

ST. MARY'S

CATHOLIC CHURCH



2025 GUIDEBOOK & DIRECTORY

SAINT MARY'S CHURCH

1665 Highway 45 By-Pass
Jackson, Tennessee 38305

Parish Office.....	731-668-2596
Fax	731-668-9809
School.....	731-668-2525
Email.....	parishinfo@stmarys.tn.org
Website	www.stmarys.tn.org
School Website.....	www.stmarysschool.tn.org

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE MISSION

A Mission of St. Mary's Church
172 Main St.

Bells, Tennessee 38006

(Use St. Mary's address for all mail.)

Masses are held in First Christian Church, 172 Main St., Bells, TN

Phone (Use St. Mary's Office phone.) 731-668-2596

OLG-Bells Contact.....Carmen Hernandez

PARISH STAFF

Father Dennis Schenkel.....	Pastor
Father Gabe Bouck	Associate Pastor
Father Rolando Perez	Associate Pastor
Rev. Mr. Dale Brown.....	Deacon
Rev. Dr. Eddy Koonce	Deacon
Rev. Dr. David Rosenthal	Deacon
Rev. Mr. Bill Winston.....	Deacon
Maximilian Hart.....	Director of Religious Education
Faith MacDonald	Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry
Josh Moore	Director of Liturgical Music
Patti Gresham.....	Communications Coordinator
Manuel Cobián.....	Coordinator of Hispanic Ministry
Rose Mary Gill.....	Finance Administrator
Miriam Garcia	Administrative Assistant
Kate Todd.....	Administrative Assistant

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

(Consult weekly bulletin for occasional schedule changes.)

Sunday Vigil Mass	Saturday, 4:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Mass in Spanish.....	1:00 p.m.
Sunday Vigil Mass at OLG Mission Church in Spanish ..	Saturday, 6:00 p.m.
Monday	7:00 a.m.
Tuesday	7:00 a.m. & 6:15 p.m. (Bilingual)
Wednesday	7:00 a.m., 8:10 a.m. & 12:00 p.m.
(Wed. & Fri. 8:10 a.m. Mass is cancelled when school is not in session.)	
Thursday	7:00 a.m.
Friday	7:00 a.m. & 8:10 a.m.
Saturday	8:00 a.m.
Holy Days.....	7:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Holy Day Vigil Mass	7:00 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday	3:20 p.m.
Sunday.....	7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. & (Spanish) 12:15 p.m.
Weekdays Tues., 5:45 p.m. (Bilingual), Wed., 11:30 a.m. & By Appointment	
Saturday at OLG Mission Church in Spanish.....	5:45 p.m.

SACRAMENTS & SPECIAL LITURGIES

Sacrament of Baptism:

Parishioners who desire to have a child baptized must have been registered for at least four months in the parish. Parents must attend a Baptismal Class for the first child; and periodically thereafter, as needed and as determined by the Pastor. Baptismal preparation sessions are available in English and in Spanish. Contact the Parish Office at 731-668-2596 or see the parish website or bulletin for class times and location.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available weekly and at seasonal parish penance services. Consult the parish bulletin for up-to-date confession times. Reconciliation is also available by appointment by contacting a priest at the Parish Office.

Children who are preparing to receive First Holy Eucharist also prepare to celebrate their First Reconciliation, usually during the 2nd grade year. Reconciliation is typically celebrated in the winter before First Holy Eucharist, which is celebrated during the Easter season. Several parent meetings are required in order for a child to be ready to receive this sacrament.

Contact Maximilian Hart, Director of Religious Education, at the Parish Office.

First Holy Eucharist (Children):

Children who receive this sacrament (usually in the spring of the 2nd grade year), must complete two years of faith formation (either in Children's Faith Formation or the parish school) leading up to the celebration. Several parent meetings are required in order for a child to be ready to receive this sacrament. Contact Maximilian Hart, Director of Religious Education, at the Parish Office.

Sacrament of Confirmation (Youths):

Confirmation preparation is a two-year process, typically during the 7th and 8th grade years. Teens may attend the Family Faith Formation sessions and/or the parish school during those two years. Teens must attend one Confirmation retreat provided by the parish during each year. Several parent and sponsor meetings are required in order for a teen to be ready to be confirmed. The celebration of Confirmation occurs in the spring during the Easter season, usually with the Bishop of Memphis presiding. Contact Maximilian Hart, Director of Religious Education, at the Parish Office.

