bulletin or parish website, www.saint-peter.org, for details.

Sacrament of Reconciliation It is good to celebrate and receive this sacrament frequently.

- Saturday: 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Holy Matrimony

A marriage requires a solid foundation based on faith, mutual trust and respect. If you are planning on receiving the Sacrament of Marriage, you must meet with a parish priest and attend Pre-Cana. It is best to select a wedding date about a year ahead.

Contact the Parish Office (Rectory) to arrange a wedding date and to schedule a meeting with a parish priest/deacon.

Sacrament of the Anointing of Sick

This sacrament may be received more than once and is for any person who has become ill and is in danger of subsequent sickness. The elderly are especially encouraged to receive this sacrament as is anyone facing a major surgery, a serious illness or who has been afflicted for a long time. Watch the parish bulletin for the announcements for the celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick in Church. In case of a serious illness at home or in the family, contact the Parish Office immediately and request a priest come to administer this sacrament at home.

Hospital Visits

If someone in your family is confined to home or in the hospital or in a nursing home, please contact the Parish Office to arrange a visit by one of the priests of the parish.

Vocations

If you feel you possibly are being called to act as Christ's Priest or Religious, call the Diocesan vocation office at 973-497-4365 or e-mail kellybcr@rcan.org, or speak with a parish priest. If you know someone who might make a good priest, deacon or religious discuss it with a parish priest. Continue to pray for vocations.

Sacraments of Initiation

Baptism

Baptismal preparation sessions are held Saturday mornings four times during the year. Baptisms are held on selected Sundays of the year usually at 2:00 PM, although several times throughout the year they are celebrated during a Sunday Mass.

Please see the weekly bulletin or the parish website, www.saint-peter.org, for the specific dates for both the Baptismal Preparation Session and for the Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism.

Contact the Parish Office (Rectory) to arrange for Baptism and to register for the next Baptismal Preparation Session.

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

Preparation for First Reconciliation begins in October and the sacrament is celebrated on a Saturday in January. Preparation for First Eucharist begins in February and the sacrament is celebrated at Masses during the Easter Season.

To be enrolled in the Sacramental Preparation Program for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist:

- you must be a registered parishioner of St. Peter the Apostle Parish.
- your child must have successfully completed one year of religious education and be currently enrolled in a religious education program at St. Peter's.
- your child must have a baptismal certificate on file in the Religious Education Office.
- you must attend the required parent meetings.

Contact the Religious Education Office to register your child for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

Confirmation

The sacrament of Confirmation is administered to candidates of St. Peter the Apostle Parish who have faithfully participated in the preparation period.

REMOTE PREPARATION

- attended Religious Education Classes from grades 1 through 8
- are knowledgeable about the basic doctrine of the Church - (Sacraments, Commandments, Beatitudes, Creed, Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy)

IMMEDIATE PREPARATION

- attend all team meetings during the sacramental preparation
- participate in the Christian Service Project Program
- attend and participate in weekly Eucharist, scheduled retreats and any other special events
- meet with one of the parish priests or staff member prior to celebrating Confirmation.

Contact the Religious Education Office to register a child for instruction in preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Religious Education

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a process:

- For persons who have never been baptized,
- For persons who have been baptized in other Christian Churches and want to become members of the Catholic Church
- For Catholics who have been baptized but never received the Sacraments of Confirmation and/or Holy Eucharist.

Call 201-265-6019, e-mail religed@optonline.net or write with your questions about St. Peter's RCIA Program.

Office of Religious Education (Preschool through Grade 8)

The goal of St. Peter's Religious Education Program is to teach our children from preschool through eighth grade a "living conscious and active faith."

For Pre School and Grades 1 through 6: Classes run from September to May

- Sunday Morning: 9:30 - 10:30: Pre-School
- Sunday Morning: 10:45 - 12:00: Grades 1 through 6
- Monday Afternoon: 3:30 - 4:45: Grades 1 through 6

For Grades 7 and 8: Classes are arranged in two 8-week semesters running October through December *and* February through March

- Monday Evening: 7:00 - 9:00: Grades 7 and 8
- A two-week summer program that meets Monday through Friday, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. is also offered.

Contact Religious Education office at 201-265-6019 or send an email to religed@optonline.net to register a child.

Counseling and Support Service

St. Peter's Counseling Services

This service provides counseling, assessment and referral services to individuals, couples and families on a wide range of common issues. It offers a professional and holistic approach, which includes psychological, social and spiritual components, for people seeking to cope with a wide range of mental health problems in today's society. The first assessment session is available at no cost to parishioners of St. Peter the Apostle Parish. Fees for this service are determined by a sliding scale based upon income and ability to pay.

Contact Mary Bertani, L.M.E.T., and a licensed therapist. She can be reached by calling 201 262 4636.

Support Groups

St Peter's offers support through several ministries, which deal with a difficult life situation. These ministries offer peer to peer relationships to assist an individual in coping with situations such as illness, loss of a loved one, miscarriage, being homebound, a divorce, family member who's addicted, loss of a job.

Contact the Ministry Coordinators listed in this guide for further information.

Parish Committees

Pastoral Council of Ministries

The Pastoral Council of Ministries' purpose is to ensure that the life of the Parish reflects the mission of Jesus and that all parishioners are provided with the opportunity to share in that mission. Parishioners are invited and encouraged to contact members of the Pastoral Council with your ideas and concerns about St. Peter the Apostle Parish. Members will bring your comments to the Pastoral Council meetings for discussion.

Finance Council

The Finance Council is a group of professionals and business people appointed by the Pastor who oversee the financial well being of the parish. The Finance Council will formulate the parish's operating budget, monitor ongoing expenses, and provide guidance to the Pastor in long range planning for repairs and improvements to the parish physical plant.

Stewardship Council

The Stewardship Council is responsible for raising and maintaining the awareness of each parishioner's responsibility as a Steward of our God given Time, Talent, and Treasure. We were born into this world with nothing and everything we have and earn during our lifetime is a gift from God. The Stewardship Council works to remind us of our responsibility to give back to the Church and community a portion of the Time, Talent, and Treasure with which God has blessed us. Stewardship is a basic part of our Catholic faith and should be woven into our daily lives and the work of each ministry.

Evangelization Commission

The Evangelization Commission reviews and evaluates all aspects of parish life, ministries, and activities as an "Evangelizing Parish" in light of our Mission Statement and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) document "Go and Make Disciples."

How to Determine Areas of Interest

A First Step in Parish Ministry – Your Personal Self Assessment

Everything we have - our Time, Talent, and Treasure is a gift from God. As Stewards, God calls us to manage our gifts wisely and use them to help our families, our church community and all those in need.

It's important to know what gifts God has given us and often we have difficulty identifying what those gifts are. Use this form to help identify the special skills and abilities you have. Your ministry experience will be much more satisfying if there is a good match between your skills and abilities and the tasks that a Ministry does.

What is my occupation, vocation, or profession?

What additional skills, talents, or interests do I have?

What are my hobbies? What do I like to do in my spare time?

What skills or talents do I have because of my hobbies?

What kinds of things have I always wanted to do but never took the time?

What skills, talents, or abilities do my family and friends tell me I have?

What are some specific needs of my parish that I know I could help with?

After you complete the form, think about what your answers tell you about yourself. Then share those thoughts with God in prayer – let Him lead you to what He wants you to do.

After prayer, compare your answers to the ministry descriptions that are listed in this guide. You should be able to find a ministry that matches your talents. Then give of your Time and Talent as generously as your situation allows. God's rewards will be bountiful.

