“For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve…”

Mark 10:45
Our Mission Statement

According to the congregation, St. Joseph the Worker is a multi-racial parish: Where we acknowledge that we are children of one God and brothers and sisters in Christ called to live in unity and peace, Whose being is centered in loving God and others especially in the celebration of the Eucharist, which is the sign of our unity in Christ, Whose love, rooted in Christ, is expressed in our commitment to alleviate human suffering whenever it is found, and in our concern for justice for all people of the world especially the poor, the sick, the elderly, the youth and the oppressed, Whose love is inclusive, welcoming all, respecting all and making our parish a sign of the unity to which the Spirit calls the church and the world.

From the Pastor

St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church is blessed to have so many dedicated parishioners. Through a small parish, we have so much, because of the generosity of our parishioners in joyfully giving their time, talent and treasure. I am truly grateful for all who work together in the name of Jesus Christ to make our church a source of God’s grace.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Eugene Jacques
Pastor
Ministry Expectations

What We Expect from Each Other as Lay Leaders

1. Our role in ministry is a fulfillment of God’s call to evangelize and serve; therefore, we will adhere to principles of servant-leadership. (See page 28.)

2. We will practice the ethical use of church resources and adhere to financial controls used to safeguard our church.

3. Lay leaders can hold a leadership role in no more than two ministries in any one-year period, and, based on parish policy, cannot hold a leadership position for more than three consecutive years.

4. Lay leaders will include opportunities for leadership development as part of each ministry’s role. Every leader/participant should be training their replacement.

5. We expect new ministry members to be contacted, welcomed, and included in all ministry correspondence before the next scheduled ministry meeting or event.

6. We will root every meeting and event in prayer.

7. We expect our leaders to make certain that all meetings begin and end on time.

8. Ministry meetings and events are to be scheduled so as not to conflict with parish-wide events.
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Disciples Called to Witness *(New)*

Life can sometimes be hectic and difficult. The feeling that there’s little time to take care of family responsibilities and other obligations have caused many Catholics to drift away from their church and their faith.

Disciples Called to Witness is new evangelization and membership retention ministry being formed at St. Joseph the Worker to invite family and friends back into church. As those baptized in the faith, we are called to constantly provide witness to the power of Christ in our lives, and to invite the lost back into relationship with Him. Through group meetings, personal encounter, and social media, this ministry will reach out to people of all ages who feel disconnected to God and the Church.

For additional information, please contact Crystal Goines or Ron Schulte through the Parish Office.

36 *At the sight of the crowds, his heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd.*

37 *Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few;*

38 *so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest.”

Matthew 9:36-38
Family Life Ministries

❖ Marriage Enrichment

This ministry nurtures, enriches, and strengthens the bonds of the Sacrament of Marriage and helps married couples who are looking for a deeper relationship with God and each other. Through prayer, scripture, shared stories, and social gatherings, this ministry provides married couples with opportunities to strengthen their marriage and family life.

For additional information, please contact Karl Weber or Damika Tanner through the Parish Office.

❖ Young at Heart

This ministry is centered on parish life and offers numerous opportunities for spiritual growth, social interaction, intellectual development, community service and just plain fun. Membership is open to anyone age 55 and older, or whose spouse is 55 or older.

For additional information, contact Ursula Allen or Ben Jeffery through the Parish Office.
Family Life Ministries

❑ Youth Ministry *(Reorganizing)*

According to the U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, for the Catholic community to respond to the needs of young people, and to involve young people in sharing their unique gifts with the larger community, the Church has to focus on three interdependent goals:

1. To empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today.

2. To draw young people to responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the Catholic faith community.

3. To foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person.

To meet these goals, the youth ministry is currently being reorganized into three age groups; ages 10 and under, ages 11 to 14, and ages 15 to 17. Youth and adults interested in reorganizing this ministry are invited to contact Fr. Eugene Jacques through the Parish Office.

Once reorganized, adult members of this ministry must attend the Archdiocesan Safe-Environment Workshop and have a background check completed.
Religious Education

❖ Bible Study

Bible Study is an important part of our spiritual development. Through reading The Word, interpretation, and discussing its application, participants grow in their understanding of what God expects from each of us, leading to a stronger faith.

