

COMMITMENT

For A Thriving Parish

EDUCATE

SERVE

WORSHIP

**MINISTRY
GUIDE**



Discipleship Pathway

Jesus, in Matthew 28:19, commanded his followers to “go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” We seek to respond to Jesus’ call by helping folks find their way on our discipleship pathway. This Ministry Guide lists talent-based ministries, organized by Education, Service, and Worship.

EDUCATION

Encountering Jesus Christ changes everything! Participating in our Religious Education Program is one way in which we seek to facilitate encounters with Christ as a parish community. A disciple is someone who follows the Lord and actively lives the Christian life. At SEAS we offer many ways to grow in your relationship with Christ through education opportunities.



SERVICE

After having received God’s Grace and being formed by His Spirit, we are sent out on a mission! Whether it’s through serving others in St. Vincent de Paul or helping out at Funeral Luncheons, we desire to see others come to know the Lord. Building community and relationships within the Church is so important to our journey as disciples. We encourage you to join a service group and help strengthen our work for those around us!



WORSHIP

The Eucharist is central to our parish and there are several ways you can participate in preserving the beauty of the Sacrament.



Letter From Pastor

Dear SEAS Family,

“It is good that we are here” at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton! No matter what may be happening in the world, SEAS is our safe haven and where we belong. It is the place where we come together around the Eucharist. It is the place where we worship, serve, educate and encounter our Lord Jesus. Therefore, I invite you to consider how you have participated in the life of the parish by reviewing the contents of this brochure and prayerfully considering how you can be actively involved in the work God has for us. To help with your discernment, I would like to offer a few thoughts on the various areas of service. Worship is the foundation of what we do as Catholics.

Worship commitments are: Sacristans have the responsibility of organizing the sacred vessels, books and sacred species which will be used in the liturgy. Lectors proclaim the Eternal Word of God. Altar Servers play a close part in the celebration and preparation of the Holy Eucharist. Eucharistic Ministers are charged with the beautiful task of distributing Jesus’ own Body and Blood to the faithful. Choir members lift our hearts and minds to Heaven and remind us the liturgy is of heavenly origin and not earthly. Ministers of Welcome warmly welcome, invite, serve and support.

Education offers the chance to deepen your faith and understanding of Jesus because to teach the faith requires we have an intimate knowledge of God and His Church. Through the education commitments we will be immersed in the Word of God and the Holy Spirit will overflow from our hearts and minds. Consider teaching Catechism as a teacher, substitute or aide. You will make disciples who know Jesus and can walk with Him.

Service commitments offer us the opportunity to see the needs of those around us and fill the gaps in their lives with the love and mercy of Jesus Christ. Ways to serve in this capacity are with food and hospitality, coffee and donuts, nursing home visits, SVDP or making rosaries.

Nourished by Worship, Education and Service, members of our parish are on the path of discipleship and growing in relationship with Jesus Christ each day. We value formation in the faith and sharing our faith with others through evangelization. We also know the importance of bringing the love of God to our neighbors through acts of charity and service. Through our many ministries, our social and service-oriented outreach programs, we put into action the truth stated so eloquently by St. John the Apostle: “If God so loved us, we also must love one another” (1 Jn 4:11).

Today, I am asking you to make a commitment to actively be involved at SEAS. In the words of our Lord Jesus “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”

In Christ, Fr. Dominic



EDUCATE



Encountering Jesus Christ changes everything!

Catechist

The role of a Catechist is to plan, with provided resources, a weekly lesson and teach it to the students. Catechists should be living examples of their faith and willing to share it with their class and the program.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



HIGH

TIME COMMITMENT



3 HOURS PER WEEK OCTOBER THROUGH APRIL

Catechist Aide

The role of a Catechist Aide is to assist the Catechist and students to complete their lesson. Catechist Aides should be living examples of their faith and willing to share it with the program.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



HIGH

TIME COMMITMENT



1 1/2 HOURS PER WEEK OCTOBER THROUGH APRIL

Substitute Catechist

The role of a Substitute Catechist is to fill in for a catechist when they cannot be there. Typically a lesson would be prepared for you to share with the students. This is a great way to volunteer without a weekly commitment.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



MEDIUM

TIME COMMITMENT



1 1/2 HOURS AS NEEDED



Hall Monitor

Hall Monitors are needed to help with welcoming and parent sign in. They also would be available in the hallway during class to help with any needs in the classrooms that may arise; making copies, getting supplies or catechist coverage.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



MEDIUM

TIME COMMITMENT



1 HOUR PER WEEK OCTOBER THROUGH APRIL



SERVE



After having received God's Grace and being formed by His Spirit, we are sent out on mission!

Funeral Luncheon Servers

Help in providing and serving for our funeral lunches. Volunteers are asked to help with funeral luncheon set-up, help serve, and clean up. Lunches are scheduled as the need arises.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



UP TO 4 HOURS PER FUNERAL

Funeral Luncheon Food Donors

The simple service of making a dish for our Funeral Luncheons is a gift to our community. Ask to sign up on an email list for funeral luncheon food so you can share your gifts of cooking with the parish.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



UP TO AN HOUR PER FUNERAL

Coffee & Donuts

Contribute to the building of a strong parish community by serving coffee and donuts after Sunday Masses.. Volunteers help set-up, serve, and/or clean up. Volunteers will be utilized in whatever frequency they can serve.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



UP TO 1 HOUR PER WEEK

Nursing Home Communion Service

Lead a communion service, according to the revised rite, 2024 edition. Depending on the number of people, this could take 20-30 minutes and is usually done twice per month.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



UP TO 1 HOUR PER WEEK

Communion to Homebound

Contact homebound for appointment, obtain Eucharist and give communion to the homebound. This is usually done on a weekly basis.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



