



St. Maria Goretti Parish

Madison, Wisconsin

PARISH INFORMATION



This information booklet provides a directory of parish services and multiple opportunities for lay ministry. It has been developed with input from parish and school staff as well as dozens of dedicated volunteers involved in the numerous ministries and activities of our parish. We hope that we have in some way captured the breadth and spirit of parish life in this document. The booklet is designed for use in conjunction with the Time and Talent Survey and the Parish Contact List.

St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church
5313 Flad Avenue
Madison, Wisconsin 53711
(608) 271-7421
Website: stmariagoretti.org
Email: parish@stmariagoretti.org

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Maria Goretti Parish

Mission Statement

*Our Parish Family is called to grow in faith and love.
We desire to be in union with Jesus Christ and one another.
We will accomplish this mission through worship and prayer,
education and evangelization in our community and world.
With St. Maria Goretti as our patron, we strive to follow her life
of forgiveness and holiness.*

*May we pursue this mission faithfully,
encouraging others to join us in discipleship for the Lord.*

HISTORY OF ST. MARIA GORETTI PARISH

St. Maria Goretti parish was founded by Bishop William P. O'Connor, the first bishop of the Diocese of Madison. On June 12, 1959, Father Wilfred J. Schuster was named as founding pastor. At that time, the parish served approximately 200 families, and Masses were held in the Edgewood High School auditorium. When school began in the fall, the early Mass was moved to the basement of the rectory at 1613 Gilbert Road. The later morning Mass was celebrated in the Edgewood College chapel.

In 1961, the St. Maria Goretti Parish Center (the original school hall) was built on the corner of Gilbert Road and Flad Avenue. Chicago artist Carl Merschel created the glazed ceramic cross above the altar. Madison artist Fritz Carpenter of Stefan Mittler monuments fashioned a stone plaque of St. Maria Goretti inside the main entrance. The dining hall was available for meetings and dinners. The first Mass was celebrated in the new Parish Center on April 30, 1961. Formal dedication ceremonies were held on June 18, 1961.

In 1964, the library and office areas of the Parish Center were divided into classrooms and the building was remodeled with new offices, a lounge and a library. Four sisters from the order of Oblates to Divine Love (now known as Sister Oblates to the Blessed Trinity) came from New York and were the school's first teachers. St. Maria Goretti School opened in 1964 with 87 students in grades 3 through 5. Eight classrooms were added in 1965, serving grades 3 through 6. Grade 7 was added in 1966, grade 8 in 1967, grades 1 and 2 in 1968 and finally kindergarten in 1980. A new rectory was built on Maria Place in 1986 to house the priests and the parish offices.

On July 12, 1992, ground was broken for the new hilltop church building, with construction beginning later that month. The church was completed approximately one year later. Dedication ceremonies were held on June 27, 1993. The church had a seating capacity of 850. The cross in the sanctuary was constructed by the Conrad Schmitt Studio of Milwaukee. The figure of Christ was hand carved in Italy and then transported to Milwaukee where the crucifix was completed. The church exterior features a 93.5-foot tall bell tower.

In July, 1996, Father Michael Burke was named pastor of St. Maria Goretti Parish. He has developed a professional staff, both paid and volunteer, to assist with the daily operation of the parish. This includes two sisters from the Congregation of St. Agnes, and one sister from Sisters of St. Joseph, Third Order Franciscan.

Stained glass windows depicting the Stations of the Cross were installed in February, 1999, also by Conrad Schmitt Studios. A new outdoor parish sign was installed in December, 1999.

HISTORY OF ST. MARIA GORETTI PARISH, CONTINUED

In January 2000, a five-year strategic planning process was initiated to study needed expansion of the church and school. A capital campaign began and ground was broken for Phase I expansion of the church gathering area, increased seating, an eight classroom addition to the school and the construction of a new gym in April 2003.

In the Fall of 2005, Phase II of construction began. This included conversion of Marian Hall into more church seating and meeting rooms; the construction of the parish hall and offices; and construction of administrative offices in the school along with rooms for the pre-school and religious education programs. Construction was completed in December 2006. The church now seats 1,225. Blessing of the new and renovated facilities was held on July 8, 2007, with Bishop Robert C. Morlino.

