

Ministry Opportunities

'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest' (Mt 9:35-38)

Use these symbols to help you navigate the ministries that are appropriate for various ages:

C=Children; T=Teens; A=Adults; F=Families

Stewardship

Responding in gratitude to God

- Finance Council- A** - The Stewardship Commission is a service group that plans, recommends, and implements actions on parish financial support and the effective management and use of parish resources.
- Tithing Committee- A** - The Tithing Committee identifies and approves charitable organizations to receive parish funds as part of the program to donate a percentage of the parish income. The Committee meets quarterly.
- Setups - A** - Occasional assistance is needed to set up and/or tear down chairs and tables for various parish activities. Scheduling would be on an as-needed basis.
- Technology and Communications Committee -A** - The Technology and Communications Committee provides recording and presentation services, especially during liturgies, such as baptisms and Easter Vigil. The committee meets regularly during the year; the project work takes place outside the meeting and the time needed varies by project.
- Garden Club - A,F** - The parish grounds have won awards for the beauty and care of the flower beds around the building. Join this team of volunteers to periodically plant, water and tend to the flower and landscape beds.

Liturgy

Our source and summit of Christian life

- Liturgy Planning Commission - A** - The Liturgy Planning Commission promotes and strengthens the ongoing liturgical renewal in the Church. The Commission's responsibilities include planning of the liturgies for our parish and oversight of the liturgical ministries. During an annual retreat, members break open the readings for the year, pray together and vision for the next liturgical year. Meetings are then held as needed.
- Mass Coordinator - A** - This ministry oversees many of the details involved in preparing for the celebration of our weekend masses. The Mass Coordinator works with other ministers to ensure that the Mass runs smoothly. Those interested in this ministry will be trained and mentored by other Mass Coordinators. Coordinators are scheduled for one Mass of their choosing per weekend, approximately once a month.
- Communion Ministers - T,A** - Fully initiated members of the community are invited to share the Body and Blood of Christ during Mass. Formation sessions for Eucharistic ministers are scheduled periodically throughout the year.
- Eucharistic Ministers to the Homebound - A,F** - Fully initiated members of the community are trained to bring Eucharist to parishioners that are homebound or in extended care facilities. Scheduling varies depending on need. A training session is mandatory and occasional formational sessions will be scheduled throughout the year.
- Lectors - T,A** - Fully initiated members of the community are invited to proclaim the Word of God at Mass and at other liturgies. Lectors serve on a rotating schedule and may indicate a Mass preference. Formation sessions for new Lectors are scheduled periodically throughout the year and announced in the bulletin.
- Usher - T,A** - The ushers assist in seating people, providing aid during Mass and distributing bulletins after Mass. Assignments are according to Mass preference.
- Ushers in Training - C,T,A** - Our younger parishioners (Elementary - Middle School) assist in distributing the church bulletins after mass.
- Funeral Mass Servers - A** - Acolytes are needed to assist the priest during the funeral liturgy. Responsibilities may include preparing the church for the Liturgy, as well as Communion minister and Lector if no one in the family is available. Adults who are free during the day are asked to consider this ministry.
- Altar Servers - C,T** - Girls and boys are invited to share in the parish liturgical ministries as altar servers. The young people learn firsthand about the celebration of the liturgy. Altar servers are scheduled several times a month on a rotating basis according to Mass preference. Training sessions are scheduled throughout the year.
- Greeters - C,T,A,F** - Parishioners of all ages are invited to share in this ministry, which provides special service to the parish by welcoming visitors and providing assistance to those with special needs. Greeters are usually scheduled once a month according to Mass preference.

Liturgy continued...

Sacristan -T,A- Fully initiated members share in the service of the Lord's Table by preparing the church for liturgy. The Sacristan duties consist of setting up the bread and wine, as well as the plates, cups and presider's chalice in preparation for the distribution of Communion during the Mass. They are scheduled on a rotating basis according to their Mass preference.

Wake Ministry - A- Teams of parish members share in the wake (vigil) prayer ministry for those being buried from St. Blase. Areas of ministry include Presider, Lector and Cantor. There is an important training program as well as mentoring for new wake ministers. Those interested need to be available on short notice.

Altar Care - A- Altar care ministers are responsible for lightly cleaning the church. Schedules are approximately once a month. Responsibilities include dusting the sanctuary, the vesting room, vestibule areas, chapel, changing linens and cleaning the candles.

