

Ministry Opportunities

Service: Administration

Archives

This is an outgrowth of the work done in 1996 by the Archives Committee in connection with the writing of the new Parish History Book. Historical items already collected plus more to be collected need to be properly preserved and stored.

Building & Grounds

This ministry supports the physical needs of the parish. We invite people with a talent for carpentry and a willingness to tackle “fixer up” projects.

Finance Council

A group of selected adult parishioners give their time to help the pastor in the development and management of parish resources and financial obligations at Sacred Heart. The Finance Council works with the pastor to develop an annual budget, select and promote fundraising activities within the parish and review parish expenditures to ensure appropriate stewardship and to meet the fiscal needs of Sacred Heart.

Money Counters

A small group gathers to assist the office in processing the church sacrificial giving envelopes and special collections.

Pastoral Council

This council is made up of thirteen members. The council’s role is to coordinate and unify our parish community. Its mission is to achieve full participation of the whole parish. The council helps determine the direction the parish should take. Everyone is invited to attend the monthly meetings, which are held the third Tuesday of each month, September through June at 7:00 PM.

Personnel Advisory Committee

PPAC advises the pastor and administrator on parish staff additions/changes, develops necessary Human Resource policies and job descriptions for parish employees, and monitors that annual job evaluations are being completed by Pastor and/or Administrator.

Stewardship Committee

This group works in conjunction with the Parish Council to assess the needs of the parish; advertises the various parish ministries to parishioners; updates the Ministry Directory; coordinates the annual stewardship renewal; makes recommendations for allocation of parish resources and committee structures; and assists the pastor in educating parishioners on the principles of stewardship.

Parish Vision Statement

*Drawing Our Life from the Eucharist,
Our parish family will live
The Mission of Jesus Christ
Through prayer, faith formation, and service*

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

810 S. Cedar Ave | Owatonna, MN 55060

Phone 507-451-1588 | Fax 507-446-9979

www.sacredheartowatonna.org

Prayer

Altar Servers
Eucharistic Ministers
 To Homebound
 To Nursing Homes
Spanish Mass Ministry
Lectors/Readers
Liturgical Arts & Environment
Liturgical Music
Mass Greeters
Sacristans
Ushers
Videotaping
Eucharistic Adoration
Gospa Prayer
Prayer Network
Prayer Shawl Ministry
Queen of Peace
Rosary Leaders
Funeral Rosary Leaders

Faith Formation

Bible Studies
RCIA
Call to be Catholic Program
Sunday School
Religious Education Program
Catholic Youth of Owatonna
Special Needs Religious
Education
St. Mary's School

Service

Altar Server's Garb Caretaking
Altar Linens

Birthright of Owatonna
Elizabeth Ministry
Funeral Lunch Committee
Grief Ministry
Meals on Wheels
Parish Nurse/Caring Ministry
Respect Life Team
Rides to Mass
Social Justice Committee
Baptismal Garments
Catholic Daughters of America
Church Dusters
Fellowship
Flower Planting
Guild of St. Blanche
Guild of St. Therese
Knights of Columbus
Legion of Mary
Nursery
Owatonna Area Serra Club
Women's Council
Welcome Ministry

Administration

Archives
Buildings & Grounds
Finance Council
Money Counters
Pastoral Council
Personnel Advisory Committee
Stewardship Committee



Knights of Columbus

Knights of Columbus is a Catholic fraternal organization that engages in serving God, church and community. It offers special service to the Pope, bishops, local parishes and projects within the Owatonna community.

Legion of Mary

The object of the Legion of Mary is the glory of God through the holiness of its members, developed by prayer and active cooperation in Mary's and the Church's work. The unit of the Legion of Mary is called a praesidium, which holds weekly meetings to pray and offer discussions and reports.

Nursery

The nursery is available every Sunday, September through May, during the 9:00 and 10:30 AM Masses. Parents with newborns to age six can take advantage of the nursery while attending Mass. It is staffed with two adults or one adult and one teen.

Owatonna Area Serra Club

The Owatonna Serra Club is comprised of lay men and women from several Catholic churches in the area. The objectives of Serra are: To foster and promote vocations to the ministerial priesthood and religious life, while supporting those who already

have dedicated themselves to this ministry; and to further Catholicism by encouraging its members to fulfill their Christian vocation to service.

Sacred Heart Women's Council

This organization acts to support, empower and educate all Catholic Women through spirituality, leadership and service. The Council's programs respond to the Gospel values and to the needs of the Church and society in our modern world. The officers and commission chair-people meet once per month.