A new format for instruction and study is being assessed for this ministry. If you are interested in helping to restructure the format of this ministry, please contact the Pastor through the Parish Office.

❖ Break Open the Word

This group meets briefly with the Pastor after daily Mass on Thursday morning to share and discuss reflections on the homily from the previous weekend, and share insights on the readings for the upcoming weekend.

For additional information, contact Fr. Gene Jacques through the Parish Office.
Religious Education

❖ Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD)
Parish School of Religion

CCD provides instruction in the Catholic faith to the children of our parish and prepares them to receive the sacraments. The CCD team consists of teachers, teacher-aides and professionals who volunteer their time and talent to provide instruction.

The CCD program meets on Wednesdays from 6:45pm to 8:00pm weekly beginning in mid-September until the end of April. Children of school age, who are not yet baptized or have been baptized in another faith, may be received into the Catholic Church through the CCD program.

When signing up for this ministry, please indicate on the commitment form the position you would like to hold. Members of this ministry must attend the Archdiocesan Safe-Environment Workshop and have a background check completed.

For additional information, contact the Pastor or Vickie Mayfield through the Parish Office.
Religious Education

❖ Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

The RCIA ministry meets year round on Wednesday evenings preparing adults to become Catholics. Education, hospitality and support are provided to adults who desire to become Catholic, and those Catholic adults who have not made First Communion or Confirmation. This ministry involves a journey of faith built upon prayer, scripture, worship, religious instruction, ministry and community.

Members of the RCIA team must be approved by the Pastor. Additionally, there is a need of Catholics who are in good standing in the Catholic Church to serve as sponsors for those seeking to join the Catholic faith.

If you are interested in serving as a team member or sponsor, or for additional information, contact Elizabeth Johnson through the Parish Office.
Service Ministries

❖ Bereavement Ministry

The Bereavement Ministry provides spiritual and emotional support to our families who are grieving the death of a loved one. It is our commitment as ministers to develop a community of faith through prayer, Christian fellowship, and service. We believe in God’s promise that He will never leave us alone, therefore, we allow Him to lead and guide us. We contact the bereaved families by phone, mail, and/or visitation, and support them at the Memorial Mass. Counselors are available to this ministry when counseling and/or referral services are needed. The Pastor participates and is available for spiritual guidance.

For additional information, contact Rosiland Barnett or Lois Thibodaux through the Parish Office.

❖ Good Shepherd Ministry

This group ministers to families who have lost a loved one by helping the family plan the funeral, praying the Rosary at the visitation or before the funeral liturgy, attending and participating in the funeral Mass, and praying for and with the deceased person’s family.
Service Ministries

Good Shepherd Ministry (cont.)

To volunteer, or for more information, contact Ursula Allen through the Parish Office.

❖ Health Ministry

This ministry addresses the health concerns of our parishioners. Members provide blood pressure screening on the first weekend of every month after Mass. They distribute valuable information on medical issues and topics, and sponsor health related events. This ministry is not only open to healthcare professionals, but also to anyone interested in the physical and mental well-being of our parishioners.

Members of the Health Ministry must attend the Archdiocesan Safe-Environment Workshop and have a background check completed.

For additional information, contact Deborah Nettles through the Parish Office.
Service Ministries

❖ Helping Hands Ministry

Ministry participants reach out to the poor and needy of the church parish and community in various ways. Volunteers:

- Distribute food and clothing to those in need, and maintain a food pantry and clothing bank.
- Pick up food from Second Harvest and local grocery stores, prepare and serve meals at Ozanam Inn Soup Kitchen twice a year.
- Assemble and distribute Thanksgiving Baskets
- Collect and present needy children with Christmas gifts
- Distribute gift bags to parishioners who are senior citizens, sick, and shut-in (Christmas in July)
- Organize an annual fundraiser to help support ministry efforts (Valentine’s Day Raffle and Bake Sale)

For more information, or to participate, contact Deborah Turner or Lydia Bolden through the Parish Office.
Service Ministries

❖ Ministry to the Sick

Members of this ministry visit homebound parishioners and those in nursing homes and hospitals. They pray for and with the sick and infirm, and deliver Holy Communion. These visits provide an opportunity for prayer and social interaction.

