

## **We Need You at Lake McDonald This Summer!**

As many of you may know, our parish of St. Richard is charged with the West Glacier/Apgar/Lake McDonald mission, which in part means we are responsible for bringing the word and body of Christ to the residents and visitors of those areas during the summer months. You may also know that recent Glacier National Park policy changes and renovation to the park headquarters Community Center building has precluded Saturday masses at Apgar and headquarters this summer.

Through the cooperation of park officials and Xanterra Corporation (concessionaire for Lake McDonald Lodge), *this* summer we have obtained permission to use the community building at Lake McDonald Lodge for weekly liturgy. Due to scheduling conflicts, we will not be able to provide mass in the park this year; however, **we will be offering communion service at the lodge on Saturdays** – a practice our parish conducted back in the ‘80s and ‘90s.

In order to provide this important ministry, we are beginning preparation now, starting with recruitment of St. Richard members to serve as **lay liturgy leaders** (Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion – “EMHC”) for these Saturday communion services. The EMHC will take on the duties of setting up for the service, leading the service, and ensuring that the facility is put back in its original state.

The dates for these summer communion services are June 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29; July 6, 13, 20 and 27; and August 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31. Volunteers may sign up for one or more dates. It’s our goal that a good number of our parish family will pitch in so this doesn’t fall on the shoulders of only a few.

Deacon Doug will be included in the schedule – and will also provide 2 training sessions – **Tuesday, April 30 and Tuesday, May 7 at 6 p.m. in the Pearce Center** – prior to the beginning of the service season to fully prepare the EMHC so they will go forth to serve with confidence and clear purpose! Each volunteer will be given a copy of the communion service liturgy guide. Training sessions will focus on the structure of the service and actual practice with fellow EMHC.

Absolutely *no* experience is necessary – only requirements are having been confirmed and possess an open heart for service. Our parish family who conducted these services in the past expressed how enjoyable and rewarding they were – interacting with and offering the word and body of Christ to visitors from around the world was a unique, grace-filled experience!

Sign up is available in the vestibule and with Colleen in the office. Questions or need more information? Please contact Dn. Doug at 892-3991.