Welcome Ministry

This ministry helps to make new members in the parish feel welcome. Contact is made by phone, followed by a visit with a parish information packet. The goal is to help connect newcomers to ministries and people within the parish.



Living the Mission of Jesus Christ

Service: Parish Life

Altar Server's Garb Caretaking

Following each weekend, the garbs are rearranged by size so servers can easily find their proper size. Garb is also laundered if necessary. This ministry is a hidden and humble work, but is essential.

Altar Linens

On a weekly basis, altar linens are laundered and ironed.

Baptismal Garment Sewing

Those talented in this field can help with the preparation of baptismal garments and other sewing needs of the parish.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA)

Court Owatonna #1180 is part of the largest organization of Catholic women in America. The purpose of this group is to participate in the religious, charitable, and educational work of the Church. CDA meets once a month September through June.

Church Dusters

This ministry of dusting the worship space and Narthex needs volunteers who have an eye for dust and will enjoy keeping God's house dust-free. No vacuuming is involved. Training is provided.

Fellowship

This ministry encourages an atmosphere of "family" among our parishioners and extends the spiritual nourishment to the physical nourishment. It involves serving coffee, juice and rolls on various Sunday mornings after all the Masses, September through May.

Flower Planting

This ministry takes care of planting, watering and caring for flowers that are in containers on the south side of the church, by the Shrine of Our Lady of Beau-raing, around the Oak Avenue sign and in front of the church.

Guild of St. Blanche

This group of Catholic women gather the first Thursday of each month to pray, play cards and enjoy treats.

Guild of St. Therese

The guild's primary function is sewing for the missions. Quilts and other items are made. The items are donated to the Salvatorian Missions in New Holstein, WI, to the needy in Guatemala and Haiti and to local needs. The project operates under the International Concerns Commission of the Winona Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. It is supported through the Sacred Heart Council of Catholic Women.

What is Ministry?

Ministry is any activity or service for our parish, its organizations and people, which helps our Church reach its goals by doing the work of Jesus. Being a good steward means participating in one or more ministries available in our parish. In God's eyes every ministry is important because it benefits our Church and moves us closer to our personal salvation.

Categories of Ministry

- Prayer (Liturgy, Adoration, and Prayer Groups)
- Faith Formation (Adult and Youth)
- Service (Human Concerns, Parish Life, and Administration)

***Remember:** When you ask to be considered for specific ministries you are not volunteering for life. You are simply saying that at the present time you are willing to participate in one or more of the ministries of your choice as long as you are able and believe you have something to offer.*



Prayer: Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers

Girls and Boys from the fourth grade through high school interested in being an altar server are invited to join this special ministry.

Eucharistic Ministry

Eucharistic Ministers are commissioned to feed the community of the faithful with the Body and Blood of Christ during weekend masses. This ministry is open to confirmed Catholics who are members of Sacred Heart and who have a deep love of and respect for the Eucharist.

Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound

This ministry involves a commitment of time by a Eucharistic Minister to bring communion to parishioners in their home on a weekday. Ministers share a schedule with other ministers on a rotating basis once or twice per month. Visits are made to homebound members of our parish. This ministry is very rewarding and appreciated by the homebound.

Eucharistic Ministry to the Nursing Homes

This ministry involves a commitment of time by a Eucharistic Minister on the second and fourth Sunday's of the month. Lay ministers conduct a communion service at assisted living and nursing homes through a rotating schedule. You serve once every 6-8 weeks.

Spanish Mass Liturgical Roles and Catechesis

This ministry is one of welcome and hospitality. Its purpose is to participate in the Spanish Mass and for the preparation for sacraments.

Lectors/Readers

Readers proclaim the Word of God through the liturgical readings designated for specific Sundays and Holy Days. At each Mass, they also welcome the assembly, introduce the theme of the Mass, lead the prayer petitions, and at the end of the Mass, make any announcements. A training session is provided for all new readers.

Liturgical Arts & Environment Committee

This group of individuals and families carries out the decorating for liturgical seasons, assists in

planning for improvements and cares for some of the items used by liturgical ministries. Members of the group help manage and maintain plants and flowers within the church and narthex.

Liturgical Music

Liturgical music is provided by many choirs and individuals and is coordinated by the Liturgical Music Director. Musicians interested in providing wedding music are part of a list who may be contacted by wedding couples.

