

Ministry Directory

Liturgical Ministries

- *Adult Weekday Sacristans*
- *Altar Servers*
- *Altar Society*
- *Children's Cantor Choir*
- *Commentators*
- *Contemporary Choir*
- *Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion*
- *Funeral Servers*
- *Lazarus Choir*
- *Lectors*
- *Parish Choir*
- *Ushers*

Sacramental Ministries

- *Bridal Consultants*
- *Pre-Baptism*
- *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)*

Prayer and Worship

- *Adoration*
- *Charismatic Prayer Group*
- *Forty Days for Life*
- *Morning Prayer*
- *Prayer Chain*

Formation Ministries

- *Associates of the Sisters of St. Joseph*
- *Catholic Men's Fellowship (CMF)*
- *Children's Liturgy*
- *Christian Family Movement (CFM)*
- *Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD)*
- *Intentional Disciples*
- *Intentional Disciples for Young Adults (ID 9:16)*
- *Lectio Divina*
- *Parish Bible Study*
- *Parish Mission*
- *Women's Bible Study Group*
- *Young Adult Ministry*
- *Youth Ministry*

Service Ministries

- *Auxiliary to the Sisters of St. Joseph*
- *Blood Drive*
- *Breaking Bread Ministry*
- *Catholic Daughters*
- *Comfort Quilt*
- *Knights of Columbus*
- *Ladies of Charity*
- *Ministry to People with Disabilities*

Hospitality Ministries

- *Festival Committee*
- *Fish Fry*
- *Parish Picnic*
- *Welcome Ministry*

Pastoral Ministries

- *Bereavement Ministry*
- *Divorced/Separated Ministry*
- *Health Ministry*

Parish Life Ministries

- *Church Decorating*
- *Finance Council*
- *Money Counters*
- *Parish Office Volunteers*
- *Pastoral Council*

Parish Organizations

- *Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts*
- *Bridge Club*
- *250 Club*
- *Girl Scouts/Daisies/Brownies*
- *Men's Bowling Club*
- *Tai Chi*

School Organizations

- *Parent-Teacher Guild (PTG)*
- *Sabers Athletic Association*
- *School Advisory Council*

Ministry Directory - Guide

Thank you for your interest in parish life at St. Bernadette Church. The following list of parish ministries offers opportunities for everyone to get involved, and we welcome your participation. If you or a member of your family are interested in any of the ministries listed, please contact the parish office (412-373-0050). We will ask the ministry leader to contact you and provide additional information.

Liturgical Ministries

- **Adult Weekday Sacristans** - These individuals are responsible for overseeing the preparation of vessels and the materials needed for both the presider and the assembly. They enable our liturgical celebrations to flow seamlessly and help ensure that the assembly is fully drawn into each Eucharistic celebration.
- **Altar Servers** - This ministry is open to boys and girls of the third grade or higher, who have received First Holy Communion. Altar servers also include adults who serve at weekday Masses when children are not assigned to serve. Altar servers take responsibility for freeing the presider from various details so he may give full attention to presiding. They assist with the book of prayers (Sacramentary), and help at the altar taking care of the candles, cross, and incense with reverence. They serve at weekend Masses, weddings, and Stations of the Cross.
- **Altar Society** - These individuals are responsible for the pickup, washing, ironing, and returning of purificators to the sacristy. They are also responsible for alb care and cleaning of the Sanctuary area.
- **Children's Cantor Choir** - This ministry is open to boys and girls of the third grade or higher. These boys and girls provide musical leadership from September-June at the Wednesday and Friday 9:30 a.m. Masses, along with various special events and church feast days.
- **Commentators** - These individuals give directions during our liturgical celebrations and make announcements that are important to our parish family during weekend Masses and Feast Days.
- **Contemporary Choir** - These individuals use guitars, bass, keyboards, wind instruments, drums, and percussion as accompaniment to provide musical leadership to the congregation in praising God at the 12:00 p.m. Sunday Mass, September-June in addition to musical leadership for the Festival of Praise gatherings, and also participate in outside musical activities with other local Christian worship teams in such events as "Praise in the Park" at Monroeville Community Park.
- **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** - Eucharistic Ministers have a reverence and dignity for the Eucharist. These individuals assist with distribution of Holy Communion (the Precious Body and Blood of Christ) during Masses and take the Eucharist to hospital patients and shut-ins.