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Community Sunday

What is Community Sunday?

Once a month, from September through May, parishioners are given an opportunity to come together to socialize and enjoy fellowship and refreshments.

These Sundays are sponsored by various parish ministries, and members of those ministries are on hand to answer parishioners' questions about their organization.

What is the time commitment?

Community Sunday is held after the 8, 9:30, and 11 a.m. Sunday Masses in the Parish Center, and will be announced in the bulletin the week before.

Who do I contact?

Rosemary & Gene Dunton, 201-265-3788

How do I join this ministry?

Just stop by for a cup of coffee.



CYO Basketball Program

What is the CYO Basketball Program?

The program is for boys from ages 5 to 18 and girls ages 5 to 13. It is active from November through March. St. Peter's enters teams in 2 leagues and in selected tournaments throughout the season.

What does this program do?

It gives over 200 children the opportunity to compete in the sport of basketball at their own respective level of talent and interest. There are practices and games which keep our new gym active 7 days per week during the season. Players improve their skills and grow in community with their peers. They acquire a sense of accomplishment and camaraderie as the season progresses.

This program also gives adults an opportunity to serve the parish as coaches.

What is required to become part of this program?

Children and adults need the time to attend practices and games as the schedule dictates.

Who do I contact ?

John Keena, 201-986-0805.
Any parish priest.

How do I join this program?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.

Sign up forms can be found on the parish website.



Festival Committee

What is the Festival?

The Festival is the annual parish picnic, which is usually held in June at Memorial Park in River Edge. A Festival Mass honoring our patron saint, St. Peter the Apostle, is celebrated on the feast day, June 29th.

What does the Festival Committee do?

Members of the committee meet 10 to 12 times between March and June to plan the picnic.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

You need a willingness to make the largest parish community building event of the year be successful. This includes your ideas for events for all members of the family. There are food, drinks, games, etc... You will need to coordinate picnic events and get parishioners to volunteer to prepare, staff, and clean up after events. In past years, many people have been happy to donate an hour or two to make this a fun event for all.

What is the time commitment?

You need to attend most of the planning meetings from March through June and be available during the full day of the picnic.

Who do I contact?

Kathy Nugent, 201-986-0922.
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Greeters

What is the Greeters Ministry?

It is made up of individuals, couples and families who welcome people as they enter the church for Mass and special liturgies.

What do Greeters do?

They extend hospitality, warmth, and information to all who enter the church.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

The ability to wish people a sincere welcome as they enter the church, and express the feeling of community to all who visit our parish.

What is the time commitment?

Generally members are asked to serve 1 or 2 Sundays per month at the Mass they are attending. Their service is 15-20 minutes prior to the start of the liturgy. One brief training session is required, which is provided at the parish.

Who do I contact?

Lu Sadloch, 201-845-0384
Any parish priest

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Marriage Ministry

What is the Marriage Ministry?

It is a ministry for couples who want to grow their marriage by deepening their faith in God.

What does Marriage Ministry do?

Twice a year it hosts Pre-Cana for couples in the archdiocese who are preparing for marriage. Married couples share their experiences on communication, family life, sexuality, and marriage as a sacrament.

The Marriage Ministry will soon be offering opportunities for married couples to enrich their marriage in the light of their Christian faith.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

A willingness to share your marriage experiences for the benefit of others is needed for this ministry.

What is the time commitment?

The Pre-Cana program consists of 2 sessions, (Friday night and Sunday afternoon) twice per year. There may also be planning sessions.

Who do I contact?

Penny and Michael Muccia, 201-265-0915.
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



MoMS Ministry

What is the MoMS Ministry?

This is a Ministry of Mothers Sharing. They share their time and talents with one another and also with those who are less fortunate. The group holds many social and special events throughout the year, with and without children.

What does the MoMS Ministry do?

Some of the events are Koffee & Kids, Pumpkin Picking, Halloween Party, Christmas Party, Easter Party, Pot Luck Supper, Holiday Cookie Swap, Clothing Exchanges, Adopt a Family, and Wine and Cheese Party. They also have a book club and are always adding new activities.

What is required to become a part of this ministry?

You need a desire to share with other mothers and also to serve the community.

What is the time commitment?

You need to be a contributing member of the group as your time and schedule permit. Your participation will be a welcome addition to the group.

Who do I contact?

Teresa Swanzey, 201-836-3199 or Maria Small, 201-967-0486
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interest and concerns.



The NetWorker

What is The NetWorker?

It is the newsletter of St. Peter the Apostle Parish. It is published 4 or 5 times per year, between September and June.

What does it do?

The NetWorker is a source of information and features a variety of articles on St. Peter's parishioners and other stories of interest to families, youth, married, and singles.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

Parishioners who are interested in contributing to the newsletter are always welcome to come to an editorial meeting scheduled from September to May.

Parishioners can also write a piece and send it in to the Parish Office care of The NetWorker for consideration for publication.

What is the time commitment?

Your time is commensurate with your level of interest.

Who do I contact?

Pam Lobley, 201-261-5678.
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interest and concerns.

Rosary Society



What is the Rosary Society?

The Rosary Society honors the Blessed Mother by coming together in a loving, spiritual, and social environment. It is open to all women of the parish.

What does the Rosary Society do?

They meet usually on the third Monday of each month from September through May, from 7:15 p.m. to 9 p.m. to pray the Rosary and hear speakers. They also have a yearly retreat and help the parish with various charities throughout the year.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

The desire to honor the Blessed Mother and share social and service time with other women of the parish.

What is the time commitment?

You may attend monthly meetings, the annual retreat, and charity events, as you are able.

Who do I contact?

Joan Osterloff, 201-265-1378.
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.

Travel Club - Exploring God's Creation



What is the Travel Club?

It gives people the opportunity to travel to various places and meet new people. Trips are offered about four times a year. Some trips are one day excursions and others may be a week or longer.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

A desire to travel and meet new people is all you need.

What is the time commitment?

Travel as much or as little as you like depending on your interest and availability.

Who do I contact?

Father German, 201-261-3366.

How do I join this ministry?

Call Father German



Welcome Ministry

What is the Welcome Ministry?

The Welcome Ministry is a group of parishioners who host a Welcome Breakfast for new parishioners twice a year. The breakfasts usually are held after the 9:30 a.m. Mass on a Sunday morning.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

You must have an interest in welcoming newcomers to our parish.

What is the time commitment?

There are no more than 2 meetings per year to plan the breakfasts. In addition to attending the breakfasts, preparations include sending out invitations, making phone calls, and purchasing food.

Who do I contact?

Joanne Mitchell-George, 201-342-3926.
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Youth Ministry (Youth Group)

What is the Youth Ministry?

The Youth Ministry is a combination of two Youth Groups. It is for students in grades 7 through 12. This ministry gives teens a safe environment in which to socialize and grow in their faith.

What does the Youth Ministry do?

The Youth Group meets on Sundays from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Teens can also go on retreats, take trips (for example: World Youth Day, Great Adventure, and Youth Conferences). The group does service projects and even sponsor its own retreat - Antioch.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

Teenagers: You must be in grades 7-12 and have an interest in growing in faith through association with other teens with similar interests. You should also be interested in helping the parish and in overall community service.

Adults: You should be interested in working with the youth of the parish. This can vary from helping out at meetings, working on particular events, or chaperoning a trip.

What is the time commitment?

Teenagers: You should generally be available to attend meetings and events as your time and interests allow.

Adults: You should be available to help with certain events or address particular needs.

Who do I contact?