UP TO 1 HOUR PER WEEK



Rosary Makers

Learn how to make rosaries using knots and beads. All rosaries are donated to Solanus Casey Center to be distributed to missionaries and other groups. All materials are provided.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



UP TO AN 1 HOUR PER MONTH

Hospitality

Help a team of parishioners plan, decorate, set up & serve at social gatherings throughout the year.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



2-3 HOURS AS NEEDED

St. Vincent de Paul

The purpose of SVdP is to help its members grow in friendship and holiness by serving the poor. The group meets twice per month, and meets with people in need to help assist them and provide referrals. As part of SVdP, you can also serve at the stores, the soup kitchen in Pontiac or the food pantry in Madison Heights.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



UP TO 2 HOURS PER MONTH



WORSHIP



The celebration of the Eucharist is central to our parish!

Altar Care & Linens

Wash purificators, corporals and hand towels used at Mass and replace as necessary.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



CAN WORK WITH INDIVIDUALS WITH VARYING TIME AVAILABILITY.

Altar Server

Those who have received First Holy Communion and are in the fourth grade or above are encouraged to become altar servers and participate in the Mass. Servers are trained prior to serving.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



UP TO AN HOUR PER WEEK

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Be trained and commissioned to supplement the priests and deacons in distributing the Precious Body and Blood of our Lord during Mass.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



10 MINUTES PRIOR TO MASS

Lectors

Proclaim the readings from Sacred Scripture during the Liturgy of the Word at Mass and at other special parish worship services. Must be 16 years or older and a fully initiated Catholic (Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation) to participate.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



UP TO AN HOUR PER MONTH

Choir & Instrumentalist

Share the gift of faith through music and singing in and outside of the Mass through a variety of subgroups depending on musical inclinations and abilities. Age: High School and up.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



3 HOURS PER WEEK
OCTOBER THROUGH APRIL



Resurrection Choir

All are invited to participate in the Resurrection Choir. No experience is necessary. Funeral Masses are celebrated at 10:00 am. Choir warms up beginning at 9:35 am on funeral days. Come help us celebrate eternal life! See Tim Palmer, Music Director, for additional information.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



UP TO 2 HOURS PER FUNERAL

Ministers of Welcome

Help greet parishioners as they arrive at church, assist with seating, collect the community's offerings, provide a head count for the sacristans and office, and distribute bulletins after Mass. Following each liturgy, a general checkup is done through the church making sure it is in good order for the next service.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



UP TO AN HOUR EVERY WEEK BI-MONTHLY

Sacristans

A sacristan is an active adult parishioner who prepares the altar area and the Credence Table (the sacred vessels, linens, bread, and wine) for the celebration of the Mass. Most of the service is "behind the scenes" in preparation and cleaning up after the liturgy. This includes making sure the altar area is properly prepared for worship.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



30 MINUTES BEFORE AND AFTER MASS

Adoration Sacristan

Prepare the altar and sanctuary for the liturgical celebration of Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



5-20 MINUTES PRIOR TO THE ADORATION YOU ATTEND AND 5 MINUTES AFTER ADORATION

Cassock & Surplice Care

Assist in keeping our altar server cassocks clean and fresh by laundering quarterly during the year.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



CAN WORK WITH INDIVIDUALS WITH VARYING TIME AVAILABILITY.

SEASONAL

Help with special events is always welcome!

Backpack & School Supplies

Volunteers are needed to coordinate donations, sort materials into backpacks for specific age groups and deliver finished backpacks.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



MEDIUM

TIME COMMITMENT



ONE DAY PER YEAR

CSA Helpers

Accept pledges and payments for the Catholic Services Appeal during the weekend Masses in Lent. Written instructions on this procedure are supplied.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



MEDIUM

TIME COMMITMENT



A COUPLE HOURS
DURING LENT

Decorations

Set up and help decorate the church for Christmas, Easter, and other liturgical events.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



HIGH

TIME COMMITMENT



1-2 HOURS AT VARYING
TIMES OF THE YEAR

Easter Baskets

Throughout Lent, Easter baskets are collected to be given to children in need. Volunteers are needed to transport baskets to an outreach center.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



HIGH

TIME COMMITMENT



ONE DAY PER YEAR

Giving Tree

Volunteers are needed to create tags, coordinate gifts, and deliver finished gifts to facility contacts.

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



HIGH

TIME COMMITMENT



2-3 DAYS DURING
CHRISTMAS TIME



Gardening & Grounds Keeping

A team of volunteers who assist in the maintenance of the outdoor plants and flowers that enhance the landscape and keep the grounds tidy.

South Oakland Shelter

SEAS supports the homeless shelter from Sunday to Saturday of Thanksgiving week. We provide meals and activities at the shelter. Sign ups occur in the fall for different opportunities

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



VARIES THROUGHOUT THE CALENDAR YEAR

NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



TIME COMMITMENT



ONE WEEK PER YEAR

MINISTRY PREREQUISITES

We ask you to prayerfully consider joining one or more of our ministries here at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Before starting any of our ministries, we ask that all adult volunteers fill out a **Background Check Form** before volunteering and attend a **Protecting God's Children Workshop** within 3 months of joining. If you have not completed a Background Check Form, you may pick one up in the Parish Office or at the Welcome Desk. If you have not completed a Protecting God's Children Workshop, you may do so by going to www.aod.org to register. All minors under the age of 18 years of age who volunteer need to have a background check form signed by parents before they may begin a ministry, and teens should complete Healthy Relationships for Teens 2.0 online modules by going to www.aod.org. Please call our Parish Office at 248-879-1310 for more information.



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