

## **ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE CHURCH MINISTRIES AND COMMITTEES**

### **WORSHIP**

**Liturgy Committee** plans, prepares and coordinates our parish liturgies and environment. (Contacts: Deacon Gregory Dixon and Susan Georgini)

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHCs)** assist the presider at Mass with the distribution of the Eucharist and take Holy Communion to the sick and homebound as needed and determined by the Diocesan Bishop and Pastor. EMHCs should demonstrate the greatest reverence for the Most Holy Eucharist. EMHCs must be baptized members of the parish in good standing who attend Mass regularly here, have been confirmed and are at least 18 years old. An interview with and approval by the pastor is required to serve in this ministry. EMHCs are expected to serve at least once a month at weekend Masses. (Contact: Susan Georgini)

**Lectors (Ministers of the Word)** proclaim God's Word and read the Prayers of the Faithful at Mass. Good Lectors prepare carefully. Lectors will need to read the Sacred Scriptures, reflect prayerfully on their meaning, and practice reading aloud prior to their assigned days of service. Workbooks and practice opportunities are provided. Lectors must be baptized and confirmed members of the parish in good standing who attend Mass regularly here. Ministers of the Word are expected to commit to serving a minimum of once a month. (Contact: Susan Georgini)

**Hospitality Ministers (HMs)** help bring our faith community together by welcoming all who enter St. Andrew's Church. Hospitality draws people together and encourages them to fully and actively participate in the liturgy. Through your warm welcome, respectful help and prayerful participation in the liturgy you are a model of our faith to all—newcomers and regular parish members alike. HMs must be active, baptized members of the parish in good standing who attend Mass here regularly. HMs are asked to commit to serving a minimum of once a month. (Contact: Susan Georgini)

*Note: For each of the above Liturgical Ministries, parish membership, regular liturgical attendance and training are required. Attendance at a Diocesan Training Workshop is strongly recommended. Additionally, attendance at a one-time, three-hour Diocesan VIRTUS workshop is required by the Diocese.*

**Sacristans/Altar Guild** – Sacristans and Altar Guild members serve to prepare the church worship space before Mass, including the necessary preparations for communion; and to clear any items left behind after Mass. The Altar Guild would also be responsible for church cleaning and flower care. (Contact: Shirley Kennedy)

**Cantors** lead the assembly in song. (Contact: Sergio Sandí)

**Adult Choir** participates in liturgies at least twice a month, as well as major feast days. Singers of all ages and levels are welcome, from high school students through seniors. No auditions are required; all that's asked is that you bring your voice, your enthusiasm, and your desire to learn some new music. Rehearsals are held every other week on Sunday mornings at 10am. (Contact: Sergio Sandí)

**Consolation Ministry**, with the pastor's direction, assist the family with the planning of the funeral or attend the wake and/or funeral. When needed, a member, who is an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Lector or Hospitality Minister, may assist at the Funeral Mass. A minister of consolation may reach out to families by making follow-up calls. (Contact: Shirley Kennedy)

**Retreat Planners** organize prayer services and parish retreats. (Contact: Deacon Greg Dixon)

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN**

**Catechists** dedicate their time and talents, voluntarily, and witness the Gospel by practicing what they teach. Classes are held on Thursday afternoons (Grades 1 to 5); Friday evening (Grades 6, 7, 8); Saturday morning (Grades 1 to 5); and Sunday morning (Grade 2). A catechist is at once a teacher and a minister who seeks to make the faith a living, conscious and active faith. (The Safe Environment Program of the Diocese of Brooklyn mandates that all volunteers who serve children attend the Protecting God's Children child sexual abuse awareness training, as well as undergo background checks.) (Contact: Ann Smyth)

**Children's Liturgy Committee** assist with the preparations of the Children's Liturgy of the Word in order to help the children become closer to Jesus and his Word. These liturgies are celebrated October through Lent at the Sunday 11am Mass. Parents are especially invited to be a part of this Committee. (Contact: Ann Smyth)

**Junior Lectors** proclaim God's Word at Children's Liturgies of the Word at the Sunday 11am Mass (October through Lent). All children are invited to be Junior Lectors. (Contact: Ann Smyth)

**Altar Servers** main responsibilities are to help preparing the Lord's table during Eucharist, and bearing the missal. Children who have received First Holy Communion and attend 4th grade or higher are invited to become Altar Servers. (Contact: Teresa Cashman)

## **PARISH COUNCIL**

The Parish Council is conducted under the guidance of Fr. Greg, and assists in promoting pastoral action in the parish. The Council is composed of parishioners and those of the parish staff who have specific pastoral care and responsibilities. The Council has evolved into three distinct committees to serve the needs of the parish. The Council meets as a whole group on the third Tuesday of the month.

