

# DISCIPLESHIP DIRECTORY



## St. Mary Parish

In the Heart of the City since 1845

320 Middle Avenue Elyria, Ohio 44035

Phone: 440-323-5539 Fax: 440-322-2329

<https://stmaryelyria.org>

Did we forget something???

Interested in starting something new for our Parish???

Share it with Father Charlie!

"In this period of crisis today, it is important not to turn in on ourselves, burying our own talent, our spiritual, intellectual, and material riches, everything that the Lord has given us, but rather to open ourselves, to be supportive, to be attentive to others. Set your stakes on great ideals, the ideals that enlarge the heart, the ideals of service that make your talents fruitful. Life is not given to us to be jealously guarded for ourselves but is given to us so that we may give it in turn."

*Pope Francis, to an audience on April 24, 2013*

At St. Mary Parish, discipleship is more than a three- or four-week program. Everything that is accomplished at St. Mary is born and nurtured out of commitment to Discipleship. Look around and see how busy our Parish is every day. This pamphlet lists the Commissions, Committees & Programs that keep our Parish moving forward. Feel free to contact those listed for the various activities. They can provide information how you might use your time, talent & treasure here at St. Mary.

## ***Pastoral Leadership***

### **Parish Pastoral Council**

Chair, Shari Dill - 440-864-7937 [sharidill@yahoo.com](mailto:sharidill@yahoo.com)

The Pastoral Council is a consultative body that seeks to promote the spiritual growth of our Parish community and plans ways to further its mission. The Pastoral Council attains its purpose by promoting spiritual formation, pastoral planning, policy development and communication.

Parish Council is comprised of parish staff and members of our parish. Members serve a two-year term depending on their representation. As members rotate off, we look for other parishioners to replace them. Council meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 7pm in the conference room. You are welcome to attend our open meetings or contact any of the Council members with concerns.

### **St. Mary Parish 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee**

Co-Chairs: Shari Dill - 440-864-7973

[sharidill@yahoo.com](mailto:sharidill@yahoo.com)

Mike Moore – 440- 225-8558

[forevermoore@roadrunner.com](mailto:forevermoore@roadrunner.com)

Contact co-chairs when meetings are held. There are several sub-committees identified and will need volunteers. Please contact one of the chairs for more information.

## ***Discipleship Prayer***

Creator, God,

Life is your gift to me.

Through Baptism, you invite me to share the gift of my life in service to others. Be with me as I choose each day to show Your presence in our world. Give me the courage and generosity to respond to Your love, to your call, I pray especially for those who serve you in ministry here at St. Mary Parish.

May we hear the Good News of those in need. Keep us close to you. Open the minds and hearts of many other men, women and young people that they may accept Your challenge to build the Kingdom at St. Mary Parish.

We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord Amen

### **Parish Finance Council**

Chair- Debbie Conner - 440-322-8160

[debconner22@gmail.com](mailto:debconner22@gmail.com)

The Finance Council is a consultative group of lay people with skills in finance, administration and law, mandated by Canon Law, to aid the Pastor in the administration of parish goods. The Council meets once a month or as needed. They meet on the 4th Thursday of the month at 5:45pm. Interested parishioners are asked to contact Debbie Conner.

### **Education Endowment Trust**

Chair – Thomas J. Hoover – 440-567-5365

The Education Endowment Trust Fund provides long term financial support for our school. Fr. Charlie Diedrick is the Trustee of the Endowment Trust. An Advisory Board assists him with the management and administration of the fund. A portion of the income from the fund's assets are granted to the school each year for tuition scholarships. For further information please contact Thomas J. Hoover.

### **Sponsor A Student**

Coordinator - Father Charlie Diedrick - 440-323-5539

This program was designed to offer those who strongly believe in Catholic Education the opportunity to give the gift of education through financial assistance to a student. Every day our students' education is centered on living in Christ's Light. We are committed to that mission and hope that others may see that every child is given the opportunity to learn and grow in Christ's Light.