Donna Cirino, 201-261-3366 or email: youthgroupmrsc@aol.com.
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.

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Advent Giving Tree

What is the Advent Giving Tree?

As a combined effort between the Social Concerns Committee and the Religious Education Confirmation process, our parishioners help bring Christmas joy to many families and individuals in need.

Several organizations within the local community, county and outside area send lists of gift requests for the individuals in their organizations. We also provide for families and individuals within the local community.

The Advent Giving Tree is placed in the Gathering Space on the First Sunday of Advent. Gift tags with specific requests are placed on the tree and parishioners are asked to take a tag, purchase the gift and bring it to the Gathering Space by a specified date, unwrapped, along with the tag. Collected gifts are then sorted by organization, wrapped and delivered.

What is the time commitment?

After the requests are received, gift tags are written and prepared in mid-November. Depending upon the number of volunteers, this could take a few hours to complete. Volunteers meet in the Parish Center.

Gift wrapping takes place on the two Sunday's before Christmas. We begin at 8:30 and wrap until 2:00 each of those days. Volunteers can sign up for the hours they are available to help. If volunteers are only available during the week, a schedule could be put in place.

Drivers are needed on the Monday before Christmas as some of the gifts have to be delivered to the organizations.

How does one participate?

One participates by helping to prepare the gift tags or volunteering to wrap gifts. You don't have to be a professional, just able to cut and tape. Bring a friend or two with you. If you are available during the day to drive, especially on the Monday before Christmas, your help is needed with the delivery of the gifts.

Who do I contact?

Chris Black, Religious Education Office - 201-265-6019 or religed@optonline.net
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



BeFriender Ministry

What is BeFriender Ministry?

BeFriender Ministry is a lay pastoral care program. That means specially trained lay persons enter into caring relationships with others at times of special need by visiting with them, being with them and bringing emotional and spiritual support.

What does BeFriender Ministry do?

BeFriender Ministry is a lay pastoral care service in which people from the community are trained and commissioned in the name of the parish. BeFrienders are just like you, having had ups and downs in their lives along with joys and sorrows. They visit and become companions to people who are going through difficult or transition times in their lives. Some of those situations might be older people, the homebound, or the lonely. It might also be someone who's trying to cope with a family member who's addicted or someone who is going through a divorce. BeFrienders are essentially listeners. They don't give advice. They are not counselors or therapists. All conversations are confidential. To sum it up, a BeFriender relationship comes into being for a specific purpose and for a limited time. It's a way for us to carry out our baptismal call to minister to one another. We all know that each of us needs "help" at one time or another to get through a difficult time in life. That's what BeFrienders are doing.

What is the time commitment?

A member of this ministry must be commissioned by the parish. This includes the completion of a 35-hour training course. Members participate in ongoing monthly training to improve their skills as a BeFriender. They also will spend time as a BeFriender, visiting with members of the parish as needs dictate.

Who do I contact?

Mary Bertani; 201-262-4636
Judy Cenicola; 201-843-4337
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Respect Life Committee

What is the Respect Life Committee?

The Respect Life Committee seeks to uphold and defend the humanity of the unborn child and to support all persons called to be responsible for the care of the unborn, as well as the elderly, terminally ill, or developmentally disabled. The goal is to help people realize the need to respect life in all its stages.

What does the Respect Life Committee do?

- Makes parishioners aware of alternatives to abortion and other important life issues.
- Provide material assistance to women and families in crisis pregnancies in the parish and in the greater community.
- Present and explain church teachings to young parishioners.

What is the time commitment?

The Respect Life Committee meets for one hour, 4-5 times a year.

Who do I contact?

Contact: Robert Ortiz, 201-370-0802 or robertortiz@hotmail.com
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Social Concerns: Core Committee

What does the Social Concerns Core Committee do?

- Meets on a regular basis to review the status of the various social concerns ministries.
- Makes recommendations to the pastor on the parish's out-tithing.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

- An open heart to prayerfully meet the needs of the poor, homeless, and marginalized as set forth in the parish's mission statement.
- Commitment to be involved with a social concerns ministry at St. Peter's.
- Make suggestions to the Core Committee of individuals or groups in need of funds. Distribution of funds is guided by the Statement of Principles drafted by the Core Committee.

What is the time commitment?

- Core Committee members meet approximately six (6) times a year. The meetings last approximately 1 ½ to 2 hours.

Who do I contact?

Steve Sahagian 201-265-9048 or e-mail:sahagiansos@aol.com
Paul Kazanecki 201-384-0192 or e-mail:pkaz56@optonline.net
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Advocacy for Peace and Justice

What is Advocacy for Peace and Justice?

Advocacy for Peace and Justice is an ongoing ministry that maintains current information on issues that impact social justice and poverty in the world. Members of this group use their gift of citizenship to write to Congress about legislation that has an impact on poor and hungry people in the U.S. and abroad.

What is the time commitment?

The time commitment varies for this ministry.

You can attend one archdiocesan information meeting to help organize a parish letter writing campaign. The core committee meets a few times a year to discuss changes in legislation and plan the parish's annual offering of Letters.

A parishioner can participate in Bread for the World's annual *Offering of Letters*. Members attend a 15-20 minute presentation on a given issue after any mass on once Sunday in April. They then write letters on their own.

Who do I contact?

Contact: Steven Citarella 201-265-1317
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.

or

In APRIL - ATTEND THE ANNUAL OFFERING OF LETTERS HELD IN THE PARISH CENTER



Back to School Drive

What is the Back to School Drive?

The back to school drive is an annual drive that collects school items or financial donations for needy school children. These items are assembled by parishioners for distribution by the Center for Food Action.

When is this drive held?

The drive is held during July and August after weekend Masses.

How can I help?

A parishioner can help in many ways.

- Donate needed supplies
- Assist in the collection of donations
- Assist in the organization and assembly of supplies.

Who do I contact?

Contact: Doris Richter 201-385-4490
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Bread for the Homeless

What is Bread for the Homeless?

Bread for the homeless is a group of parishioners who pick up baked good from CPC Baking in Totowa and/or Sacred Heart Parish in Rochelle Park and transport the products to Sacred Heart Parish in Jersey City for distribution to the homeless.

What is the time commitment?

Pick-ups are usually done on Friday mornings. Volunteers rotate in the schedule. The over-all time commitment is approximately 2 hours.

Who do I contact?

Contact: Ken Enyon 201-265-8945
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Food Drives

What are the Food Drives?

The food drives are held to support some of the outreach ministries and other organizations that request help. Financial contributions are also accepted for these purposes.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

Adults and teenagers are welcome to come and help sort food and paper items that are donated before and after Masses.

What is the time commitment?

The food drives are held three times a year.

Emergency food drives might be arranged and held when there is a special need due to a disaster.

Who do I contact?

Contact: Phil and Mary Ceppaglia 201-261-3415
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Harrison House

What is the Harrison House?

The Harrison House is a shelter in Paramus for men with AIDS. Once a month, a group of parishioners prepare and deliver dinner to eight residents.

What is the time commitment?

- Members are responsible for preparing their part of the meal and then someone in the group delivers the meal to the house.
- Members are assigned a cooking date on a rotating schedule but usually are only scheduled for 1-2 times a year.

Who do I contact?

Contact: Dottie Ogden 201-487-7105
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



KAIROS

What is KAIROS Prison Ministry?

KAIROS is an international Christian ministry that brings the Word of God to residents inside prisons.

What does this ministry do?

