

# Ministry to Our Children

We are very committed to the spiritual growth our children from  
Kindergarten Through Twelfth Grade

Our Ministry to our children is in the following areas:

- Youth Religious Education (formerly known as CCD) - K through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Home Schooling - K1<sup>st</sup> Through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Grade School - Socials & Service Opportunities - K through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Verge - Middle School - 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Serendipity - High School - 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>
- Liturgical Ministry - K through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Catholic School Education - K through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

## **Youth Religious Education**

Deacon Richard / Sister Thomas More - Coordinators

They are assisted by a number of volunteer catechists and aides. There is one program at Saint George Church and one Program at Sacred Heart Church. This ministry is involved with passing on the Catholic Faith by teaching the doctrine of the Catholic Church, as articulated in the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

## **Home Schooling**

Deacon Richard Owen / Sister Thomas More - Coordinators

The Diocese of Harrisburg permits parents, who are the primary educators of their children in the ways of the Faith, to catechize their children K1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Parents are required to follow the policies of the Diocese and the Parish in this regard.

## **Grade School Socials and Service Opportunities**

Nate Gulya - Coordinator

This ministry involves programs of a social nature and opportunities for service. children K through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. These events depend upon desire of parents and the availability of a volunteer coordinator who has Child Protection Clearances. These programs would include such events as: roller skating, Advent wreath making, shadow Stations of the Cross, Visiting Convalescent Homes, hay rides, etc.

## **Verge - Middle School Ministry**

Nate Gulya - Coordinator

This ministry involves the Social, Spiritual and Service ministries children 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. It includes a monthly social-spiritual celebration as well as other events of a social, spiritual and service nature, depending upon desire of parents and the availability of a volunteer coordinator who has Child Protection Clearances.

## **Serendipity - High School Ministry**

Nate Gulya - Coordinator

This ministry involves the social, spiritual and service ministries for children 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade. It includes a weekly meeting of an educational and social nature as well as other events having to do with service projects and social gatherings, depending upon desire of parents and the availability of a volunteer coordinator who has Child Protection Clearances. This program also provides for three events outside the parish: Fan the Fire, Palm Sunday Celebration and Steubenville Retreat Experience.

### **Liturgical Ministry**

Father Bill - Coordinator

The following opportunities are available to children K through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

#### **Liturgy of the Word for Children**

Susan Borys - Coordinator

For children K through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: 8:00am at Sacred Heart Church and 10:00am at Sacred Heart Church. This Liturgy gives children the opportunity to hear the Word of God on their level and participate more fully through the various liturgical ministries.

#### **Altar Servers**

Tina Owen - Coordinator

This program is for children 5<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade. This ministry gives the children the privilege of serving at the Altar for the Sunday/Holy Day Celebration of the Eucharist, as well as other Liturgical events.

#### **Bell Choir**

Virginia Baker - Coordinator

The Bell choir offers the opportunity for children 5<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade to participate at special liturgies as bell ringers, enhancing the Liturgy and having an opportunity to learn music.

#### **Children's' Choir**

Virginia Baker - Coordinator

This gives children 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade the opportunity to sing at special Sunday and Holyday Liturgies. This program requires a number of practices before the event. The program depends upon desire of parents and the availability of a volunteer coordinator who has Child Protection Clearances.

#### **Youth Musicians**

Virginia Baker - Coordinator.

This gives children 5<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade the opportunity to use their instrumental talents at special Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies. This program requires a number of practices before the event. The program depends upon desire of parents and the availability of a volunteer coordinator who has Child Protection Clearances.

#### **High School Student Lectors**

Patricia Keller / Joe Hutton - Coordinators

This program is available for children 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade. Because the Ministry of Lector is a ministry that has specific requirements in the Universal Law of the Church, this ministry, for Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, is usually reserved to those who are fully initiated into the Catholic Church through the Sacrament of Confirmation. High School Students who wish to participate must be trained and placed on the regular Sunday/Holy Day Schedule.

#### **High School Student Cantors**

Virginia Baker - Coordinator

This program is available for children 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade. Because the Ministry of Cantor is similar to that of the Ministry of Lector, since both proclaim the Word of God, it has the same requirements as that of Lector. High School Students who wish to participate must be trained and placed on the regular Sunday/Holy Day Schedule.

**Senior High School Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

Bernie Huff / Anita Bottinger - Coordinator

This program is available for children in 12<sup>th</sup> Grade. Because the Ministry of Extraordinary Minister is a ministry that has specific requirements in the Universal Law of the Church, this ministry for Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation is reserved for those who are fully initiated into the Catholic Church through the Sacrament of Confirmation. High School Students must be invited by the Pastor, trained and placed on the regular Sunday/Holy Day Schedule.

**Catholic School Education**

Father Bill - Coordinator

We support two Catholic Schools:

Our Lady of Lourdes School, Coal Township - K through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

Saint Joseph School, Danville - K through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

We encourage all our parents to consider a Catholic Education for their children. A few hours a week in our wonderful parish programs cannot compare with the spiritual, educational, social, liturgical and service opportunities given in our Catholic Schools five days a week six hours a day. The Parish pays the difference between cost per student and parent tuition for each child attending. The parish will also help with transportation.

**Scouting**

Although not a parish program, the parish supports Scouting for boys and for girls. We are especially interested in providing the Religious Emblems that can be earned by our Catholic Scouts.