

SAINT LOUIS CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH MINISTRY BOOKLET



LIVING STEWARDSHIP – SHARING God’s Gifts

STEWARDSHIP in MINISTRIES

Altar Linen Ministry

It is an honor and privilege to launder the linens used on the altar during Mass. Purificators are small pieces of linen used to wipe the Communion Cups.

Every Monday morning three women (or men) pick up a bag containing approximately 40 purificators each. They take them home, wash, iron and fold these purificators and return them to St. Louis by Thursday. You are on a schedule; and your turn comes up once every three months. If you like to wash and iron this ministry is for you!

Altar Servers

The Altar Server Ministry offers boys and girls, 10 years of age and older, the chance to get closer to the Lord and to represent the community at liturgies. Training on two Saturdays in September will equip you to perform this special function. Each altar server is assigned to one or two Masses each month. This is a good way to see if you

might be interested in serving the Lord in bigger ways when you grow up.

Amor en Acción

Our ministry is one of the many “arms” of Amor en Acción (Love in Action), a missionary organization within the Archdiocese of Miami dedicated to serving the poor in Haiti and the Dominican Republic for more than 25 years. Since 1983 St. Louis has sent \$51,000 a year to the diocese of Port-de-Paix, Haiti. These funds support teacher salaries, health programs and meals for more than 2000 children at 16 schools every day. We also organize collections of rice, beans, school supplies, first aid supplies, and toys at specific times of the year. We support projects such as seeds and chickens for a farm, wheelbarrows, a water cistern, and a mobile clinic. Volunteers are always needed for collections, packing, and shipping, for this rewarding ministry.

Bible Studies

• A Journey of Faith

The study of scripture is a life transforming experience. The Bible is a book of faith, written by a people of faith, to a community of faith. The "Journey of Faith" bible study is an informal discussion group who open the scriptures together. We look at many aspects of the scriptures including: Who was the author writing to? What was the message to the readers then and how does it apply to us today? We encourage you to join us as we journey through this incredible book of God's revelation to us. Come experience God's profound expression of His love for us. Luke 24:32 "Were not our hearts burning inside us as he talked to us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?"

• Catholic Bible Fellowship

This ministry is dedicated to deepening our understanding and love of our Lord Jesus Christ and His Church through the study of His Word. We offer evening and morning sessions. Childcare is provided at the morning session. Our study materials are written

by leading Catholic scripture scholars and are faithful to the teachings of the Catholic Church. We gather to share personal insights, receive DVD teachings on the lesson material by Catholic priests, as well as pray and fellowship together.

All are welcome.. those new to Bible study or veterans of the Word. Join us as we allow God's Word to take root within us and "be transformed by the renewing of your mind".

Rom 12:2

• Catholic Scripture Study

This ministry offers an in-depth Scripture study for both beginners and experienced Bible students. Our study materials are written by leading Scripture scholars and authors, faithful to Church teachings, and include references to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, papal encyclicals, and writings of the early Church fathers and saints. We meet weekly to share the Word with each other in discussion groups, to listen to "live" and taped lectures, and to encourage and love each other as we journey toward spiritual maturity.

• **Men's Monday Morning**

The oldest Ministry at St. Louis Catholic Church is based on the fact that Scripture is "Living." Monday Morning Bible Study is not exactly a "Study", but more of a "Sharing". Consisting of about 25 regulars, each has a scheduled week to take the readings for the coming Sunday and do "research" from Catholic Commentaries about their meanings and history. After a brief lecture, the Men go around the table and each one shares how the readings touch them and apply either to their walk or their lives. After hearing from 25 men, the Scripture often is much more meaningful leading to a deeper understanding for the Homily coming on Sunday. Low key, high Spirit, every week brings us closer to the Lord.



Book Store

The parish bookstore is located on the 120th Street side of the parish grounds across from the office. This is a nice place to shop for gift giving, good reading and faith enrichment materials. It's also a place to share the ups and downs of everyday life, and our faith in God that carries us through them all. Volunteers in the shop are available to help customers find what they are looking for, whether it is a book, a gift, or someone to talk to. It's a special place where hugs and prayers are free and never go out of stock or on back-order! Come join us in loving and serving our awesome God as we serve each other....we'll be waiting for you.

Bread for the World

Bread for the World (BFW) is a nationwide Christian grassroots ministry that educates our United States Congress on hunger issues, both here and abroad. Our parish ministry meets regularly to discuss these issues and information from BFW's leadership. In addition to regular communication

with our members of Congress, we engage the entire parish in an annual Offering of Letters, in an effort to create new anti-hunger legislation. Members of this ministry can do many things, including writing letters, making phone calls, making personal visits to representatives and senators, and contacting the local media on specific hunger issues. The BFW ministry provides an opportunity for each of us to be faithful to the scriptural admonition to feed the poor.

Camillus Casserole Project

Each month, members of this ministry make a casserole for the residents of Camillus House. Our parish and several other parishes all prepare the same recipe. We will give you the pans and the recipes. The frozen casseroles are delivered to St. Louis Church on the first Wednesday of the month. This ministry produced 14,000 meals for Camillus House last year.

Centering Prayer

Centering prayer is a contemplative practice that can bring about profound

spiritual growth. One of the values of this prayer is that you are giving God a chance to manifest Himself. It is a normal development of the grace of baptism. Contemplative prayer is opening of the mind and heart — our whole being — to God, the Ultimate Mystery, beyond thoughts, words and emotions. We open our awareness to God, whom we know by faith is within us, closer than breathing, closer than thinking—closer than consciousness itself. Contemplative prayer is a process of interior purification leading, if we consent, to divine union.

Choirs

- Adult (16 and up)

Our music ministry has a special invitation to anyone interested in joining our St. Louis adult choir. The only requirements are coming every Thursday at 7:30 PM for a rehearsal and to sing every Sunday at 11 AM Mass. No auditions, no music theory required, only a joy to serve God and glorify His name with music and songs. The Choir season September

through May. All voice parts are welcome.

- Children (7 - 15 years old) Children from our parish as well as our school come together every other Sunday during the 9:30 AM Masses to sing. Rehearsals are every Thursday from 5 PM - 5:30 PM.

