



*Church of the
Holy Family*

2016 - 2017

**MINISTRIES
and
ORGANIZATIONS**



*Please share your time and talent
by getting involved.*

<http://www.holyfamilyendwell.com/ministries>

ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY: The Altar Rosary Society is open to all women of the parish. Its main purpose is to promote devotion to our Blessed Mother and provide care and supplies for the altar from funds raised at our Thanksgiving pie and bread sale. We also provide food at Thanksgiving and gifts at Christmas for those in need. On Mother's Day we sponsor a carnation sale for Birthright. For spiritual growth we have a Day of Recollection and Mass at Transfiguration Monastery in Windsor.

EDUCATION MINISTRIES:

- **BIBLE STUDY:** The group meets Wednesday evenings at 7:00, to listen to and learn Scripture. In each session we study a different book of the Bible. Sister Brigid unpacks the verses, and we open ourselves to a deeper understanding of our faith through the written Word.
- **FAITH FORMATION** is designed to enable opportunities for children and adults to grow in their knowledge of God and the Catholic Faith. We prepare for and celebrate the sacraments, as well as liturgy, service, prayer, scripture and the lives of the saints along with art and music activities. Our focus is learning our faith as we live it, in the midst of a celebrating community that proclaims Jesus' message in Word and Action.
- **RCIA (The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)** is a process for those who are searching and inquiring about the Catholic Faith, a faith journey to become members of the Catholic community. From September through the beginning of December meetings are held on a weeknight for one hour (TBD). From December through Easter, meetings are held on Sunday mornings with a formal dismissal during the 11:00 Mass. From Easter through Pentecost follow up sessions are held. We welcome new team members to join us in this important ministry. We are also glad to receive referrals for entering the process.
- **SAFE ENVIRONMENT (VIRTUS):** In keeping with Syracuse's "Protecting God's Children" policy we offer an opportunity to take the course, Virtus, required by the diocese. Here at the Church of The Holy Family we require anyone who will be working or volunteering with our youth to take this course.

- Education Ministries Continued -

- **WEDNESDAY MORNING SCRIPTURE SHARE GROUP** meets from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM in room 2. The 2016/17 schedule will be presented at the first meeting on October 5, 2016. We will read the weekly scripture passages from the Breaking Bread books and discuss their themes and messages. The publication "Bringing Home the Word" is also used to further emphasize the scriptural lessons in the readings. In addition, this year we intend to have a study of women in the bible.

FUNERAL LUNCHEON MINISTRY provides a comforting meal in McCabe Hall following the funeral mass for the family and friends of the deceased. Cooking, set-up and serving are provided by a large group of parishioners including those who bring desserts.

GARDEN MINISTRY: Share your gardening talents and join this ministry to help beautify and maintain the Holy Family Prayer Garden.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY a men's fellowship, promotes devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus by promoting the spiritual welfare of the men of the parish. We enjoy monthly meetings and spiritual retreats. Our social events include a Christmas dinner with Fr. Clarence and Deacon George, a Mardi Gras dinner and an annual banquet. For everyone in the community we prepare a soup supper on Ash Wednesday and organize Casino Night, an evening of games and dinner. Money raised at Casino Night is then given to other ministries within the church, most recently to Faith Formation, CYO, Altar Servers, and to the Garden, Youth and Music Ministries. We invite all men of the parish to join and help us build a more dynamic parish.

HIGHER GROUND – DIVORCED & SEPARATED GROUP: The group is designed to create a caring, compassionate and supporting environment for men and women who have experienced divorce or separation and seek healing. Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month in room 3-5.



HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY provides outreach services in areas of need in our regional and global community. Activities include, but are not limited to, the Thanksgiving food drive, Advent Giving Tree, three yearly clothing drives to support the Rural Ministries of Cortland and Chenango Counties, providing emergency assistance to those in need, assisting Birthright with supplies and providing assistance to Mother Teresa's Cupboard in Endicott. Also included in this ministry is outreach to Fond des Blancs in Haiti, the Lusubilo Hope Project in Malawi, Africa and Thoreau Middle School in New Mexico.

