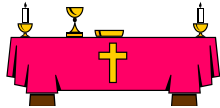


# PARISH MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

**GREETERS** – The first person you see when entering the Church, is the Greeter. They give you a big smile, say hello, and welcome you to our parish. This is important as it indicates that you have just entered God's "Family" home. Additional tasks performed by the Greeters are: select a family to take up the gifts at the Offertory; and, at the end of Mass, return to the entryway of the church and distribute bulletins. Once more, everyone receives a warm farewell as they leave the celebration and out into the world. **BONUS:** Greeters are asked to arrive at church at least 30-minutes prior to Mass. Know what that means? You get a great parking place!

**ALTAR SOCIETY** – This ministry is comprised of parishioners who work to promote the church through the loving support of its members. The Altar Society in Astoria has been organized since the 1940s by prayer groups who help to provide cleaning and maintenance to the Altar and the body of the church. We organize receptions for funerals and special occasions. We have hosted fundraising events which fund the support and upkeep of projects necessary to maintain and promote special needs of our parish community. It has been our privilege to support our priests with stated requests such as altar needs, vestments, and sacramental. Join us if you can in this mission to advance our faith in action.



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY** – is an international Catholic lay organization offering Person-to-Person service in the tradition of its founder Blessed Frederic Ozanam, and patron St Vincent de Paul. Our local Conference continues to support those in need by offering food assistance and limited rental assistance. Typical tasks include: Distribute food to walk-in clients during normal pantry hours of operation (Tuesday, Friday and Saturday); Pickup food from Oregon Food Bank, and local grocery stores weekly; Restock pantry shelves Wednesday. If you have two hours a month to work with us, we can help you find an activity that you'll enjoy. Your volunteering will help us continue to "make a difference one person at a time".



**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** – takes place every Wednesday after the 8:00 am morning Mass and concludes with Benediction at 6:00 pm. This is a precious time spent with Jesus as He is exposed in the Monstrance on the altar. You can be in His presence in personal prayer, talking to Him, asking His help and guidance, thanking Him for His many blessings, or sitting in silence with Him. If you would like to commit to a particular hour, the sign up binder is on the little table with the daily gifts during the week and can be found in the Sacristy on Sunday. You are most welcome to stop in anytime during the day to visit with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.



**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS (CDA)** – CDA membership consists of Catholic women who desire to help support our seminarians at Mt. Angel, the poor, the needy, and veterans. We sponsor a rummage sale each year to provide college scholarships for our high school seniors. One of favorite fundraisers is a baby shower each February, which provides layettes for the underprivileged newborn at both Clatsop Memorial Hospital and Providence Seaside. There are many opportunities to socialize with other Catholic women and have fun during our fundraising events. Meetings are the second Saturday of each month in the auditorium at 12:00 noon. Please join us and let loose your many talents and brotherly love.



**ALTAR LINENS** – Altar Linens: This ministry involves laundering, ironing, and folding of the purificators, corporals, and lavabo towels used during Church liturgies, primarily the Mass. This is done once weekly and provides a wonderful opportunity for contemplative prayer and meditation. When the large altar cloths need cleaning, they are taken to the dry cleaner. A weekly commitment is not necessary; a once-a-month rotation, occasional back-up, or a trip to the dry cleaner are all helpful and appreciated. This is the perfect ministry for anyone who enjoys doing small things with great love for the Lord.

**LITURGICAL DECOR** – You’ve seen how dramatically the décor changes, not only in the Sanctuary, but also in the body of the church, as the mood of our Eucharistic celebrations move through major liturgical seasons: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and Ordinary Time. This ministry involves the placement of not only the obvious decorations such as the Advent Wreath and the Manger Scene, but it also includes hanging the appropriate banners and coordinating with the Flower Ministry for the extra special touches such as the Poinsettias, Lilies, etc. that complete the look. It only takes about 2-3 hours for a 3-person crew to transform the appearance of the church from one major season to another. Perhaps you would like to be a part of this creative effort.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** – Our council would like to extend an invitation for every adult Catholic male who is not yet a member of the Knights of Columbus, to join us in our work. To quote Pope John Paul II, “the Knights of Columbus are the strong right arm of the Catholic church.” You may say you don’t have the time, or the energy, but we would still invite you to join if only to unite your voice with ours in support of the priests, bishops, and the Catholic Faith. Now is the time for all Catholic men to come to the support of their church. Become a member and play a part in changing the world!