Christian Family Movement

CFM groups consist of six to eight couples and/or individuals who meet every two weeks to study scripture and apply its message to social issues of today. We believe that families are sacred and the basic unit in God's plan for people. We believe that family members must be evangelizers in their homes and in the world. The CFM group becomes a basic Christian community, which supports its members and helps them to grow in love with Jesus and to live His gospel message.



The Sunday Coffee & Donuts Ministry offers an opportunity

to fellowship with each other after the 7:00, 8:15, and 9:30 AM Masses. It's a time to welcome newcomers and a chance to let the parking lot empty out in a Christian manner. We always need help setting up, serving, and cleaning up.

Columbiettes

The Columbiettes are an international organization of Catholic women founded in 1939 as auxiliaries to be affiliated with and support the Knights of Columbus. We are dedicated to service and action within our church and civic communities. We strongly focus on aiding the weak and helpless and promoting Catholic values. The Columbiettes also promote fraternity and fun activities while serving God and country. St. Louis Columbiette Auxiliary 14730 was started in June of 2010. We meet once a month for a business meeting and have various activities during the year. We also support our Knights of Columbus in their programs. Women may join the Columbiettes if they are at least 18 years of age, and are

a practicing Catholic.

Covenant Experience

The Covenant Experience is an opportunity for married couples to spend an intimate, romantic weekend together. By following the “Eleven Steps to a Better Marriage,” couples enrich their relationship with the Lord and one another while meeting other St. Louis families. The weekend is held at St. Louis with participants returning home to sleep. Couples will be offered an optional small group follow up program.



St. Louis Covenant School

Mission Statement

St. Louis Covenant School exists to create a group of adult believers whose faith experience impacts the formation of children as evangelizers and seekers of wisdom and Gospel values. As partners in faith, the school community is committed to academic excellence, a vibrant Catholic spirituality

*and community service, all...
for His glory.*

Cursillo

The Cursillo is a worldwide movement of the Roman Catholic Church. The founding focus of the Cursillo is to proclaim the best news, the best reality, that God loves you, using the best means, friendship, in order to give this-best-of-news to each person we encounter on our earthly journey back to the Father God. The method of the movement makes it possible for people to live what is fundamental for being a Christian, and to live it together; it helps people discover and fulfill their personal vocations, and it promotes the creation of core groups of Christians who leaven their environments with the Gospel.” The Cursillo Movement emphasizes the role of the lay person in being an evangelizer in the family, neighborhood, place of work and with friends and acquaintances. Thus, the apostolic action of each cursillista is a concrete contribution to the work of evangelization. In the 4 day

encounter with Christ, the Candidates (those attending the weekend) live, work and listen to talks given by priests and laypersons. The Cursillo, meaning "Short Course in Christianity" is a powerful instrument of renewal in today's church. It does not propose a new type of spirituality, but simply a method through which one's spirituality may be developed. You must be sponsored in order to attend a Cursillo. Follow up sharing groups meet every Wednesday morning at 7:00 AM and throughout the Archdiocese on various dates and schedules. For more information please visit www.miamicursillo.org

Detention Ministry

This prison ministry serves inmates at State and Federal Institutions. Our purpose is to develop a sense of community among the inmates, to maintain a bond between the inmates and the Catholic community, and in many cases, to bring them back to their Catholic roots. We teach Catholic doctrine and offer opportunities for spiritual growth through

the reception of Holy Communion, scriptural reflections and studies, R.C.I.A. preparation, pastoral visits, retreats, prayer and life workshops and through 12-step programs such as AA, NA, and Bridge Builders. Most importantly, we share how God has been at work in our lives. We also need teachers for basic language skills and for GED training. We are always looking for volunteers who are well grounded in their faith and are willing to share their faith with others. Volunteers must commit to minister for a minimum of one year. We will provide training and partner you with an experienced member of the ministry. If you have been involved in an adult formation program you may already have the background for this ministry.

Disciples In Motion

Disciples in Motion is a ministry of dance and drama whose purpose is to enhance the worship experience by adding the visual dimension of choreographed or spontaneous movement to the spoken or sung word. If you

feel called to praise God with your whole being and to lead others to a deeper experience of worship, you are invited to learn more about our ministry. Dance training is strongly encouraged, but not required. Adult members are also encouraged to attend a "Life in the Spirit" seminar within the first year of their involvement with the ministry, and a commitment to weekly rehearsals is expected from participants. Members can be men or women, aged 13 or older, who demonstrate a maturity in their faith and a desire to glorify the Lord by offering their gifts in the movement arts.

Divine Mercy Cenacle

This ministry meets as a community in adoration and reflection to contemplate and venerate the Image of Jesus of the Divine Mercy. With songs of praise, prayers, reciting the chaplet and meditating on the "Diary" of the Divine Mercy in our souls under the spirituality of St. Faustina. We allow ourselves to deepen our faith drawing closer with trust to the fountain of Mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ. Join

us every Monday at 8:00 PM.

Emmaus Retreats

The Emmaus Retreat is given by lay people of the parish for lay people of the parish. It is a call to encounter the Person of Jesus Christ in our lives as Christians and members of a faith community – through prayer, sacrament, and through others. It is meeting Jesus wherever one may be on their individual faith walk. There are four different modalities -Men's and Women's, in both English and Spanish. Notices of upcoming retreats are published in the parish bulletin.

Family Adoration

This monthly, second Friday evening (September - May), ministry is based on Luke 18:16 and Mark 10:14, "Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." It offers families, especially the children, an opportunity to spend a half-hour before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. We praise Jesus in song, listen to and participate in a brief Biblical teaching, offer

family prayer intentions and communal prayers to Jesus and His Blessed Mother, Mary. Our hope is to help create a devotion to and strengthen our belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Feeding His Sheep

Through collaboration amongst Panera Bread Restaurant, MorningStar Renewal Center, Camillus House, Homestead Soup Kitchen and the St. Louis Catholic Church Men's Emmaus Ministry, excess bread and baked goods from the Panera Bakery located at US1 and SW 136 Street are gathered Sunday and Wednesday evenings by Ministry members and distributed to various communities in need.