St. Maria Goretti Parish Staff 2009-2010

Parish Administrative Staff

Pastor	Rev. Msgr. Michael Burke (Fr. Mike)
Parochial Vicar	Rev. David Greenfield (Fr. David)
Director of Administration/Parish Ambassador for Stewardship and Membership	Tim Endres
Pastoral Associate/ Director of RCIA, Liturgy & Worship	Sr. Denise Herrmann, CSA
Pastoral Associate/Director of Pastoral Care Director of Religious Education/Youth Ministry	Sr. Marge Kalina, SSJ-TOSF Joe Rausch
Coordinator of Religious Education	Shari Kuemmel
School Principal	Liz Young
Assistant School Principal	Ann Martinelli
Business Manager/Director of Facilities	Tom Wildenborg
Administrative Liaison to Parish Council, St. Vincent de Paul Society & Adult Faith Formation	Dcn. Dick Martin
Administrative Liaison to Human Concerns Commission and to Adult Faith Formation	Dcn. Jerome Buhman

Additional Parish Staff

Parish Secretary	Linda Degenhardt
Administrative Assistant to Pastor	Laurie Fleurette
Parish Receptionist	Rachel Hellen
Parish Bookkeeper	Ruth Kramer
Parish Computer Consultant	Dan Dankert
Secretary to Parish Ambassador	Colleen Nelson
Pastoral Associate, Part-time, Volunteer	Sr. Marie Kees, CSA
Pastoral Assistant to Pastor, Volunteer	Dave Ross
Membership Coordinator, Volunteer	Mary Murphy
Liturgy Assistant, Volunteer	Terry Steiger
Administrative Assistant for Religious Ed.	Misty Brumm
Coordinator of Liturgical Music	Mary Clemons
School Secretaries	Beth Wilson, Maria Dulli
Director of Maintenance	Pat Doherty
Coordinator of Special Events, Part-time	Dana Jacobs
Coordinator of Parish Communication	Martha Doherty
Parish Center Custodian, Part-time	George Schneeberg
Church Custodian, Part-time	Mike Hurtgen

WORSHIP AND PRAYER

Mass, Confession, Rosary, Eucharistic Adoration, Special Prayer Services, Pastoral Visits

MASS

Saturday 5:15 p.m. Vigil Mass

Sunday 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 a.m.

Holy Days

5:15 p.m. evening prior

6:30, 8:00 a.m.

12:15 p.m.

Weekdays

6:30 a.m. Mon. through Fri.

8:00 a.m. Tues., Thurs., Fri.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

Thursday 4:30 p.m. or by appointment.

Communal Reconciliation services are celebrated during Advent and Lent.

ROSARY

Weekdays 6:15 a.m., 8:45 a.m.

Saturday 8:00 a.m.

SPECIAL PRAYER SERVICES are scheduled during the various liturgical seasons. These are listed in the bulletin throughout the year.

PASTORAL VISITS are scheduled in homes and in care facilities with those who are not able to participate in worship and prayer at the parish church. Please contact the Parish Office to let us know about this need.

SACRAMENTS and RCIA

BAPTISM: Parents preparing for the baptism of their first child are requested to attend Baptism Preparation Class. We encourage taking the class before the birth of your child. Baptisms are usually celebrated twice a month. Please call the Parish Office for the dates of upcoming classes and baptisms. Baptism information is in the literature rack in the church corridor. Children who have reached the age of 7 and have not yet been baptized are welcome to enter a period of Christian Initiation for children in preparation for the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, and Eucharist. The preparation process is coordinated by the Parish Religious Education Office.

FIRST RECONCILIATION: Children in grade two and above who have not yet celebrated the sacrament enter a preparation process during the fall of the school year, leading to celebration of the sacrament during Lent. The preparation process includes religion class instruction and at-home activities. Parental involvement is key. The preparation process is coordinated by the Parish Religious Education Office.

FIRST COMMUNION: Children in grade two and above who have not yet celebrated the sacrament enter a preparation process in February of the school year, leading to celebration in the spring. The preparation process includes religion class instruction, at-home activities, and a retreat. Parental involvement is key. The preparation process is coordinated by the Parish Religious Education Office.

CONFIRMATION: High School Youth Ministry is a two-year program of faith formation and preparation for Confirmation. Teens are encouraged to grow in their personal faith. We invite teens to look at their life experiences and recognize and respond to God's constant loving presence and God's call in their lives. Our goal is also to help teens grow in their understanding of and connection to the Church. This is accomplished through a teen's participation in sessions Oct. through April, community service, a retreat in the second year, prayer, worship, study and liturgy. The sacrament is celebrated in the spring of the second year.