- **Funeral Servers** - These adult men and women serve at parish funerals. These individuals take responsibility for freeing the presider from various details so he may give full attention to presiding.
- **Lazarus Choir** - These Individuals provide musical leadership at parish funerals, providing a comforting sign of solidarity with the families who are experiencing the loss of a loved one.
- **Lectors** - These individuals proclaim to God's people Salvation History through the oral reading of Sacred Scripture. These individuals proclaim the First and Second Readings at weekend Masses and Feast Days.
- **Parish Choir** - These individuals provide musical leadership to the congregation at the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass, along with various Solemnities and special services throughout the church year.
- **Ushers** - These individuals are responsible for the care of the assembly. They welcome parishioners, seat late-comers, pass the collection baskets, facilitate the assembly's movement to Communion, distribute the bulletins at the end of Mass, and take care of medical emergencies.

Sacramental Ministries

- **Bridal Consultants** - These individuals meet with couples planning to be married at St. Bernadette Church. They coordinate the couple's wedding day Mass and attend the couple's rehearsal and wedding day Mass.
- **Pre-Baptism** - These individuals instruct parents in theology and practical aspects of the Sacrament of Baptism. They explain each part of the Baptismal ceremony and its significance. This Pre-Baptismal Seminar is offered the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. Please call the Parish office to reserve dates for both the Pre-Baptismal seminar and your child's Baptism.
- **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** - These individuals assist with the initiation in the church of inquirers in the Catholic Faith. This process is concerned with the total formation of the person and culminates in the celebration of the sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

Prayer and Worship Ministries

- **Adoration** - Eucharistic Adoration is the practice of placing the consecrated bread, The Host, on the altar in a monstrance so that the faithful may join in prayer and worship before the presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Individuals are asked to sign up to spend time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament adoring Jesus—so that all time slots are covered and He is never left unattended—but all the faithful are welcome at all times. Adoration occurs Mondays after the daily Mass from 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. and Saturdays following the 8:30 a.m. Mass.
- **Charismatic Prayer Group** - A gathering of Christians who give praise, thanks, and honor to God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. These individuals gather in community to worship God as the Holy Spirit moves them, and encourage and support each other in faith.
- **Forty Days for Life** - These individuals gather at Planned Parenthood twice a year (during the fall and the Season of Lent) to pray and fast for an end to abortion.

- **Morning Prayer** - These individuals meet in church Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 8:45 a.m. (before the 9:30 a.m. Mass) and Tuesday, Thursday at 9:30 a.m. for prayers.
- **Prayer Chain** - This ministry provides a vehicle for anyone with a specific prayer need or petition to have fellow Christians join them in prayer. Requests are passed along to all members of the prayer chain, who then assist in lifting up these needs to God.

Formation Ministries

- **Associates of the Sisters of St. Joseph** - Women and men, who desire to be Associates of the Community of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Baden, strive ever more fully for a deeper union with God, self and neighbor. We unite our prayer and work to that of the Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph so that the glory of God and the building up of God's kingdom might be more fully realized. We participate in monthly prayer meetings at the convent on the third Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m.
- **Catholic Men's Fellowship (CMF)** - Catholic Men's Fellowship is a Catholic men's ministry where men gather for a time of prayer, reflection, and sharing while reading the Bible and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Men meet every Saturday morning at 7:15 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. in the Parish rectory.
- **Children's Liturgy of the Word** - During the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass, children ages 4 through 7 are invited to join a volunteer catechist for their own Liturgy of the Word in Biedenbach Hall. The children are then returned to the church for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.
- **Christian Family Movement (CFM)** - The Christian Family Movement is a national network of parish/neighborhood small groups of Catholics and their families. Parents meet regularly in one another's homes. Through the use of programming and the dynamics of group interaction, Christian values are reinforced and families are encouraged to reach out in action to others.
- **Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD)** - The Religious Education Office is responsible for a total parish sacramental program (both CCD and St. Bernadette School children) for Reconciliation, Eucharist, and Confirmation.
- **Intentional Disciples** - An adult ministry that identifies as intentional disciples of Jesus Christ. The term disciple means a student, a learner, a follower. By intentional it is meant that the decision to follow Christ is conscious and deliberate. We as Christians are sent into the world to proclaim Jesus Christ to others.
- **Intentional Disciples for Young Adults (ID 9:16)** - A young adult ministry for ages 18 through 38. The 9:16 comes from scripture, 1Corinthians 9:16: "If I preach the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for necessity has been laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel." This verse is the backbone of the young adult ministry and it emphasizes the privilege and duty placed upon each disciple to be directly engaged in the evangelistic mission of the Church.
- **Lectio Divina** - This term is Latin for "Sacred (Divine) Reading" and refers to the classical monastic practice of the prayerful reading of the Bible. Traditionally four steps are used (read, meditate, pray, contemplate) to aid in connecting with The Living God.

