

St. Mary Parish Volunteer Opportunities

St. Mary Parish Volunteer Opportunities

Please check the box next any volunteer opportunities in which you are interested. All volunteer committees report to the Parish Council nominated and elected by the parish each spring.

For questions, please contact **St. Mary Parish Volunteer Coordinator:**

Millie Dixon, 433-8678, ext. 6 or mdixon@stmarymobile.org. Descriptions of each are listed in the parish directory and online at www.StMaryMobile.org

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

- Gardening Committee
- Maintenance Committee
- Master Plan Committee

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE

- Angel Tree Committee
- Our Sister's Closet
- Respect Life Committee
- St. Vincent De Paul

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- Alumni Relations
- Annual Fund Drive
- Parish Archives/Museum Committee
- Publications
- Recruitment/Membership
- Special Events
- Stewardship/Strategic Planning

FAMILY LIFE

- Bereavement Committee
- Just Fun Club
- Knights of Columbus
 - Crawfish & Bluegrass Extravaganza
 - Steve Thompson Memorial Golf Tournament
- Legion of Mary
- Marriage Night
- Moms Day Out
- Vino and Values

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

- Lighting Up Midtown Annual Christmas Tree Lighting
- Parish Picnic/Potluck
- Parish Socials Committee
- Sunday Coffee and Doughnuts
- Trunk or Treat

SPIRITUAL LIFE & LITURGICAL COMMITTEE

- Adult Choir
- Altar Servers
- Altar Sodality
- Bible Studies
- Canticle Choir
- Children's Liturgy
- Eucharistic Adoration Chapel
- Eucharistic Ministers
- Gift Bearers
- Lectors
- Prayer Groups
- Rosary Group
- Sunday Evening Lifeteen Music Group
- Ushers/Greeters

ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

- Advisory Board
- Casino Night
- Fall Festival
- Field Trips
- PTO

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & EVANGELIZATION COMMITTEE

- Adult Enrichment Program/Faith Formation
- Lent and Advent Programs
- Parish Missions
- Rite of Christian Intiation of Adults (RCIA)
- Sacramental Preparation Programs
- Youth Religious Education (CCD)
- Vacation Bible School

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS COMMITTEE

- Booster Club (CYO Sports Program)
- Edge Middle School Youth Group
- Lifeteen High School Youth Group
- Scouts
- Young Adults

St. Mary Parish Volunteer Opportunities

Please find a listing describing all current committees and sub-committees of the Parish. All volunteer committees report to the Parish Council, the 18 elected and appointed volunteers members. Parish Council elections are held each spring. Nominations are made available to all parishioners.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Evaluates and makes arrangements for general facility upkeep and repairs of the campus buildings and grounds to include works of gardening, electrical, carpentry, plumbing, roofing, painting, etc. This committee oversees all parish maintenance personnel and coordinates bidding with outside contractors if needed.

Sub-Committees include:

■ Gardening Committee

Maintenance of parish grounds and outdoor shrine to include seasonal planting and spruce-up.

■ Maintenance Committee:

Evaluates and makes arrangements for general facility upkeep and repairs of the campus buildings and grounds to include works of electrical, carpentry, plumbing, roofing, painting, etc. This committee oversees all parish maintenance personnel and coordinates bidding with outside contractors if needed.

■ Master Plan Committee for Buildings and Grounds

Committee seeking opportunities for adjoining properties for sale, and future building and renovation projects to meet the growing needs of St. Mary Parish.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Provides outreach into the parish and local community serving the poor, sick, elderly, and home bound.

Sub-committees include:

■ Angel Tree Committee: Works with Catholic Social Services to coordinate Angel Tree and gift drop-off and delivery during Christmas (in conjunction with a parish Christmas Breakfast with Santa).

■ Our Sister's Closet: Located off campus at Dumas Wesley. Provides professional clothing and programs in professional development to low-income, homeless and abused women to increase their employment potential and contribute to their economic independence. Clothing is also provided to sheltered women needing clothing for domestic court. The closet provides service at no charge by referral only. Volunteers are needed to donate clothing, to help price and sort clothing for sales and to help with Annual Purse With Purpose fundraising event.

■ Respect Life Committee: Organizes pro-life activities within the parish and promotes right-to-life issues

■ St. Vincent De Paul: Assists parishioners and members of our community in spiritual and financial need.

DEVELOPMENT

Serving the church and the school, this office oversees communication, public relations, strategic planning, special events, fundraising and recruitment.

Volunteers are needed in the following areas:

■ Alumni Relations: Volunteers needed to plan annual alumni reception and other events throughout the year, form an alumni association, and invite alumni to be involved in St. Mary School.