MARRIAGE: Please contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to the desired wedding date. Wedding preparation information is in the pamphlet rack in the library/information area outside the Parish Hall.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: A Mass with the Anointing of the Sick is held twice a year. Individual celebration of this sacrament may be arranged by calling the Parish Office at 271-7421. This sacrament is not only for those at the point of death. As soon as one becomes seriously ill, or is having surgery, or is advancing in age, it is appropriate to receive the sacrament.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) is the process for adults who want to join the Catholic Church with preparation for the celebration of the sacraments of baptism, confirmation and Eucharist. This includes those who have never been baptized, those baptized in another Christian Church, and Catholics who have not celebrated the sacraments of confirmation and/or Eucharist. Please contact the Liturgy and RCIA Office at 268-2960 for further information.

ST. MARIA GORETTI CATHOLIC SCHOOL

5405 Flad Avenue, Madison, WI 53711

608-271-7551

E-mail: admin@stmariagoretti.org

Fax: 608 275-6625

Thank you for considering our Catholic parish school! We look forward to a visit by you and your child(ren), as you are welcome to stop by for a tour. We put an emphasis on individual attention for each child's spiritual, intellectual, moral, physical and emotional development. Along with her/his preparation for advancement to the next level of school, a St. Maria Goretti Catholic Parish School student is provided a nurturing, safe environment in which to enjoy her/his learning today.

St. Maria Goretti Catholic School Statement of Philosophy:

The faculty and staff of St. Maria Goretti Catholic School share in the teaching ministry of our parish, to bring Christ's message to our students.

We believe that every child is a unique creation of God, worthy of the opportunity to develop to his/her fullest potential in a safe and caring environment.

We will provide our students with prayer and worship experiences, high academic standards, service opportunities and guidance and support toward healthy personal growth.

We recognize and value the partnership that parents and teachers have in the successful education of all students.

As members of the St. Maria Goretti Catholic School Community, we embrace these responsibilities of our teaching ministry.

School Motto: Living in faith, growing in character, loving each other

The school consists of children in pre-school through grade eight. Our maximum class size is twenty-five students.

The faculty consists of certified, degreed classroom teachers. Other teachers provide instruction in Music, Spanish, Art, Technology, Physical Education, library and Band. A school counselor is available each Wednesday. In addition, the school offers a hot lunch program, opportunities for a yearbook committee, a cantor program, a sports program for boys and girls, as well as middle school student government.

For registration and enrollment information, current tuition and book fees, please contact the school office, or visit us on the web at www.stmariagoretti.org (click on the "school" link). Thank you.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Early Childhood – Ages 3-5: Scripture-based learning hour held during the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass October-April, prepares children for participation in the Sunday liturgy. Children are introduced to liturgical gestures, prayers and responses while exploring the meaning of the Sunday Gospel. Children must be age three as of September 1 of the program year to register.

Grades 1-5 R.E. Classes: Two sessions are offered on Mondays (4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.) to provide age-appropriate catechesis and instruction in the basics of our Catholic faith, with a focus on what we believe, how we worship, how we live, how we pray, and what difference that makes in our daily lives.

Middle School Youth Ministry: Wednesday evening sessions are open to all parish middle school students. Sessions focus on applying faith and church teachings to daily life. The program is catechetical and includes social and recreational activities, community service, prayer and retreats.

High School Youth Ministry: Sunday evening catechetical sessions focusing on the application of faith and church to daily life are central to this program, including social and recreational activities, community service, prayer, retreats, liturgical participation and summer trips.

Youth Ministry: Has numerous volunteer opportunities which include coordinators and helpers such as: small group leaders (catechists), Musicians, Fundraising help, Community Service/Social Justice Projects, Computer help, Office/clerical, Video/photographers, event chaperones, and more.

Adult Faith Formation: Classes, programs and activities, retreats and online resources provide a variety of formats and opportunities for prayer, scripture study, reflection, faith-sharing, community, spiritual enrichment and education for adults of all ages and backgrounds. Contact the Adult Formation Office at 268-2959.

Parental involvement, adult catechists and parishioner support are foundational elements of all of our Parish Education opportunities and programs.

A Parish Faith Formation/Spiritual Enrichment Lending Library is maintained in the church corridor to provide a variety of materials (books and videos) for all ages.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Please Contact the Parish Religious Education Office at 271-8081.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Parish Pastoral Council is a consultative body that works in unity with the parish and pastoral staff. The Council assists the Pastor in identifying parish needs and helps to plan and implement parish programs and services. Participants at Council meetings include the parish priest(s) and pastoral staff, the school principal, the religious education director, nine members elected at large, committee chairpersons and representatives from other parish organizations. The six parish commissions are extensions of the work of the Parish Pastoral Council. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Parish Pastoral Council, please notify one of its members or the pastoral staff.