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA):

OCIA is the process by which non-Catholics can explore the Catholic Church and consider coming into full communion with the Church, with sacraments (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation) being celebrated at the Easter Vigil Mass. A person may begin the process at any time of the year. See the bulletin for information on periodic inquiry nights. Our parish is also frequently in need of fully-initiated Catholics to journey with inquirers as sponsors. To engage in this process as an inquirer or sponsor, contact Maximilian Hart at the Parish Office.

Sacrament of Holy Matrimony:

Knowing the importance of establishing a Christ-centered relationship with Christ and one another, St. Mary's marriage preparation offers the engaged couple the opportunity to properly prepare for their vocation to the sacrament of Holy Matrimony. The aim of marriage preparation is to engage the couple in a sound, holy understanding of this sacrament, instituted by Christ himself. Couples should contact the Pastor at least six (6) months in advance of the desired marriage date.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick:

A priest is always available for this sacrament. Call the Parish Office at 731-668-2596 to request a priest. The after-hours answering service is available to contact an on-call priest at any hour.

Visit the Sick/Homebound:

Priests are available to visit the sick, anoint the sick, bring Holy Communion, and hear confessions. Also, Extraordinary Ministers to the Sick bring Holy Communion to those who are sick or recovering from illness or injury and cannot attend Mass.

Funerals:

Contact the Pastor to make arrangements for a funeral.

For more information regarding any of the sacraments or liturgies, please contact the Parish Office at 731-668-2596.

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

St. Mary's Catholic School is a Catholic, parochial, coeducational school for 1-year-olds through 8th grade. St. Mary's School was established in 1878. The school has been blessed to have Dominican Sisters of the St. Cecilia Congregation in Nashville, Tennessee on staff since 1889. More information is available at the school's website: www.stmarysschool.tn.org.

Please direct all inquiries pertaining to enrollment to the school Director of Admissions, Jessica Berlanga, either by phone at 731-668-2525, or by email to berlanga@stmarys.tn.org.

Numerous volunteering opportunities exist within the school. To learn more, please contact the office at 731-668-2525.

St. Mary's School fields teams, participating in several girls and boys sports, and the sports programs are supported by the St. Mary's School Athletic Booster Club. Additional information can be found at the school's website, or by contacting the school at 731-668-2525.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Servers

The Acolytes serve the Parish community through assisting the priest at Mass and other liturgies.

TIME COMMITMENT: 1 or 2 weekend Masses per month, plus occasional school Masses and special occasion liturgies.

CONTACT Deacon Dale Brown.....731-668-2596

SPANISH..... Delfina Barrios731-571-9528

Altar Society

The Altar Society exists to give that "special, reverential" care to the altar area and the sanctuary and also to provide the care and upkeep of the Holy linens.

TIME COMMITMENT: 1 month per year; during that month, approximately 1 hour per week.

CONTACT Diane Johnson731-426-3314

or..... Amy Fritz731-512-1307

Edward Jones

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Children's Liturgy of the Word

This group exists to provide an opportunity for children (PreK-2nd grade) to hear readings and respond to them in a simpler language during the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass (offered throughout the school year). Children leave Mass at the beginning of the Liturgy of the Word and return at the Presentation of Gifts. Adults who wish to share their faith with children are welcome to join the team.

TIME COMMITMENT: One hour per week during the school year, serving in rotation with other volunteers.

CONTACT Parish Office731-668-2596

SPANISH..... Maribel Carbajal.....731-426-4628

Choir – Accompanist

Individuals enhance worship by providing keyboard accompaniment for sung hymns and psalms led by a song leader or cantor.

Accompanists also provide instrumental music for prayer and reflection within the Mass and special liturgies.

TIME COMMITMENT: Approximately 3-4 Masses per month; flexible.

CONTACT Josh Moore.....731-668-2596

Choir – Adult

This group enhances community worship with song at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. The Choir also sings at Holy Day/Vigil Masses, Christmas Midnight Mass, Holy Week services, Easter Masses, and at other special liturgies throughout the year. The Adult Choir promotes fellowship among parishioners in addition to increasing their knowledge of the Catholic faith through music.