Mass Greeters

Greeters welcome the people to our weekend assembly for worship, greeting both in the Narthex and at the Cedar Avenue entrance. Greeters needed for all masses.

Sacristans

Sacristans are volunteers who are responsible for the preparation of the items necessary for Sunday Mass. They arrive before mass to insure that there are adequate supplies available and ready for use by the priest, altar servers and readers. Sacristans needed for all masses.

Ushers

Ushers attend to the needs of the assembly at Weekend, Holy Day and Special Liturgies. They gather the regular and special collections,

achieve wholeness with and through the community of faith in which the parish nurse serves. Some of the opportunities include: blood pressure monitoring, educational sessions, networking, friendly visiting, care visits, "meal runs", grief support, transportation, "Heart Warmers" articles, and special Masses and liturgies. Its purpose is to create a "Catholic Christian Community of Service" at Sacred Heart with volunteer parishioners meeting individual needs.

Respect Life Team

The Respect Life Team welcomes all members of Sacred Heart to be part of its mission to share the beautiful Catholic teaching on Life. The Team seeks to help protect human life from the womb to natural death, through prayer, adoration, education, evangelization, and activities and events. We humbly request that all parishioners pray for the preservation of life, and we invite anyone interested in further participation to attend a Respect Life Team meeting.

Rides to Mass

A weekly shuttle bus sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and Sacred Heart Women's Councils is available for those who need a ride to Mass. The shuttle will pick you up at your home and bring

you to the 9:00 AM Mass at Sacred Heart. Contact the Owatonna Bus Company (451-5262) for this service.

Social Justice Committee

This committee meets monthly to address social justice within our parish, community and world. It plans events and activities to promote life, dignity and the rights of all. A few of the many activities include Steele County Food Shelf collections, Steele County Clothesline Coat Drive, Caring Hands for Tanzania, Christmas Giving Tree, and Thanksgiving Food Baskets.

St. Vincent DePaul Society

St. Michael Conference, Steele County of the St. Vincent de Paul Society helps members to grow in holiness and bear witness to the love of Christ through prayer, reflection, and direct service to the poor. We offer vouchers for food, gas, rent, utilities, a night in a hotel, or laundry. Members visit those in need in their homes in pairs, support us financially, communicate with local Catholic churches, and work on fundraising.



Stewardship is the ability to share one's gifts of life, time, talents, and resources with others with no strings attached and no conditions.

the late Archbishop Thomas Murphy, Seattle



Service: Human Concerns

Birthright of Owatonna

Birthright is an emergency pregnancy service helping women and teens in troubled pregnancies as well as women who are concerned about the possibility of pregnancy. We provide friendship, support, guidance and educational materials for clients. We make referrals to appropriate resources and provide free pregnancy tests. Maternity clothes and baby clothes are provided free of charge, as needed. Birthright hours are: Tues., Wed., & Thurs from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM and Sat., 10:00 AM to noon. We are located at 140 1/2 E. Rose Street.

Elizabeth Ministry

Elizabeth Ministry offers support and comfort to women and their families before, during and after childbirth. Volunteers are avail-

able to offer support with issues of Infertility, Miscarriage, Stillbirth, Adoption, Multiple Birth, Bed Rest, and other similar life experiences.

Funeral Lunch Committee

This ministry helps organize and serve lunches for funerals.

Grief Ministry

This ministry offers grief support and comfort to family members who have lost a loved one.

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels provides nutritious meals to people who are homebound and/or disabled, or would otherwise be unable to maintain their dietary needs. The Owatonna Meals on Wheels seeks support from a network of groups throughout the area to find volunteer drivers.

The Sacred Heart CCW finds drivers for one day a week, four months a year. The program operates out of Senior Place.

Parish Nurse/Caring Ministry

This ministry is the health, wellness and holistic approach to life from conception to natural death. The mission of Parish Nursing is the intentional integration of practice of faith with the practice of nursing so that people can

respond to special worship needs of parishioners, and work to assure a comfortable, pleasant worship setting. They are also responsible for picking up items left in pews after Mass and placing worship aids in racks provided. Both men and women are invited in this ministry.

Videotaping

One of the weekend Masses is taped each week and is shown on cable TV, channel 8 on Mondays @ 11:00 AM, Wednesdays @ 8:00 PM and Thursdays @ 2:00 PM. Requests for the original tape or copies should be made with the parish office. Videotaping for weddings is also available.