SMG PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL COMMISSIONS

Approved by the Parish Pastoral Council: September 21, 1999

CHRISTIAN FORMATION COMMISSION

Supports the faith formation of our total parish community through life-long educational programs, activities and experiences, fostering each individual's development and growth in a "living, conscious and active" faith, based on the teachings of Christ, celebrated in the way we worship and pray, and lived out in our daily decisions and actions. The Commission makes recommendations and suggestions for policies, procedures, and programs to the Pastor, the Parish Council, Director of Religious Education and school Principal related to this total and life-long parish educational/faith formation effort.

Adults:

Adult Education/Formation
Small Christian Communities
Bible Study

Children:

Children's Religious Education
Sacramental Preparation of Children
Youth Ministry
Parish School

HUMAN CONCERNS/SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

Responsible for making recommendations to the Pastor and Parish Council in regards to the pastoral needs of parishioners and the promotion of social justice.

Community Meal Program

Pastoral Care:

Funeral Lunches – donations of salads, desserts

Funeral Lunches – servers of food, hospitality

Home Eucharistic Minister

Visitors to Homebound/Elderly

Blood Drive volunteer

Pro-Life

Weekly Transport of Food Collection to St. Vincent de Paul

COMMUNITY MEAL PROGRAM

St. Maria Goretti parishioners provide lunch once per month for the hungry at Luke House on Madison's near-East side. Many parishioners provide a portion of the meal and volunteers transport and serve the food on the second Thursday of each month. Lunch is served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Opportunities are available to prepare food (cost of \$10 or less), transport food, set up, serve or clean up. Participation is encouraged in a small or large way as your time permits. Some participants work through their lunchtime. Some are on the substitute list only.

PASTORAL CARE

FUNERAL LUNCHESES

This service is provided to family and friends after the funeral Mass of a parishioner, if it is so requested. Many parishioners are needed to donate salads and desserts. Other parishioners volunteer to prepare, serve and clean up.

HOME EUCHARISTIC MINISTER

Parish Eucharistic ministers are scheduled to take Communion to the homebound. The Eucharistic minister prays with the homebound parishioner, proclaims the Word of God and distributes Holy Communion.

VISITORS TO THE HOMEBOUND/ELDERLY

Volunteers minister to those confined to their homes or retirement/care facilities by visiting, praying with, and supporting family members.

PRO-LIFE

St. Maria Goretti Parish actively supports the right to life of all persons from conception to natural death. Our pro-life organization sponsors pro-life speakers, coordinates

annual Wisconsin Right to Life and Dane County Right to Life fundraisers and participates in the Bishop's prayer service for the observance of Respect Life Sunday in October. A living rosary team prays for pro-life intentions on a daily basis. Parishioners are kept informed of pending pro-life legislation.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE

St. Maria Goretti Parish recognizes the St. Vincent De Paul organization as a partner in service to our community. Some of the St. Vincent De Paul sponsored events that take place in our parish include food drives and a toy and gift collection during the Christmas season for distribution to less fortunate families.

RED CROSS BLOOD DONORS

Our parish participates in the Red Cross Once-a-Week Club. Blood donors are encouraged to give as often as possible and sign the Red Cross book under our parish name in hopes that we average out having a parishioner give blood every week of the year.

PARISH LIFE COMMISSION

Charged to enhance parish life for new and existing parishioners by supporting existing organizations, and to continually assess needs for new programs and make subsequent recommendations.

- Book Club
- Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts/Girl Scouts/Brownies
- Carefree Years
- Knights of Columbus
- Little Tots Play Group
- Special Events
- Parish Festival
- Parish Newsletter
- Sunday Coffee & Donuts
- Parish Fish Fry
- Parish Spaghetti Dinner

BOOK CLUB

St. Maria Goretti Parish has two ongoing book clubs that meet at 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month. Each club meets at the home of a fellow member to review the month's selection.

CAREFREE YEARS CLUB

The Carefree Years Club is an organization for parish members 55 years of age and older. Religious and social activities of interest are planned at the first meeting of the year in October. Such activities typically include Mass, breakfast and speaker, trips to musicals and Holy Hill, and Days of Reflection.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Mary of the Lakes Council #4527 provides many opportunities for members and their families to enjoy Catholic fraternalism. With its own clubhouse near Verona Road, the Council sponsors breakfasts, bowling and golf leagues, and an annual men's retreat at the Jesuit retreat center. The clubhouse is also available for other gatherings.