TIME COMMITMENT: 1 ½ hours on Sunday (30 minutes practice, followed by the Mass); and weekly practice on Wednesday evenings for a few weeks leading up to Advent/Christmas and Lent/Holy Week/Easter.

CONTACT Josh Moore.....731-668-2596

Choir – Cantors/Song Leader

These individuals lead the congregation in song during Mass and other liturgies.

TIME COMMITMENT: 1 ½ hours on Sunday, when scheduled to serve (30 minutes practice, followed by the Mass).

CONTACT Josh Moore.....731-668-2596

Choir – Spanish Adult

This group enhances community worship with song at the 1:00 p.m. Sunday Spanish Mass, and occasional bilingual Masses.

TIME COMMITMENT: Practice – 2 hours on Sunday (one hour practice and Mass).

CONTACT Berta Leon.....731-267-5537

or..... Adrian Ortega404-983-7100

or..... Rogelio Garcia.....731-394-0532

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

This group facilitates the distribution of the Precious Body and Blood of Jesus on Sunday and at Holy Day Liturgies.

TIME COMMITMENT: 6-8 persons needed per weekend Mass.

CONTACT Deacon Dale Brown.....731-668-2596

SPANISH..... Parish Office.....731-668-2596

Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers to the Sick

The Extraordinary Ministers to the Sick (EMS) bring Holy Communion to our parishioners who cannot attend Mass or who are in a hospital setting, including Jackson-Madison County General Hospital, Madison County, and all Healthcare/Rehabilitation/Nursing Home facilities.

The Hospital Ministry is coordinated by Bill & Elaine Northern; and the Sick/Homebound Ministry is coordinated by Marcia Sortet.

TIME COMMITMENT: EMS's set their own time of service during weekdays and/or weekends, setting up the rotation schedule with their respective coordinator.

CONTACT Bill Northern731-693-9278

or..... Elaine Northern.....731-694-7916

or..... Marcia Sortet731-695-3430

SPANISH..... Parish Office.....731-668-2596

Greeters

Greeters have two primary missions: to welcome members and visitors to Sunday Mass and to answer questions visitors and newcomers may have.

TIME COMMITMENT: Approximately one weekend Mass every month.

CONTACT Parish Office.....731-668-2596

Lectors

Lectors proclaim the Word of the Lord during the Liturgy of the Word at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days.

TIME COMMITMENT: Approximately 1 Sunday Mass per month, plus Holy Days.

CONTACT Parish Office.....731-668-2596

SPANISH..... Malena Villegas731-513-3010

Sacristans

Sacristans prepare the sacred vessels used at Mass. They provide a service for the celebrant and are responsible for maintaining the sacred vessels.

TIME COMMITMENT: Approximately once per month; some sacristans volunteer additional time to prepare for weekday Masses.

CONTACT Deacon Dale Brown.....731-668-2596

Ushers

Ushers provide for orderly movement and seating of parishioners during Mass. They also take up the collection and respond to emergency situations as necessary.

TIME COMMITMENT: 5 persons needed per weekend Mass and at Holy Day Liturgies.

CONTACT Parish Office731-668-2596

SPANISH..... Manuel Cobián731-293-4036

**LIFE LONG FAITH
FORMATION**

Adult Sunday School

St. Mary's Adult Sunday School meets between the Masses on Sunday mornings, from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m., during the school year. Gatherings are designed to provide a place for adults to learn more about their Catholic faith, and to gain understanding of how this knowledge is applicable in their daily lives.

CONTACT Maximilian Hart731-668-2596

Adult Retreats – Men

Men's retreats are held to provide men an opportunity to deepen their personal relationship with God, to rest, and to provide time to bond and form relationships with fellow parishioners.

TIME COMMITMENT: One weekend per year.

CONTACT Parish Office731-668-2596

Adult Retreats – Women

Women's retreats are held to provide women an opportunity to deepen their personal relationship with God, to rest, and to provide time to bond and form relationships with fellow parishioners.

TIME COMMITMENT: Minimum one retreat per year.

CONTACT Parish Office731-668-2596

Cursillo

Cursillo is a Movement of the Catholic Church. The name Cursillo de Cristiandad is Spanish, meaning a short course. It is a weekend of spiritual growth and renewal.

