

saintJohnfisherchapel

UNIVERSITY PARISH

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Companion, Bereavement and Pastoral Care Ministry Information

Companion Ministry

Our Companion ministers are fellow parishioners who are trained to reach out and provide one-to-one listening and support to those who are experiencing transitional life phases and times of illness, grief and loss. Our service includes sharing Eucharist with the homebound and those in care centers, lay presiding at Word/Eucharist and Scripture services, and supporting those in need with companionship, prayers, and cards.

Our ministers currently share weekly Word/Eucharist services at HarborChase, The Meadows and Waltonwood Independent Living and a monthly service at Waltonwood Assisted Living. We make individual visits to area hospitals, nursing homes and the homebound.

Some of our members are involved in the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Alyce Gilroy continues to coordinate this wonderful project of comfort and sharing. Beginning and experienced knitters gather once a month to knit and to pray for healing intentions for the recipients of the shawls. Knitting instructions are offered along with friendship, tea and cookies. Since its beginning, this ministry has lovingly created 32 prayer shawls and presented them to our faith family. If you know someone at SJF who would be comforted by the gift of a shawl, please contact the parish office.

If you or a family member would like home communion or a nursing home or hospital visit, please contact the front office. If you would like to join our ministry or would like more information about it, please call the front office at 248-373-6457. The door to this “Servant’s Entrance” is always open to welcome you.

Mission: To be servants of Christ who offer our caring presence and prayerful support to community members during transitional life phases and times of illness, grief, and loss.

Objectives:

- Offer empathetic support, by way of physical presence and prayer, to those who are in the process of transition and healing.
- Be active listeners and to reach out in the Spirit with compassion and confidentiality.
- Provide prayer services and Eucharist to care centers and the homebound.
- Offer a link to community resources.
- Provide opportunities and activities for the community to come together in prayer and remembering.
- Become a visible presence in the community we serve by way of personal contact, brochures, the bulletin, cards, etc.
- Continue our formation as ministers and meet together as a peer support group.
- Preside at funeral vigils and Word/Communion services in the absence of a priest

Bereavement Ministry

Bereavement ministers are parishioners trained to reach out and provide one-to-one listening and support to those who are experiencing transitional life phases and time of grief and loss.

About Bereavement Ministers:

- Listen to you and be non-judgmental.
- Bring a caring presence to your life.
- Help you feel part of a caring faith community.
- Give you support for your individual healing process.
- Pray for and with you.

Pastoral Care Ministry

Mission: To bring comfort, support and the Eucharist to those in need in the community.

Objectives: Pastoral care volunteers take Eucharist to shut-ins, ill, and disabled. They visit and pray with those who are lonely, homebound or in the hospital. They serve as resource persons and advocates of those who are sick or home bound. They service the nursing centers and institutions within our parish boundaries with Eucharist and communion services. For home Communion or hospital visitation, contact the front office at 248-373-6457.