Festival for the Poor

The Festival for the Poor is an annual 3 day; 2 night event involving the entire St. Louis family. The festival offers: Friday night "kick-off" dinner, rides, games, laser tag, live entertainment, ethnic and American food booths, raffle, Gourmet Dinner, Sunday

breakfast under the big tent, Silent Auction and an Arts & Crafts show. The purpose of the event is building community and raising funds for the special needs of the broader community of Miami-Dade County. Money raised is distributed among agencies and organizations that see to the needs of "the least of these". All parishioners are invited to be an active, integral part of this work of love and dedication. As the time draws near, details are published in the parish bulletin and in the Rotunda.

Friends of Jesus and Mary

We are a prayer group for children of all ages that meet every week. Together we learn how to love, honor and adore God.

The Spirit of God lives in the children and works the fullness of His Grace. The group guides them to find the power of the Spirit within themselves and others and allow it to shine. They also learn how to be an active member of the community of the church and to take part in it. We are a prayer group for children of all ages that

meet every week. Together we learn how to love, honor and adore God. We pray the Holy Rosary, meditate the gospel readings of each week and take them to adore The Blessed Sacrament. All parents are welcome to attend. We are part of an apostolic Movement of the Archdioceses of Miami, The Florida Center for Peace.

Habitat for Humanity

The Habitat for Humanity ministry engages volunteers to support this internationally recognized charity's efforts to provide homes and revive communities for low income families throughout Dade County. Volunteers are invited to join together and work with other Catholic and Christian churches in monthly team building construction projects on the fourth Saturday each month and other special occasions. No skills are required; Men, women and teens ages 18 and over are welcome.

Healing Ministry

The members of the Healing Ministry pray with anyone in need of spiritual, emotional,

or physical healing, or any other need after the 9:30 AM Mass. We believe that God answers prayer, and that healing does happen through Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit. We are committed to confidentiality and a non-judgmental attitude as we minister God's love to our sisters and brothers.

Health Awareness

The mission of the St. Louis Catholic Church Health Ministry is to strengthen our walk with Jesus Christ through increasing our knowledge and awareness of the greatness of His temple the human body. To increase our knowledge regarding the aspects of health by improving our spiritual, physical, emotional and chemical actions. To provide a network of spiritual minded health providers and lay people that will provide support and knowledge toward making healthy decisions.

HIV/AIDS

We minister to HIV/AIDS patients as we discover the needs we can address. This very special ministry

requires time, training and compassion.

Homebound Visitation

Our Ministers bring Communion to our sick brothers and sisters in their homes. Along with bringing our Greatest Gift, Jesus, the ministers spend time supporting the sick, their families and caregivers. Because our Christian faith tells us that we are the images and bearers of God, we bring to the sick not only ourselves but also our God, who seeks to surround us continually with love and compassion. In visiting the sick, the minister extends emotional and spiritual gifts to the sick person and his or her family. The experience also provides an opportunity for the personal spiritual growth of each Eucharistic Minister. Each member of the ministry must be commissioned as a Eucharistic Minister by our pastor before they may participate in the ministry.

Homeless Outreach

Did you know that St. Louis Parish provides dinner for the homeless at Miami Rescue

Mission in downtown every first Saturday of the month, and Chapman Partnership in downtown Miami every second Saturday of the Month? We need help cooking and serving the meals. This is a great way for your family to serve the poor directly in a safe environment. We invite you to come and cook and/or serve.

For the first Saturday of the month, we cook from 9 AM to 1 PM in our St. Louis Family Center. We take a break and then serve at the Miami Rescue Mission from 4:30 PM - 6:15 PM.

For the second Saturday of the month, we begin cooking at about 2:00 PM and serve from 5:30 to 7:00 PM.

Hospital Visitation

The Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion provide timely visitations, mediations and spiritual support to all Catholic patients at Baptist Kendall Hospital every Wednesday and the first Sunday of every month. The Ministers attend mass and bring the Holy Eucharist, our precious gift, to alleviate the spiritual suffering to many

who are eager to receive Him. The Ministers listen to the patient's fears and provide spiritual support not only to the sick but their families as well. To participate you need to be an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion in Saint Louis Church, have a letter from the church stating they have received your background screening clearance; therefore you are required attend a hospital orientation which is offered twice a year.

Hospitality Ministry

This is new ministry that organizes various parish receptions such as clergy ordinations, refreshments after Thanksgiving, Holy Saturday Masses, concerts, Jubilee year celebrations, etc. Another division of the hospitality ministry is a "Martha" group that takes care of funeral receptions.

If you are interested in serving the parish either as a ministry head or committee person and feel like this would be 'fun', please submit your name to the welcome table.

Humanities

The Humanities (Outreach) Ministry is "Faith in Action" assisting the poor and those less fortunate. We try to bring joy to the young and old and lighten the load of those in need in our parish or in the larger community of Miami-Dade while involving as many members of the Parish as possible in our efforts. No regular meetings are held, but you may contribute your time, talent or treasure in one of the many outreach programs throughout the year. We advertise our projects in the bulletin, on the website, and through e-mail to those who participated in the past. They include making Easter baskets, collecting for Thanksgiving baskets and food distribution, and the Family to Family program at Christmas (providing food and gifts for families in need). The ministry also maintains a small food bank which accepts donations and provides bulk food year round to St. Ann's Mission, to support the work of missionaries in Homestead, the Soup Kitchen and to the Sisters of Charity in downtown Miami, to name a

few. Recipients of your time, talent and treasure include migrant families, families of children with AIDS, the homeless fed through the Sisters of Charity, Purdue Nursing Home, parish families in need and many others referred to us by social workers in our community. The Humanities Ministry is funded entirely by tax-deductible donations from loving and caring individuals and families who support its work.

Ignatian Spiritual Exercises

The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola in Daily Life (19th annotation) is a nine-month retreat consisting of a half-hour of daily prayer and weekly group meetings. St. Ignatius understood that people with busy lives could not make a full-time 30-day retreat, and he allowed for his Exercises to be given in smaller bits during everyday life. Through the Exercises, participants practice various ways of praying, form regular habits of prayer, grow in spiritual freedom, and enhance their ability to find intimacy with God in the midst of busy lives.