For more information, or to participate, contact Ursula Allen through the Parish Office.
Support Ministries

❖ Bulletin Brigade

This ministry assists the office staff by placing inserts in the parish bulletin. This ministry meets when needed in the church’s cry room on Fridays at 10am until finished.

For more information, or to participate, contact Jenny Richard through the Parish Office.

❖ Church Environment

The Church Environment group gathers for special events, holidays and seasons of the church year to assist with decorating the church and preparing it for liturgical celebrations. This ministry may require physical activity and night work.

For more information, or to participate, contact Andrell Washington through the Parish Office.

❖ Fundraising Committee

This committee develops and implements various fundraising events for our parish community. All funds
Support Ministries

Fundraising Committee (cont.)

are allocated to the church’s general operating account. The committee meets on the last Tuesday of every month at 6:00pm in the Rappolo Annex building.

For more information, or to participate, contact Will Simms or Brandon Goines through the Parish Office.

❖ Maintenance Committee

Members assist as needed with routine and special maintenance projects such as painting, cement work, or carpentry. Volunteers complete a skills inventory form stating the types of work they can perform, and the days of the week they are usually available. This is an ongoing daily or weekly ministry and one where volunteers are called as needed.

For more information, or to volunteer, contact the Parish Office.
Support Ministries

❖ Office Volunteers

Office support workers help with the everyday functioning of the Parish Office. They normally assist with a variety of clerical tasks; including specific monitoring and database entering responsibilities which may be assigned at the pastor’s discretion. Responsibilities may include filing, preparation and copying of documents, taking messages and operating office equipment like copiers, scanners, and fax machines.

For more information, or to participate, contact the secretary at the Parish Office.

❖ Prayer Ministry

Members of the Prayer Ministry are asked to spend time daily in intercessory prayer to God on behalf of another. They act as mediators, joining in prayer with the person or persons who have made the prayer request. Members receive prayer requests by email or phone tree when submitted to the Ministry, then lift up others in daily prayer.

For more information, contact Ron and Jan Schulte through the Parish Office.
Support Ministries

❖ Respect for Life Ministry

The purpose of this ministry is to educate parishioners about respect for life issues and demonstrate our parish’s respect for life from conception to natural death. Areas of serious concern among members include:

- Increasing knowledge about respect for life issues such as abortion, euthanasia, natural family planning, domestic violence, human trafficking, environmental justice, social justice, and the death penalty.

- Educating teens about procreation, abstinence, and bullying

For more information, or to participate, contact Brenda Williams through the Parish Office.

❖ St. Joseph Altar

The St. Joseph Altar started in Italy after a famine hit the region. The locals prayed to St. Joseph and the fava bean harvest saved the community from starvation. To show their gratitude, they prepared a table with an assortment of special foods they had harvested.
Support Ministries

St. Joseph Altar (cont.)

The St. Joseph Altar Committee (SJAC) continues in the tradition by erecting an altar each year on the anniversary of St. Joseph’s Feast Day, March 19th. The committee is responsible for all aspects of the altar; baking cookies, cooking and serving food, erecting the altar, decorating, distributing “goody bags,” dismantling the altar, and clean up. The SJAC is comprised of eight subcommittees:

1. Cookie Baking Subcommittee
2. Cooking Subcommittee
3. Designing/Decorating Subcommittee
4. Sewing Subcommittee
5. Fundraising Subcommittee
6. Collection Subcommittee (collect donations)
7. Bag Stuffing Subcommittee (cookies, medals, “lucky” beans. and prayer cards)
8. Construction Subcommittee (physical construction)

The SJAC and its subcommittees meet monthly from September to March. The ministry is open to everyone. Knowing how to bake is not a requirement.

For more information, or to join, contact Dielda Robertson through the Parish Office.
Worship Ministries

❖ Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

To strengthen our relationship with Christ, we must spend more time in prayer with Him. In this ministry, participants spend an hour with our Lord on the first Wednesday of each month. The times of adoration are from 9:30am to 8:00pm. To volunteer, or for additional information, contact Octavia Fennidy through the Parish Office.