### **200 Club**

Co-Chairs: Lori Fitch – 440-322-6816

Debbie Conner – 440-322-8160

The 200 Club seeks to raise funds to help pay for assistant teachers and other expenses at our school. The cost of the ticket is \$35. A weekly drawing is held for six months. At the conclusion there is a dinner & dance.

### **Heritage Society**

Father Charlie Diedrick – 440-323-5539

The Heritage Society was established to honor those who gifts help in the continuing mission of St. Mary Church. Please inform us of your plans to include St. Mary in your estate plans. To acknowledge your generosity, your name will be posted in the foyer of the parish community center.

### **Commissions**

#### **Faith Formation**

Coordinator- Sr. Mary Dorothy Tecca - 440-323-0140

The Faith Formation Commission focuses on the lifelong journey of faith spanning the preschool through senior adult years. We seek to discern the faith formation needs of all persons within our parish community. Providing a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith, sacraments and traditions.

#### **Children's Liturgy of the Word**

Coordinator – Sister Mary Dorothy Tecca C.S.A. - 440-323-0140

At the 9:30am Sunday mass, Sept. – May, children are invited to leave the upper church to celebrate the liturgy of the word. The children will experience the same readings and rituals of the parish assembly but from the children's lectionary and with a homily experience geared specifically for their age group. They return to the main church for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

#### **St. Mary Pre-School P.S.R. Program**

Director - Peggy Russell-440-323-5539 or 440-322-3625

Classes are held in the St. Joseph Building during the 11:00am, Sunday Mass from Mid-September through the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of May.

#### **Parish School Of Religion (Grades 1 -8)**

Coordinator – Sister Mary Dorothy Tecca C.S.A. - 440-323-0140

Grade school P.S.R. assists parents of children attending public schools with providing a good religious education. Classes are held on Monday evenings 6:30pm – 7:45pm. Classes meet Sept. til May.

#### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults – R.C.I.A.**

Coordinator- Sr. Mary Dorothy Tecca-440-323-1040

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process welcoming the adult into the Catholic Church. Through weekly meetings, adults learn about the Catholic faith and are formed as Christian Disciples. The Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) are celebrated at the Easter Vigil.

#### **Spiritual Development Commission**

Coordinator – Sr. Mary Dorothy Tecca- 440-323-1040

This Commission's purpose is to assist members of our parish community in deepening their personal and collective spiritual growth. Some of their activities include the All Souls Prayer Service, Advent Family night, Christmas Giving tree, etc.

### **Worship Commission**

Chair- Michael Moore - 440-225-8558

[forevermoore@roadrunner.com](mailto:forevermoore@roadrunner.com)

The mission of the Worship Commission is to enrich the prayerful environment of our parish. We do so by incorporating creative, prayerful and musical influences in our liturgy. Individuals in our group work with other ministries to allow our parish to have an active participation in the Mass. We use our combined resources to help educate our parish family in the theological principles and practices of liturgy. Worship Commission meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 2:00 pm with a break from May through August. If you have a knowledge of our Catholic faith, worship traditions and a desire to help our parish draw closer to God in our worship, we welcome you.

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

Al & Pat Franco – 440-365-3570

We have the gift of Jesus being exposed for us in the Blessed Sacrament every Thursday immediately following 8:30am Mass until 5pm. At 3pm. the Divine Chaplet is prayed. Signup is easy! Pick an hour that is best for you, even if you think you might miss occasionally. You'll share the hour with another, so it'll be easy to help make sure that Jesus is never left alone.

### **Adult Choir**

Choir Director – Mike Moore –440-225-8558

[forevermoore@roadrunner.com](mailto:forevermoore@roadrunner.com)

If you are finding yourself singing along with the radio, you need to be in our choir. You need no experience or auditions. High School and all age adults (men and women) are welcome to join on Wednesdays, 7pm until 8:30pm, in the upper church. This is a group of volunteer singers who meet weekly from October to May to assist in worship at the 9:30am Sunday Mass as well as Christmas and Easter services. So, give us a try and you will find that this is a very rewarding ministry.