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization. Knights are Catholic men, 18 years of age and older, who are committed to making their community a better place, while supporting their Church. Being a Knight is more than camaraderie; it is being involved with your community; it is supporting your local Catholic Church, while enhancing your own faith; it is about protecting and enhancing your family life.

Lectors

As Liturgical Ministers, Lectors share their talents by presenting the Word of God daily, Sunday and at special liturgies of our parish. Lectors are chosen through audition, and read once a month on average. They gather as a community at workshops and events designed to search the deeper meaning of God's Word. Our goal is to proclaim the Word to those attending Mass in a manner of thanksgiving and praise to God for the gift of His Word.

Legion of Mary

Members of the Legion of Mary are part of an international organization sanctioned by Holy Mother Church to perform liturgical (prayer) and corporal works of mercy through Auxiliary/ or Active membership. Active membership includes visiting patients in hospitals and nursing homes; visiting prison inmates; feeding the poor and homeless; visiting the sick at homes; volunteering at hospice and promoting devotion to the Blessed Mother through parish events especially during the months of May and October; promoting the devotion to the Sacred Heart through consecration; and Enthronement of the Sacred Heart in homes of families who request it. Auxiliary membership (praying) requires daily recitation of the Rosary and saying the Legion's Prayer "The Catena." We meet every Tuesday morning at 9:15 AM in room #104.

Library Resource Center

Our library is one of the largest in the area, consisting

of many books, DVDs and videotapes in English and Spanish, for adults, youth and children. The categories range from "Angels" to "Vatican II," all of which can be checked out for home use (except the Reference material which must remain in the library). Come, join us as a volunteer or to browse and be informed so as to better spread the Good News. Volunteers are needed to keep the library open on weekends and evenings to meet the information needs of the parishioners.

Life in the Spirit Seminar

The seminar consists of several presentations shared primarily within a weekend retreat format with 2 follow-up sessions at the regular Thursday evening prayer meeting. The seminar expounds upon the love of God manifested in a personal experience of the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Based on the scriptures, the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit are discussed both by the presenters and then within small group sessions. This is also a "Growth" seminar in which we further

explore our understanding of our Catholic Christian faith as well as experience a new understanding of God's great gift to us, given at Jesus' request, the counselor and advocate he sent out of His love for us.

Liturgical Environment

The Liturgical Environment Ministry decorates the Church, the Chapel, the Family Center, and the adjacent areas for the liturgical seasons of the year. Responsibilities of the ministry range from coordinating the purchase of special decorations, and creating beautiful displays during Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and all Liturgical Events. Only a desire to beautify our church and grounds is needed to become a member of the Ministry. Training is provided and new ideas are welcome. Come join us creating exciting beautiful displays to glorify Our Lord.

Ministers of Communion

The ministers of Communion have a special role in serving God and the Faith Community of St. Louis. After completing a training program, candidates

are commissioned by the Archdiocese of Miami to serve the parish family. Eucharistic Ministers serve at Saturday and Sunday Masses, Holy Days of Obligation and on special occasions such as First Communion and Confirmation. Ministers are scheduled to serve at specific Masses where they assist the priest in distribution the Body and Blood of Christ. The requirements to become a Eucharistic Minister are: (1) to be registered in the parish for at least one year or have been actively involved in another ministry and (2) be approved by the Pastor.

Modern Golden Agers

Are you 50 or older? We invite you to join the St. Louis Modern Golden Agers. We meet at Morning Star Renewal Center on the 1st and 3rd Mondays from 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM. We are a non-denominational group, everyone is welcome. We share friendship, fellowship and good times. Come and check us out.

Music Ministry

Our St. Louis Music Ministry is a group of talented musicians dedicated to exalting God and helping the people of our parish worship and praise Him. The group helps celebrate all weekend liturgies, feast days, and special holy days through the year. If you are interested in becoming a part of this ministry, come for an audition. We are looking for drummers, guitarists, as well as bass players. Reading music is required as well a weekly rehearsal on Thursdays from 6 PM -7 PM.

Nueva Vida

Drugs and alcohol, two big disasters of our time, continue to destroy our communities, our homes, our families, our brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus and our friends. Addiction is a disease of the brain that continues to be most baffling to all those afflicted and their loved ones. Many addicts and co-dependents (loved ones) live in denial, shame, and guilt that ultimately can lead to further destruction. Their question is how to get started on the road of recovery. There

is an answer. Nueva Vida is a community of recovery for people suffering from addiction and their families. The program is centered on Christian spiritual principles, as well as knowledge of the medical field as a means of recovery and healing from addiction and codependency. God is working miracles daily and many members of Nueva Vida are able to attest to His blessings. You are not alone. Nueva Vida is an example of His love at work through each of us.

Nursery

The Parish Nursery is staffed by a qualified group of people and provides care for children up to age four during the 9:30 and 11:00 AM Sunday Masses and during other designated church activities.

Pastoral Home Groups

In a parish as big as St. Louis it's easy to fall through the cracks. The Pastoral Home Groups were formed to avoid this and to help us grow as community. We are small groups of parishioners who meet for about two hours each week in one of the member's

homes and discuss the upcoming Sunday scriptures. It is not a Bible study; it is a way to examine scriptures as they apply to our personal lives. The members feel they belong to the parish community in a very special way. We would encourage you to try a Home Group for six weeks. Then you can decide if you want to commit to meeting with the group on a more permanent basis.



The Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Ministry offers individuals and parish families the opportunity to commit themselves to at least one hour per month of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. The Eucharistic Adoration Chapel is located right across the hall from the Church and is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 52 weeks a year. We believe the Lord honors our commitment to Him in prayer through His constant blessing of our parish ministries. Your

parish family needs your prayer commitment.

Photo Feast

The Photo Feast Ministry is dedicated to preserving the history of St. Louis Catholic Church in photographs. We maintain an archive of digital images which are used throughout the year during liturgies, educational activities and publications. Volunteers are needed to help produce and organize digital images.

Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain Ministry is made up of a group of Catholic Christian brothers and sisters who, in their own time and in the convenience of their own homes, cars, prayer groups, adoration chapel, etc... pray for different prayer intentions. The prayer requests could be for any intention including family issues, health problems, financial problems, relationship issues, guidance and vocations, among many others. We then communicate amongst the members of the Prayer Chain through e-mails with the different prayer requests, updates and

praise reports, once we hear the wonderful news of an answered prayer or a problem resolution.

