

Our Lady of Sorrows

# Ministry Guide

> As each one has receivedage, useitserveoneanother as good stewardsofGod's varied grace. Peter4:10

Stewardship is based on the understanding that all we have and all we are is a gi from God—our me, our talent, our treasure, and even the gi of life itself. We show our gratitude by returning a poron of them back to God.

Please read these following ministry descriptions and fill out the form provided in the pews. Training will be provided for all ministries, and three-year terms will apply to most ministries. A background check and Safe Environment training is required for those working with vulnerable adults and children.
**Thank you for sharing your gifts!**

## LITURGICAL MINISTRY

**Sacristan**: a vital role in preparing for the celebration of Mass. Sacristans help set up the altar and liturgical items, prepare vestments and sacred vessels, care for church linens and supplies, and ensure everything is ready before and after each liturgy. Through their quiet service behind the scenes, they help create a prayerful and reverent worship experience for the parish community.

**St. Vincent de Paul:** "No work of charity is foreign to St. Vincent de Paul." We meet with our neighbors in the local community in need within their homes to provide hope, comfort, help, and guidance. We help them with rent, ulles, food, and many other items.

**Knights of Columbus:** Involvement is a chance for personal growth, responsibility, and leadership. Host annual Lenten Fish Fry, lead Rosary, and help with parish fundraising events. This Catholic men's group supports vocations to the religious life and Outreach projects.

## FAITH FORMATION

**Sunday Classes:** Volunteer teachers (catechists) and classroom helpers assist in the faith formation of children from kindergarten through the 6th grade. Classes are held on Sundays at noon.

**First Reconciliation/Communion Prep:** Volunteers assist or teach children for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Eucharist. Commitment begins in the fall and ends with the First Communion in May.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW):** Volunteers provide an opportunity for children to learn about the Word of God by hearing and discussing the Sunday readings in a small group at a more understandable level. Children's Liturgy takes place at Sunday Mass once a month.

**Youth Group:** Through faith discussions, fellowship, and activities members find support, encouragement, and a sense of belonging in a vibrant Catholic community.

**Bible Study:** invites parishioners to grow in their faith through prayer, Scripture reading, and discussion. Using Catholic study materials, participants deepen their understanding of God's Word.

- **Lector/Readers**: Readers that proclaim the Word for weekend Masses and special liturgies.
- **Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion**: Parishioners who have been Confirmed assist in the distribution of Holy Communion at Mass.
- **Usher:** Assist in greeting, seating, taking up the collection, and obtaining/assisting the host family in presenting the offering. Ushers also help those needing assistance during Mass. Background checks required.
- **Altar Server:** Children in the 4th grade or older, who have completed First Communion, and who would like the actively involved in the Mass. The primary role is to assist the priest during Mass.
- **Altar Society:** Support the care of the altar by cleaning and laundering altar cloths and hospitality linens. Linens require special handling, ironing skills, and a washer and dryer.
- **Music/Choir:** We are currently welcoming cantors for Saturday Vigil Mass, and cantors and instrumentalists for Sunday Mass. Cantors lead the assembly in psalms and hymns.
- **Arts & Environment:** Assists staff with traditional and seasonal church decor and general aesthetics of the church building.

## PARISH LIFE MINISTRY

**Coffee Hour:** Welcome and serve our community by hosting Coffee Hour and/or simply providing food donations after weekend Masses. It's all about hospitality and fellowship and plays an important role in growing the parish. Food expenses are reimbursed up to $75 per Mass.

## OFFICE AND FACILITIES

- **Money Counting:** meets weekly to count the offertory collection. Each session takes about 2-3 hours. This is a meaningful way to serve our uparish. Training is provided, and a background check is required.
- **Parish Office Support:** assists with tasks such asstuffing envelopes/bulletins, organizing photos, collecting memories.
- **Facilities Committee:** skilled and professional guidance is needed to ensure proper church upkeep and public safety. Regularly review the condition of the parish buildings, grounds, utilities, and infrastructure. Help a general repairs, saussural, arn: unharmoniousm cicie its needed.
- **Groundskeeper:** If you are a landscaper, ground maintenance person, or just have a green thumb, help beautify and tend designated garden spaces on church property.

## OUTREACH MINISTRY

- **Homebound Ministry:** Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion for Homebound—Bring the Eucharist to the sick or elderly confined in their homes, assisted living facilities, and hospital community.
- **Women's Outreach:** provides companionship and support to elderly and homebound individuals through friendly visits, light assistance, and caring connections. Volunteers help ensure those who are isolated remain connected to both the parish and the support they may need.
- **Community Outreach:** serving those in need providing meals to local shelters, supporting families through the PREPARES Program, collecting food and hygiene supplies, and bringing joy to nursing home residents.
- **Handwork for Homebound**: our elderly or homebound parishioners could use a bit of help at home to leaves from gutters, mowing, fixing a dripping faucet, etc.