### **Spirit Gang**

Coordinator - Robert Steinmetz - 440-822-8011

This is another ministry that enjoys Mass thru music. These musicians meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday for 4:30pm Mass. They rehearse on Mondays at 7pm. Contact Bob for the location. Dust off your instrument and join us.

### **Pre-Cana**

Coordinators – Terri & Amy Butler- 440-371-9621

The Pre-Cana Ministry is an opportunity to help engaged couples from our parish and diocese prepare for the life commitment of marriage. The team is composed of couples who prepare a one-day session for engaged couples. Through a combination of talks, discussions, questions and answers couples prepare for the Sacrament of Matrimony. Any married couples willing to share their sacrament of marriage with these engaged couples are welcome to join this ministry. We will be hosting a Pre Cana in February 2020.

### **Cana Club**

Coordinators: Lauri Conrad - 440-823-8473

Pat Harssema - 440-320-0320

The Cana Club is a good way to build and deepen the sacramental bond of marriage. Married couples are invited to gather spiritually and socially to enhance their marriage relationship. They get together on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the Month in the Cahill library.

### **Pro-Life**

Coordinators – Bob & Lois Edwards- 440-322-0725

[lolo12350@aol.com](mailto:lolo12350@aol.com)

The pro-life movement helps to promote programs of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Cleveland Diocese at the parish level . The goals are to help educate the parish and the surrounding community about the sacredness of human life and to respect the rights of all human persons born and unborn. Pro-life advocates work with members of the parish and school in developing awareness, education and action on life issues. They also help the parish community provide ongoing support to other pro-life groups such as Birthright, which offers services to pregnant women or the Right to Life Society, which lobbies for pro-life legislation.

### **Discipleship Commission**

Coordinator – Joyce Snyder –440-775-1967

[st.marydisciple@gmail.com](mailto:st.marydisciple@gmail.com)

The Discipleship Commission's mission is to live out the gospel by fully utilizing our time, talent and treasures of our parishioners in service of the Kingdom. Those wishing to volunteer for various programs or committees please contact Joyce.

## **EDUCATION**

### **St. Mary Parish School**

Sharon Urig – Principal - 440-322-2808

Here at St. Mary we provide a day school for Catholic education for pre-school thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Please call our school for more information.

### **Parent Teachers Unit (P.T.U.)**

President – Lori Massey –440-865-0322

The purpose of P.T.U. is to promote the welfare of children and youth in the home, school, church and community. The members provide materials needed in the school, are active in family gatherings and assist with fundraising. The P.T.U. meets every other month in the computer lab during the school year, at 6:30pm, the second Thursday of the month. Meetings are open to parents and persons interested in the objectives of the unit in cooperation with our school faculty and staff.

### **Afterschool Educational Enhancement Program**

Coordinator – Karen Manning –440-322-2808

This program gives students the opportunity to gain knowledge and skills beyond the classroom. All classes are taught by volunteer staff members and parishioners. Some past classes have been arts and crafts, foreign languages and survival skills. If you are interested in volunteering or being a VIRTUS monitor, email Karen Manning at [kmanning@smselyria.org](mailto:kmanning@smselyria.org)

### **Youth Council**

Father Charlie Diedrick -440-323-5539

Is comprised of teens who wish to learn more about their faith in a social atmosphere. All are encouraged to come and share, ask questions, make friends and have fun while learning more about their faith.

### **Sports Committee**

St. Mary Athletic Director- Jen Taylor– 440-487-1178

The Sports Committee was formed in 1991 to promote Parish students in our day school and P.S.R. program to participate in C.Y.O. athletics. They always welcome parishioners to be involved with sports by becoming new coaches, site directors, or scorekeepers. Feel free to contact Jen. This Committee is always looking for new members. They hold a variety of fundraisers throughout the year in order to purchase equipment, uniforms and to keep the cost as low as possible for kids to play. Additionally, if a family is unable to pay, they would never deny a child the opportunity to play.

