

Stewardship Renewal 2018

Commitment Weekends

December 2-3, 2017

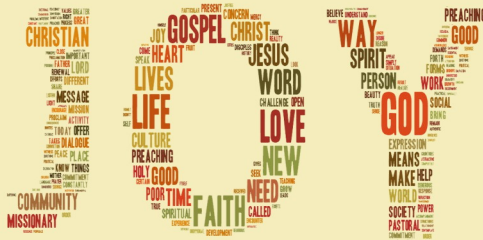
December 9-10, 2017

Commissioning

January 6-7, 2018

Listed in this brochure are brief explanations for each ministry active in our parish.

Where will YOU find Your ...



For more detailed information, check the kiosk in the atrium with brochures on each individual ministry.

Additional Covenants (Pledge Cards) for Adults are located in the back of the Church. Cards for the younger members of our parish are available through Religious Education.

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES PARISH
614 Route 517
Vernon, NJ 07462
www.stfrancisvernon.org

Fall 2017

Dear Friends,

As another year goes by, our parish has once again started to talk about Stewardship, where we are all called to give a little bit of our time and talent for the benefit of others. Giving of ourselves through service is a wonderful way to serve God. The funny thing is I find myself dreading the "Stewardship talk". When I first came to St. Francis, it seemed to me that the word was a little over-used, and people had become wary of being called aside to respond to the question, "Can I ask you something?" Apparently, it was very difficult to say "no" to my predecessor.

With those thoughts always resonating in my head, I try my best to avoid having people "run" from me when I pull them aside to ask them something. Yet, if you speak to anyone who has ever said "yes" when "asked something", you'll find that they have experienced great joy in ministry over the years. There are many who respond to the call every year and will continue to do so, but there is much to do. It's time for others to come forward to share the work.

The greatest thing about parish life is that it is ever renewing itself, so too should it be with our ministries. By answering the call to share your gifts of time and talent, you too can find the same joy that those who have come before you have experienced. With the number of active ministries here at St. Francis, there is bound to be something that would fit your schedule; something that will bring you happiness. It is your choice to get involved as much or as little as you want. I promise, I only ask you to give as much as you want to give. I also promise that the joy you will receive will be worth more than the time you will give.

So today I ask all of you, "Where will you find your joy?" Can you find joy in making rosaries? Can you find joy in the Children's Liturgy of the Word? Can you find joy in helping cut the lawns or weeding? The list goes on and on, but we find joy in doing things that mean something to us. I hope that you can find that joy here in your parish through ministry and in giving of your time and talent. May you hear His voice and answer that call.

God bless,
Fr. Brian

Adult Education Core Team (209)

Overview: Invites adult Catholics to deepen their relationship with God and the church in the world today through presentation and discussion experiences. Sessions are independently offered throughout the year, everyone is welcome!

Altar Linen Care (118)

Overview: Mission: To help with the washing and pressing the altar linens as well as clean altar cloths and vestments when needed.

Altar Servers (103)

Overview: Assist before, during, and after weekend and special liturgies. Grade 5 through High School.
Time/Training: Mandatory training at the beginning of each ministry year is required.

Art and Environment (120)

Overview: To help decorate and maintain the church, sanctuary, atrium and gathering spaces throughout the year with appropriate seasonal displays.

Baptismal Preparation Team (410)

Overview: Help prepare parents for their role as teachers of faith as they look forward to the baptism of their child.

Baptismal Gifts (119 and 119A)

Overview: To welcome our newest family members with a commemorative certificate and bib.

Certificates: (119) To help with cutting boards/coloring or assembling certificates.

Bibs: (119A) To help with cutting, adding lace or edging or gluing a cross to the fronts of bibs.

Bible Study (206)

Overview: To gain a deeper knowledge of God's Word through the study of scripture in a small group environment. Meets once a week for 6-8 weeks, in the Spring and the Fall.

Children's Liturgy of the Word (112)

Overview: To share the weekly readings with our youngest members during the 10:00 AM Mass. The readings are geared for children from Kindergarten through Grade Three.

Church Historian (610)

Overview: To maintain historical files on all parish events including newspaper clippings and photographs.

Circle of Friends (712)

Overview: A quilting and craft ministry where women can come together to relax, talk, and get away while working on individual craft projects.

Communication Ministry (601, 610, 611, 709, 710)

Overview: To keep parish members informed of news and events through bulletin boards, newsletter and other media.

Confirmation Adult Core Team (308)

Overview: To provide focus and education for the Confirmation candidates (1st & 2nd year) through faith formation, service and discussions to allow the youth to better understand their faith.