Clergy and members of the Christian Community visit prisons on a monthly basis and meet with residents. Our current KAIROS ministry visits Northern State Prison in Newark, N.J. and Rahway State Prison in Rahway, N.J. Our parishioners and the residents pray together, read the Bible, sing songs and reflect on the Word of God. Residents discuss how they have God in their lives. Discussions are "Christ Centered." Our guidelines stress "Love and Listen." We do not discuss the resident's backgrounds and we make no judgments.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

You have to be interested in spreading God's message to prison residents. The parish must sponsor you to file an application with the state of New Jersey that request access into this ministry and into the prisons. You must also take appropriate training that prepares you for this unique ministry.

What is the time commitment?

Members of this ministry visit prisons once per month. The visit is for 2 hours, plus travel time. Each of the above mentioned prisons permits one annual 4 day retreat within the prison. Ministry members exit the prison each day at the conclusion of their portion of the retreat. There is also specific training that must be completed prior to prison visits and interaction with the residents.

Who do I contact?

John Kampmann, 201-261-3366
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns?



Overflow Shelter

What is the Overflow Shelter?

The overflow shelter is an annual ministry that provides direct service to the poor. This ministry prepares dinner and serves as overnight hosts in St. Peter's gym to 8-10 homeless people. This takes place on Wednesdays in the month of June.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

Volunteers are needed in many different ways.

- Meal preparation; cooking, serving, clean-up
- Facility preparation; set-up and break-down of cots, tables and chairs
- Volunteers are needed to supervise through the nights.

Who can participate in this ministry?

In addition to adult volunteers, confirmation candidates are encouraged to participate in this ministry

What is the time commitment?

This takes place on Wednesdays in the month of June.

Who do I contact?

Dottie Ogden 201-487-7105
Mary Ellen Burns 201-483-8683
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



St. Martin's Kitchen

What is St. Martin's Kitchen?

St. Martin's Kitchen is a parish outreach program that feeds the poor and homeless at Sacred Heart Church in Jersey City. Volunteers from the parish have been participating in this mission since November 1995. Volunteers purchase, cook and serve a meal for as many as 240 men, women, and children each month.

What is the time commitment?

Parishioners can participate in this ministry on many different levels. Volunteers are needed to shop or bake or set-up serve and clean-up. The group assembles after the 9:00 a.m. Mass on the 2nd Saturday each month. They usually return to St. Peter's around 2:15 p.m.

Who can participate in this ministry?

In addition to adult volunteers, confirmation candidates and their parents are encouraged to participate. Some parishioners participate in this program as a family ministry. This makes St. Martin's Kitchen project one of the few intergenerational ministries of the Parish.

Who do I contact?

Deacon Ed Bowen, 201-599-3112
Jeanne Ryan 201-262-4958
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.

**VOLUNTEERS CAN PARTICIPATE IN THIS MINISTRY IN
MANY DIFFERENT WAYS. ADDITIONAL HELP TO PROVIDE
DIRECT SERVICE TO THE POOR IS ALWAYS WELCOMED.**



Turkey Drive

What is the Turkey Drive?

The turkey drive is held annually on the Saturday before Thanksgiving at St. Peter's parking lot. Frozen turkeys are collected for distribution by the Community Food Bank.

How can I help?

Adults and teenagers are needed to load the turkeys onto the truck.

Who do I contact?

Contact: Dottie and Sheridan Ogden 201-487-7105
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Walk-in Supper

What is the Walk-In Supper?

Six afternoons a year, St. Peter the Apostle parishioners provide a hot meal for approximately 100 poor and homeless people in Bergen County. Volunteers are needed to shop for food (all expenses paid by the church), cook the meal and serve it in Hackensack.

What is the time commitment?

The time commitment varies depending on the job you choose and how often you choose to participate in the program. Most of the time, the program is held on a Thursday.

Who do I contact?

Call Linda McShane 201-967-7349
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Stewardship

What does Stewardship do?

The Stewardship Committee coordinates the parish and each parishioner's response to the call by Jesus to be good Stewards of our Time, Talent, and Treasure. The Gospel tells us clearly that everything we have is a gift from God and that we are expected to manage our gifts for the betterment of the church, our local community, and the world at large. The Committee:

- Publishes a Ministries Booklet, which describes each ministry.
- Holds Ministries Fairs as needed to give exposure for existing parish ministries to the parish at large.
- Keeps the parish awareness of Stewardship in the forefront.
- Helps new ministries form and existing ministries recruit people as needed.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

- A committee member should understand that God didn't intend us to be individual, isolated figures. We are a community, both Church and civic, that needs each other to prosper and look to each other for help.
- If parishioners believe that they have a responsibility to use their God given Time, Talent, and Treasure to make the church and the world a better place, then they are candidates for this committee.
- But being a good Steward doesn't require you to be on a committee. On a one to one basis, a good Steward can make the world a better place by bringing a smile to the face of a senior, visiting the sick, coaching, singing in the choir, offering help or mentoring to others, listening, supporting your church and charities with your treasure, using your hands to make or fix something, writing, and praying.

What is the time commitment?

The committee meets according to the work at hand. Regular meetings may only occur once per month. Whenever possible, assignments can be worked on at home, without having a formal meeting.

Who do I contact?

Jim Cockefair 201-262-5612 jimvcw@verizon.net
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Support Group for Parents Who Have Lost Children

What is the support group?

This group offers help for all the special needs of those who have suffered the death of a child. It is an ongoing ministry and the loss does not need to be a recent loss.

When does the group meet?

Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Casazza Center in the Rectory.

Who do I contact?

Contact: Mary Davis 201-265-3688 (H) or 201-216-5400 (W)
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Support Group for the Divorced and Separated

What is the support group?

For many years, this St. Peter's support group has been devoted to helping people on a peer to peer basis who are coping with a divorce, loss of a spouse or persons who have never married. This warm and caring group of sincere people supplies generous support and friendship to its members. The group provides companionship for members through meetings, service involvements and social activities.

What is the time commitment?

This group meets every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Center for group discussions and/or speaker presentations.

Who do I contact?

Mary Sabino
201-261-8109
upnaway112@yahoo.com

Bob Setzer
201-712-9272
steinmaster@peoplepc.com

Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Work/Life Ministry

What is the Work/Life Ministry?

The Work/Life Ministry is devoted to helping individuals recognize the connection between their faith and their “work” life. This concept of spirituality in the work place is explored via our Catholic theology of work. Prayer and scripture reflection are an integral part of the sessions. The Work/Life Ministry serves the people of St. Peter the Apostle Parish and the surrounding communities.

What Does the Work/Life Ministry do?

The Work/Life Ministry offers a six-week workshop, focused on both the spiritual and practical aspects of searching for or considering a new career position. Spiritual issues include: finding meaning in our work, defining work, career and vocation, exploring the idea of servant leadership, etc. Some practical issues are: determining your marketability, resume preparation, the importance of networking, and more.

How Can I Participate?

This ministry is being revised. If you are interested in participating in a workshop, watch the parish bulletin for announcements.

If you are interested in being part of the leadership team speak with any of the contacts below.

Who do I contact?

Call Julie Burkey, 201-262-7990
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.

Ministries of the Word

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Alpha and Omega

What is ALPHA?

Alpha is a six-session course on the basic teachings of Christianity. It focuses on a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Alpha examines how we practice Christianity (prayer, reading the Bible) and looks at many of the hard questions—suffering, materialism, science and theology, and others with which we often struggle.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

Registering for Alpha simply means that you will try to attend all sessions. Obviously, that is sometimes not possible. We offer loan of a talk missed or the opportunity to attend a missed session at another time. Additionally, if you should feel that Alpha is not right for you...no hassle, we promise! There is a \$15.00 materials fee payable on the first evening.