❖ Adult Catechist for Children’s Liturgy of the Word

These adult lay ministers accompany children (Pre K-4 through 2nd Grade) who have not completed their preparation for First Holy Communion out of the main body of the church for their own lesson on the Sunday scripture readings. This ministry takes place during our Sunday 10:00am Mass.

Members of this ministry must attend the Archdiocesan Safe-Environment Workshop and have a background check completed. For additional information, contact Kathryn Rando through the Parish Office.
Worship Ministries

❖ Adult Choir

This ministry is an integral part of worship at St. Joseph the Worker. Members are required to meet for rehearsal on Thursday evenings at 7pm in the church, and are encouraged to participate at either of the weekend Masses (4pm Saturday, or, 10am Sunday), and both when possible. The members are committed to the core values of spirituality, evangelization, leadership, ministry, fellowship, and liturgical awareness. Members must be at least 14 years old.

For more information, or to join, contact Henry E. Washington through the Parish Office.

❖ Altar Servers and Adult Moderators

Adult Moderators assist in training Altar Servers and assist in the planning and implementation of Altar Server activities. Altar Servers have a vital ministry during the Mass. Their main responsibility is to assist the priest as he celebrates weekend and Holy Day of Obligation Masses. They also assist the priest at weddings, funerals and special liturgical events (Confirmation, First Communion, etc.) This
Altar Servers and Adult Moderators (cont.)

ministry is open to boys and girls who have already made their First Holy Communion and who are in the third grade and beyond. Group training sessions are scheduled as needed with the opportunity for individual follow up training.

When signing up for this ministry, please indicate the Mass at which you wish to serve on the commitment form. Adult members of this ministry must attend the Archdiocesan Safe-Environment Workshop and have a background check completed. For additional information, contact Deacon Charles Allen or Lois Thibodaux through the Parish Office.

❖ Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are commissioned to assist with the distribution of Holy Communion at Mass. They may also be commissioned to bring the Eucharist to the sick and shut-ins who are home-bound, in the hospital or in a nursing home. An Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion must be
Worship Ministries

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (cont.)

approved by the pastor, attend an Archdiocesan workshop and a parish workshop.

When signing up for this ministry, please indicate the Mass at which you wish to serve on the commitment form. For additional information, or to join this ministry, contact the Parish Office.

❖ Hospitality Ministry

The main role this ministry is to make everyone feel welcomed by greeting visitors and parishioners and providing assistance before and after Mass.

When signing up for this ministry, please indicate the Mass at which you wish to serve on the commitment form. Adult members of this ministry must attend the Archdiocesan Safe-Environment Workshop and have a background check completed. For additional information, contact Will Sims (Vigil Mass) or Elvina Beevers (Sunday Mass) through the Parish Office.
Worship Ministries

❖ Lector (Reader)

The lector proclaims the Word of God or reads the intersessions and announcements during Mass. Lectors should have good diction, articulation, and reading skills. All commissioned lectors are provided with a Manual so they can devote time and preparation to understanding the Scripture reading. Anyone interested in becoming a lector must be approved by the pastor, attend an Archdiocesan workshop, and, if married, must be in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church.

When signing up for this ministry, please indicate the Mass at which you wish to serve on the commitment form. For additional information, contact Elizabeth Johnson (Vigil Mass Captain) or Angela St. Hill (Sunday Mass Captain) through the Parish Office.

❖ Sacred Movers

Through dance, this ministry adds another dimension to the liturgy. It is open to parishioners ages 10 and older who possess a passion for prayerful liturgical expression through movement. The group meets, as needed, on Thursdays at
Worship Ministries

Sacred Movers (cont.)

6pm, and on Saturdays from 10am to noon. This ministry participates during special parish celebrations and activities.

Members of this ministry must attend the Archdiocesan Safe-Environment Workshop and have a background check completed. For additional information, contact Arainer Antoine through the Parish Office.

❖ Ushers

Members of this ministry facilitate order within the church by ensuring that parish policies are adhered to during the Mass. Ushers count the number of people attending Mass, seat people during services, collect offertory gifts, distribute handouts and other material, help direct people during Communion, and distribute the church bulletin as people leave Mass.