Divine Mercy Prayer Group (205)

Overview: To pray the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy and prepare for the annual observance of the Feast of the Divine Mercy on the Second Sunday of Easter. Daily after the 8:30 AM Mass.

Emmaus (Men's Group) (711)

Overview: Platform for men to come together for fun, service projects, and to tackle issues facing us as Christian men, husbands, and fathers.

Eucharistic Ministers (101)

Overview: To provide hospitality at the Lord's table. Eucharistic ministers share the Body and Blood of Jesus with fellow parishioners, at all our liturgies throughout the year. Ministers serve once or twice a month on a rotating schedule. Participants must be confirmed. Membership is through the counsel of the pastor.

Family Promise (812)

Overview: Volunteers to help with guests in our homeless shelter for people who find themselves temporarily displaced by providing meals, interacting with the families or spending an evening. We have guests two weeks a year.

Funeral Support Ministry (121)

Overview: To provide support for families attending funerals at St. Francis by greeting and assisting them as they arrive.

Golf Core Team (708)

Overview: To help plan, organize and set up for our annual golf outing.

Health & Wellness (911)

Overview: To help with taking blood pressures on hospitality weekends and to help promote preventative health care for our parishioners. Nurses and health care professionals welcome!

Homebound & Nursing Home Ministry (903)

Overview: To bring Eucharist each week to individuals who are in nursing homes or homebound. This is worked out through a weekly schedule with others in this ministry.

Host Ministry (701)

Overview: To provide hospitality to parishioners and visitors by sponsoring monthly gathering after Mass (Bagel Sunday). Arrive early and stay late for one weekend Mass a month.

Lectors (102) Daily Mass Lectors (102A)

Overview: Proclaim the Word of God at liturgies and special services. Lectors are needed for daily Mass also.
Time/Training: 1 or 2 Masses a month; attend an annual workshop each year.

Library Core Team (608)

Overview: To organize, maintain and staff our lending library as a resource for our parish community.

Liturgy Committee (116)

Overview: To assist the pastor in coordinating themes and special related activities that take place before, during and after Mass as well as seasonal celebrations. Meetings are once a month.

Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry (803)

Overview: To package groceries for people coming to our food pantry for assistance. Food is given out from the Food Pantry on Wednesdays and Thursday mornings. Time/Training: A few hours a week stocking pantry.

Meals (delivered to homes) (802)

Overview: Provide meals to individuals or families enduring hardship or disability.

Men's Retreat Core Team (207)

Overview: To plan and organize the yearly weekend retreat for the men of the parish.

Ministers of Hospitality (105) (Liturgical Ministry)

Overview: To assist in helping maintain appropriate decorum during worship, seating members of the assembly, and assist in any way needed. Ushers help facilitate details for all liturgies. Participants must be confirmed. Proper attire is required. Please arrive at least 20 minutes prior to Mass.

Music Ministry—Cantor - Leader of Song (106)

Overview: Lead and support the assembly in song prayer.

Music Ministry—Adult Choir (107)

Overview: To sing at one Mass each week. Rehearsals are throughout the year. Choir meets 1/2 hour before Mass to prepare. Members should be Confirmed.

Music Ministry—Children's Choir (110Y)

Overview: To sing at Mass during the Advent/Christmas seasons and special celebrations, such as Family Advent Day. Rehearsals are Monday afternoons from 4:15 to 6:00 PM.

Music Ministry - Librarian (109)

Overview: To help with the organization and filing of liturgical music for the choirs and music ministry in general.

Office Assistants (604, 605)

Overview: Help out with parish clerical work, answering phones, Mass cards, mailings, and copying.

Picnic Core Team (706)

Overview: To help plan, organize and set up our annual parish picnic.

Prayer Shawl Ministry (805)

Overview: Make shawls to support the sick of our parish and community. Time/Training: Tuesdays 9:30 AM; or make shawls on your own.

Office of Sacristan (117)

Overview: To help with the preparation of the altar and credence table for Eucharistic celebrations including daily Mass, Weddings, Funeral Masses and other special occasions.

Pre-Cana Core Team (402)

Overview: To plan and facilitate a one-day retreat for engaged couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage.

R.C.I.A. Core Team(213)

Overview: To help prepare Catholic and non-Catholic adults for the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.