Prayer Group

The St. Louis Prayer Group is a Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group that meets at 7:45 PM every Thursday in the Assembly Hall. We gather together before God in worship, praise and times of simply listening to the Lord as we seek to determine and understand the Lord's will for us both communally and individually. We also experience unique times of God's presence when He manifests His love for us through healing and His special touch upon our lives. We welcome anyone to come and join us. We are a happy family with lots of room to grow.

Prayer Muffin Breakfast

Men

Gather a bunch of guys who said they would never, never, never step foot in the Church for fear the roof would cave in. And Guys that have walked this path in the past but have been transformed

and discovered their Love for the Lord and sharing with other men their trials and tribulations. Throw in some coffee, a bagel or maybe even one of those giant bullets some call a Costco muffin; have a different one of them stand up each week (on a volunteer basis) and share just how miserable they have been all their lives (or not); give them all a few minutes to discuss what was said, and get them all out the door within one hour. That's Men's Prayer Muffin! Friday morning from 7:00 until 8:00 AM (not 8:01). All we do is meet each week. No homework. If you are interested in putting your toe in the water, this is the place.

Women

Do you ever look around at Mass and wonder who some of the women are and what is happening in their lives? Well, come join us on Thursday morning from 7:00 to 8:00 AM precisely. We'll give you a name tag, but require no other commitment. We read the readings for the coming Sunday, listen to a talk, and share with each other over a cup of coffee and a muffin. Our

Ministry has become the hour of the week we spiritually “reset” ourselves as we deal with our own unique lives and share with our sisters of the parish.

R.C.I.A.

We welcome new members to the Church through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults called R.C.I.A. This program prepares them to receive the sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation on Easter Vigil. RCIA also serves baptized non Catholics who want to join the Catholic Church as well as Catholic adults who never received First Communion or Confirmation.

Religious Education

Pre-School to Grade Six:

The Religious Education Program is offered for children from preschool through sixth grade at various times during the week in the school year. Based on the premise that Jesus didn't teach his disciples the beatitudes and did not begin preaching until they had first met Him and learned to love Him, the

Religious Education Program has four fundamental goals: (1) proclaim the message of Jesus Christ; (2) contribute to the building of community; (3) lead students to worship and prayer; and (4) motivate them to serve others. Volunteers from the parish community provide the environment for the children to meet and love Jesus through preparing classes, helping with student liturgies and various music and art projects.

Respect Life

The Respect Life Ministry of the Archdiocese of Miami is dedicated to defending the dignity of each individual person in fidelity to the Catholic Church, from the moment of conception until natural death. Through their five Pregnancy Care Centers, this ministry offers viable alternatives to abortion, healing prayer for those who have had abortions, and the opportunity for men, women and youth to reach out in defense of those who cannot defend themselves. You can be a champion for Life by volunteering in this ministry: join the St. Louis Respect Life

Committee; educate citizens, business and government leaders; assist needy pregnant mothers with alternatives to abortion especially through the Gabriel Project Ministry; provide healing counsel and prayer for women and men who are also victims of abortion.

Spiritual Direction

Spiritual direction is the process of helping people in a walk in his spiritual life and to share their experiences in their daily lives. It helps to recognize the presence and grace of God in their lives. It's a desire to grow in the ability to discern and respond to the presence and action in all aspects of the life of God. Every spiritual director has studied at least 3 years the training program at St. Thomas University.

Stewardship Council

Our Parish Stewardship Council is comprised of parishioners who are dedicated Stewards. Their function is to share the Gospel meaning of stewardship and help spread the practice of stewardship to every home in

the Parish. The Stewardship Council assists and enhances Ministries in the Parish.

They coordinate all Stewardship activities for the year on an ongoing basis. There are two other Divisions of our Stewardship Ministry. Our New Parishioner Welcome Program and our Parish Welcome Table. These operate independently; but are part of our Stewardship Ministry. The members of our Stewardship Council must have the necessary time and be available to help in every way they can, including assisting and directing Stewardship functions on weekends at Masses. Meetings are held monthly or as needed throughout the year.

“Stewardship is a way of Life”

The Power of a Praying Parent

No matter how old our children are, it is never too late to experience the joy and blessings that come from being part of God's work in their lives. This group focuses on praying specific prayers covering every area in our children's lives - safety,

character, peer pressure, school, marriage, friends, relationships with God and family, career choices and more from the books "The Power of a Praying Parent", and "The Power of Praying for your Adult Children" both by Stormie Omartian. Grandparents, aunts, uncles, all are encouraged to join us the first Saturday of every month at 9:00 AM, and experience the miracles and blessings. Being a praying parent matters more than being a perfect parent.

Ushers

Ushers are men and women with a unique blend of love, compassion and friendliness in service to the community. They greet members of the congregation as they arrive for services; provide assistance during the Mass by gathering the collection; assist with the flow of people during Communion; handle all situations that may occur during the service, and hand out the bulletin and any other literature being distributed at the end of Mass. Being an usher at Saint Louis offers an opportunity for you to be

the face, hands and smile of Jesus to your brothers and sisters in an exceptional and fulfilling way. You become the gateway through which people enter into sacramental worship.

Vocations Commission

The vocations commission members are committed to daily prayer for vocations to religious life and priesthood. We oversee the scheduling of the families/individuals who take home the vocation chalice as well as other vocation related activities within the parish and diocese. During Advent the families that are taking the chalice that weekend light the Advent candle for their respective mass. The vocations commission holds the Holy Hour for vocations on Holy Thursday every year.



Youth Ministry

R.O.C.K. (Grades 7 & 8)

R.O.C.K. is St. Louis' middle school youth ministry. The format follows cutting-edge youth ministry styles in order to meet the needs of the students. Throughout the school year, we gather every Tuesday in the Assembly Hall. The students experience a variety of activities designed to help them spiritually, socially, physically, and emotionally. Typical meetings include games, skits, music, talks, and small group discussions of the topic presented that night. Topics range from Catholic doctrine to spiritual and social issues relevant to a middle schooler's life and development. In addition to the weekly

meetings are a wide variety of weekend social activities, service projects, and retreats. Students develop close friendships with their peers and leaders. It is through these relationships that we create a Christ centered community, fostering meaningful faith sharing and growth.