CONTACT Parish Office731-668-2596

Family Faith Formation

During the school year (August through early May), children gather on most Sundays (9:10-10:20 a.m. OR 11:40 a.m.-12:50 p.m.), OR on Wednesdays (5:50-7:15 p.m.) for faith formation sessions. Groups are available for children from age 4 through Confirmation preparation (the 7th or 8th grade year, usually). Parents also engage in weekly formation sessions so they can continue formation at home with their children.

CONTACT Maximilian Hart731-668-2596



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Life in the Spirit Prayer Group

This group is affiliated with the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Memphis (CCRM) and offers intercessory prayer for our Parish and the Diocese.

TIME COMMITMENT: Meets the 2nd & 4th Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Ministry Center – Our Lady of Fatima Room.

CONTACT Beth Londino.....731-293-5641
or..... Sharon Reiter731-415-0133

Light of the World Retreat

The Light of the World Retreat is an immersive weekend retreat experience where participants personally encounter Christ through the presentation of the kerygma - the basic gospel message.

TIME COMMITMENT: For participants, one full weekend, plus 3 follow-up meetings.

CONTACT Allen Miller731-803-2600
or..... Lisa Warmath731-267-3669
or..... Parish Office.....731-668-2596

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration is the permanent exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament and is coordinated by the laity of our parish, with the assistance of clergy. Pope John Paul II began Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on December 2, 1981, in a chapel in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome and urged all parishes to do the same. Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration began in our Parish on January 15, 2012, at 5:00 p.m. immediately following the blessing of our newly constructed Divine Will and Mercy Chapel by Bishop Terry Steib. Jesus, in the Garden of Gethsemane, mournfully asked His disciples, "Could you not watch with me one hour?" (Mt 26:40) Through Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration we proclaim to our parish and community that Jesus is here, truly present among us today! Adorers often express how they value their Holy Hour.

TIME COMMITMENT: One hour each week.

CONTACT Sharon Loucks.....731-426-5305
SPANISH..... Miriam Garcia731-668-2596

Parish Rosary

Praying the rosary daily is encouraged. The rosary is prayed before weekend Masses of the first weekend of each month, during the months of May and October. The Knights of Columbus have a weekly rosary on Mondays at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Wednesday Morning Scripture Study

Knowing the importance of God's revealed Word, Divine Revelation aids in our understanding of what God handed down to humanity through the Word made flesh — Jesus Christ. Growing in this understanding of the Deposit of Faith, St. Mary's faith-sharing sessions are meant to aid the parishioner's growth in appreciation and veneration of God's revealed truth.

TIME COMMITMENT: Weekly, 1½ hours per week.

CONTACT Peggy Moss.....731-431-8854
or Linda Breen.....731-394-1342

Youth Ministry

All 6th through 12th grade youth belong to this ministry. Gatherings on Sunday afternoons include music, games, fellowship, food, and more fun. There are also several retreat & pilgrimage opportunities throughout the year.

CONTACT Faith MacDonald731-668-2596

EVANGELIZATION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Catholic Scouting – Cub Scout Family Program (boys and girls)

The Cub Scout program is uniquely designed to meet the needs of young boys and girls in grades K-5 and their parents. Cub Scouts is a year-round program that offers fun activities that promote character and leadership development. It is designed to be hands-on and parents are encouraged to play an active role in the program. Pack 6 events include camping, sporting events, pinewood derby, rain gutter regatta, summer day camp, and religious programs. Pack 6 meets on Monday nights 5:45-6:45 p.m. in Holy Family Hall during the school year, while summer activities vary. Members are divided into Dens based on grade and gender.

TIME COMMITMENT: Volunteering is the key that unlocks the confidence kids need to stand on their own two feet. But it also opens the door for adults to share inspiring experience with their own child, make friendships that will last a lifetime, and put a bunch of good kids on the path to a great life. One hour per week plus outings. Adult Leaders take annual BSA Youth Protection Training, Catholic Virtus training, and have a background check. Additional training, online and in-person, and resource books are available for volunteers.