Religious Education (303, 308, 310, 311, 318)

Overview: To help support parents in sharing the Catholic faith to the children of the parish by assisting in our Religious Education program as a Teacher, Aide, Hall Monitor, Baby Sitter, Traffic Control or Office Coordinator. Our program runs from September to April and follows the Vernon Township school calendar. **Must be PGC Compliant.**

Rosary Makers (804)

Overview: Spread the message of Mary's prayer by making and distributing rosaries to the sick and missions. We meet on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 AM or you can make them at home after training.

Ruth's Ministry (412)

Overview: To provide fellowship where widows come together to share their grief, their stories, and provide strength for each other.

Tricky Tray Parish Support Fundraiser

Overview: To help plan, organize and set up for our annual Tricky Tray by donating prizes and materials, soliciting donations from businesses, wrapping, selling tickets, and promoting the event.

Welcome Ministry (702)

Overview: Welcome new parishioners, assist them to register in the parish and provide information on opportunities to serve and be served in our parish.

XYZ Club (Seniors) (407)

Overview: Opportunity for parish seniors to celebrate life through friendship and prayer. We meet the first Wednesday afternoon of the month at 1:00 PM from March to December.

St. Joseph Ministry

Overview: To assist with the care and maintenance of the church grounds and buildings. A time commitment of whatever you can share to keep our facility beautiful/operational.

001 - Grounds/Building Maintenance

General upkeep and maintenance of the parish buildings and grounds.

003 - Adopt-a-Garden

To help with the maintenance of the flowerbeds and shrubs. Also to help with the planting of all of Easter and seasonal flowers after they are removed from the Church.

011 - Parish Clean-up Days

To participate in the seasonal clean-up of the church grounds. **This is a service opportunity for all 7th & 8th Grade Students.**

018 - Snow Shoveling

To help with clearing the footpaths to the entrances of our buildings.

Youth Ministry (321)

Overview: Open to ALL high school teens. Program meets year round and provides a fun safe environment that is upbeat and inviting.

Youth Music Ministry - Singer (111)

Overview: Lead and support the assembly in song prayer.

Youth Music Ministry - Instrumentalist (111A)

Overview: To provide music during our liturgies and times of meditation.

The following ministries are not currently functioning. If you would be interested in helping these ministries reactivate, please contact Joanne at 973-827-3248, ext. 324.

Adoration (204)

Overview: Mission: To offer an hour a week in adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament as a form of prayer, solace, and support to all members of our parish family.

Midnight Run (816-821)

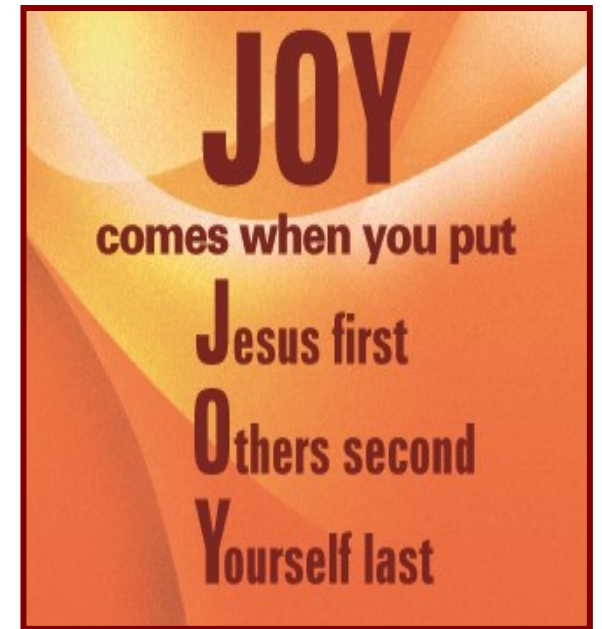
Overview: Seek out and help the homeless poor in NYC. A few hours sorting clothing or preparing meals, or making an overnight trip into Manhattan two or three times a year.

Mom to Mom (408)

Overview: To provide an opportunity for mothers to reach out to each other in friendship and fellowship as they offer support and encouragement in sharing the experiences of motherhood.

Rainbows for All God's Children (406)

Overview: Provide support to children who have lost a parent through death, divorce or separation. Time/Training: One evening a week for six weeks, beginning in Sept. and again in Jan.



STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

I offer this day to you, dear God. Thank you for the blessings you have given me. May I use these gifts to build your kingdom. May my actions be a reflection of your love. May what I do today bring others closer to you. May my words be kind and gentle and may they bring joy to others.

Today, help me to give back a portion of what you have given me. I ask this in Jesus' name. Amen

*"I slept and dreamt that life was all **JOY**. I awoke and saw that life was all **SERVICE**. I acted and behold, **SERVICE** was **JOY!**"*