New Life (Grades 9-12)

New Life is the youth ministry for high school students. The group gathers on Wednesday nights from 7:30 to 9:30 PM in the Lecture Hall. Meetings consist of gathering, opening prayer, live music (Christian rock and praise music), student led skits, topic presentations, small group discussion time, and closing prayer. Topics range from prayer to sexuality, all from the perspective of Catholic theology. Discussions go into further depth in our Bible studies, retreats and overnight Lock-Ins. Students also meet on various Friday nights in the Youth Center for social activities and dinner as well as play Ultimate Frisbee every Saturday at Coral Reef Park. Activities range from seeing a movie to going to Christian

concerts. The activity for the week is always announced at the Wednesday meeting as well as our New Life facebook page called New Life Youth Group. New Life also offers special activities, such as weekend and Spring Break retreats, summer trips, paintball games, Lock- Ins, etc. All activities are designed to foster exciting, faith filled growth.



Adoración Eucarística Perpetua

El Ministerio de Adoración Eucarística Perpetua ofrece la oportunidad a individuos y familias parroquiales a comprometerse por lo menos a una hora de oración al mes ante el Santísimo Sacramento. La Capilla de Adoración Eucarística está en

el pasillo frente al Santuario Principal y está abierta 24 horas al día, 7 días a la semana, 52 semanas al año. Creemos que el Señor honra este compromiso de oración con su bendición a nuestros ministerios parroquiales. Su familia parroquial necesita su compromiso de oración.

Amigos de Jesús y María

Somos un grupo de Oración para niños de todas edades que se reúne todas las semanas. Juntos aprendemos a amar, honrar, y adorar a Dios. El Espíritu de Dios vive en los niños y los llena de su gracia. Les enseñamos a ser miembros activos en su comunidad, rezamos el Santo Rosario, meditamos las lecturas del Domingo, y vamos adorar al Santísimo. Todos los padres están invitados acompañarnos. Somos parte de un movimiento Apostólico de la Arquidiócesis de Miami, El Florida Center for Peace.

Amor en Acción

Nuestro ministerio es una de las muchas "ramas" de Amor en Acción, una organización misionera dentro de la Arquidiócesis de

Miami dedicada a servir a los pobres en Haití y la República Dominicana desde hace más de 25 años. Desde el año 1983, St. Louis ha enviado \$51,000 al año a la diócesis de Port-de-Paix, Haití. Estos fondos pagan salarios de maestros, programas de salud y comidas para más de 2,000 niños en 16 escuelas todos los días. También organizamos colectas de arroz, frijoles, efectos escolares y de primeros auxilios, y juguetes en ciertas épocas del año. Ayudamos en proyectos tales como semillas y pollos para fincas, carretillas, cisternas de agua y una clínica móvil. Este ministerio siempre necesita voluntarios para hacer colectas, empaquetar y embarcar.

Apostolado del Divino Niño Jesús

El Ministerio del Divino Niño Jesús tiene como misión evangelizar a través de la devoción de la infancia de Jesús. Organizando novenas, llevando una vida de oración, de intercesión, ayudando al más necesitado (física y espiritual) reforzada por la Eucaristía diaria. El Ministerio

del Divino Niño Jesús es parte del Apostolado Católico del Divino Niño Jesús de la Arquidiócesis de Miami.

Cadena de Oración

Se hacen intercesiones por las intenciones que dejan en la Capilla de Adoración. También usted puede llamar por teléfono y comunicarnos sus necesidades.

Café con Leche

Este ministerio se encarga de la compra y venta de alimentos y bebidas tales como: donuts, empanadas, café, gaseosas y otros alimentos, a fin de fomentar la confraternidad entre los feligreses, compartiendo en el "Family Center" después de la Misa dominical vespertina en Español. El café se ofrece gratis, los alimentos y gaseosas se venden a precios módicos, ya que el objetivo principal es el compartir entre los miembros de la comunidad después de la Misa.

Celebraciones de las Santas Patronas

Este grupo coordina la celebración en la Santa Misa de las patronas de España,

Estados Unidos y todos los países de la América Latina.

Cenáculo Contemplativo de la Divina Misericordia

Nos reunimos en comunidad en Adoración y Recogimiento para Contemplar y Venerar la Imagen de Jesús de la Divina Misericordia. Con canciones, oraciones, rezando la coronilla y meditando el “Diario” la Divina Misericordia en mi alma, bajo la espiritualidad de St. Faustina, nos permitimos profundizar nuestra fe acercándonos con confianza a la fuente de la Misericordia de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Todos los Martes a las 8:00 pm en la Capilla.

Cenas y Fiestas

Este Ministerio se encarga de organizar eventos sociales para celebrar especialmente el Día de la Hispanidad y la Navidad. Entre las actividades se encuentran: planificación del evento en cuanto a fecha, menú de las comidas a servir, identificar y contratar los amenizadores, contratar la música, decoración del local, venta de las entradas, etc. Ejecución del Evento: control de las entradas,

servir y distribuir la comida y bebidas, presentación de las amenidades y música. Una vez terminado el evento es responsabilidad del Ministerio asegurarse que el Centro Familiar y la cocina queden en estado presentable para el día siguiente.

Comité de Vocaciones

Los miembros de la comisión de vocaciones se han comprometido a orar diariamente por vocaciones para la vida religiosa y sacerdotal. Nosotros nos encargamos del calendario de las familias o personas que llevan a sus casas el cáliz vocacional así como de todas las actividades relacionadas con las vocaciones de la parroquia y de la diócesis.

Durante Adviento las familias que llevan a sus casas el cáliz vocacional son las que encienden la vela de Adviento. Todos los años, la comisión de vocaciones está a cargo de la Hora Santa que se celebra el Jueves Santo por la noche.

Convenio de Parejas

Compuesto por parejas dedicadas a fomentar el bienestar de las familias

hispano hablantes a través de mejores relaciones entre los esposos, la familia y la comunidad. La actividad más importante es el “Fin de Semana del Convenio”, un retiro de un fin de semana para todo tipo de parejas que conviven, en el cual se analiza profundamente la relación y la comunicación en el hogar. Además se llevan a cabo charlas mensuales ofrecidas por profesionales de diferentes disciplinas sobre temas que relacionados al matrimonio y la familia.