LADIES GUILD: The Ladies Guild was founded in 1980 at Christ the King Church. When both churches merged, we continued our long traditions here at Church of the Holy Family. Membership is open to all women of the parish and friends of the parish. Its purpose is to enhance friendships and help support the church. Some projects we have done include annual clothing sales, bake sales, bus trips and entertainment at each of our monthly meetings. We contribute each year to various ministries: special projects at the church, FRIENDS dinners and various receptions we sponsor at the church. We enjoy monthly meetings September through May and meet the third Tuesday of the month at 6 pm. Please come to a meeting and see what an enjoyable evening you can have among old and new friends.

LEGION OF MARY is an Association of Catholics who, with the sanction of the Church and under the powerful leadership of Mary Immaculate, Mediatrix of all Graces, has formed themselves into a Legion for service to the pastor and the church. 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. **MARY, Queen of Apostles Praesidium** - Our parish ministry officially began in July, 2009. There are two types of membership. Active members meet weekly at 1:00 pm on Tuesdays to pray and support each other in our service to our parish. Auxiliary members share in the works and prayers of all other members by praying the Tesseria and Rosary daily. Some highlights of our work include May and October Devotions to our Blessed Mother, promoting the Sacred Heart, visitations to parishioners and coffee hour after Mass on First Friday.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES:

- **ADULT FUNERAL SERVERS:** Adult servers assist at funerals. This ministry is open to women and men. Please note there is no age limit for servers. If you are interested, please contact the parish office.
- **EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS** assist the priest with the distribution of the Eucharist at daily and weekend liturgies. Ministers also bring the Eucharist to those in Nursing Facilities and those who are homebound. Training sessions are held quarterly. Ministers are scheduled for their preferred liturgy. To become a Eucharistic Minister, one must be a fully initiated member of the Church having received Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.
- **LECTORS** proclaim the Word of God and lead the Universal Prayer at liturgy. Lectors are assigned to a Mass time of their choice with monthly schedules printed in advance. Training is available for all interested. All are welcome!
- **MUSIC MINISTRY:**
 - CANTORS:** For high school teens and adults. This ministry involves proclaiming the Word of God through song for the Responsorial Psalm and the Communion Rite, and leading the assembly in other hymns and acclamations. Rehearsals are held on an individual basis. The ability to read music is preferred. Auditions are required.
 - ENSEMBLE:** High school and adult instrumentalists and singers participate at a weekend liturgy twice a month, plus additional special liturgies from September through June. Weekly rehearsals are held on Thursdays from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in church. Instruments may include guitars, winds, strings and percussion. Auditions are required for instrumentalists, no auditions required for singers.
 - GENESIS CHOIR:** For teens and adults, sings sacred and liturgical music in unison, 2, 3 and 4-part arrangements. Musical styles range from renaissance through contemporary. Wednesday rehearsals (7- 9 pm) run September through June. The choir sings for weekend liturgies two times per month plus special liturgies during the year. No previous choir experience is required. No auditions given.

HANDBELL CHOIR: This group in our music ministry rings three octaves of bells. The choir rehearses Mondays, 7:45 pm to 8:45 pm, September to June and plays at a weekend liturgy approximately every six weeks. It is open to those in Grade 7 through adult. No previous ringing experience is required. No auditions. The ability to read music is preferred, however, not required.

HOLY FAMILY CHORISTERS is a vocal choir for boys and girls, grades 3 through 8, that sings all styles of music with the use of organ, piano, handbells, xylophones, glockenspiels and percussion instruments. Tuesday rehearsals (6:30 pm -7:20 pm) run September to Easter. The choir sings at a monthly weekend liturgy plus special liturgies during the year. No auditions are given.

RESURRECTION CHOIR: This vocal choir sings for funeral and memorial liturgies throughout the entire year. Their music, not only enhances the sung response of the assembly, but also adds solemn dignity to the liturgy. In addition to being available for funerals, choir members rehearse on the first and third Mondays of the month from 11:00 am to 12 noon. No auditions are given. Resurrection Choir is a great way for those who are away during the winter months to still participate in our music ministry!