The committees meet as needed to prepare for the monthly meeting and their respective upcoming activities. (Contact: Pierre Lehu, Facilitator)

**Faith Formation Committee** provides opportunities for parishioners to nurture their spiritual relationship with Christ and his Church through various ways, including Bible Study, books, brochures and cds for the home. (Contact: LaNell Schultheis)

**Parish Life Committee** organizes social activities of the parish, including the Feast Day celebration, the Mardi Gras Party and the Pentecost Party; and coordinates Coffee Pot Sundays. (Contact: Christine Kemp)

**Parish Outreach Committee** is involved in activities reaching out beyond the parish, including the letter-writing campaign of Bread for the World. (Contact: John Kemp)

## **FAITH FORMATION**

**Baptism Preparation Team** assists the pastor in the formation of the parents and godparents of children who are about to be baptized. (Contact: LaNell Schultheis)

**Ministry to the Hispanic Community** is open to all who wish to minister to and work with our Spanish-speaking community. In addition to assisting our Spanish neighbors with day-to-day situations, ministers are also needed to serve at the Sunday 12:30pm Mass in Spanish. (Contact: Senen Martinez)

**Jornada** meets Mondays, 7pm in Kiernan Hall. The mission of the group is to give young people (age 16 and up) the tools to help themselves and others – “Youth helping youth.” At the same time, learn more about our Lord through Bible discussions, group activities and community service. (Contact: Eddie Cortes)

**Women's Spirituality Group** meets monthly in a warm and nurturing atmosphere to reflect on some aspect of our faith and how we can translate it into our everyday lives. Themes are presented and facilitated by one among the Group. All are welcome. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month, with a few exceptions. (Contact: Terry Febles)

## **PARISH LIFE**

**WAY Ministry** was formed by reaching out to the young members of the parish family, with the goal of reaching out to the community using technology, gatherings and events, while keeping in mind St. Andrew's mission statement. (Contact: Chris Farnen)

**Prayer Network** is a group of faithful individuals joined in private and/or communal prayer to pray for the needs of all whose petitions come to us. Some volunteers create comfort caps delivered to children with cancer, as well as prayer blankets given to those who are visited. Members pray the Rosary on Thursday and Saturday mornings at 9:30am, and at 10:15am on Sundays. (Contact: Maryann Polesinelli)

**Coffee Pot Sunday Team** hosts the Coffee Pot Sundays which take place after the Masses on selected Sundays. The team oversees the supplies (cups, plates, etc.), makes purchases as needed, coordinates with ministries who act as hosts, prepare Kiernan Hall, and cleans up and closes up afterwards. (Contact: Christine Kemp)

**Lenten Soup Supper Team** organizes this opportunity for parishioners to come together for a simple meal of soup and bread as a reminder of how we are called to practice a simpler lifestyle during our Lenten journey. (Contact: Christine Kemp)

**Library Committee** maintains the Parish Library and reviews and purchases new resources. The library is located beneath the Senator Street Stairwell that leads downstairs towards Kiernan Hall. (Contact: Terry Febles)

**Parish Photographers** take photos of special parish celebrations and liturgical events, including the first sacraments of Religious Ed children. (Contact: Pat Garvey)

**Parish House Grounds Beautification** – Do you like to plant flowers? Can you pull weeds? Is cutting grass fun for you? Like a straight hedge? Enjoy holding a hose and watering plants? Want to rake leaves? And what about smelling the roses? Equipment provided; no experience necessary; volunteers needed. (Contact: LaNell Schultheis)

**OLPH/St. Andrew Girls and Boys Swim Teams** – Many opportunities for involvement with the Swim Teams: coaches, deck hands, clerical. We are always recruiting swimmers: girls ages 6 to 10; boys 5 to 14. Candidates must be able to swim at least one length of the pool (25 yards). Teams practice at Fort Hamilton High School Pool, September through May. The boys team has dual meets on

Friday evenings from late October to early January. The girls team meets are on Friday evenings from late January to the end of March. (Contacts: Girls Team: Michael Sapienza at Msapienza48@aol.com; Boys Team: Ray Wendt at 917-873-2698)

### **PARISH OUTREACH**

**St. Vincent de Paul Group** distributes non-perishable foods during monthly meetings (third Wednesday of the month at 9:45am). To prepare for the food distribution, groceries are collected, sorted and then packed into individual bags of food items. (Contacts: Sr. Pat Reilly and Loretta Migliore)

**San Andrés Committee** -- This ministry maintains correspondence with our sister parish, San Andres Sajcabajá, Guatemala, and organizes events to provide financial assistance and to celebrate the bond of friendship and mutual understanding between the two parishes. The Sister Celeste Derr Foundation provides a scholarship program to poor young people in San Andrés Sajcabajá in the Department of Quiche in Guatemala. (Contacts: Maggie Dixon and Tom Hinchey)

**ESL** – English language classes meet for ten weeks in the fall and again in the winter on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Teachers, aides, and an energetic babysitter are always needed. No professional training required. (Contact: LaNell Schultheis)

**Fair Trade Coffee, Tea and Chocolate Project** sells Equal Exchange fair trade products. Help is needed with set-up before the 9am Mass, assisting parishioners with their purchases after each Mass, and storage of items after the 12:30pm Mass. Sales take place on selected Sundays. (Contact: Daniela Maiorana)

**Girl Scouts** meet on Fridays during the school year for Daisy, Brownie, Junior and Cadette Scouts. The Troop e-mail address is StAndrewGirlScouts@gmail.com. (Contact: Angel Figueroa)