■ Annual Fund Drive: This annual appeal for St. Mary Catholic School invites donations for improvements in school programs, facilities, and endowment growth. Volunteers are needed to chair the different divisions including major gifts, parents, alumni, grandparents, businesses, parents of

St. Mary Parish Volunteer Opportunities

alumni, leadership, and friends. The appeal begins each fall and ends on June 30th

■ **Parish Archives/Museum Committee:**

Volunteers are needed for establishing a permanent archives collection. With a rich history beginning in 1867, there are several photographs, documents, and artifacts in need of preservation. Involves research, cataloguing, and organizing.

■ **Publications:** Publications include the parish annual report, The Onlooker parish newsletter, school and church brochures, ads, and other various publications throughout the year. Experience in graphic design is needed in this area.

■ **Recruitment/Membership:** Events for both the church and school for the recruitment of potential families. Year-round volunteers needed as parent ambassadors. Volunteers are also needed to establish a welcoming committee for new parishioners.

■ **Special Events:** All special events with the purpose of recruitment, publicity, and fundraising.

■ **Stewardship/Strategic Planning:**

This commission coordinates parish stewardship activities to promote the annual parish tithing drive and the annual time and talent appeal. Parish tithing serves as the operational income for the parish.

Volunteers are needed for talent recruitment and follow-up, as speakers for stewardship appeals, and as committee members for the annual parish census and stewardship drive held in October and November.

FAMILY LIFE COMMITTEE

This committee offers educational, spiritual and social programs for all members of the family and at different stages in life.

Includes married couples with or without children, single adults, divorced, widowed, elderly and the bereaved.

Sub-committees include:

■ **Bereavement Committee:** Committee which provides meals to families who have suffered the loss of a family member.

■ **Just Fun Club:** For parishioners age 50 and above. The goal is to encourage parishioners in this age group to make a united effort to participate in social and spiritual activities

■ **Knights of Columbus:**

Men's service group composed of parishioners who plan service projects and fundraisers to benefit the church, the school, and community organizations. The Knights of Columbus is a world wide organization of Catholic men who are dedicated to serving others, promoting vocations, and spiritual growth. This group sponsors two fundraising events each year to include **The Crawfish and Bluegrass Extravaganza** in April and **The Steve Thompsons Memorial** Tournament in the fall.

■ **Legion of Mary:** Encourages devotion and service to Our Blessed Mother, Mary, through such activities as visitation, phone calls, and card writing to home-bound or hospitalized parishioners and members of our community.

■ **Marriage Night:** Monthly social event for married couples including a speaker and dinner. Reservations required.

■ **Mom's Day Out:** Located in the Seton Center, this program is for children up to the age of 3. The traditional Mom's Day Out is from 8 a.m. -12 p.m. and an aftercare program runs from 12 p.m.- 4 p.m. St. Mary's Mom's Day Out also offers an early drop off starting at 7:15 and a late pick up ending at 5:30 p.m.

■ **Vino and Values:** A fun evening held in November for women of all ages offering a motivational and usually nationally recognized speaker, wine and heavy appetizers, door prizes and more.

St. Mary Parish Volunteer Opportunities

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Provides social opportunities throughout the year for parishioners of all ages.

Sub-committees include:

■ **Book Club:** Groups who meet to discuss different books focusing on the faith. Meetings usually take place around a social weekly meeting.

■ **Lighting Up Midtown Annual**

Christmas Tree Lighting: Community event held each December on or around the Feast of The Immaculate Conception. Includes food trucks, snow machine, hot chocolate, Santa's mailbox, and more. Tree Lighting assistance provided by the Lafayette Street Fire Station Team. Follows annual Christmas performance by the school children.

■ **Parish Picnic/Parish Potluck:** Social event following Mass involving games, covered dish dinner, and entertainment for parishioners of all ages.

■ **Parish Socials Committee:** Plans events that will enhance social involvement of all parishioners (special events to include St. Patrick's Day Dinner, Thanksgiving Feast, Wine and Cheese Socials, Easter Egg Hunt, etc.)

■ **Trunk or Treat:** Fun and safe trick or treating event for children held in the St. Mary Catholic School parking lot on weekday before Halloween. Parents reserve a spot for their car, decorate their trunks, and pass out treats to trick or treaters. Fun for the entire family!

■ **Sunday Coffee and Doughnuts:** Volunteers needed to organize weekly coffee and doughnut socials following the weekend Masses.

SPIRITUAL LIFE & LITURGICAL COMMITTEE

Coordinates the participation of parishioners in parish liturgical activities.

Sub-Committees include:

■ **Adult Choir:** Voices needed to sing in the choir at weekly 9:00 A.M. Sunday Masses and special services throughout the year. Cantors needed for 5:30 P.M. Saturday Vigil Masses.

■ **Altar Servers:** Children in grades four and above needed to assist the priests with all Masses. Training provided.

■ **Altar Sodality:** Prepares church sanctuary for liturgies and oversees cleaning and decoration of church for Christmas and Easter. Meets fourth Sunday of the month following 9 a.m. Mass, September through May.

■ **Bible Studies, Rosary, and Prayer Groups:** Includes Scripture Studies, Grandmothers Prayer Team, Men's Prayer Group, Rosary Group, Young Mother's Prayer Group, etc.