What is the Time Commitment?

Just 6 weeks. Evenings begin at 7:00 pm with a simple supper where talk is informal, not necessarily “religion-talk”, followed by worship (prayer and song) and the evening’s talk—presented either live or on tape, followed by small group discussion—where you may gain insight by simply listening.

Who do I contact?

Brian and Eileen Hammel at: 201-265-8511 or by e-mail: LBI8@OPTONLINE.NET
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.

Watch for an announcement in the weekly parish bulletin or look on the parish website for more information and a downloadable registration form.

Team Information

In addition to attending the course, there is an *Alpha* Ministry Team that supports the offering of *Alpha*. Individuals on the team are those who have taken the *Alpha* course, and are moved to provide the experience for others. Team roles include: Small Group Discussion Leader, food pickup, dinner set-up, and greeters. Training for the team is provided.



Alpha and Omega (cont'd)

What is OMEGA?

OMEGA is a six (6) session course on what the Christian Life calls us to be. It focuses on what the purpose of the Church is and what our purpose is in the Church using essays, scriptures, and discussions.

It centers on the big problem in churches today, "People in the pews keeping the faith." Our faith is not meant to be "kept." It is meant to be "given" to someone else.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

Just register - hopefully you will find the program enjoyable and informative. But if you find the program is not for you and decide not to return that is okay too. No one will chase after you or pester you with phone calls. There is no fee.

What is the Time Commitment?

One evening per week from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. for six weeks. Each evening will begin with a simple supper where talk is informal, not necessarily "religion-talk".

Who do I contact?

Brian and Eileen Hammel at: 201-265-8511 or by e-mail: LBI8@OPTONLINE.NET
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.

Watch for an announcement in the weekly parish bulletin or look on the parish website for more information and a downloadable registration form.



Baptismal Ministry

What is the Baptismal Ministry?

This ministry devotes itself to preparing families for the celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism. Baptisms are celebrated each month except during the season of Lent

What is the time commitment?

There is a Baptismal Ministry Team that conducts the Baptismal preparation sessions. The team offers these sessions from 10 a.m. - 12 noon on four Saturday mornings during the year. The team provides hospitality at the sessions as well as greets and assists families.

Who do I contact?

Deacon Ed Bowen 201-599-3112
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Christian Foundations for Ministry (CFM)

What is Christian Foundation for Ministry (CFM)?

Christian Foundations for Ministry is a three-year spiritual formation and education process conducted through the Archdiocese of Newark. It provides foundational courses in Catholic theology, spirituality, scripture, sacraments, evangelization, and ministerial skill development. It is held right here at St. Peter the Apostle parish and at other parishes in the Diocese of Newark.

The following courses are offered each year in the Christian Foundations for Ministry program.

Year 1: THE GIFT OF FAITH - CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

The call to discipleship in the community of Jesus Christ invites each of us to a personal relationship with God whom we experience, celebrate and proclaim in the Scriptures, in the Sacraments and in our everyday lives.

- Fall Cycle: *The Old Testament and Spirituality: Israel's Journey/Our Journey*
- Winter Cycle: *The Gospel and Spirituality: Christ's Journey/Our Journey*
- Spring Cycle: *The Sacraments: Experiencing God's Presence*

Year 2: THE GIFT OF COMMUNITY - BECOMING A COMMUNITY OF DISCIPLES

A Christian is baptized into community and grows to maturity in faith by coming to understand better the commitment inherent in the gift.

- Fall Cycle: *The Church: Journeying in Community*
- Winter Cycle: *The Year of the Lord: Living the Paschal Mystery in the Liturgical Cycle*
- Spring Cycle: *Christian Living: Meeting the Moral Demands of Discipleship*

Year 3: THE GIFT OF MINISTRY - CALLED TO SERVE THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

The community of Disciples in Jesus' day and in our times exists for mission. The various ministries of the Church and the Christian life are ways to witness and serve the Church and the world in the Spirit of Jesus.

- Fall Cycle: *Spirituality and Ministry: Responding to the Signs of the Times*
- Winter Cycle: *A Ministerial Community: Evangelizing and Becoming Evangelized*
- Spring Cycle: *Collaborative Ministry: Sharing Responsibility in the Community*

What is the time commitment?

Courses are offered in eight-week cycles in the Fall, Winter and Spring. Each cycle includes a day of retreat. Groups meet once a week for a period of two hours. You can begin the program at the start of Year 1, Year 2 or Year 3.

Who do I contact?

Deacon Ed Bowen 201-599 3112
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Cornerstone (Men's and Women's)

What is Cornerstone

Did you ever wish you could stop the world for a day, catch your breath and have a chance to reflect on what's really important in your life? Cornerstone will provide just that ... the opportunity to strengthen your faith, come closer to Christ, and grow in a Christian community.

Since 1996, almost 500 men and women of the parish have participated in the Cornerstone experience. People from all walks of life have sought this opportunity to gain a greater understanding of themselves and what it means to be part of a Christian community. After their experience, most feel that they have grown spiritually, come closer to the Lord, and developed a greater connection to St. Peter's community.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

All you need to bring is an open mind and a willing heart with:

- A desire to meet and interact with others in a warm, welcome environment.
- A willingness to listen to God.
- An opportunity to share your faith experiences
- A longing for personal reflection, reconciliation and Eucharist.
- An interest in knowing the people with whom you are sharing this experience

What is the time commitment?

This is a one-time experience.

It is only 27 hours out of your life and usually held during Lent. No one attends Cornerstone twice, which makes it a unique experience for everyone. Cornerstone activities begin on Friday at 7:00 p.m. and end on Saturday at 10:00 p.m. You'll stay overnight at St. Peter's Parish Center. You'll want for nothing

Who do I contact?

For the Men's Cornerstone: Msgr. Robert Slipe, 201-261-3366

For the Women's Cornerstone: Mary Bertani, 201-262-4636

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.

Request information by email – just include your name, address and phone number. A brochure and registration form will be sent to you.

Download the registration form on the Parish website.

A suggested offering of \$50.00 will help to defray the cost of your meals, accommodations, and materials. However, please do not hesitate to register if this amount is a problem.

Team Information

A team of men and women who have attended a past Cornerstone experience at St. Peter's offers their talents in various ways. The team meets twice a month during the year to plan the Cornerstone weekend.

Team members share the responsibility for planning and holding the next Cornerstone session. Some team members give presentations on selected themes or lead small group discussions. Others plan liturgy, music, meals and accommodations ... all of them dedicated to ensuring an atmosphere of warmth and hospitality.

In addition, past coordinators meet four times a year to review and refine the Cornerstone program.



Evangelization

What does the Evangelization Commission do?

The Evangelization Commission has been given the responsibility to review and evaluate all aspects of parish life, ministries and activities as an "Evangelizing Parish" in light of:

- St. Peter's Mission Statement
- The United State Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) document "Go and Make Disciples: A National Plan and Strategy for Catholic Evangelization in the United States". The document is commonly referred to as "Go and Make Disciples."

What is required of a member of the Evangelization Commission?

A member accepts the responsibility we have as Catholics to spread the "Good News" of Jesus Christ as proclaimed in the Gospels. A member will work with others on the commission to prepare a written report and evaluation of St. Peter's to answer questions like:

- What are we doing to evangelize?
- How well are we going it?
- What needs improvement?
- Are we communicating the Gospel and its joy and the love of God in what we are doing and saying?