Prayer: Prayer Groups

Eucharistic Adoration

Every Thursday, Sacred Heart has Eucharistic Adoration in the Church from 8:00 am—Midnight. At least two people are signed up as Eucharistic Guardians for every hour. More people are needed to fill in hours. Drop-ins are always welcome.

Gospa Prayer

The word "Gospa" is the Croatian

word for "Our Lady". This group meets the first and third Mondays of the month in Church at 6:45 PM.

Prayer Network

Anyone with a prayer request can call or email a request. The network calls volunteers on a list or recipients receive an email. You then say prayers for the specific requests.

Queen of Peace Prayer Group

This group gathers at 7:30 AM on Saturdays at St. Joseph's Church for Rosary followed by Mass at 8:00 AM. After Mass, prayer continues with the Litany, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, other prayers, and ends in song.

Rosary Leaders

Twenty-five minutes before every scheduled Mass, the rosary is recited. It is led by volunteers and prayed by parishioners. Volunteers can choose the Mass that works best for them.

Funeral Rosary Leaders

When a request is made by the family, one or two members of our parish will be present to lead a rosary for a parishioner at their wake in the funeral home the day prior to their funeral liturgy. This is a parish rosary so all are welcome to be present.

Creator God,

*At Baptism, we accepted the call
to follow Jesus.*

*Be with us as we move along on
our faith journey.*

*Send us your Holy Spirit, that we might
have wisdom for the journey.*

*Help us to develop and share our gifts
as good stewards, that we may use them
in love and service in your Kingdom.*

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

Amen

Faith Formation: Adults

**Men's Bible Study/
Faith Sharing**

Men need to support each other, as they strive to be images of God the Father to their spouses, children, and others. The group reviews the upcoming Sunday's Scripture readings; studies a short commentary on these passages; discusses the meaning for their lives as fathers, husbands, brothers, uncles, grandfathers, etc.; and prays for attendees' needs. Coffee and donuts served! Wednesdays from 6 to 7 AM.

**Wednesday Morning
Bible Study**

We read, discuss and reflect on

the upcoming Sunday's Scripture Readings. This group is open to anyone and meets Wednesday mornings 9:00 to 10:30 AM.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

RCIA, the process used to prepare and welcome new members into the Catholic Church, provides an opportunity for faith-filled people to enter into a deeper relationship with God. As an active, alive Catholic community, we welcome inquiries into our faith from other denominations and religions. RCIA is also for baptized Catholics who have been inactive and have not yet completed their First Eucharist or Confirmation.

**The Call to be Catholic
Speakers Program**

Five Owatonna-area Catholic parishes, along with the Gainey Center and the Diocese of Winona, have combined their resources to sponsor knowledgeable speakers to address topics of interest to adult Catholics. Programs generally are held five times per year (Oct., Nov., Jan., Feb., Mar.), alternating between our parish and St. Joseph's. Once a year, a speaker of national prominence is featured. No charge to attend, but a free will offering is suggested. Suggestions for topics are always appreciated.

Faith Formation: Youth

Sunday School

Sacred Heart's Sunday School is open to all children of the parish ages 4 through Kindergarten. They must be 4 years of age by September of the current school year. The children participate in song, prayer, and Bible stories. The school is held during the 9:00 AM Mass on Sundays during the school year.

**Religious Education
Program (REP) &
Catholic Youth of
Owatonna (CYO)**

REP

This is a program of faith formation for our children who attend public schools. Classes for students in grades 1-6 and 9-10 are held after school and in the evening on Wednesdays. 7th and 8th graders meet Tuesday mornings during a release time program.

CYO

All Catholic youth in grades 6-12 are members of CYO. This ministry encourages and offers opportunities for building community, appreciation of Scripture and prayer, participation in liturgy and service, with a goal of developing a Christian way of living.

REP/CYO Board

The REP/CYO Board consults with the pastors of both parishes and the director to give guidance in the youth ministry/faith formation of both parishes. There are four members from each of the parishes along with the two pastors and the REP/CYO director.

**Religious Education
For Those With Special
Needs**

This service provides religious education to those with special education needs. The class meets once a month at the Rainbow Residence. Volunteers provide music, companionship and communion service.

St. Mary's School

St. Mary's School has been a part of the Owatonna Catholic community since 1877. The school has strived to provide an excellent Catholic education in a Christian atmosphere. Our school and dedicated staff have the highest expectations for students in both behavior and academic achievement. St. Mary's School consists of licensed and professional teachers and support staff. Our teachers attend conferences and workshops to improve teaching methods and continue their education to best serve our students.