■ **Canticle Choir:** Musicians and voices needed for weekly 11:30 A.M. Masses and special services throughout the year.

■ **Children's Liturgy:** Held each Sunday during the 9:00 A.M. Mass during the liturgy readings and homily. The children, ages 4-8, are lead to the to listen to the readings in a more understandable way. Volunteers read to the children and afterward help them do an activity related to the reading.

■ **Eucharistic Adoration Chapel**
Volunteers are needed to commit to spending one hour or more with the Lord on Fridays with the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome to visit and pray whether being able to commit weekly or not.

■ **Eucharistic Ministers:** Appointed by the Pastor, these lay ministers assist the priests at Mass with the distribution of communion and the blood of Christ. Help with scheduling is needed.

St. Mary Parish Volunteer Opportunities

■ **Gift Bearers:** Volunteers/families needed to serve as and schedule parishioners to present the gifts at the weekly Masses

■ **Lectors:** Volunteers to read the daily readings at all Masses.

■ **Sunday Evening Lifeteen Music Group:** Musicians and voices needed for weekly 6 p.m. Sunday Mass and special services throughout the year.

■ **Ushers/Greeters:** Volunteers needed to greet attendants as they come in Mass, assist with collections at Mass, to seat parishioners, and hand out bulletins as attendants leave Mass.

ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St Mary School, the largest educational ministry of the parish, educates elementary school aged children, in grades preschool (K3 & K4) through eighth. Volunteers are needed for School Board, the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), tutors, substitute teachers, parent ambassadors, and assistance with events and programs throughout the year. Parishioners are encouraged to become active with the school

■ **St. Mary Catholic School**

Advisory Board:

Elected members advisory to the Principal of St. Mary Catholic concerning current and long range needs for St. Mary Catholic School. Elections are held each year for a three year term.

■ **Casino Night:** This annual fundraising event for St. Mary Catholic School boasts a silent and live auction, entertainment, food, and cash door prizes. Volunteers are needed in all areas of the event. This adult event takes place on the first Saturday in May each year.

■ **Fall Festival:** Event featuring games, family fun run, food booths, and more. Held in November.

■ **Field Trips:** Drivers needed to transport children to field trips. Must be certified through Archdiocesan Child Protection Program and have proper insurance.

■ **PTO:** St. Mary's Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) exists to provide service to the school. The PTO helps with school receptions, open house, social events, fundraisers and more. Membership is open to all parents and legal guardians of students attending St. Mary School

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & EVANGELIZATION COMMITTEE

Coordinates parish efforts to develop and implement religious education programs for all ages.

Sub-committees include:

■ **Adult Enrichment Program/Faith Formation:** Personal enrichment programs for mental, educational, and physical enrichment. Develops religious education programs for adult parishioners.

■ **Lent and Advent Programs:** Educational and faith enrichment programs for adults, children, and families during these church liturgical seasons.

■ **Parish Missions:** Parish event held usually during Lent to include a guest speaker and a week of liturgical, educational, and social activities surrounding a theme.

■ **Rite of Christian Intiation of Adults (RCIA):** Provides religious instruction for adults wishing to learn more about the Catholic Church and/or to be accepted into the Church as new members. All parishioners are invited to attend. Held each Thursday evening at 7 p.m. from September through Easter.

■ **Sacramental Preparation Programs:** Preparation classes for baptism, first reconciliation, first communion, confirmation and marriage.

St. Mary Parish Volunteer Opportunities

■ **Youth Religious Education (CCD):**

Program required for all Catholic student in grades K-8 not attending Catholic School. Recruits and trains teachers, develops curriculum, selects textbooks and teaching aids for programs for K-12th grade parishioners not attending a Catholic School. These children, along with their parents, are also prepared to receive the appropriate sacraments. Catechists are needed to prepare the children for receiving sacraments and for instruction on the Catholic faith. Each Sunday at 10:15 a.m.

■ **Vacation Bible School:** Provides spiritual and social opportunities for the parish children for one week during summer vacation. Instructors needed for art, religion, music, and other activities.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS COMMITTEE

Organizes and directs social and spiritual programs for the youth of St. Mary Parish.

Sub-Committees include:

■ **Booster Club (CYO Sports Program):**

Organizes and provides support for parish CYO sports teams. Recruits and organizes coaches for teams of soccer, volleyball, and basketball.

■ **EDGE Middle School Youth Group:**

Provides opportunities for social and spiritual activities for parishioners in grades 6 through 8. Meets each Sunday.

■ **Lifeteen High School Youth Group:**

Provides opportunities for spiritual activities

for parishioners in grades 9 through 12. Meets each Sunday.

■ **Scouts:** Provides opportunities for parish youth to participate in boy and girl scout troops, promoting personal development, team work, leadership, and socialization. Scout leaders needed.

■ **Young Adults:** Group for high school graduates and above providing social and faith enrichment opportunities.