

Human Concerns

AA: Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. AA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. The Elm Grove Staying Sober AA group meets Saturday mornings from 7:00-8:00 am in the Senior Center. Contact: Parish Office, 262-782-4575.

Angel Tree: This outreach program strives to make the Christmas holiday special for needy families, individuals and organizations. New items suitable for Christmas gifts are organized and requested in October. Gifts are sorted and delivered in December. Volunteers with computer skills are needed in October to make tags for the Christmas trees. Volunteers are needed during the 2nd and 3rd week of December to sort and deliver the Christmas gifts. Contact: Parish Office, 262-782-4575.

Christian Women's Society: The Mission Statement of the Christian Women's Society is "to enhance the spirituality of the women of the parish and community" and by extension, all who come in contact with these women, especially their families. Programs and events are planned to minister to women of all ages and to refresh and renew the spirit. The hope is that each member's participation is enriched through finding friends, fellowship, and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. All are welcome and encouraged to attend any or as many of the programs and events scheduled, including Advent by Candlelight, Ash Wednesday Morning of Reflection, Annual Salad Supper, Family Rosary and May Crowning. Contact: Parish Office, 262-782-4575.

Communion to the Homebound: Volunteers are needed to take communion to members of the parish community who are homebound or in the hospital, usually 1 visit per week. Contact: Mary Sue Protz, 262-782-4575 or msprotz@stmaryeg.org

Elizabeth Ministry: This ministry is an outreach that responds to the joys and sorrows of a woman's life during the childbearing years. By sharing personal stories and similar experiences, women are able to support, encourage and assist one another during this unique time in their lives. The Elizabeth Ministry follows the example of the scriptural story of the Visitation by bringing women together who share a similar story. Learn more about how you can receive the assistance or join this ministry. Contact: Monica Eckert, 414-204-7918 or monicaeckert@live.com

Feed the Hungry: This monthly collection provides non-perishable food items to St. Rose Parish on the even months of the year and to Blessed Savior on the odd months. Both pantries are overwhelmed with the generosity of our parish members. If you are interested in donating items for the "Feed the Hungry"

program, please leave your bags of non-perishable items in the west vestibule or in the Atrium on the second Sunday of every month. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make your check out to St. Mary's Visitation and denote "Feed the Hungry" in the message section of the check. SMV ensures these pantries receive the money. Contact: Jenny Moyer through the Parish Office, 262-782-4575

Homebound Ministry: This special ministry connects St. Mary's Visitation with parishioners who are unable to celebrate Mass with us due to age, illness or physical limitations. Our homebound parishioners are loved and prayed for and are vital members of our parish community. Any St. Mary's Visitation parishioner who has been confirmed and is a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church may be a Homebound Minister. We especially encourage family members of the homebound person to be a part of this ministry. Contact: Mary Sue Protz, 262-782-4575 or msprotz@stmaryeg.org

Good Grief: Losing a loved one can be one of the most difficult, painful things we experience in our lives. To help people through their grief journey, St. Mary's Visitation offers a 12-week "Good Grief" support group led by Certified Grief Counselor, Deacon Tom Binder. Previous participants have experienced significant healing and have rediscovered peace, joy and love in their lives. Twelve-week sessions are offered every spring and fall. Class size is limited and fills quickly. Contact: Mary Sue Protz, 262-782-4575 or msprotz@stmaryeg.org

Jail/Prison Ministry: A confidential ministry to those incarcerated and to the members of their families. In confidence, please contact Deacon Dick Niggemann, 262-782-4575, or niggemannr@archmil.org

Knights of Columbus: Becoming a Knight of Columbus can transform your life. As a Knight, you have the opportunity to support your parish, give back to your community and grow in your faith. We are a band of brothers, a network of men in communities around the world dedicated to doing good in the service of God and our neighbor. Our efforts are directed toward supporting our priests and seminarians, pro-life, Catholic education; and charitable aid to those in need. Over fifty Knights belong to our parish, many serving in roles such as Ministers of Hospitality, Eucharistic Ministers and caring for parish grounds. We even help to beautifully decorate the church at Christmas. Contact: Jeff Rauh, 262-853-6567 or Vic Johnson, 262-257-9218, vic.johnson@kofc.org