**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS TO THE SICK/HOME BOUND** – This ministry brings joy and consolation to our dear friends who cannot attend Mass. Your commitment would involve 1 or 2 hours a week or as much time as you have available. Training would be provided and someone would accompany you until you were comfortable visiting on your own. Holy Communion is brought to the sick at Clatsop Care, Clatsop Retirement Village, Clatsop Memorial Hospital, and those who are home bound. It is always rewarding for both the communicant and the Eucharistic Minister to share the Body of Christ, some spiritual reading and quality time together. Please consider this ministry of “carrying Christ to others”.



**USHERS** – Although the Ushers often appear almost invisible, they perform a wide variety of tasks. Not only do they assist with seating when the church is packed, the Ushers also distribute any Eucharistic Minister crosses that have not been picked up. In addition to taking up the collection, the Ushers coordinate with the Greeters to ensure a family has been selected to take the gifts up to the altar. At the end of Mass, they also make sure the bulletins are ready for distribution at each exit and finally, they pick up the collection basket from the altar and take it into the sacristy. There has been some misconceptions regarding the position of Usher; any man or women is eligible to perform these duties, provided applicable training has been completed.

**LECTORS** – Are you a good reader? How would you like to participate in proclaiming the Word of God at Mass? The lector duties include: welcome those in attendance at the Mass, announce the Mass intention, invite everyone to stand and sing the opening hymn, read the First and Second readings, and the Prayers of the Faithful. The Lectors should arrive at least 20-minutes before Mass to check in with Father. Any man or woman is eligible to perform these duties, provided applicable training has been completed.



**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER** – To describe the magnitude of the responsibility of the Eucharistic Minister is impossible. The position of the Eucharistic Minister is essentially to assist the Priest with the distribution of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ to the assembly. Whether the Cup Minister or the Host Minister, each holds a sacred vessel and each has a specific roll. You would arrive 15 minutes prior to Mass and pick up the Ministry Medallion in the Sacristy. A complete outline of the duties would be too lengthy, but will be given during orientation. Any man or woman desiring to be a Eucharistic Minister must be approved and complete the ministry-specific training.





**ALTAR SERVERS** – Children of the parish who have received their first communion and are in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade or older, are invited to be Altar Servers. This is a wonderful opportunity for our parish youth to actively participate in the Mass and to hopefully deepen their understanding and appreciation of their Catholic faith. This role helps our youth to hear *the call to service* and the need to take an active role in their parish community. Our parish has a long tradition of our youth continuing as servers all the way through their high school years. Some serve for as many as 10 years before heading off to college. Training typically occurs twice a year in the fall and spring, when the schedule is updated. Our servers are expected to be mature, attentive, and well groomed in this important role of assisting the Pastor at Sunday Mass, Holy Days, Stations of the Cross and occasionally at wedding & funeral services.

**HAMMOND MISSION MINISTRIES** – Because the Hammond community is small and the attendance varies due to summer visitors and winter weather, their ministries are scheduled somewhat differently.

- *Church Cleaning*: It's not a big building, the tasks are not many, and with just a few more dedicated volunteers, the commitment would consist of just a couple of hours once a month.
- *Ushers*: Only two people are needed to take up the collection, and to secure and deliver the collection to Father after Mass.
- *Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers*: Each of these two ministries carries the same responsibilities no matter what church you attend; additionally, a training session is required for each.

Whether you attend Mass at Hammond every week or twice a month, if you are interested in serving in any of these capacities, please let us know by calling the parish office.

**Thank you for supporting  
our parish family!**