You may become an Usher beginning at the age of 12. When signing up for this ministry, please indicate the Mass at which you wish to serve on the commitment form. Adult members of this ministry must attend the Archdiocesan
Worship Ministries

Ushers (cont.)

Safe-Environment Workshop and have a background check completed.

For more information, or to join, contact Leroy Jackson (Vigil Mass) or Preston Favorite (Sunday Mass and special Masses) through the Parish Office.

❖ Youth Chorus

Youth ages six through 17 years are invited to participate in our Youth Chorus. This group provides music leadership on the third Sunday of each month.

Adult Moderators of this ministry must attend the Archdiocesan Safe-Environment Workshop and have a background check completed.

For more information, or to join, contact Henry E. Washington through the Parish Office.
The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal benefits organization. All their good works are informed by four core principles: Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. If you are interested in helping those in need, serving your church parish, growing in faith, or having exclusive access to top-rated insurance protection for you family, then the Knights of Columbus is the organization for you. For additional information, contact Grand Knight Leroy Prout.

Members provide a strong commitment to the church, the organization, and their community through service. The organization is filled with unlimited opportunities for zealous Catholics to work for their church parish and their community. The KPC involves the entire family. The group meets monthly to plan and provide service to the church, community, sick and shut-in; and to fellowship as a unit. For additional information, contact Grand Lady Diane Keller or Grand Knight Donald Roussell.
Ten Principles of Servant Leadership
by Robert Greenleaf

1. **Listening** - Traditionally, leaders have been valued for their communication and decision making skills. Servant-leaders must reinforce these important skills by making a deep commitment to listening intently to others. Servant-leaders seek to identify and clarify the will of a group. They seek to listen receptively to what is being said (and not said). Listening also encompasses getting in touch with one's inner voice, and seeking to understand what one's body, spirit, and mind are communicating.

2. **Empathy** - Servant-leaders strive to understand and empathize with others. People need to be accepted and recognized for their special and unique spirit. One must assume the good intentions of others and not reject them as people, even when forced to reject their behavior or performance.

3. **Healing** - Learning to heal is a powerful force for transformation and integration. One of the great strengths of servant-leadership is the potential for healing one's self and others. In "The Servant as Leader", Greenleaf writes, "There is something subtly communicated to one who is being served and led if, implicit in the compact between the servant-leader and led is the understanding that the search for wholeness is something that they share."
Ten Principles of Servant Leadership  (continued)

4. **Awareness** - General awareness, and especially self-awareness, strengthens the servant-leader. Making a commitment to foster awareness can be scary... one never knows what one may discover! As Greenleaf observed, "Awareness is not a giver of solace - it's just the opposite. It disturbs. They are not seekers of solace. They have their own inner security."

5. **Persuasion** - Servant-leaders rely on persuasion, rather than positional authority in making decisions. Servant-leaders seek to convince others, rather than coerce compliance. This particular element offers one of the clearest distinctions between the traditional authoritarian model and that of servant-leadership. The servant-leader is effective at building consensus within groups.

6. **Conceptualization** - Servant-leaders seek to nurture their abilities to "dream great dreams." The ability to look at a problem (or an organization) from a conceptualizing perspective means that one must think beyond day-to-day realities. Servant-leaders must seek a delicate balance between conceptualization and day-to-day focus.
Ten Principles of Servant Leadership (continued)

7. **Foresight** - Foresight is a characteristic that enables servant-leaders to understand lessons from the past, the realities of the present, and the likely consequence of a decision in the future. It is deeply rooted in the intuitive mind.

8. **Stewardship** - Robert Greenleaf's view of all institutions was one in which all leaders (CEO's, staff, directors, trustees, etc.) all play significant roles in holding their institutions in trust for the great good of society.

9. **Commitment to the Growth of People** - Servant-leaders believe that people have an intrinsic value beyond their tangible contributions as workers. As such, servant-leaders are deeply committed to a personal, professional, and spiritual growth of each and every individual within the organization.

10. **Building Community** - Servant-leaders are aware that the shift from local communities to large institutions as the primary shaper of human lives has changed our perceptions and has caused a feeling of loss. Servant-leaders seek to identify a means for building community among those who work within a given institution.