### **Eucharistic Ministers** - - - - -

Coordinator – Sister Mary Dorothy Tecca, C.S.A.

440-323-0140

Father Charlie invites individuals to assist the priest in administering the sacrament of Holy Communion, the consecrated bread and wine, during the Mass and to take Communion to those who are ill, or otherwise unable to attend Mass. The Diocese requires a training period before a person becomes a Eucharist Minister.

### **Lectors** - - - - -

Coordinator - Sister Mary Dorothy Tecca, C.S.A.

440-323-0140

The primary role of the lector is to proclaim the readings from sacred scripture, except for the gospel, in the Mass and other sacred celebrations. Lectors are asked to go through a training period before participating at Mass.

### **Greeters** - - - - -

Coordinator – Pat Krischner –440-322-6640

The Greeters Ministry is part of our Discipleship program. The volunteers are parishioners who greet and welcome people to our weekend Masses. If you are interested, please give Pat a call.

### **Ushers** - - - - -

Coordinators: Thomas J. Hoover- 440-567-5365

Paul Vakeric-440-610-0554

The Usher's role is of service a "Hospitality" within the liturgy. Ministers of Hospitality assist in welcoming and seating the congregation, facilitating the collection, presentation of the gifts and the Communion procession. Anyone interested in assisting should contact Thomas or Paul

### **Altar Servers** - - - - -

Coordinator:

Sr. Mary Dorothy Tecca, C.S.A. 440-323-0140

An altar server is an assistant to a member of the clergy during Mass. They attend to the supporting tasks at the altar such as lighting candles, holding the Missal and preparing the altar, etc. Both the children and adults minister as altar servers.

### **Art and Environment Committee**

Coordinator- Marie Fenik – 440-315-3288

[mariefenik@gmail.com](mailto:mariefenik@gmail.com)

This committee is made up of volunteers who decorate and take down decorations in our upper & lower chapels for the holidays. There are no meetings. If you are interested in helping, please contact Marie.

### **Social Action Commission**

Father Charlie Diedrick- 440-323-5539

This Commission is to increase awareness in our Parish of the social conditions of our community. The present programs are responding to those in need and advocate for the disenfranchised. The following programs are what we here at St. Mary are doing.

### **St. Elizabeth Catholic Shelter for Men**

Coordinator – Maryann Ketchesin –440-458-6159

This shelter is sponsored in part by Catholic Charities. October 2003 we as a Parish made a commitment to prepare and deliver dinner on the third Saturday to what was then called St. Joseph's Shelter in Lorain. This new shelter can house 50 men. What we need are donations and someone to drive the food to the shelter. What a wonderful mission to feed God's hungry!

### **Ministry to the Hospitalized**

Chaplain -Mary Tomko – 440- 329-7500

The Pastoral staff of UH / EMH Medical Center make regular visits to the hospitalized parishioners ensuring them the opportunity to receive the Sacraments and spiritual support. Members of the parish staff also visit. Due to privacy laws parishioners need to request that the Hospital staff contact the parish.

### **Helping Hands**

Chairperson – Linda Kindle -440-329-2356

(This phone number is to a voice mail.)

This organization is comprised of a group of parishioners who volunteer to meet every Monday evening, 5pm - 6pm. This meeting is a screening process for those who have left messages to apply for assistance. Their mission is to assist the poor of our area. Financial assistance is given to help with delinquent utilities and rent payments. Funds are donated through our second collection that is taken up the first weekend of the month along with special gift donations. Additional parishioners are needed to help with this cause. If you are interested, please leave a message of interest on their voice mail.