Altar Linen Care - A- Linen Care ministers are responsible for washing and ironing linens used at mass. Additional help is needed at Christmas and Easter.

Environment and Art Committee - A- The Environment and Art Committee, working with the Liturgy Planning Committee, prepares the worship space for the various liturgical seasons. Meetings are scheduled according to need. People with enthusiasm and some visual skills are encouraged and welcomed.

Wedding Liturgy Assistant - A- These Coordinators assist bride, groom and wedding party during wedding rehearsal at church. In addition, this minister is responsible for preparing the Church and assisting at the wedding liturgy. Evening availability is needed.

Music -C,T,A,F- St. Blase has a fully active Music Program encompassing a wide variety of music ministry. Parishioners of all ages may participate as singers and instrumentalists in the various ministries. Please note that the rehearsal day and time stated below could be subject to change.

Cantor Program- C,T,A,F: Music Program for soloists who desire to lead music at worship. Rehearsals are on one Wednesday a month for 2 1/2 hours. Rehearsals are open to anyone in the Music Program, but cantors must have the music director's approval to sing at liturgy. Cantors who sing at liturgy do so approximately once a month.

Youth Music Ministry-C,T: This part of our music program is specifically for our youth, grades 3-12. We need both instrumentalists and vocalists. So, if you sing or play (any) instrument, join us! We are happy to help, teach and support new choir members and new musicians! Rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings from 6:00pm until 7:30pm. Don't worry, we won't rehearse on the nights you have faith formation sessions!

Remnant Music Ministry T,A: Contemporary music ministry open to adults and teens. Rehearsals are on Monday evenings September through June from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. This ministry sings at one liturgy almost every week.

Voices in Praise Choir-T,A: Traditional choral music ministry open to adults and teens. Rehearsals are every Thursday evening from 7:00pm until 9:00pm, September through June. The VIP Choir sings 2-3 liturgies per month during September through June, and one liturgy per month during the summer.

Faith Formation

A life-long journey

****Note:** All Ministries with children require a Protecting God's Children Workshop and criminal background check.**

Adult Faith Formation Committee - A - The committee plans and carries out programs to challenge adults to continue their learning and growth in faith. Meetings are scheduled as needed.

Catechist -T,A- Catechists facilitate and/or lead faith formation sessions using age-appropriate material provided. Catechists should be comfortable in large and small group settings and have a good sense of humor, a willingness to share their faith, and an openness to further their own personal faith growth. There are several different areas of need, each with different responsibilities and commitments.

Catechist Aide -T,A- Catechist aides assist catechists in faith formation session activities for children. Aides are needed for all areas of the Faith Formation program.

RCIA Children's Catechist - A - Facilitate and teach small group sessions for children seeking Christian initiation. Lesson planning sessions and resource materials are provided to equip the catechist for this ministry. Time commitment includes being part of a catechist team that works on a rotating basis depending on need and participating in the catechist formation process.

Catechist continued...

Early Childhood Catechist - T,A - Adults who are not parents of a 3, 4, or 5 year old are needed to lead in the following areas: storytelling, craft, prayer, snack and song. Teens are also encouraged to participate. Time commitment includes: one or two monthly sessions with young children and their parents on Saturday mornings from 10:00am until 11:30am during October through May, and participating in the catechist formation process.

Faith Formation Catechist - Grades 1-6 - A - Catechists facilitate children's Faith Formation sessions and collaborate with the coordinator and other catechists on session plans. Time commitment includes: planning meetings, twice a month Tuesday evening sessions from 6:30pm until 8:00 PM and participating in the catechist formation process.

Faith Formation Catechist - Grades 7-8 - A - Catechists facilitate group sessions with young people in grades 7 or 8. Time commitment includes: planning sessions, twice monthly Wednesday evening sessions with young people from 6:30pm until 8:15pm, and participating in the catechist formation process, including Echoes of Faith.

First Eucharist Catechist - T,A - Catechists facilitate children's portion of Family Workshops and collaborate with the coordinator and other catechists on workshop plans. Time commitment includes: family workshops and participating in the catechist formation process.

First Reconciliation Catechist - T,A - Catechists, in collaboration with the program coordinator, facilitate children's portion of Family Workshops. Time commitment includes: planning meetings, Family Workshops, and participating in the catechist formation process.

