

## Parish and Community Life Commission

### **NATURE:**

The group is comprised of (currently 13) volunteer members with interest in building community within the parish and the community at large. In addition, there are Parish Council liaisons on the commission (currently 2).

### **PURPOSE:**

The group coordinates social activities throughout the year for parish members of all ages. As needs within the parish and/or community arise, the group initiates or assists with efforts to support and respond.

### **STRUCTURE -- Commission Leadership**

The commission primarily operates independently, requesting use of the parish center through email request to the Parish Secretary. Occasionally, activities involve others in a way the group feels Father should be made aware and have the opportunity to advise.

### **Chair Responsibilities:**

- Develop the agenda and provide copies for member distribution at the meeting
- Lead the commission meetings
- Create/update written summaries of each of the commission events for review prior to doing that event again

### **Secretary Responsibilities:**

- Take minutes at the Commission meeting
- Distribute minutes to commission members and Pastoral Council
- Maintain the contact list of Commission members

### **Designated Event Person-in-Charge:**

- Many of the activities have a designated commission member-in-charge

### **FUNCTION:**

The Parish and Community Life includes, but is not limited to, such parish-focused events as:

- Annual New Parish Member Dinner (April)
- Care Packages for college freshman (parishioners) during their first finals week (December)
- Parish bus trips for adult religious growth, such as day-trips to religious sites (June./July)
- Gathering opportunities, such as:
  - Coffee/donut Sunday (approximately 8 months of the year)
  - Parish game nights (March)

- Other special events (i.e., new/departing priest social)
- Seasonal events to support the different liturgical seasons, i.e., Advent Night (December)
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade float (July)
- Assist community charities with funds and material goods, i.e., DeForest Area Needs Network (DANN), Domestic Abuse Intervention Services, Women's Care Center (sporadic)
- St. Olaf's participation in the annual Giving Tree program for DeForest (December)
- Fall craft sale, proceeds of which support the activities of the commission, the parish and contribution to DANN (October)
- Assist with Norski Nibbles lunch distribution (summer)

Other miscellaneous events the Parish and Community Life Commission has been asked to assist with:

- Religious Education Open House (February)
- RCIA gathering (Holy Saturday)

The commission requests assistance from: Faith Formation students for the October Craft Sale – help carrying vendor items in and cleanup; Parish Director of Liturgy for help with planning and executing Advent Night; and all commissions and both councils for exposure to new parishioners during New Member Dinner.

### **Parish and Community Life Commission Members**

Dawn Bluma  
 Debbie Wolff  
 Joanne Meinholz  
 Theresa Schlub  
 Annette Gasper  
 Sandy Martinson  
 Carol Welch  
 Kitty Repas  
 Marge Tessner  
 Bobbie Ruder  
 Bobbie Peters  
 Suzanne Daly  
 Carolyn Tucker  
 Legertha Champagne (Council Rep)  
 Steve Thedinga (Council Rep)