- **Parish Bible Study** - This ministry provides men and women of our parish the opportunity to study and discover the Word of God and the interrelationships between the Old and New Testaments. The study of Scripture is the most familiar way of getting to know Jesus. Scripture study is available in our Parish at least twice a year (fall and spring) and is led by the clergy.
- **Parish Mission** - The priests and deacon of our Parish, as well as invited speakers, offer adult religious education for the benefit of our parishioners during the Season of Lent.
- **Women's Bible Study Group** - This ministry provides women of our parish the opportunity for Scripture study along with fun and friendship. Following the Monday evening Mass, participants meet at 7:30 p.m.
- **Young Adult Ministry** - This ministry provides support and fellowship along with catechesis and service opportunities to young adults of the Parish. Members meet every third Tuesday of the month from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Rivertowne Pour House in Monroeville.
- **Youth Ministry** - This ministry strives to bring teens to know and love Christ through prayer, service and by building community. This ministry consists of two separate groups for junior high teens meeting on Tuesdays and high school teens meeting on Mondays. Group events include a summer mission trip and a retreat at Steubenville, Ohio.

Service Ministries

- **Auxiliary to the Sisters of St. Joseph** - This group of men and women support the educational endeavors of the Sisters of St. Joseph, several of whom serve our parish, through fundraisers and nominal annual dues. Members are remembered in the daily prayers of the sisters, in a special monthly Mass, and have a Mass said for them upon their death.
- **Blood Drive** - This ministry provides the opportunity for the parish to hold blood drives in cooperation with Central Blood Bank of Pittsburgh. Setting up a donor station in Biedenbach Hall, blood bank nurses take donations on the designated Sundays in conjunction with the morning Mass schedule. Virtual blood drives also occur, where parishioners can donate blood at any Central Blood Bank location, which allows St. Bernadette Church to receive credit for the donation. St. Bernadette Church and North American Martyrs Church together are distinguished as the largest religious donor organization in the area.
- **Breaking Bread Ministry** - The purpose of this ministry is to involve the parishioners of St. Bernadette Church in planning, preparing and serving a meal of fellowship for those in our community who would otherwise be alone on Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.
- **Catholic Daughters** - This ministry is one of the oldest and largest organizations of Catholic women in the Americas. They donate to charities, administer scholarship programs and strive "to be helping hands where there is pain, poverty, sorrow or sickness."
- **Comfort Quilt** - This ministry extends in a tangible way the care of the Parish to many persons in need expressing that God's comfort is with them. Quilts are assembled the first Tuesday a.m. and the 3rd Wednesday p.m. (weather permitting).
- **Knights of Columbus** - Men attending St. Bernadette Church belong to the Pius XII Council #49925 of the Knights of Columbus. This international group is a family-oriented, fraternal service organization that meets the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, as well as for annual

retreats. The four principles of the Knights are charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. The men do charitable works throughout the world and also participate in parish and diocesan liturgical celebrations.

- **Ladies of Charity** - The Ladies of Charity is an international organization founded by St. Vincent de Paul and St. Louise de Marillac in France around 1617. Its purpose is to imitate Christ by bringing corporal and spiritual nourishment to the poor, particularly the sick poor. The Ladies of Charity of St. Bernadette Church visit hospitals, nursing homes and shut-ins of our parish community, operate the parish food pantry, and provide other services to the needy.
- **Ministry to People with Disabilities** - This ministry hosts two social dances a year (Halloween and St. Patrick's Day) for adults with disabilities.