Members will also form recommendations and help implement new evangelization ideas and projects in the parish. The recommendations will answer these questions:

- What should we be doing to make St. Peter's an evangelizing parish?
- How shall we do it?
- When shall we do it?
- Who will do it?

What is the time commitment?

There are planning meetings and background material to read. The time commitment will depend upon where the commission is in its planning or implementation. Meetings could be monthly or weekly as needed.

Who do I contact?

Deacon Andy Golden via email at agolden262@aol.com or leave a message for him at the Parish Office,
Any parish priest or parish staff.

How do I join this ministry?

If you feel God is calling you to bring the good news of our faith to others speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Faith First

What is Faith First?

Faith First is a committee that works with Religious Education Program to produce family presentations throughout the school year that are geared toward helping parents bring spirituality to the forefront of family life

What is required to become part of this ministry?

A willingness to contribute ideas and help produce events to answer the question 'How can we put faith first?'

What is the time commitment?

The time commitment will vary based upon the event.

Who do I contact?

Ruth Ann Kordell at 201-845-7599
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Inquiring Minds

What is Inquiring Minds?

"Inquiring Minds" is an opportunity to hear invigorating Catholic thinkers, speak on a range of topics facing our Church today. This ministry will offer you the chance to hear exciting speakers by organizing the trips and providing car pooling to the events.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

You must have:

- An inquiring mind.
- The desire to learn more about your faith and the moral and ethical issues facing us, the church and the world today.

What is the time commitment?

The time commitment will vary based upon the event and its location.

Who do I contact?

Jean Rock 201-262-7877 or Pat Weiscarger 201-967-1509
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.

Watch the weekly parish bulletin or check the parish website for announcements of events and sign up.



Parish Library

What is Parish Library?

The Parish Library is located next to the Chapel. The Parish Library serves all parishioners - adults and youth - by providing easily accessible reading, tapes, and videos that help us grow in knowledge of our faith, the history of the church and personal spiritualities. The contents consist of works by Catholic authors or reputable works dealing with Catholicism and contemporary Christian spirituality.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

If you have a love of reading and a desire to grow in knowledge of your faith then:

- Stop in after Mass, borrow a book and read at your own pace.
- Write a Book Report if any particular selection from the library's collection touched you. It might be published either in the weekly bulletin or The NetWorker, the parish newsletter.
- Volunteer to assist parishioners in book selection after Sunday Masses.
- Join the Library Selection Committee to help select new material

What is the time commitment?

Time commitment is about 4 hours or less each month.

How Do I Join?

The Library is open on

- Sunday mornings after the 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Masses
- Monday through Thursday after the 8:00 a.m. Mass to 12:30 p.m.

Who do I contact?

Eleanor Grybowski, 201-262-0306

Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.

Library Selection Committee

The Library Selection Committee meets at least twice yearly to review and select materials. The criteria for selection are readability, appeal to the average adult provided and recommendations of reputable Catholic and secular publications.

The objectives of selection are to help people know more about themselves and their faith; to assist individuals in their spiritual growth and in dealing with various life situations; and to supplement other adult formation and education programs.

If you make a donation in memory of a loved one, the Library Selection Committee will purchase a book with your donation. A bookplate, stating the name of the person memorialized and the name of the donor will be placed in the book. A card is then sent to the family of the loved one, informing them that the book is now in the Parish Library.



Religious Education Catechists (Preschool)

What is Preschool Religious Education?

St. Peter's offers a Preschool Religious Education Program. Through formal religious educational teaching, we enable young people to understand and deepen their faith. There are two separate curriculum-based programs, one for four-year olds and one for five-year olds. . The young people are given strong building blocks on which to build a strong religious faith

What is required to become part of this ministry?

You do not need any teaching experience. You also don't need to have small children. Women or men of all ages are welcome. All you need are a desire to experience helping and watching young people grow in their faith and the want to increase your own faith.

Being a teacher for this program is very enriching. So if you love kids, love and know your faith, and can use a glue stick, you're qualified. The experience will be unforgettable, and a choice you will be glad you made.

What is the time commitment?

The program is held during the 9:30 Mass and follows the schedule of the Grade 1 through 6 Religious Education Program.

Two catechists per class are needed. Substitute catechists are also welcomed.

Who do I contact?

Eileen Hanrahan, 201-265-6019, FAX: 201-261-4316 or
email religed@optonline.net

Any parish priest.

How Do I Join?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.

If you would consider being a catechist in the Religious Education Program, contact us any time.



Religious Education Catechists (Grades 1-9)

What is Religious Education?

The goal of St. Peter's Religious Education Program is to teach our children a "living conscious and active faith." In this hectic and sometimes confusing world, our children need more than ever to see faith lived in our lives. Each of us should strive daily to become the key that opens the door that will allow our children to meet Christ in a personal loving and intimate way. What better way than to be a religious education teacher – a catechist.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

You do not need any teaching experience. You also don't need to have children. Women or men of all ages are welcome. All you need are a desire to share and increase your faith and to experience helping and watching young people grow in their faith.

Being a teacher for this program is very enriching. So if you love kids, love and know your faith you're qualified. The experience will be unforgettable, and a choice you will be glad you made.

What is the time commitment?

For Grades 1 through 6, the program is held September through May with classes scheduled on: Sunday morning: 10:45 - 12:00 or Monday afternoon: 3:30 - 4:45.

For Grades 7 and 8 the program consists of two 8 week semesters on Monday Evening: 7:00 - 9:00: the semester runs October through December and February through March. A two-week summer program is also conducted in August.

Two catechists per class are needed. Substitute catechists are also welcomed.

Team Leaders are needed for the high school (9th grade) Confirmation preparation. Approximately ten meetings per year are held in either homes or parish facility.

Who do I contact?

Eileen Hanrahan for Grades 1-6 (Includes First Reconciliation & First Eucharist)
Christine Black for Grades 7-9 (Includes Confirmation Program)
Phone: 201-265-6019, Fax: 201-261-4316, email: religed@optonline.net

Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.

If you would consider being a catechist in the Religious Education Program, contact us any time.



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

What is Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)?

The goal of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is to help people come to a full and conscious decision to participate actively in a life with Jesus Christ within the Catholic Church. RCIA is a process for:

- Persons who have never been baptized,
- Persons who have been baptized in other Christian Churches and want to become members of the Catholic Church
- Catholics who have been baptized but never received the Sacraments of Confirmation and/or Holy Eucharist.

The RCIA helps adults either as a candidate or a sponsor to:

- Grow in their relationship with God,
- Become familiar with Catholic teachings and practices,
- Get acquainted with the faith community, and
- Become involved in service within the community as a whole.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

As a team member you share your own faith journey, break open the Sunday readings for further reflection, and represent the larger community of St. Peter's. Although a strong Catholic faith is essential, the experience of being a team member will enrich and grow that faith.

Based on their availability, team members present topics and take turns providing hospitality. On Sunday mornings during the 11:00 Mass, they take turns in leading the scripture reflections.

What is the time commitment?

Weekly meetings - Tuesday evenings from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. beginning in November and ending in May or June. Team members are asked to attend and participate at as many meetings as possible.

Who do I contact?

Chris Black 201-265-6019 or email religed@optonline.net
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns. You can also e-mail or write your questions about St. Peter's RCIA Program.



Small Christian Communities (SCC)

What is a Small Christian Community?

Small Christian Communities (SCC) is a group of 8-12 parishioners who meet in the comfortable setting of one of the member's homes. A scripture passage is read, followed by reflection and discussion questions. Participants relate religion to their daily lives and work.

