

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

September 20, 2015

Religious Education

This weekend, we celebrate Catechetical Sunday. Those who have volunteered to be Catechists (Teachers) in our Religious Education Program will be introduced and receive a blessing. Please take the time to give them a big Thank You for helping us, as a parish family, teach our children their Catholic faith.

We are still in need of more teachers, helpers and monitors.

If you would like to help in any way, please give Cheryl a call at 334-4221 or e-mail at cheryls.shfre@arvig.net.

Stewardship

Next weekend, we celebrate Stewardship weekend where we take time to recognize the many ways that stewardship of time and talent is done within our parish family.

Thank all of you who donate your time and talent to make this happen.

Stewardship Update

September also marks the one year anniversary of the introduction of the Time and Talent survey. In the fall of last year, at least one member of approximately 100 households, or 1/3 of the households in our parish, returned a completed survey. I am sure there are a number of you who are wondering what was done with the information. You probably have not been called or your name hasn't appeared on a schedule or you aren't sure what you volunteered to do. The answer is, quite frankly, that outside of recording the data and forwarding the information to the respective committee leaders, little effort has been made to utilize the information. Instead, our efforts have been focused on contacting the remaining 2/3rd of the parish households.

Beginning in February, with the assistance of 6 ladies from the parish we initiated a campaign

to call each of these households. By early May, we had successfully contacted approximately 150 households, some of these requiring several calls before contact was made.

During this campaign, we encountered several instances when calling the number on our household list resulted in calling a disconnected or incorrect telephone number. We also encountered some households where there was no answer and others that did not return a call to a voice message. In mid May into June, we mailed a letter to the address of record on our parish list requesting address service if not delivered. During May and into July we had limited response to this effort. However, along with one on one contact in some instances we were able to contact all but 31 households.

Data gathered during the calling and letter campaigns was added to the Time and Talent Survey spreadsheet.

Results to date

Households	
Contacted	256
Unable to Contact	31
New to contact	5
Total	292
Total Members Responding	431

In late August, we decided to transfer the data to the Parish data base which will allow automatic updating of member information to all related reports. This will make maintenance more efficient and accurate. This is at a sacrifice, however, as there is limited report flexibility.

Data transfer is complete and reports have been developed including a new circle list report that separates members that have volunteered to help in some way from those who are unable or have not volunteered.

This report indicates that with an average circle membership of 35 households, four of the seven circles have fewer than ten active households and the fifth with only 11. Other reports indicate that several of you on various councils and committees or certain ministries are ABSENT from the respective ministry report.

These discrepancies are probably the result of one of three things.

1. Made a data entry error
2. Forgot to check the ministry when completing the Time and Talent Survey
3. Caught unexpectedly when called and did not have a list of ministries available for reference.

Attached to this newsletter is a list of the various ministries in the parish. We ask that in the next two weeks, each member of the household please review the list and identify the ministries that you are currently doing or would be willing to do by placing your name or other identifying mark by each of those ministries. Please bring the completed sheet back next weekend and place in the collection basket or the weekend of October 3 and give to a member of the Stewardship Committee who will be in the Hall of Saints before and after each Mass

WHAT IN THE WORLD DID I VOLUNTEER FOR!!!

Let's get together and compare notes.

How about the weekend of October 3rd before or after each Mass?

Members of the Stewardship Committee will be in the Hall of Saints with a list of each member who has completed a Time and Talent Survey or was contacted by telephone. The list reflects our understanding of what ministries you have volunteered to do.

Please bring your marked up copy of the ministry list with you.

We can then compare notes and correct any errors or omissions.

Please help us get our data complete and accurate.

1. Verify that your and your household information is correct and complete in our parish system
2. Please encourage your friends and relatives to do the same.

Your help in completing this step will enable us to move forward in developing the methods and means to efficiently utilize your time and talent to make Sacred Heart Parish an even more active, vibrant and member involved faith community.

Thank you for your Support, Patience and Help.

God Bless You All!

If you have any questions about the current ministry list or Stewardship volunteer list,

Please call Al Jacobson 847-5510