Hospitality Ministries

- **Festival Committee** - This ministry provides fun, fellowship, and builds community for the St. Bernadette Parish community and the Monroeville area as well as brings in needed revenue to support our church and school.
- **Fish Fry** - This ministry creates fun and fellowship while providing fish dinners for sale on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent except Good Friday.
- **Parish Picnic** - This ministry provides a wonderful opportunity for all families to enjoy a day of fun, games, food at a local park. Sunday Mass is offered outdoors in the park pavilion.
- **Welcome Ministry** - This ministry strives to find ways to make all parishioners feel welcome and to encourage their involvement in Parish activities and organizations. Members meet on an "as needed" basis as determined by the project being worked on.

Pastoral Ministries

- **Bereavement Ministry** - This ministry responds to parishioners who are grieving to help them on their journey with six guided sessions on grieving offered during the summer months.
- **Divorced /Separated Ministry** - This ministry is open to all people who are either separated or divorced. The purpose is four-fold: 1. to help all keep a Christian outlook; 2. To offer an educational approach to coping with divorce; 3. To offer support to members during the various stages of separation and divorce; 4. To remind members to continue to be responsible participants in the life of the church.
- **Health Ministry** - This ministry consults with any member of St. Bernadette parish on any health issue. Home visits are available if necessary.

Parish Life Ministries

- **Church Decorating** - This ministry works in conjunction with the parish priest to decorate the sanctuary for various seasons and celebrations of the church year for the praise and honor of God.
- **Finance Council** - This ministry, under the direction of the pastor, reviews and plans the budgets of St. Bernadette Church and School. Annually, the Finance Council prepares the budget for the

ensuing fiscal year and publishes it for the information of parishioners. The Finance Council approves tuition rates and tuition grants. In addition, the Finance Council reviews and submits recommendations for extraordinary expense items. Members are appointed by the pastor and must be active parishioners with accounting and/or management skills.

- **Money Counters** - Teams of money counters assist the parish in counting, sorting, and separating the weekly collections.
- **Parish Office Volunteers** - Volunteers in this ministry assist in the parish office during office hours to answer telephone calls, greet and assist visitors, and perform administrative and clerical tasks.
- **Pastoral Council** - The purpose of the Pastoral Council is to assist St. Bernadette parishioners in advancing the spiritual and pastoral life of the parish. Meetings are held monthly from August through June. Members are appointed by the pastor after a suitable period of discernment to verify their call to this ministry.

Parish Organizations

- **Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts** - Boys (ages 10-18) learn life values and skills that make them into good citizens by service to God and community.
- **Bridge Club** - Women enjoy friendship and fellowship while playing Bridge weekly.
- **250 Club** - Members of the 250 Club buy a yearly ticket which entitles them to a chance at winning money weekly. The yearly club culminates with a dinner and chances to win over \$10,000 in cash prizes.
- **Girl Scouts/Daisies/Brownies** - Girls (ages 5-18) learn life values and skills that make them into good citizens by service to God and community.
- **Men's Bowling Club** - Men meet for friendship and fellowship while bowling Thursday evenings at Miracle Lanes from September to May.
- **Tai Chi** - Tai Chi is a fun, low-impact, slow motion workout developing breathing control, circulation, balance, flexibility and strength not to mention of course, good company! Classes are at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday mornings in Biedenbach Hall. All are welcome and 20% of all fees go toward the Building Fund.

School Organizations

- **Parent-Teacher Guild (PTG)** - The PTG is an organization that invites all parents of St Bernadette School children to join its mission of fostering a spirit of cooperation among the church, home, and school in providing Catholic education. The PTG raises funds for school programs, improvements of the school building, and extraordinary needs of students and staff. Members pay a nominal dues fee.
- **Sabers Athletic Association** - The Athletic Association sponsors competitive athletic teams for students attending St. Bernadette School which include: boys /girls basketball, boys/girls soccer, boys/girls track, boys/girls cross country, girls volleyball and girls cheerleading. Activities

are funded through registration fees, the St. Bernadette gym concession stand, and other fund raisers.

- **School Advisory Council** - The School Advisory Council is a consultative body to the pastor and principal that shares in the responsibility of providing for the educational needs of our school students.