Hall Monitor - A - These adults patrol lobby, bathrooms and other areas while children are in catechetical sessions.

Confirmation Catechist - T,A - The Confirmation Team works with the coordinator to plan and implement the process to prepare youth to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. Time commitment may include: planning meetings, and helping to facilitate various events such as candidate or parent sessions, and participating in the catechist formation process.

Youth Ministry Team - T,A - The Youth Ministry Team works with 9-12 graders in their faith journey to adulthood.

RCIA Sponsor - A - An RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) sponsor is a person willing to be a friend, witness, companion and guide for a woman, man or young person (7 or older) seeking Christian initiation. Sponsors do not teach, but rather accompany the person seeking initiation on their faith journey. Although initiation is the responsibility of the whole community of St. Blase, the sponsor represents the community in a personal and direct way; therefore, we need BOTH children and adult sponsors, (anyone over the age of 8). Time commitment includes attendance at weekly Tuesday evening sessions with the candidate for the duration of the candidate's participation in the RCIA process (approximately 9-12 months).

Christian Service

Love one another as I have loved you

Mission Projects - A - From time to time, our parish offers outreach services to various mission projects that have included a sister parish in Haiti, a parish in the Mississippi Delta region, and Habitat for Humanity in our own area. Needs for these projects range from participation and traveling to the site to providing donations, organization and publicity. Details for each specific project would be provided at the time of planning.

Cereal Collection - A,F - St. Blase sponsors a cereal collection on the second weekend of each month. Ministers are needed to pack and deliver the donated cereal to the Macomb County Food Pantry. Daytime availability is a must.

Holiday Baskets -A,F - Members of the parish donate food and gift baskets for the Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter holidays. Areas of need include sorting and organizing the baskets and delivering the items to those in need. Daytime availability is a must.

MCREST - A,F (Macomb County Rotating Emergency Shelter Team)

St. Blase participates in this homeless shelter for one week during the summer months by providing daily meals, a place to sleep and shower, and transportation to jobs, training programs and other day sites. The success of the shelter rests on the response from the parish. Volunteers are needed to assist with Donations/Publicity, Transportation, Kitchen, Laundry, Facilities, Screening & Procedures and Overnight Supervision. The dates for 2018 are July 29 - August 5.

Warming Center -A - St. Blase participates in the Macomb County Warming Center, a homeless shelter for one week during the winter months to provide a safe, warm place to spend the night for those who would otherwise have no shelter. We provide a simple but nourishing evening and morning meal. Needs are similar with MCREST, listed above.

Yarning to Keep Warm - T,A,F - Knitters and crocheters, we have a ministry especially for you. Work your magic and create hats and scarves for our sisters and brothers in need. We'll supply you with the yarn and then distribute them to shelters and warming centers.

Parish Life

The Kingdom is now!

Circle of Women -A- Circles of Women are faith-sharing and support groups for Women. Each circle sets their own times for meeting.

Circle of Families -F- A Circle of Families is approximately 5-8 families who make a commitment to meet once a month over a pot luck dinner which includes faith sharing. Faith sharing can happen when breaking open the gospel or doing some other catechetical activity which fosters the faith development in the lives of the children and parents in that circle. Another option circles have is that they may decide to do their formal faith formation in these units.

Fellowship Committee-A - The Fellowship Committee plans and organizes parish social events such as Square Dances, Card & Game Nights, and other events and outings.

Bagels and Donuts -A,F- Teams of parishioners help setup, serve and cleanup at Bagel and Donut socials after 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM Sunday liturgies. Teams are scheduled according to Mass preference and serve approximately once every 4-6 weeks.

Lenten Fish Fry -T,A,F- Assist in preparation, sales and cleanup at the annual parish fish fry during Ash Wednesday, Fridays of Lent and Good Friday.

Knights of Columbus -A- The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal family organization involved in the community and contributing to the improved quality of life for special needs children and adults.

Please use the forms below to express interest in any of our ministry opportunities. If there are more than 4 ministries in which you are interested, you can write more than one on a form. Please submit these forms to the front office, or drop them in the collections basket.

Thank you for your consideration in supporting these ministries!

Please contact me about _____ _____ _____ ministry/ministries. Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____	Please contact me about _____ _____ _____ ministry/ministries. Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____
Please contact me about _____ _____ _____ ministry/ministries. Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____	Please contact me about _____ _____ _____ ministry/ministries. Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____