Dirección Espiritual

Dirección espiritual es el proceso de acompañar a personas en un caminar en su vida espiritual y a compartir sus experiencias de su vida diaria. Se ayuda a reconocer la presencia y gracia de Dios en sus vidas. Se trata de un deseo de crecer en la capacidad para discernir y responder a la presencia y acción en todos los aspectos de la vida de Dios. Cada director espiritual ha estudiado por lo menos 3 años el programa de la Universidad De St Thomas.

Educación Religiosa

Niños de primer grado hasta sexto grado

El programa de Educación Religiosa se ofrece a niños de 6 a 12 años de edad durante ciertos domingos del año escolar. Los niños se reúnen con catequistas voluntarios a las 6:00pm mientras los padres mantienen una clase simultánea para adultos. Ambos grupos participan junto al resto de la comunidad en la Misa de las 7:15pm. La finalidad de este programa es preparar a los niños para los sacramentos de iniciación (Bautizo, Primera Comunión y Confirmación).

Emaus

El Retiros de Emaus es impartido por laicos de nuestra parroquia. Es un llamado para todos los cristianos miembros de la comunidad de fe a tener un encuentro personal con nuestro Señor Jesucristo, a través de la oración, de los sacramentos y a través de los demás. Es encontrar a Jesús donde quiera que estás en el camino de la fe. Hay cuatro diferentes modalidades – para damas y caballeros ambos en inglés o en español. Las

fechas de los próximos retiros serán publicadas en nuestro boletín dominical.

Exposición y Bendición Eucarística

El tercer Jueves de cada mes de 7:30 a 8:30 pm nos reunimos en la Capilla para adorar al Santísimo, orar por nuestras intenciones y las de nuestra comunidad y al final, la Bendición Eucarística, por la que se obtienen gracias especiales.

Fotos

El ministerio de audiovisuales esta encargado de la preservación de fotos para la iglesia San Louis. Adicionalmente el ministerio esta creando un archivo electrónico para mantener todas las fotos de eventos especiales y liturgias durante el año. Se necesitan voluntarios para ayudar a organizar las images digitales.

Grupo de Oración

El grupo de Oración se formó para glorificar y adorar al Padre, por medio de Jesucristo, que nos invita a elevar himnos y alabanzas;

siendo al Espíritu Santo, el impulsor vivificante quien nos guía y enseña. En él se comparte y se medita la Palabra y se dan testimonios personales, presentando así un Dios vivo entre nosotros. Se imparte oración de sanación al término del mismo, y festejamos fechas bíblicas y personales con la finalidad de compartir como comunidad. El grupo se reúne los miércoles a las 8:15 pm, en la Capilla después de la Misa de 7:30 pm Las Noches de Alabanza se llevarán a cabo un día sábado, dos veces al año. Están bienvenidos a rezar con nosotros el Santo Rosario a las 7:00 pm antes de la Santa Misa.

Grupo Pastorales del Hogar

En una parroquia del tamaño de St. Louis siempre hay peligro de que algunos de los miembros se sientan aislados. Los Grupos Pastorales del Hogar fueron formados para evitar esto y para ayudarnos a crecer como comunidad. Somos grupos de feligreses que se reúnen una vez a la semana en casa de uno de los miembros por un par de

horas. Durante ese tiempo el grupo mira a las lecturas del próximo domingo y ve como las Santas Escrituras se relacionan a nuestras vidas. Los miembros sienten que pertenecen a la comunidad parroquial de una manera muy especial. Nos gustaría que probara uno de estos grupos por seis semanas a ver si encuentra que es una actividad a la que usted quiere comprometer su tiempo de una manera más permanente.

Jóvenes Adultos

(18-35 años)

Este grupo de Jóvenes adultos se reúne todos los viernes en la noche para compartir las enseñanzas bíblicas, por medio de la discusión, en la mayoría de las veces con la ayuda de un moderador, esto les ayuda a crecer espiritualmente. Además tienen actividades sociales y hacen servicio a la comunidad. Nos reunimos los viernes en "Hospitality B" de 8:00 - 10:00 pm.

Lectores

Como Ministros Litúrgicos, los Lectores comparten su talento con la Comunidad al presentar la Palabra de Dios en las Misas diarias, dominicales o en eventos litúrgicos especiales. Los Lectores se escogen en audición y son designados para leer, en promedio, una vez al mes. Su meta es proclamar la Palabra de Dios a los asistentes a la Misa, en forma tal, que el mensaje sea entendido por todos, a la vez en acción de gracias y alabanza a Dios por el don de Su Palabra.

Ministros Extraordinarios de la Comunión

Los Ministros Eucarísticos tienen un papel muy especial en la vida parroquial. Después de completar un programa de entrenamiento, los candidatos son comisionados por el Parroco para servir a las familias de la parroquia llevándoles la Comunión a sus hogares. El Arzobispo quiere que toda persona que no puede asistir a Misa, bien sea por corto o largo plazo (entiéndase enfermos, accidentados, o aquellas

personas que cuidan de ellos), tengan la oportunidad de recibir el Cuerpo de Cristo una vez a la semana. Los requisitos para ser candidatos elegibles:(1) el/la candidato/a debe estar inscrito en la parroquia por lo menos un año o el/la candidato/a debe estar activamente envuelto en otro ministerio y (2) deben de entrevistarse y ser aprobados por el párroco.

Minusválidos

Un grupo de la comunidad de St. Louis ofrece una cena y bingo los terceros viernes de cada mes para minusválidos con el afán de proveerles entretenimiento lleno de alegría. La mayoría de minusválidos que asisten son de habla inglesa.

Colaborar con este ministerio es también muy gratificante para los que ayudan.