### **Hot Meals**

Coordinators: Dottie Knechtges – 440-322-6093

Kathy Freeman – 440-323-5006

We began serving meals in November, 1982. St. Mary holds their Hot Meal program the second Sunday of the month and every Tuesday except for the first Tuesday of the month, 5pm until 6pm in the school cafeteria. Volunteers are always welcome.

### **The Hospitality Center, 244 Third Street**

EHC ph.: 323-9409

Chairman: John Polutnik

Operating Mgr. Polly Simmons

The Elyria Hospitality Center opened in May of 1988. The philosophy is to treat each guest with dignity and respond with compassion. They try to help people who have fallen through the safety net of other social agencies. The Center is staffed by volunteers who try to answer the needs of anyone stopping in for help. A referral system is used to help that cannot be given directly. Donations of non-perishable food or paper & cleaning supplies are always welcome. Monetary gifts on a one-time basis or a monthly sponsor is appreciated. Checks should be made out to "THE HOSPITALITY CENTER". The Center is staffed 10am until 12:00 noon, Monday, Wednesday & Thursday. For more information contact the Chairman or Manager.

### **Wellness Committee**

Coordinator: Kathleen Resar - 440- 365-0365

[kmresar@windstream.net](mailto:kmresar@windstream.net)

St. Mary's Wellness Committee seeks new members. The goal of the Parish Nursing Program is to combine the power of faith & healthy living to care for YOU as a whole person – mind, body & spirit. If you are interested in being a part of this committee, please come to our meetings – the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the conference room. Phyllis Schoenberger R.N. will be heading the Wellness Committee. Starting January 2020, blood pressure readings and glucose screening will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month following the 9:30am Mass and before the 11am Mass. This committee is always looking for new members to plan additional programming for our parish. Please contact Kathleen.

### **The Home Team**

Coordinator – Joyce Snyder -440-775-1967

[st.marydisciple@gmail.com](mailto:st.marydisciple@gmail.com)

We are looking for Team members. Members will be comprised of volunteers of all ages, men & women who would like to HELP St. Mary on various projects from their home. Items will be delivered to you or sent by e-mail. Those interested need to contact Joyce.

## **SOCIAL**

### **Prayer Chain**

Coordinator: Celie Pawlikowski 440-323-2992  
[pawliko@oh.rr.com](mailto:pawliko@oh.rr.com)

Our prayer chain consists of people of faith who are willing to include in their daily prayers anyone who has a need for special prayers. There are no meetings to attend. We communicate these requests to one another by e-mail or phone. Anyone is welcome to join.

### **Ministry to Older Adults and Shut-ins**

Coordinator – Sister Mary Dorothy Tecca, C.S.A.  
440-323-0140

Our Parish staff and Lay Ministers make monthly Communion calls to the elderly, shut-ins in their homes and local nursing homes.

### **Senior Social Club**

Contact – Sr. Mary Dorothy Tecca, C.S.A.  
440-323-1040

This group provides opportunities for older adult parishioners to share friendship, recreational activities and creative interests. The members meet monthly at 12:00 noon in the Weigand room of the Parish Center on the second Monday of the month. Reservations are taken for the luncheon with a program to follow.

### **Knit Crochet & Pray**

Coordinator – Sr. Mary Dorothy Tecca C.S.A.  
440-323-1040

We are looking for interested persons to join us for some conversation and creativity. Our projects will include making scarfs, hats and slippers for the homeless to be part of our "Giving Tree" as well as white baby blankets for our newly baptized children. If you have a project you are working on at home, bring it with you and join us! We would like you to share your skill with those who want to learn. For those of you who are interested give Sister Mary Dorothy a call.

### **Hospitality**

#### ***Hostess – Dave & Joan Patchin***

Coffee, donuts and juice are available in the Weigand Room on Sundays after the 8:00am and 9:30am Masses. On the first Sunday of each month we also serve after the 11:00am Mass. This is a great time to visit with fellow parishioners. We invite everyone to join us after Mass!