Prayer Requests: St. Mary's is blessed to have faithful parishioners who consider it a privilege to pray for others and their special intentions. If you, a family member, or a friend, are in need of immediate prayer, please use the online prayer request form on our website or at the following link to send us your prayer request. Consider joining the joyful and rewarding ministry of lifting others up through prayer! Contact: Mary Sue Protz, 262-782-4575 or msprotz @stmaryeg.org

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Parish knitters dedicate their time, talent and prayers while creating beautiful prayer shawls and baptismal blankets. Prayer shawl recipients

receive a blessed, comforting reminder that the prayers of our parish community are with them and that God is near when one is suffering. All babies baptized at our parish are given a white blanket, which has been blessed at their baptism, as a welcome gift to our newest members. This ministry is funded by donations to the Christian Women's Society. Please stop in the Parish Office if you know of someone in need or if you are interested in knitting or donating to this ministry. Contact: Lynne Miller, 262-786-9433

Pro-Life Wisconsin: Proclaims the Gospel of Life through adult and student outreach and education. Transforming the culture, via speaking engagements, pamphlets, multiple websites, workshops in addition to radio, TV, print and electronic media campaigns, this ministry transforms hearts and saves lives. Join us as we put education into action through prayer, crisis pregnancy support, counseling, vigils, NFP and chastity promotion, grassroots advocacy, and medical decision instruction and documents. With affiliates throughout the state, Pro-Life Wisconsin staff, board and volunteers assist and collaborate with churches, school, organizations and individuals across Wisconsin. Contact: Dan Miller, 262-796-1111 or dan.m@prolifewi.org or www.prolifewi.org

Respect Life Ministry: This ministry promotes the culture of life from conception to natural death through prayer, education and formation, and service. Through our activities, we provide information on life affirming issues, activities and speakers throughout our community. Volunteers needed for numerous activities, including annual Life Chain, Baby Bottle Boomerang, Mother's Day Rose Sale, community baby showers, Roe vs. Wade Prayer Vigil and the spring and fall 40 Days for Life Campaign. Individuals, families, and teens are welcome! Contact: Molly Berens, mumberens@yahoo.com, Mary Stoiber, stoibers@hotmail.com or Mary Magnor, mcmags2001@yahoo.com

St. Ben's Meal Program Ministry: Volunteers needed every other first Tuesday of the month to prepare and bake casseroles; make pudding or baked goods; help deliver the food to St. Ben's. Volunteers are also needed to deliver ham and cheese to those who volunteered to make the casserole. This is to be done the weekend before the first Tuesday of the month. Contact: Sue Olbrantz or Monica Schmitt through the Parish Office, 262-782-4575.

Senior's Group Ministry: This ministry provides an active social and educational opportunity for seniors in our parish. Entertaining, educational or spiritual presentations are offered in addition to occasional day trips and luncheons. This group is open to all seniors, couples or singles. Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month except January, July and August in the Senior Center (Handicap access). Attendance is your choice. Contact: William Gleisner, 262-505-6116.

Summer Service Series: This Tri Parish Outreach effort offers several one day service opportunities every summer to help parish members of varying ages sample service agencies at work within the Milwaukee area. Participation in the series provides personal outreach to people whose lives are challenged in a variety of ways. Volunteers may organize, lead or participate in a variety of offerings. Contact: Mary Sue Protz, 262-782-4575 or msprotz@stmaryeg.org

Third World Fair: Volunteers are needed to assist with set up and take down for the annual fair that takes place in November or December. The fair benefits the Working Boys Center in Quito, Ecuador. Contact: Pat Parks, jparks@wi.rr.com