

Link: Pastoral Care and Parish Outreach

Communion to the Homebound/Hospitals/Pastoral Visits:

If you or a loved one is unable to get to Mass but would like to have a pastoral visit and receive communion, please contact Fr. Dennis (651-463-3360). If you or a loved one is in the hospital or a nursing home and would like someone from the church to visit, you may also call Fr. Dennis. If he is unavailable, the calls will be directed to Sandy Glau (651-463-5228). Sometimes we learn (after the fact) that someone had hoped for a visit but this was never communicated and we want to be sure you are aware of the process for requesting a visit.

Prayers at Mass for those who have died:

If you are a parishioner and you have a family member who recently died and would like that name mentioned in the Prayers of the Faithful at Mass, please contact Sandy (651-463-5228) or the office (651-463-3360). This request needs to come from a family member directly. Please contact us M-F between 8-4 p.m. because the office is closed on the weekends.

Prayers at Mass for those who are seriously ill:

If you or a family member is dealing with a serious illness and would like that name mentioned in the Prayers of the Faithful at Mass, please contact Sandy (651-463-5228) or the office (651-463-3360). This request needs to come from a family member directly. Please contact us M-F between 8-4 p.m. because the office is closed on the weekends.

Prayer Chain and "Request a Prayer":

At St. Michael's there are a couple of ways to request prayers. One is by contacting Audrey Stifter at 651-463-8769 or you can e-mail her at eastifter@charter.net and having your request put on the **Prayer Chain** (a group of parishioners who pray daily for those who have requested prayers). If you'd like to become a "pray-er", you may also call Audrey for more information. You can also go on our website www.stmichael-farmington.org and you will see the link for "**Request a Prayer**". Be sure to indicate if you want your request on the Prayer Chain, in the "Remembrance Book", or both. The "Remembrance Book" is a book that is in the Worship Space near the votive lights. The prayers written in that book are remembered (collectively) by all who gather for mass each weekend.

Samaritan Ministers:

The Samaritan Ministers Ministry began at St. Michael's in the spring of 1986 with a three month training period. Some of the volunteers who were in the first group of ministers are still involved with the ministry today. Samaritan Ministers are truly ministers of compassion and caring. They are responsible for visiting homebound parishioners, conducting Word and Communion Services at the nursing home, and much more. A Samaritan Minister must be a loving, compassionate, non-judgmental listener to people in need. If you would like more information about this ministry you may contact Sandy Glau 651-463-5228 or sglau@stmichael-farmington.org ! The group typically meets every other month for prayer, check-in, and social. Occasionally, a guest speaker will be invited to share his/her insights into this type of ministry.

Funeral Luncheon Brigade:

Help set up, serve a simple meal, clean up, or run the dishwasher following a funeral at St. Michael's. Men and women are invited to be a part of this brigade. If you are unable to help at the funeral, we would also be in need of people to donate salads or desserts. You may contact: Jane Nielson 651-463-4521, Jeanne Thompson 651-463-8848, Gretchen Bergman 651-463-7385 or Carole Hansen 651-460-6541 for more information.

Prayer Shawl Ministry:

The "Prayer Shawl Ministry" at St. Michael's held its first meeting July 29, 2009 and has continued to meet the last Tuesday of each month 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. There is much conversation, sharing of ideas for patterns, and the ministry in general. The following is what was said about prayer shawls in the November, 2006 Franciscan Retreat House brochure: "Shawls...made for centuries, universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, mother, hug, shelter and beautify. Those who have received these shawls have been uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to fly above their troubles... Whether they are called Prayer Shawls, Comfort Shawls, Peace Shawls, or Mantles, etc., the shawl maker begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient. The intentions are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. Upon completion, a final blessing is offered before the shawl is sent on its way. Some recipients have continued the kindness by making a shawl and passing it on to someone in need. Thus, the blessing ripples from person-to-person, with both the giver and receiver feeling the unconditional embrace of a sheltering God!" If you would like to know more about this ministry, you may contact Pat Pariseau at 651-463-8496. If you know of someone who might be comforted by receiving a shawl, you may contact Sandy Glau 651-463-5228 or sglau@stmichael-farmington.org . Shawls from St. Michael's have been given to people in the hospital, people recovering from illness and are homebound, a family struggling with personal problems, a family who lost a child – just name a few.

Separated and Divorced:

Catholic Charities of St. Paul and Minneapolis has a website: www.cctwincities.org/sepdiv_resources with many resources that are available for those who are separated or divorced. Catholic Charities' Counseling Services Support for Separated and Divorced include information and referral, free newsletter, support group facilitator training, short-term counseling, divorce education, annual fall conference, pre-marriage seminar for second marriages and assistance to parishes. You may also call 651-647-3126 for information.

Retrouvaille:

Are you having difficulties communicating, solving problems, or are you drifting apart in your marriage? Retrouvaille has proved very successful in rebuilding marital relationships. For information, call 651-464-5855.

Rachel's Vineyard:

Rachel's Vineyard offers weekend retreats for any woman or man who has struggled with the emotional and spiritual pain of an abortion. For information, call 952-882-2072 or e-mail marypio37@usfamily.net. The national website is: www.rachelsvineyard.org.

Senior LinkAge Line® - 1-800-333-2433:

The Senior LinkAge Line® is a free telephone information and assistance service which make it easy for older adults and their families to find community resources. This agency can connect you with services such as transportation, home health care, housing, food, grocery delivery, legal and financial help, housework and home repairs, employment, volunteering and caregiver support. They also provide comprehensive, objective information about Medicare and health insurance options to persons with Medicare of all ages.

Job Connections Group:

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 13901 Fairview Drive, Burnsville, hosts a "Job Connections Group" every Tuesday from 6:30-8:15 p.m. in the Christian Life Center building – Rm. #200. For more information, you may use the "Job Connections Group Hotline" 952-898-9388 or go to their webpage: www.princeofpeace.org/jcg.

Support Groups for those dealing with Grief, Loss, Depression:

There are a number of support groups available "South of the River" for people dealing with a variety of situations:

Depression: www.DepressionSupportCoalition.org

Grief Support: www.princeofpeaceonline.org/spiritual_care

Griefshare: meets weekly (Tuesdays, 6-7:30 p.m.) at Hosanna/Lakeville
kelliew@hosannalc.org

Growing Through Loss: watch for brochures and posters in the Gathering Space