There are Small Christian Communities for individuals or couples, for people of all ages and gender, at various times during the week – morning, afternoon, evenings. There's a group that fits your schedule, so come alone or bring a friend or spouse

What is required to become part of this ministry?

As a member:

- No training required
- No previous knowledge of scripture is required
- Desire to read and learn scripture
- Willingness to share opinions

As a leader:

- Facilitate a group
- Willingness to attend initial training and periodic follow-ups.

As a host:

- Offer your home for the meetings

What is the time commitment?

Meetings are about 2 hours in length
Seasonal sessions (e.g. Advent, Lent etc.) are 6 weeks long
Ongoing groups meet once a month.

Who do I contact?

Roy Pressimone 201-262-9311 Dawn Rivas 201-967-8112
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and to ask about the various groups; their makeup, interests and meeting times/days. Meet leaders of groups at a ministry fair or Community Sunday

Look for the special announcements in the bulletin and try a meeting or several meetings and select the group that feels right for you.

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Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)

What does a volunteer with Children's Liturgy of the Word do?

- Children's Liturgy of the Word is held about every two weeks during the 9:30 a.m. Mass from September to May.
- Children aged 5-10 leave the main church to hear the word of God and a reflection that is focused on their age group.
- Volunteers fill a variety of roles, including crowd control, doing a reading, serving on the core team, give a reflection, lead children in prayer, and do clean up.
- See the parish website for a detailed explanation of this ministry.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

- You should like children and understand the importance of helping them learn more about their faith.
- Being comfortable in front of children if you choose to do a reading or lead children in reciting prayers or the Apostles' Creed.
- A willingness to help is the main requirement.

What is the time commitment?

- Set-up and clean-up may require being early for the 9:30 a.m. Mass.
- The balance of events takes place during Mass.
- Leader meetings are held as required but have no schedule.

Who do I contact?

Dave Ashley
201-967-5188
diceman967@aol.com

Lori Haggerty
201-262-4834
lorihaggs@optonline.com

Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Gift Presenter

What does a Gift Presenter do?

During each weekend Mass, a Gift Presenter brings forward the gifts of bread and wine from the back of the church and presents them to the Celebrant after the offertory collection has been taken.

A Gift Presenter may sign up ahead of time (see below), sign up on the day of the Mass as they enter the Gathering Space, or be asked by an Usher to present the gifts.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

During the year, parishioners will request that weekday and weekend Masses be offered for specific family members both living and deceased or for a special anniversary or event.

For weekend Masses, about a week ahead of time the requestor will be contacted by telephone and asked if they would like to present the gifts at the Mass they are having offered. If they agree, they are asked to enter their names on the sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the Gathering Space. No one is required to present the gifts.

Weekday Masses, being smaller and held in the Chapel, don't require sign up. If someone specifically wants to bring up gifts at a weekday Mass, they should sit next to the gifts in the rear of the Chapel and bring them up at the appropriate time.

What is the time commitment?

There is none, other than attending the Mass you signed up for.

Who do I contact?

Marge Garofalo, 201-262-3022
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Altar Server (Adult and Youth)

What does an Altar Server do?

An Altar Server will perform these functions:

- Altar Servers assist the Celebrant during Mass by presenting the book to the Celebrant, preparing the altar before Eucharist, and assisting with sprinkling and incense rites.
- During special liturgies other duties may be assigned.
- Adults (high school students and adults) serve at the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass.
- Children in grades 5 through 8 serve at all other weekend Masses.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

An Altar Server should be able to accept these responsibilities:

- Altar Servers will need to attend training sessions before being assigned to serve at Mass.
- Altar Servers have the desire to serve God by offering their Time and Talent in a way that enhances the beauty of each liturgy.
- An Altar Server must be responsible and commit to serve at each Mass he/she is assigned to.
- Altar Servers must arrange for substitutes if they can not serve at a Mass that they are assigned to.
- An Altar Server should be prayerful and open to God's working through them to enrich the liturgy for the congregation.

What is the time commitment?

- Altar Servers should be able to arrive at their scheduled Mass 15 minutes ahead of time.
- Altar Servers serve every 3 to 4 weeks.
- Before serving, attendance at a training session is required.
- Altar Servers do not meet as a group on a regular basis.

Who do I contact?

Father German at the Parish Office – 201-261-3366.

You may also use the email link at the parish website www.saint-peter.org. From the home page, click on Ministries, then 'Liturgical Ministries' and the email link is at the bottom of the page.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Eucharistic Minister (Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion)

What does a Eucharistic Minister do?

- At Mass, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion assist the Celebrant by distributing the Body and Blood of Christ to the congregation.
- Ministers may also choose to bring Eucharist to the homebound or hospitalized.
- Some Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion choose to only serve at Mass, while others choose only to serve the homebound and hospitalized. Others may choose to do both.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

- Regular Mass attendance.
- A devotion and reverence to the Eucharist as it is the Body and Blood of Christ. This includes appropriate dress for the Mass you serve at and how you present yourself while serving.
- A willingness to attend an initial training session and occasional retraining or ministry reflection based sessions.
- A recognition that one's Eucharistic service at Mass is done to ensure orderly and timely distribution of Communion. A Eucharistic Minister holds no special status because of his or her service.
- If bringing the Eucharist to the homebound, a sense of caring and concern for the person and/or family requesting the visit.
- Being responsible enough to arrange for coverage if you can't serve at an assigned Mass. Each minister is given a roster containing the names of other ministers and the Masses they can substitute at.

What is the time commitment?

- You select which weekend Mass at which you want to serve.
- Based on everyone's preference, a schedule is developed and distributed to each Minister. The schedule lists the dates and times of each weekend Mass, who is assigned to each Mass, and what the assignment is (Host or Cup).
- Generally, you serve every 2-3 weeks.
- Special sign ups occur for major feast days (Holy Thursday, Easter, Christmas, etc.)
- There are no regular meetings of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.
- You may resign this ministry at any time.

Who do I contact?

- If you feel called to this ministry, leave a message at the Parish Office, 201-261-3366 for Linda Kazanecki – Mass Service or Terry Hollenstein – Homebound.
- Any parish priest or member of the Parish Staff.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns. All new appointments to this ministry require approval of the Pastor.



Lector

What does a Lector do?

A Lector has four basic responsibilities that are performed at weekday and Sunday Masses:

- To proclaim readings from Scripture, except the Gospel, to the congregation.
- To announce the intentions for the General Intercessions (prayer).
- In the absence of a psalmist or cantor, to read the psalm and response between readings.
- To provide explanations and commentaries with the purpose of introducing the faithful to the celebration and preparing them to understand it better. At St. Peter's, this responsibility only occurs rarely.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

A Lector must have:

- A love of Scripture.
- A voice that is pleasing to the ear and can project to the back of the worship space.
- A willingness to carefully prepare prior to an assignment so that the words and intent of the readings are clear and understandable to the congregation.
- The ability to read slowly and with feeling.
- Being able to arrive at Mass 15-20 minutes early.
- A Lector is responsible for finding a replacement if he/she cannot attend their assigned Mass.

What is the time commitment?

- Preparation time will vary from person to person, but a half hour should be sufficient to read and reflect on assigned readings. A workbook is given to each Lector to help with preparation.
- Lectors are assigned to the Mass that they normally attend. A Lector is assigned to read based on the size of the Lector pool for each Mass. A Lector may be assigned to read as frequently as once every two weeks or as infrequently as once every two months.
- Lectors for regular weekday Masses come forward on an 'as needed' basis.
- Lectors do not normally meet as a group, though spiritual enrichment events may occur from time to time.