Monaguillos

Al monaguillo también se le llama servidor del altar, que significa el que acompaña o sigue. El ministerio de los monaguillos les ofrece la oportunidad a niños y niñas entre las edades de 10 y 17, de desempeñarse como

servidores del altar, estar más cerca de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo y representar a la comunidad en las Liturgias. El monaguillo debe reunir ciertas condiciones o características: estar bautizado, haber recibido los sacramentos de Penitencia y Primera Comunión. Debe tener interés por participar activamente en la celebraciones religiosas donde asisten al sacerdote, no tan sólo en la misa, sino también en bodas, y cuando la ocasión lo requiere. Participan en un entrenamiento de dos semanas que los prepara para llevar a cabo esta función tan especial. Cada monaguillo estará asignado a por lo menos una Misa por mes y se entrena en las diferentes ceremonias litúrgicas.

Música

Grupo de talentosos músicos que sirven en las Misas dominicales ejecutando sus instrumentos y cantando los cantos litúrgicos. Además algunos de ellos estén disponibles para interpretar sus instrumentos y cantar en otras celebraciones.

R.I.C.A /Rito de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos

Es un proceso para personas interesadas en aprender acerca de la Fe Católica, guiados por el Evangelio de Jesús y por el ejemplo de la comunidad.

Este proceso esta diseñado para:

Adultos que NO han sido Bautizados.

Adultos que NO han recibido el Sacramento de la Comunión o no han sido Confirmados.

Adultos Bautizados en otra fe.

este ministerio, usted puede convertirse en un campeón de la vida.

Únase al Comité de Respeto a la Vida de San Luis: eduque a la comunidad, a las empresas y a los líderes del gobierno; ayude a las mujeres embarazadas de escasos recursos con alternativas al aborto, especialmente a través del Ministerio del Proyecto Gabriel que brinda oración y asesoría de curación a las mujeres y a los hombres que también son víctimas del aborto.

Respeto a la Vida

El Ministerio de Respeto a la Vida de la Arquidiócesis de Miami está dedicado a defender la dignidad de cada persona individual fiel a la Iglesia Católica, desde el momento de la concepción hasta la muerte natural.

A través de sus cinco Centros de Cuidado Prenatal, este ministerio ofrece alternativas viables al aborto, oraciones de curación para aquellos que han tenido abortos y la oportunidad para hombres, mujeres y jóvenes de manifestarse en defensa de aquellos que no se pueden defender. Como voluntario de

Seminarios de Vida en el Espíritu

El Seminario de Vida en el Espíritu, se lleva a cabo durante un fin de semana, dos veces al año con el propósito de llevar a las personas a una relación más íntima con Jesús a través del poder del Espíritu Santo. Está basado en las escrituras y en los dones del Espíritu Santo, que nos permite sanar, crecer y amar más al Señor; ésto se realiza mediante charlas y distintas actividades. También nos proporciona la oportunidad de servir en nuestra comunidad, a través del amor que se da

en el servicio a los demás. Esté pendiente del boletín parroquial donde se anuncian los Seminarios.

SIDA

Visitan a los enfermos con SIDA en la casa y hospital, se asiste al enfermo hasta el final. Se les informa sobre ayudas del gobierno, apoyo espiritual, reuniones de apoyo todos los últimos jueves de cada mes en el Young Center. Si tienen alguna necesidad económica se les ayuda. Se organizan retiros espirituales alrededor de tres veces al año. Si no pueden ir solos al medico, al supermercado, iglesia etc., se les acompaña. Hacemos cada año una fiesta para los HIV/AIDS en Adviento.

Talleres de Oración y Vida

Los Talleres de Oración y Vida consisten en 15 Sesiones. Estas sesiones incluyen oraciones, lecturas bíblicas, oración comunitaria y nuestro compartir íntimo de pensamientos e ideas con los otros.

Se aprende a orar, orando y es a través de esta disciplina de oración que transformamos

nuestras vidas. Una modalidad de oración se aprende cada semana, desde la oración rezada hasta la oración de contemplación. Estos talleres se ofrecen dos veces al año.

Temas Bíblicos

Están dedicados a profundizar y entender el amor de Dios y Jesucristo a través de su palabra en la Biblia. Todos están invitados a participar, sean personas nuevas al estudio de la Biblia, que quieran comenzar en este camino o para los que quieran profundizar o ampliar los conocimientos ya adquiridos. Lo importante es no sólo aprender de la Biblia, sino aprender a vivirla en nuestro diario caminar. El grupo se reúne los lunes de 7:30 a 9:30 pm. Se avisará con tiempo durante las misas dominicales las fechas exactas de inicio del estudio y los temas a tratar.

Ujieres

Los Ujieres somos un grupo de hombres y mujeres que asisten al sacerdote siendo su representante recibiendo a las personas que visitan la

iglesia, con mucha alegría y amor. El afecto con que se recibe a las personas es muy importante, ya que nos define como una Iglesia de Fe, Alegría y Amor, y nos da la oportunidad de ser el rostro, las manos y la sonrisa de Cristo. Además de ayudar a acomodar a las personas en sus bancos y mantener el orden al momento de la Comunión, repartimos también los boletines a la salida de la Misa. Y asistimos en cualquier otra actividad que sea necesario durante la celebración de la Eucaristía. Para así ser la puerta que conduce a la comunidad hacia el sacramento de la Eucaristía.

Visitas a los Enfermos Hospitalizados

Los Ministros Extraordinarios de la Comunión visitan todos los miércoles y el primer domingo del mes a los pacientes Católicos del Hospital Baptist en Kendall, suministrándoles mediación y apoyo espiritual. Los Ministros después de atender la Misa, llevan la Sagrada Eucaristía, nuestro

máspreciado regalo, a todos aquellos que están ansiosos de comulgar y así aliviar el sufrimiento que los acompaña. Los Ministros pueden escuchar los temores de los pacientes y apoyarlos espiritualmente tanto a ellos como a sus familiares. Para participar se necesita ser un Ministro Extraordinario de la Comunión en la Iglesia de San Luis, tener una carta de San Luis afirmando que han obtenido los resultados de sus antecedentes penales, y así poder atender a la orientación que ofrece el hospital dos veces al año.



*Hay diferentes dones espirituales,
pero el Espíritu es el mismo...
La manifestación del Espíritu que cada uno se le da es para
provecho común.*

*There are different kinds
of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit... To each individual
the manifestation of the Spirit
is given for the common good.*

1 Cor 12:4,7



**Saint Louis, King of France
pray for us.**



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