CONTACT Cubmaster Katy Justice.....katherineevan@gmail.com

Catholic Scouting – Scouts, Boy Scouts of America

This is the traditional Scouting experience for youth ages 11-18. Service, community engagement and leadership development become increasingly important parts of the program as youth lead their own activities and work their way towards earning Scouting's highest rank, Eagle Scout. Along the way they can learn about sports, crafts, science, trades, business, and future careers as they earn merit badges and advance through the ranks. Troop 6 is available to boys ages 11-18, and meets each Monday 7:00-8:30 p.m. throughout the year in Holy Family Hall. Troop 6 for Girls ages 11-18 meets separately at the same times.

TIME COMMITMENT: 2 hours per week plus outings. Parental involvement is one of the strengths that make Scouting unique. You will appreciate getting more involved at different times and levels during your child's Scouting development whether it's organizing a meeting, cooking for an event, or teaching one of the many Merit Badges. Your investment will be rewarded with an experience that is unmatched in the difference it can make in your child's life, as well as your own...and it is fun! Adult Leaders take annual BSA Youth Protection Training, Catholic Virtus Training, and have a background check. Additional training, online and in-person, is available.

CONTACT Scoutmaster Tammy Carter
..... Tammy.Carter42@icloud.com

College Student Connection

We aim to support students in continuing to live out their Catholic faith in college by connecting them to parish programs and resources such as the young adult group, the Light of the World Retreat, and volunteer opportunities, as well as coordinating practical helps, such as car-pooling from campus to Mass.

CONTACT Melissa Davignon ...Melissa.Davignon@gmail.com
or..... Faith MacDonald731-668-2596

Hispanic Ministry Commission

This commission is comprised of bilingual and Spanish speaking parishioners who assist the Pastor and the parish with the pastoral, spiritual and sacramental needs of our Spanish-speaking members.

TIME COMMITMENT: Flexible.

CONTACT Parish Office731-668-2596

Knights of Columbus

This group exists to help Catholic men remain steadfast in their faith through mutual encouragement. The primary area of service is to the community and secondly to the youth. We are a Catholic fraternal organization open to all Catholic men above 18 in communion with the Holy See.

TIME COMMITMENT: 2 hours/month: meetings plus activities such as Christmas Basket collection, monthly country breakfasts and dinners.

CONTACT Dennis Arendt731-225-6418
SPANISH..... Tomas Leon731-267-2063



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Legion of Mary – Spanish

The purpose of the Legion of Mary is to grow in a deeper love for God and his Son Jesus, through devotion to Mary. Active members serve the parish family by welcoming new parishioners and new babies, making census calls, visiting the sick and homebound, attending funeral rites for deceased parishioners and doing other things at the request of the Pastor. (Auxiliary members support the parish with prayer.)

TIME COMMITMENT: Weekly meetings on Monday, 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the Church Conference Room. Approximately 2 hours per week.

CONTACT Francis Damazo.....731-513-1555

Multicultural Leaders Committee

The committee is inspired to strengthen God's Kingdom by sharing our cultural fruits within the parish and throughout the community. It is accomplished through fellowship, faith, action and an annual Multi-Cultural event.

TIME COMMITMENT: Meets approximately once per quarter, or more often as necessary for special events.

CONTACT MaKenya Olden.....731-234-8775

Evangelization Commission

This commission exists to aid our parish leaders in spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ in ways that are modern, engaging and, most importantly, imbued with the love of God. Specifically, the commission assists the Pastor in reaching out to the Jackson community so that everyone in Madison County has the opportunity to hear the Good News.

TIME COMMITMENT: Occasional meetings: approximately 1 ½ hours plus participation in project planning.

CONTACT Parish Office731-668-2596

St. Elizabeth's Bookstore Volunteers

St. Elizabeth's Bookstore began in June 1993 as a ministry of St. Mary's Church serving Catholics of the local region. Located in the Church Narthex, it is operated totally by volunteers between the weekend Masses and is directed by a Board of Directors, which includes the Pastor and ten other members of the Church.

TIME COMMITMENT: One volunteer needed for approximately 30 minutes after each weekend Mass.

CONTACT Kimberley Bryant615-545-7923

Travelers 55+

Travelers 55+ is a group of parishioners aged 55 and up and their friends who like to participate in group trips and outings. The trips offer opportunities for fun, fellowship, and spiritual growth. A trip or outing is planned for every other month and is announced in the bulletin.

