

# Pastoral Planning & Communication

## **Parish Council**

The purpose of the council is to serve as the primary representative and consultative voice of the parishioners of St. Mary Parish in dialogue and cooperation with the pastor and staff of the parish to promote a vibrant and faith filled parish life. St. Mary parishioners elect members to serve on the Parish Council for a three year term. There are monthly meetings and council members are expected to serve on another committee as the council liaison.

## **Finance Council**

The primary responsibility of the Finance Council is to assist the pastor in his decisions concerning financial matters that affect the life and pastoral activity of the parish. Additional responsibilities of the Council in cooperation with the pastor and staff include making financial provisions for the spiritual enrichment and growth of the faith community; developing and monitoring the parish budget; engaging in a continuous process of long range financial planning for the parish based on its needs and resources; setting financial goals and establishing corresponding priorities for the parish as it strives to realize its vision for the future as stated in its mission statement and as outlined in its strategic plan.

## **Justice and Peace Committee**

The Justice and Peace Committee focuses on issues of peace, justice, respect for life and social responsibility. There are many current issues, including needs in our own community, and the committee is in need of additional members to help address these needs.

## **Liturgy Committee**

Come help us bring our liturgy to life in our parish. We plan for upcoming seasons and celebrations through music and environment. You will be invited to enrich your understanding of the liturgy and then contribute as to how this will be lived out in our parish setting.

## **Building & Grounds Committee**

The purpose of the Buildings & Grounds Committee is to guide the development and maintenance of parish

property. Our facilities at St. Mary are aging along with the rest of us. With proper care and maintenance we and our parish facilities will be around for a very long time. By joining this committee you will help to demonstrate that a little timely work can go a long way. You may also find that you gain more than you give.

## **Stewardship Committee**

A Christian steward is one who receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others, and returns them with increase to the Lord. The purpose of this committee is to encourage our parish members to share their gifts of time, talent and treasure. Stewardship is a discipleship that is exciting and rewarding as we serve our Lord. Come join us at our monthly meetings.

## **Adult Education Committee**

Do you want a vibrant parish where members seek to grow in their faith and to share it with others? If so, the Adult Faith Formation Committee is for you. This committee works to encourage life-long faith formation. It offers diverse experiences of study, prayer, and faith sharing. It supports understanding and participation of adults in the sacramental life of the Church.

## **Parish Life Committee**

This committee strives to build a sense of "belonging" among parishioners. Parish Life works to strengthen hospitality, get new members excited and active in our church, and plan social events such as picnics and game nights. Parish life also coordinates the Donut Sundays after the 9:30 Mass on the 1st Sunday of each month.