

CHRISTIAN SERVICE COMMISSION ACTIVITIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

DISABILITIES

Concerned with the needs of the National Shrine Parish disabled persons, the Disabilities committee works to see that the Parish complex is accessible to all parishioners. They work to identify needs, and to reach out to those who have special needs. Please contact Ann Zuzich for further information.

EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS

Parishioners come from a parish liturgy to visit, bring parish news, a Shrine Herald, pray and bring Holy Communion to those whose health prevents them from participating in Sunday Mass. Some Eucharistic Visitors work with Beaumont Hospital Pastoral Care Department and bring Holy Communion, once a week, to all the Catholics on their assigned floors. Other parishioners go to Assisted Living and Nursing Home facilities within the parish bounds. Homebound parishioners are visited on a weekly basis or as requested. To volunteer or to request this ministry for a parish member, please call Sister Noreen at 248.541.4122.

FUNERAL LUNCH MINISTRY

Following a Funeral Mass at the National Shrine, a catered luncheon may be arranged. The funeral luncheon committee will order the main course, and provide set-up, desserts, beverages and service in the National Shrine Conference Center. (Entrance is adjacent to the church parking lot at back of strip mall.) Eighty (80) persons can be accommodated.

When a Funeral Mass is at 10 am, lunch may follow immediately after the Mass or after return from the cemetery. If the Funeral Mass is at noon, luncheon will only be served immediately afterwards. (Unfortunately, the parish cannot accommodate late afternoon lunches.)

While making funeral arrangements with the parish, the funeral director may ask the receptionist (248.541.4122) to check the availability of Seton Hall for the luncheon. After reserving Seton Hall, the receptionist will notify the Luncheon Coordinator who will call the family to arrange details.

JAIL MINISTRY

The Jail Ministry members work to attend to the spiritual and physical needs of the incarcerated in Oakland County. National Shrine members work with other area churches to collect items for an annual Christmas drive and provide gift bags for the inmates. Pastoral visits and weekly church services are also an important part of this dedicated ministry. To volunteer contact Joan Wyss.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

The Grief Support Group meets in the Coughlin Building on the second Thursday of each month at 7 pm. Come to listen, share and pray if you are suffering the death of a loved one. Bring a photo or memento of your loved one, if you wish. For more information, call Sister Noreen Ellison at 248.541.4122 ext 411.

LADIES GUILD

Shrine Ladies Guild was established in 1963 under the direction of Father Charles Coughlin. The objective of this organization is to encourage the involvement of all women in the parish in a variety of religious, cultural, civic and social activities. They serve refreshments at farewell receptions, and various other special occasions requested by the Pastor, including Liturgies and mission services.

The Ladies Guild is active in the Detroit Council of Catholic Women presently providing several board members and area officers. Six members have been awarded the Catholic Woman of the Year Award from the Council and one member has been awarded the Heart of Gold from the United Foundation. A branch of the Ladies Guild, called the Mission Ladies, meets every other Tuesday to make quilts and lap robes, which are distributed to area nursing homes, V.A. hospitals and the homebound. Open to all women of the parish, the Ladies Guild welcomes new members and invites them to join in active service.

2006-07 Ladies Guild Board Members

President	Kathy Rohr
Vice President	Dolores Doman
Recording Secretary	Marylee Ryan
Corresponding Secretary	Marge Caram
Treasurer	Carol Hoolehan

Committee Chairwomen

Membership	Mary Lou Reaume, Barbara Norris
Hospitality	Grace Ross, Pat Banish, Geri Voigt, Mary Valentage, Eve Gottschalk, Margaret Adams
Telephone	Joann Dreist, Renee Dettloff, Camille Liggett, Freya Dery, Thelma Harding, Kathleen Moore, Elaine Bismack
Publicity	Joan Kramer, Bobbie Visco
Council of Catholic Women	Grace Ross
Mission Ladies Rep.	Joann Dreist
Historian	Gene Haderlein

LIFE ISSUES

Valuing the sacredness of human life at all stages, the Life Issues Committee works to educate parishioners on all Life Issues. The committee addresses those issues, which have an impact on the dignity of human life. Members of the parish are encouraged to become involved in various pro-life issues. To become involved, call Sam Mannino.

CHARITABLE GIVING

You may be interested in the fact that many charitable organizations are supporters of abortion. Right to Life of S. E. Macomb published a recent list of some of those organizations in a recent new letter.

According to Right to Life, the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, that uses such events as the "Race for the Cure" to raise money to fight breast cancer, awarded 21 grants to local Planned Parenthood chapters totaling more than \$475,000. You should also know that abortion has been found to be a major risk factor for breast cancer. Consequently, the Komen Foundation is actually funding a major cause of the disease it is trying to cure. Planned Parenthood is the largest provider of abortions in the U.S. Next time you see the "pink ribbon," which is a clue that the Koman Foundation is getting the money, check into the charity before you donate.

Other questionable organizations include today's UNICEF, which helps fund such organizations such as Population Control. This group holds the patent for the abortion pill Ru-486. UNICEF also funds LoveLife, a South African group which encourages young girls to have abortions. Early in 2005, UNICEF also endorsed a U.N. report calling for "reproductive rights." Right to Life says this is UN-speak for abortion.

The Muscular Dystrophy Assoc., a favorite charity of Jerry Lewis, will support embryonic stem cell research in accordance with "strict institutional policies and guidelines." Nothing in the MDA policy reflects opposition to human embryonic stem cell research.

The March of Dimes, founded to combat polio, now encourages prenatal screening for birth defects that can only be "treated" by abortion. The March of Dimes also supports eugenic targeting of "unfit" children.

Before you donate to any charity, call Right to Life Lifespan at 248.816.1546 to check out the organization.

PARISH NURSING MINISTRY

The National Shrine Parish Nurse Ministry was formed to bring holistic health information to members of our National Shrine Parish Community. Nurses are involved in providing health education information, administering monthly blood pressure screening and twice per year sponsor the Red Cross Blood Drive. If you are a nurse and would like to join this parish ministry of service contact Claire Neumann.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Meeting the needs of area homeless and poor, St. Vincent de Paul volunteers work to bring relief to those suffering in our area, including providing food donated through parish-wide food drives, arranging for shelter, and other assistance. For more information, contact the National Shrine Parish Office at 248.541.4122.

SOS HOMELESS

In 1985, South Oakland churches joined together with social service agencies to create S.O.S. (South Oakland Shelter) a rotating emergency shelter program. Participating churches shelter the less fortunate at their own facilities for a week, with volunteers from their parish furnishing them a place to stay, transportation, food, etc.

The National Shrine of the Little Flower has participated since its origin and is represented on their board by Judy DeHondt and Barb Batchilk. S.O.S. has intake and offices at 431 N. Main, Royal Oak, MI 48067, 248.546.6566.