CONTACT Joyce LaFont731-668-5974
or..... Mary Jane Warmath731-217-0756

Young Adult Ministry

This ministry provides a common ground for Catholics in their 20s and 30s across all walks of life. Any young adult interested in fellowship and community building through various social activities, attending church events and joining together to discuss faith and life, is invited to join. If you would like to check out the group or support the ministry in any way, please call us or join the Facebook group: St. Mary's Young Adult Ministry.

CONTACT Faith MacDonald731-668-2596

SOCIAL MINISTRY & WORKS OF MERCY

Bereavement Committee

This group exists to bring love from St. Mary's to the family of those who pass away. It helps bring the grieving period to another level of closure. We provide a meal immediately following the funeral service for whomever the family wants by their side. The committee needs food and monetary donations in addition to time commitment.

TIME COMMITMENT: As needed. Commitment for bereavement luncheon is about 4 hours.

CONTACT Joy Boller731-668-4974

Card Ministry

The Card Ministry is a group of volunteers who send cards of sympathy and encouragement to parishioners who have had life changing events. Our purpose is to let parishioners know they are not alone and that they are in the thoughts and prayers of their Church family.

CONTACT Jeannie Coughlin731-616-4885

Divorce Support Ministry

The Divorce Support Ministry provides outreach to divorced Catholics in our faith community who suffer from the devastating effects brought on by divorce. The program focuses on issues related to divorce and annulment, and offers support in the healing process necessary in moving on in one's life. This ministry welcomes any divorced parishioner whether currently single or remarried.

TIME COMMITMENT: As needed.

CONTACT Parish Office.....731-668-2596

Grief Support Ministry

This ministry deals with the issues that come from living with loss or life changing events. This includes, but is not limited to, the death of a spouse or loved one, mental illness or chronic disease. The focus of the ministry is to offer compassion, hope and healing to those in need. It consists of two components: those who have been through the grief process and would like to be on the “giving” side of the ministry, and those who are in the active stages of bereavement and would benefit from being on the “receiving” side of the ministry. Meetings will be announced in the church bulletin.

TIME COMMITMENT: As needed.

CONTACT Parish Office731-668-2596

Haiti Mission, Moron

Our Mission is to help our sister Parish in Moron, Haiti, with services including maintenance and repairs, religious education and orphanage, Christian Girls Home of Moron, Haiti (CGHMH). If you would like to sponsor an event to benefit our Haiti Mission, or to receive information about this ministry, please see CONTACT below.

TIME COMMITMENT: Meetings as needed.

CONTACT Wayne Neihoff.....731-293-5280

Heartwarmers

The Heartwarmers make tied quilts of various sizes to donate to those who are in need. Their primary areas of service are providing quilts to the Red Cross for local disaster relief, Dream Center, Birth Choice, WRAP and the Knights of Columbus Christmas baskets. In addition, this group affords an opportunity for fellowship for its participants.

TIME COMMITMENT: 3 hours per week (plus any time at home at participant's option), flexible about attendance.

CONTACT Jeri Jones731-293-3100

Home Touch

There are times in our lives where we might find ourselves alone. Through the loss of a loved one, illness, or just not being as mobile as we once were, this puts us in a place of loneliness. Home Touch is an opportunity to have a parishioner (Maggie) call you just to chat. She would be glad to call, get to know you and make a new friend.

CONTACT Maggie Vucina.....731-664-8328

Jim Wilson Christmas Partners

Christmas Partners, spearheaded by the Knights of Columbus, is an organization of several (primarily non-profit) local organizations including RIFA and Area Relief Ministries as well as the Salvation Army and United Way of West TN. Every year Christmas Partners gathers, buys and distributes toys, bikes and clothing to approximately 1,000 area families.

CONTACT David Burngasser731-343-8755

Mount Calvary Cemetery Friends

This group exists to support and assist with the operations of the cemetery by providing occasional labor for maintenance projects/clean-up as scheduled by the cemetery coordinator.

TIME COMMITMENT: 1 day per year for comprehensive clean-up, plus would like volunteers to serve as back-up for the cemetery coordinator.

CONTACT Kevin Brown.....731-697-9692

Prayer Line

The prayer line provides a rapid response of prayer in emergency situations, by coordinating and contacting all who are willing to pray for those in immediate need of prayer.