Who do I contact?

Kathy Nugent: 201-986-0922, email knugent878@aol.com
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Usher

What does an Usher do?

An Usher performs these functions:

- Greet parishioners as they arrive for Mass.
- Help latecomers find seats at Mass.
- Collect the weekly offering from the congregation using baskets.
- Answer questions from visitors and parishioners and help direct them to the right resource.
- Perform other functions as assigned by a member of the parish staff during special liturgies.
- If no one has signed up, ushers will arrange for parishioners to bring the gifts forward during Mass.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

A good Usher has these traits:

- A genuine and sincere desire to help other people.
- A willingness to search out and reach out to parishioners and guests who look like they need help.
- Knowledge of the Parish Staff and the physical plant layout of St. Peter's.
- A willingness to arrive at Mass 20-25 minutes early.

One Usher will carry the cross during the Processional and Recessional songs. Ushers should arrange for a substitute if they are unable to attend the Mass for which they are scheduled.

What is the time commitment?

- Ushers serve each week at the Mass they regularly attend.
- Ushers should arrive 20-25 minutes before the start of Mass.

Who do I contact?

Contact the Parish Office at 201-261-3366 and leave a message. Someone will contact you.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.



Music Ministry – Choir (Adult and Children)

What does a Choir member do?

- Choir members (adults and children) assist and support the congregation in raising their voices in song during Sunday Masses (9:30 a.m. for children and 11:00 a.m. for adults). Our choirs also participate at selected Masses on certain feast days and at major seasonal liturgies such as the Easter Vigil, Easter, and Christmas.
- Choir members add to the beauty and enliven the musical elements of each liturgy they participate in.
- Choir members help and encourage the congregation to actively participate in the Mass.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

- A Choir member needs a pleasant singing voice and a willingness to use that Talent to enhance the liturgy.
- A Choir member must be able to regularly attend the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass for the adult choir and the 9:30 a.m. Mass for children.
- The Children's Choir is open to all students in grades 2-8.
- The Adult Choir is open to any parishioner or student beyond grade 8.

What is the time commitment?

Adult Choir

The Adult Choir practices every Tuesday from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. from mid-September until the end of May.

Children's Choir

Grade 2-8 students can be either Full Note members or Half Note members.

- Full Note members commit to regularly attending 9:30 a.m. Mass and to rehearsals on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. during the school year.
- Half Note members commit to regularly attending 9:30 a.m. Mass to arrive at Mass by 9:00 a.m. to organize, warm-up, and rehearse.

Who do I contact?

See Sheila Ebbels after any Mass or leave a message for her at the Parish Office, 201-261-3366.

See the parish website for a Children's Choir Registration Form. From the home page, click on Ministries and then on Music Ministry.



Parish Prayer Chain

What does the Parish Prayer Chain do?

As Catholics, we believe that God hears and answers all prayers.

The Parish Prayer Chain is a group of parishioners who on request will pray for any of our brothers or sisters who are in need. The need could be illness, grieving due to the loss of loved ones, unemployment, addiction, etc.

See the parish website at www.saint-peter.org for more information if you have a family member or friend that you want the Prayer Chain to pray for.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

- A Parish Prayer Chain member accepts prayer as a powerful tool, given to us by God as a way to help those in need.
- Parish Prayer Chain members should be regular Mass attendees.
- If a member receives a prayer request from a parishioner, they should be able to show compassion and understanding toward the requestor.
- Prayer Chain members must be non-judgmental when receiving prayer requests.

What is the time commitment?

- A member should be able to set aside enough time to pray daily for the names on the prayer chain list. Each name remains on the list for about one week.
- The Parish Prayer Chain does not meet on a regular basis.

Who do I contact?

Eleanor Grybowski 201-262-0306
Kay Hughes 201-262-7699
Rose Mary Dignam 201-262-5637
Lillian Terlizzi 201-262-3558
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.

Worship Committee

This Ministry of Worship
Fills the Stewardship of
Time...Talent...Treasure



What does the Worship Committee do?

St. Peter's Worship Committee:

- Prepares the worship space for all seasonal liturgies – Advent, Christmas, Lent, Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil) and Easter.
- Plans for extraordinary liturgies – Mass of the Anointing of the Sick, Mass of Remembrance (All Souls), and other liturgies as needed.
- Prepares periodic mailings to the congregation.
- Plans the luncheon following the Mass of the Anointing of the Sick.

What is required to become part of this ministry?

A member of the Worship Committee will have these traits:

- A desire to use their Time and Talent to ensure that church decorations enhance the worship experience for parishioners during each liturgical season.
- An understanding of the purpose and meaning of each church season and its special liturgies.
- A willingness and ability to get things done when given a task.
- A desire to help the congregation to better appreciate and understand the meaning of each liturgy through the use of tasteful and appropriate decorations.

What is the time commitment?

- There are about 5 meetings per year.
- Committee members must be available to decorate the church on weekends or sometimes late at night, i.e. transforming the 'barren' church after the Easter Vigil to a 'rejoicing' church before Easter Sunday liturgies.

Who do I contact?

Martha Mulligan 201-594-0236
Any parish priest.

How do I join this ministry?

Speak to one of the above contacts to express your interests and concerns.

Stewardship of Talent and Time Commitment Form

Now that you have made your personal assessment by identifying areas of interest and matching them to the ministries in this guide that best match your time, talent and treasure, please make a personal commitment to giving of your time, talent and treasure.

The form below is provided for personal use and reflection. There is no need to hand in this form although it is recommended to complete it, post it and refer to it throughout the year.



St Peter the Apostle Parish Pledge of Time – A Stewardship Commitment

After reflecting on God's call to serve others as Stewards of the gifts He has given us, we are ready to commit or recommit our **Pledge of Time** to serve the needs of the Parish.

Grateful to God for the gifts He has given, **I/We pledge to God** to:

- Offer _____ hours of service over the next year as an acknowledgement of our responsibility as Stewards.
- Continue our current service to the Parish and pledge **additional** _____ **hours annually**.
- Maintain our current service to the Parish and **pray daily** for all the people of St. Peter's parish.
- Pray daily** for all the people of St. Peter's because at this time we are unable to pledge time in service to the parish.

Name _____
(please list all family member names)

Do you still have questions or are you unsure about Parish Ministry and how to make best use of your Time, Talent, and Treasure?

First and always, pray about it. God is just waiting to speak to you. You can also talk to any of the Priests or Parish Staff as listed in this Guide.

A representative of the parish Stewardship Committee, Jim Cockefair, is also available to answer questions about this Guide or any aspect of Ministry in the parish. You can email him at jimvcw@verizon.net or leave a message at the Parish Office.

Ministry for the Homebound

- Advocacy of Peace and Justice
- Cooking and Baking for St Martin's Kitchen and Walk-in Supper
- Library
- The NetWorker
- Prayer Chain
- Stewardship

Ministries for the Younger Parishioner

- Advent Giving Tree
- Advocacy of Peace and Justice
- Altar Servers
- Assist in Religious Education Program
- Back to School Drive
- Choir/Music Ministry
- CYO Basketball Program
- Food Drive
- Greeters
- Overflow Shelter
- Turkey Drive
- Youth Group

Ministry Core Teams

- Baptismal
- Cornerstone
- Evangelization
- Library
- RCIA
- Small Christian Communities (SCC)
- Social Concerns Core Committee
- Stewardship