### **Parish Festival – Feast of Our Lady of the Assumption**

In celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of the Assumption we have our annual gathering of fun, food, music and raffles in our Parish hall. If you are interested in volunteering to be part of this fun event, please contact our Parish Office – 440-323-5539.

### **Bible Study**

Father Charlie Diedrick – 440-323-5539

This group meets the first Thursday at 7pm in the Cahill Library to learn more about our Catholic faith through discussions of the Bible with your peers. Join anytime!

### **Book Club**

Father Charlie Diedrick – 440-323-5539

This group meets the third Thursday at 7pm in the Cahill library to discuss the book of the month. If interested check our bulletin or website: [stmaryelyria.org](http://stmaryelyria.org) for the book of the month, read it and join in the discussion.

### **Knights of Columbus**

Contact: John Jurco – 440-371-7665

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization. As Catholic men working together, we provide charitable services. We actively defend our faith and promote catholic education. Meetings are held monthly at the K of C Hall on Kipling Street. Fr. Charlie is our chaplain. There are several members from our parish. If interested in becoming a Knight, contact John Jurco for more information.

### **Altar Rosary Society**

President – Joan Patchin – 440-322-9135 or  
[JoanP@aol.com](mailto:JoanP@aol.com)

A & R meet on the third Thursday of each month except for June, July and August. We meet in the Weigand Room at 10:50am and proceed to the Lower Chapel at 11:00am for recitation of the rosary followed by a Benediction service. Afterwards we return to the Weigand Room for refreshments and a short meeting. A & R sponsors a bake sale at our August Parish Festival with the proceeds donated to the parish. Another bake sale is held after the Masses on the weekend before Thanksgiving. Funds that are raised are used for altar supplies and care of the priests' and servers' vestments. All women of the parish are invited to join us. For more information contact Joan.

### **HELP US IN OUR MISSION**

How can you help support St. Mary's mission?

We need you to go to our Parish website:

<https://stmaryelyria.org> , after you open our site, look to the left of the page to LINKS.

Click on "HELP US WITH OUR MISSION".

Once you open the link you will see: Giant Eagle, Smile/Amazon.com, Staples, Target and Goodsearch.com

It is easy, it will walk you through how to register for the places you shop. Then they will send us a percentage of your purchases!! The donation will either go towards our school or our Parish. You are helping without really trying. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!

### **Box Tops for St. Mary School**

Coordinator – Kathleen Freeman -440-323-5006

No more clipping. No more sending Box Tops to school. All you need is your phone. Download the ALL NEW Box Top app. Shop as you normally would, then simply scan your store receipts to find participating products. The app will automatically credit your school's Box Tops earnings online. OR You can still clip them and send them to school. Send your clipped Box Tops, along with any unexpired clips you may have at home, to our school. All valid Box Top clips submitted will be honored. The Box Tops may also be put in an envelop and placed in Sunday's collection basket. Please note on the envelop that they are for our school

### **Holiday Meals Program**

Chair – Jerry Schill – 440-653-3791

Volunteer Coordinator- Jen Brown- 440-323-0952 or [jenbrown349@gmail.com](mailto:jenbrown349@gmail.com)

The Holiday Meal Program was established to provide a hot meal, warm smile and fellowship during, Thanksgiving, Christmas and the Easter holidays for the lonely and less fortunate of our community. The team is composed of nearly 100 volunteers who donate their time, talent and treasure to ensure our guests have a unique and inviting experience. Our goal is to be the change we hope see in our community. We accomplish this by engaging the community and encouraging our youth to serve with empathy and humility. Those wishing to volunteer to prepare, serve, take meals to the shut ins or make donations contact Jen or Jerry.

### **St. Mary Rentals – hall or room**

Hall Manager – Mary Jane Taylor – 440-935-5153

Looking to have a small or large gathering, consider renting space here at St. Mary. We have the Weigand Room in the parish center, our main hall for large gatherings and the Commons located off the hall. Contact Mary Jane for date availability and cost.