



## **FUNERAL LUNCH MINISTRY**

Have you been thinking about volunteering at St. Rose of Lima but hesitant to join because of talent, time, comfort, or commitment? Hesitate no longer. The Funeral Lunch Ministry would love to welcome you to a team of compassionate individuals who provide a caring presence for families and friends dealing with the death of a loved one.

The purpose of this volunteer position is to provide a welcoming opportunity for families and friends to enjoy a meal and spend time together following a Funeral Mass. Volunteers work under the direction and support of a lead coordinator. The team of volunteers work together to help set the table settings in the dining area, place the catered food (ordered by the family of the deceased) onto the buffet tables, provide a compassionate approach to families dealing with their loss, and then clean up after the funeral luncheon.

Volunteers for the Funeral Lunch Ministry indicate which day or days of the week they are most likely available to come to the St. Rose of Lima Parish Center to assist the lead coordinator in the event of a funeral luncheon. The amount of time required is approximately 4 hrs per funeral. Funerals are primarily held on weekdays Tuesday through Friday. The Funeral Lunch Ministry is a “wait for the call” ministry so there will be times when there are no funerals scheduled.

Planning a wake/visitation and a Funeral Mass for a loved one are emotional experiences...oftentimes overwhelming for families. What a rewarding opportunity for volunteers of this ministry to show their empathy, compassion, and sympathy to grieving family members through their gifts of time, set up, and service. Family and friends of the deceased are so grateful and appreciative of the efforts taken to create a relaxing environment so they may share a meal together on a difficult day. The Funeral Lunch Ministry is honored to literally serve others. We hope you will strongly consider joining this local, faith community during times of loss for families and friends. If you would like to learn more about this ministry, please contact Brian Hindt at 651-645-9389.

## **VISITING MINISTRIES**

Have you ever wondered why some parishioners receive the Eucharist in a holder (called a pyx) when they come up for Communion during Mass? The answer, says Mary Dietz, Saint

Rose coordinator of visiting ministries: They are members of our team of visiting ministers. Currently more than 30 of them bring the Eucharist to homebound parishioners, to senior centers, nursing homes and St. John's Hospital. These ministers serve approximately 80 every week in addition to a number of Catholic patients at the hospital.

Bob Luken has been a visiting minister for 25 years and for a decade he was the parish's coordinator of the homebound program. He fondly remembers one of the special people he regularly visited.

"Henry Sigety was 90 when I began taking him Communion," recalls Bob. "I did it for 12 years. We got to where I'd knock, open the door and we'd start the day off by singing the 'Good Morning' song. At his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday party and again at his 102<sup>nd</sup>, I was at the door when they wheeled him in and I started singing 'Good Morning.' His eyes lit up."

Meeting with parishioners you have never met make a profound impact on you, says Mary. "I met Evelyn and Bob Corbin when I was being trained as a substitute for Erv Stoss who had brought Communion to them regularly. You could see that the couple was so very much in love. They both enjoyed each other's company and were so attentive to each other."

When Erv asked for help serving Catholic residents at the Rose of Sharon nursing home, Mary responded. Along with Claire Tschida, Pat Hansen and Erv they conduct a Communion service every Tuesday. Similar weekly services are held by Joan Van Roo at the Rose Pointe apartments and by Dolly Buettner for Eagle Crest residents.

Mary trains homebound ministers, who also need to attend Virtus training. Parishioner Mary Cay Pepin works with the hospital ministers, who work in pairs and visit approximately once a month. The Saint Rose visiting ministry program is one of the cornerstones of the church. If you would like to learn more about serving a very important segment of our parish community, please contact Brian Hindt at the Parish Center at 651-645-9389.

## **HOSPITAL MINISTRY**

Most Thursday mornings, two representatives from Saint Rose of Lima meet at St. John's Hospital's Volunteer Office to prepare to offer Holy Communion to patients. One of us has picked up two pyxes and burses from our Adoration Chapel. We proceed to the Spiritual Care office where two identical lists have been prepared with the names of about 30 to 45 Catholic

patients. The lists are divided, we pray with each other, and then attempt to visit each of persons whether they are in ICU, maternity or regular rooms. Sometimes we are not able to go into a room for medical reasons. Everyone we visit and the lists we see are strictly confidential.

It is such a privilege and blessing for us to perform this ministry. So many of the patients are so grateful to be able to receive the Eucharist and there are tears in their eyes. Sometimes, patients want to share a bit about themselves and for others it is a struggle just to receive because they truly don't feel good. We offer a Spiritual Communion prayer to those that are not able to have anything by mouth and offer patients the option of a prayer if they want neither. We have been blessed to see new babies, our own parishioners, people we have worked with, and even prayed with a family as the patient was actively dying. Sometimes we even hear fun stories about St. Rose or an affiliation a patient had with our parish or school years ago.

Though this is an outreach ministry, our own spiritual lives are enriched. We witness the love of the Eucharist by patients, the power of prayer and the absolute need sick people have for spiritual healing. Presently, there are 8 of us that participate in this Communion Ministry and we each go approximately once a month. We are all Virtus trained plus we receive training from M Heath Fairview – St. John's. If you are interested in this ministry, please contact Mary Cay Pepin at 651-246-2756 or Brian Hindt at 651-645-9389.

## **PRAYER LINE**

St. Rose of Lima Prayer Line would love to add you to our existing prayer line. We can't begin to express how much it means to parishioners, loved ones and all prayer requestors to know that someone is praying for them! Each day during the week, an email is sent to members with prayers that have been submitted to us asking for our prayers. Each person can choose to pray in a way that makes sense to him or her. It might be formal prayers, offering up a task, spontaneous prayer or however you like to pray. No questions are ever asked however, please keep the prayers confidential when there is identifying information. **Please consider becoming a part of this wonderful ministry!** If you have any questions or wish to join please email [prayerline@saintroseoflima.net](mailto:prayerline@saintroseoflima.net) or call Mary Cay at 651-246-2756.

*“Jesus spent the night in prayer to God.” (Luke 6: 12)*

## **CHRISTIAN SERVICE COMMITTEE**

The Christian Service Committee (CSC) is our parish's outreach to promoting social justice and charitable acts of kindness within our community. Our main goals are to develop Awareness, Action, and Advocacy. We strive to increase awareness by hosting speakers and providing information about issues affecting our community. We take action by doing acts of service such as Adopt-A-Park litter clean-up in Reservoir Woods, Feed My Starving Children, and the School Supply Drive. We have also advocated for social justice by collaborating with Catholic Charities and submitting petitions in support of legislative action.

The Christian Service Committee is passionate about making a positive difference in others' lives. One person alone can make a small change, but if we all contribute something small, then together we can make a huge impact. It's that impact that makes it so special to be a part of CSC and use your time and talents to help others.

For this reason, the Christian Service Committee is always eager to bring on more members. Whether a particular social justice issue is near and dear to your heart or you just enjoy helping others through service projects, we'd love for you to join our team. The Christian Service Committee meets September – May on the second Tuesday of each month in the parish center. If interested in learning more, please contact Nancy Reszetar at (651) 487-3572 or Brian Hindt at 651-645-9389.