SUMMER CHOIR is a new endeavor beginning summer 2016! This choir is a blending of all those who are presently involved in our parish music ministry. Each weekend during the summer there will be a designated liturgy in which the summer choir will participate. All who are available will come 1/2 hour before mass for the warm up and then sing/play for the liturgy. There are no separate weekday rehearsals for this new summer group.

- **USHERS:** Ushers welcome people to liturgy, help them find seating if needed, take up the collection(s), assist with the communion procession and distribute bulletins as people leave the church. The Ministry of Ushers is open to all - men, women, youth, couples and families.



- Liturgical Ministries Continued -

- **YOUTH ALTAR SERVERS:** Any boy or girl who has received First Communion is welcomed to serve at Mass. Training sessions are held as needed and are posted in the bulletin. An altar server schedule is printed once a month and Mass assignments are made with the server's family's preference.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: The PPC meets four times per year, September, November, February and May. The role of the council is to assist and advise the pastor in the administration of the parish, help with the development of pastoral and financial planning, establish goals and visions for the parish, and be a channel of communication between the pastor and the members of the parish. In addition to the Pastor, Deacon, Trustees and up to 4 appointed members, the PPC includes 2 youth and 5 adult "members-at-large" who serve 1 and 2 year terms respectively. These members are selected by lot in April from parishioners who have expressed interest in serving on the Council.

PASTORAL CARE:

- **VISITATION MINISTRY** is an important ministry that reconnects those who are homebound or in Nursing Facilities with the Church community. The visitation schedule is set up between the visitor and the visitee. It also can be long or short term depending on the need (post hospital care or residents in a senior community). Visitors bring a bit of sunshine to those who need it. Prayer, Eucharist and time are all elements of a visit. If you enjoy conversation please consider this ministry.

PERPETUAL ADORATION: Our adoration chapel (located near the main office) started October 13, 1990 and is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week year round to anyone looking for a quiet, peaceful place to pray before the Blessed Sacrament. The adorer commits to a specific hour and spends that hour in the chapel. The adorer may get a sub to cover his/her hour if necessary. We are always in need of additional adorers and subs and would love to answer any questions you may have. Whether or not you become an adorer, we invite you to stop in the chapel for a visit. It is a wonderful place to spend a few minutes or an hour.

PHOTOGRAPHY MINISTRY: The Photography Ministry takes photographs at church events. Our goal is to communicate the many wonderful activities occurring at the Church of the Holy Family through photographs. Persons with all levels of photography interest and skill are welcome.

PRAYER GROUP: Please join the members of the prayer group, which meets each Sunday evening, to praise God with song, scripture reflection and faith sharing. The group emphasizes the power of the Holy Spirit in the work of building up the Body of Christ. We encourage each other to recognize and utilize the gifts of the Holy Spirit that we have received. Each meeting concludes with prayers of general intercession and prayers for individual intentions.

PRAYER NETWORK: The prayer network is a group of approximately 65+ parishioners who pray for a specific intention that has been called in to one of the three coordinators or to the office. The coordinator calls the request to the other two coordinators. Each coordinator has several people they contact who then call others. It operates like a telephone tree. Also, a group of parishioners receive the prayer intentions by email. How you pray or what prayers you say are strictly up to you. It is very comforting to know that so many are praying for your intention. Many of the recipients of the prayers say how strongly they feel the prayers.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: We knit and crochet shawls and lap covers for our parishioners who are homebound or in nursing homes. What a comfort it must be for them to know their church family is behind them in prayer. It is also a comfort for us who are making the shawls and lap covers to know we are keeping these people warm and safe in the arms of the Lord.

SECULAR ORDER OF DISCALCED CARMELITES: The Secular Order is an integral part of the family of Carmel. It is our mission to live a life both contemplative and apostolic. In prayer, words and discursive reasoning give way to a silent and peaceful awareness of God's presence and love. Our vocation is not for our own personal enjoyment, but is helpful for the good of the Church. Our saints are Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross and Theresa of the Child Jesus. We meet the 2nd Saturday of each month.