LITTLE TOTS PLAY GROUP

This is an informal gathering of moms (and sometimes dads) that meet on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. at various sites. It is an opportunity to get to know other young parish families and for the children to interact, make friends and play.

PARISH FESTIVAL

Many volunteers are needed for a variety of functions at this annual event that takes place in June each year.

FALL AUCTION

PARISH NEWSLETTER

The parish newsletter, *Gatherings*, is published quarterly as a way of keeping all parishioners informed of the wonderful activities that occur in our parish. Help is needed in all aspects of newsletter publishing - from writing to editing to photography, to layout, to distribution.

SCOUT YOUTH GROUPS

St. Maria Goretti sponsors Boy Scouts, Boy Tiger Cub, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts and Brownies. These groups are very active in teaching youth self-confidence, leadership skills, teamwork and service to God and community through fun group activities and high adventure outings.

SUNDAY COFFEE AND DONUTS

Coffee and donuts are made available after the 7:00 and 9:00 a.m. Sunday Masses. Volunteers are always needed to make the coffee, collect donations and clean up. This is a great ministry for those who like to socialize with fellow parishioners after Masses.

STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION

Responsible for making recommendations to the Parish Council and Pastor regarding preparing, planning and implementing the stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure.

VOCATIONS COMMISSION

Responsible for keeping before parishioners' attention the fact that God calls parishioners to be diocesan priests, religious priests, sisters and brothers and soliciting help through the Parish Council and Pastor in promoting activities for vocation awareness.

WORSHIP & PRAYER COMMISSION

Responsible for assessing needs, making recommendations to the Pastoral Council and Pastor, and providing guidance pertaining to all aspects of prayer, worship, parish liturgy and sacramental celebrations.

LITURGY COMMITTEE

The Liturgy Committee is responsible for the daily, weekly and seasonal implementation of official guidelines for the celebration of liturgy, including the liturgical environment and music. The various ministries guided by this committee are the musicians, commentators, lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, greeters, ushers, altar servers, sacristans and the liturgical environment.

COMMENTATOR

The commentator announces the opening reflection for the Mass, gives voice to the Prayer of the Faithful and delivers announcements.

LECTOR

The Lector proclaims the Scripture readings to the assembly with the intent of bringing to life the Word of God. Certain innate abilities are necessary: an adequate vocal instrument, poise, self-confidence, maturity and sensitivity to the diversity in the gathered assembly.

ALTAR SERVER

The altar server assists the priest during the Eucharistic celebration. Servers, both boys and girls, are accepted for training at grade five; however, older students also may ask to be trained to serve. Servers are encouraged to serve through grade twelve. Adults are also encouraged to volunteer to serve, especially for funerals and special occasions.

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY (greeters, ushers)

Greeters and Ushers are considered ministers of hospitality; they are usually the first persons the parishioners and visitors meet as they gather for the Eucharistic celebration. Greeters welcome us and help with any reserved seating for special parish celebrations. Ushers greet, assist with seating people and making sure that the nave of the church is ready. They find presenters for the gifts of bread and wine, take up the collection, direct the communion procession, distribute the bulletins after Mass, straighten up the pews and check that the church is in order for the next Mass. Ushers also assist with any emergencies that may occur.

MINISTRY OF LITURGICAL ENVIRONMENT

(Decorating, Flower Arrangement/Plant Care, Sewing, Sanctuary/Sacristy cleaners, Laundry of Albs and Linens)

Many persons and talents are needed to design and install the décor of the liturgical environment. There is the need for planning, creating, and setting up for the various liturgical seasons. Help is needed with cleaning the sanctuary and sacristy. Also we need help in cleaning, sewing and repairing altar linens and other items. Whether you wish to help setup or take down decorations or if you have a talent for flower arranging, sewing, designing, or construction, we can use your help.

SACRISTAN

The sacristan sees to the preparation of all liturgical items before Mass and to their proper care after Mass. The weekend sacristan also sees to it that the altar servers and all other ministers have arrived and are ready for the celebration.

MUSIC MINISTRY

St. Maria Goretti has four organized choirs: the Adult Choir that sings at the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass and for special occasions, the Contemporary Choir that sings at the 11:00 a.m. Mass, SpiritSong that sings twice a month at the 5:15 p.m. Mass, and the Resurrection Choir that sings for funerals.