CONTACT Parish Office.....731-668-2596

Respect Life Committee

Parishioners of St. Mary's give a voice to those whose life is at risk in our society through lack of respect. We are law-abiding citizens who, because of our faith, believe that all human life is God's creation and should be respected and protected. The committee educates parishioners on Church teachings concerning abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, fertility, sex education in the schools and other areas where life is at risk. The committee represents the Catholic Church's position on these life issues to the wider community. This committee also serves as a source of information on services and counseling available in our community for those in need of counseling for unplanned pregnancies and for post-abortion counseling services.

TIME COMMITMENT: Flexible.

CONTACT David Dallas.....731-487-2008

Room in the Inn

A national program for homeless men begun by Father Charles Strobel in Nashville, Tennessee, works as a partnership between Area Relief Ministries (ARM) and local churches, including St. Mary's. ARM coordinates the program and provides sheets, blankets, towels, pillows and cots. Local congregations allow the men to sleep in their facility from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., providing dinner and a light breakfast. Volunteers are needed to prepare the meals, serve and clean up. Also, two men parishioners are needed to stay overnight with the guests. We host Room in the Inn once a month, at First Methodist Church in downtown Jackson, typically the first Thursday of every month. This program has provided shelter for hundreds of men and created life changing relationships through fellowship with the guests.

TIME COMMITMENT: Flexible, typically 3-4 hours, 2-3 days a year.

CONTACT Jeanie Sopcak731-267-1126
or Jackie Hazlehurst731-267-2677

Soup Kitchen Volunteers

The larger Jackson community prepares a hot meal daily for the hungry of the area. St. Mary's provides volunteers and desserts several weeks during the year through the RIFA program.

TIME COMMITMENT: 3 weeks per year, 2 hours per day.

CONTACT Cathy Jarvis.....731-267-0538

Women's Ministry – The Well

The mission of The Well Ministry is to help all women deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ through the overflowing power of the Holy Spirit, to be filled with the Living Water and to joyfully proclaim and live out the Gospel of our Lord.

The group is for all women of St. Mary's and the Jackson area community.

TIME COMMITMENT: Meets approximately 2 evenings per month, flexible about attendance.

CONTACT Parish Office.....731-668-2596

STEWARDSHIP & PLANNING

Pastoral Council

The Pastoral Council is made up of parish members who assist the Pastor in carrying out the responsibilities of parish life. They provide insight into the pastoral needs of the parish and overall leadership by directing activities and programs that promote a strong spiritual and family foundation.

Current members are: Fr. Dennis Schenkel, Fr. Gabe Bouck, Fr. Rolando Perez, Deacon Dale Brown, Deacon Bill Winston, SMS Principal, Maximilian Hart, Manuel Cobian, Sharon Loucks, Bill Styers, Bill Boller, Sarah Gibson, Marcia Sortet, and Kate Todd.

Finance Council

The Finance Council, established by the church's Code of Canon Law #537, serves the parish in matters of finance and administration.

Council members review the annual budget, review financial reports, offer financial and managerial advice, and advise the Pastor on purchasing, stewardship, fundraising and any other significant administrative issues involving financial matters.

Current members are: Fr. Dennis Schenkel, David Aherrera, Chuck Doumitt, Dianne Edwards, Jonathan Jones, Tom Carson Jones, Lane Lemons, Nancy McMahon, Wayne Neihoff, Gay LaGrange Wilson, SMS Principal, and Rose Mary Gill.

Building & Grounds Committee

The Building & Grounds Committee oversees all activities associated with the planning and development of new facilities on our campus. Also, this committee advises the Pastor about ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the current buildings and grounds.

Church Cleaning

This group assists in making our church a warm, clean and inviting environment.

TIME COMMITMENT: One weekend a quarter.

CONTACT Parish Office.....731-668-2596

Collection Counters

The group counts the Sunday offertory collection and prepares the collection for deposit to the bank.

TIME COMMITMENT: 1 Sunday per month, 3 hours at a time from 11:30 a.m. until approximately 2:30 p.m.

CONTACT Rose Mary Gill.....731-668-2596

SPANISH..... Parish Office.....731-668-2596

Helping Hands Volunteers

The parish depends on volunteers who provide clerical help for the office by answering phones, stuffing bulletins and assorted duties. If you would like to help, please call the Parish Office.

TIME COMMITMENT: As needed.

CONTACT Kate Todd.....731-668-2596