THE FUN AND GAMES CLUB: The Fun and Games Club meets every Monday at 1:00 pm in Room 2. It is an opportunity to play cards, Scrabble, Chess, Checkers, Bingo, and more. Some people come just to watch and chat. People learn new games. It is a fun-filled afternoon. This group meets during the summer and many of the Monday holidays.

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY provides rides to and from weekend masses for those in our parish unable to drive. Currently, 5 - 6 passengers are transported in the parish van to the Sunday 11am liturgy. Drivers and helpers volunteer about once a month to provide this service; scheduling is very flexible. No special license is needed, the only requirement is that drivers must take the NYS 6 hour driving course for insurance purposes. Helpers need no training, only the ability to help people in and out of the van. With additional help we could provide rides to other masses. Please contact the parish office for additional details and to volunteer to help!

WEDDING COORDINATORS: Wedding Coordinators assist the priest or deacon and the wedding party with the details of the wedding. They direct the wedding rehearsal, and assist the priest or deacon on the day of the wedding. Wedding Coordinators are available to help ease the stress from the bridal couple and their families to be able to enjoy their special day.

WELCOMING MINISTRY: The objective of the Welcoming Ministry is to make Church of the Holy Family a more welcoming parish. A meet and greet is scheduled between a member of the Welcome Team and a new family. We distribute to them a church tote bag that includes a new parishioner welcome packet which has information about our parish. Included is a prayer pen, a loaf of bread (as we share the bread of Christ with one another), and token items for the children in the families.



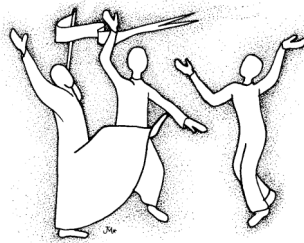
WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS GROUP: This group meets once a month on the second Thursday of each month, even during the summer. We usually meet in Room 2 at 1:00 pm. Speakers are brought in to discuss important information and issues for the widows and widowers. About every other month, we do lunch and have a brief meeting after. The luncheons may be at a restaurant or held here at the church. This is a great time to meet others who understand what it is like to be a widow or widower.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

CYO SPORTS offers basketball (grades 3-12) and cheerleading (grades 2 -10). We strive for excellent sportsmanship and incorporate spiritual, athletic, recreational, social, communication and leadership skills all while having fun.

SCOUTING: Scouting helps boys in developing character, citizenship and personal fitness. Scouting promotes Duty of God as well as personal reliance and responsibility. C.H.F hosts Boy Scouts, Troop 284 (ages 11-18). Please check us out.

YOUTH MINISTRY: Our focus and goal is to help our youth build a closer relationship with God through spiritual and social experiences and community service. We encourage the youth to participate in all aspects of parish life. Youth Ministry activities and events include, but are not limited to: Vacation Bible School, Trunks of Treats, Veterans' Day Luncheon, Cards & Crafts by Kids, Easter Egg Hunt, Pancake Breakfast, Pasta Supper, and Parish and Community Service Projects. Regional/Diocesan Trips and Activities (with other parishes from our area and the diocese) include picnics, Dorney Park, Altar Server Olympics, Paintball, White Water Rafting, Trip to Yankee Stadium, Middle School Trip to Niagara Falls, and Internationally known guest speakers.



*Lord God,
You alone are the source of every good gift
in the vast array of our universe
and the mystery of each human life.
We praise you and we thank you for your great power
and your tender, faithful love.*

*Everything we are and everything we have is your gift,
and after having created us,
You have given us into the keeping of your son, Jesus Christ.*

*Fill our minds with His truth and our hearts with His love,
that in His spirit we may be bonded together
in a community of faith, a parish family, a caring people.*

*In the name and spirit of Jesus,
we commit ourselves to be good stewards
of the gifts entrusted to us,
to share our time, our talent and our material gifts
as an outward sign of the treasure we hold in Jesus.*

AMEN.