Adult Choir rehearsals are held 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. on Monday evenings. No audition is required, just the desire to praise God in song and to enjoy working hard to develop the best choral music in the Eucharistic setting.

Contemporary Choir rehearsals are held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday evenings and 10:30 a.m. on Sundays. No audition is required. All ages are welcome to join this choir and help lead the congregation in praise and worship of God.

The Resurrection Choir provides music to enhance the funeral liturgies and to provide comfort to the mourners. This choir welcomes all who are available on a short notice. This includes those who are retired, those not working during the day, and those who are able to take time from their work schedule to minister to the grieving. You would not have to be available for all the funerals.

SpiritSong is a contemporary choir that leads the singing at the 5:15 Saturday Mass twice a month and other liturgies as needed. Practices are Thursday evenings from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Singers of all ages and instrumentalists (especially guitarists) are encouraged to join and help lead the congregation in song.

Cantor/Song leaders are leaders of music at the 5:15 p.m. Saturday Mass, the 7:00 a.m. Sunday Mass and other special occasions. They need to have a solo voice with clear diction and good voice modulation. The cantor who serves the assembly also proclaims the Word by singing the responsorial psalm; the cantor and lector are partners in the proclamation of the scriptures.

Instrumentalists are an important part in the liturgy. There is always a need for organists and others who are proficient on the keyboard. Training for playing at a liturgical service would be available. At times we enhance our musical repertoire with the use of other instruments, such as strings, woodwinds, brass and percussion. All instrumentalists are encouraged to volunteer their services so that we know who is available when the need arises.

BAPTISMS

PARENT PREPARATION CLASSES

A monthly baptismal preparation class is held to renew the parents' understanding of baptism and to prepare the parents for the actual celebration of the baptism of their child. Trained parishioners facilitate this class.

DAY OF THE BAPTISM

On the actual day of the Baptism, a coordinator meets the family, helps them get settled for the celebration and helps with the details of the celebration.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) - Preparation for the Rites is facilitated by the RCIA Director and a team of parishioners appointed by the pastor.

WEDDINGS

MARRIAGE PREPARATION PRESENTING TEAM

This is a married couple ministry. Couples should be married at least two years. The presenting couple will witness and share their married life experiences with couples intent on entering a sacramental marriage. New volunteer couples will receive training provided by the Diocese of Madison, Office of Evangelization and Catechesis.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAM HOSPITALITY TEAM MEMBER

The Marriage Preparation day at SMG is very special for the engaged couples. As guests, they are offered breakfast snacks, a lunch and light snacks/beverages in the afternoon. The food is paid for by the participants through the Diocese. Singles, friends, married couples, with or without families, may be interested in this service to the parish. The hospitality team coordinates the food and beverages, sets and clears the tables and attends to other facility-related needs of the engaged couples. It is a full day commitment.

FOCCUS

Facilitating Open Couple Communication, Understanding & Study is a ministry between a volunteer married couple and an engaged couple to be married. It is a requirement for marriage at St. Maria Goretti Parish. Engaged couples meet twice with the FOCCUS facilitator couple and then with the presider of their wedding. Like the Marriage Preparation Program ministry, this volunteer opportunity is for couples who wish to help the engaged to a successful lifetime commitment together. Unlike the Marriage Preparation Program ministry, the FOCCUS facilitating couples work with one engaged couple at a time.

WEDDING COORDINATOR

The Wedding Coordinator assists the couple in preparing for the sacramental celebration of marriage. He/she guides the couple in planning the liturgical celebration, is available to the couple through all the stages of planning and preparing, and is present and of assistance during the wedding rehearsal and actual celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP (Prayer Line)

Members of this ministry pray specifically for the needs of parish members. When the need of a parish member is known, word is spread through the telephone prayer line and each member prays for that need. Call the Parish Office for the number of the contact person.

OTHER MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

FACILITIES AND GROUNDS

Assistance is always needed and welcome. Parish members of all skills are invited to help. Please check any items on the Time and Talent sheet you wish to assist with, noting any particular skills you may have.

OUTDOOR FLOWER CARE

Assistance is always welcome in planting, weeding, watering, and maintaining the beauty of the flowerbeds around the church.

PARISH OFFICE MINISTRY

The Parish Office is a very busy place; help is needed in a variety of areas from answering the phone to typing/word processing to filing to stuffing envelopes. Persons are needed for short duration projects as well as for longer-term commitments. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.