How do you want to get involved in this family?

Shrine of St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina
Ministries and Organizations

Parish Ministries and Organizations:

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Bible Study: Mary Lou Wulf - merrymarylou@gmail.com

Boy Scouts/ Cub Scouts: Kevin Nickels Scout.nickels@gmail.com

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Love Strong Marriage Retreat: Chris and Stephanie Kwan

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Natural Family Planning: Greg and Martha Kaufman mkauffman@earthlink.net

Pace Setters: Carolyn Oakley Carolyn.oakley@att.net

Prayer Blankets: Heidi Garison hbjgarison@att.net

Refresh & Renew Women's Day Retreat: Michele Carr carrisinsatx@yahoo.com

Religious Education: Judy Ortiz judy.ortiz@shrineofpadrepio.com

Rosary Making: Iliana Cardenas yenzyr@sbcglobal.net

Teams of Our Lady:

Ushers: John Payne jbpayne@swbell.net

Vacation Bible School: Sylvia Onezine missmotano@hotmail.com

Visitations to the Hospital/ Shut Ins: Mary Lou Wulf merrymarylou@gmail.com

Ministries and Organizations Descriptions

ACTS (Adoration, Community, Theology, and Service): These are weekend "conversation experiences" for teens, women, and men. During the weekend, retreatants develop a deeper relationship with Jesus, the Church, and their fellow parishioners. A result of this personal conversation is a greater appreciation for the faith community and desire to become more involved in that community. See also: **Love Strong** for married couples**.**

Adoration Chapel: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: The Adoration Chapel is open during the business day. If you would like to enter outside of business hours, members of the faith community may apply for a card key for entrance into the chapel.

Altar Sacristans: Sacristans assist by setting up the altar and making sure all the altar vessels, hosts, and the wine, are all ready for Mass. There is training for how to do this most important service for our liturgical worship.

Altar Servers: Boys and girls who have received the Sacrament of Eucharist may serve during Mass. Altar servers are trained during the months of August and September.

American Heritage Girls (AHG): This is a Christ-centered scouting organization for girls in grades K-12. Girls learn valuable outdoor and life skills and are encouraged to perform service, attend social events with other girls, and grow in their faith.

Audio/Visual Ministry: These individuals help enhance the congregation's worship by operating the audio and visual equipment during services.

Bereavement Committee: The Bereavement Committee tries to make this difficult time for a family less stressful. The members coordinate with the family members about their preferences for the service and often organize and provide food after the service.

Bible Study: Bible studies are open throughout the year to everyone that is interested in learning about God, His revelations, and His Church. Small groups meet with an organized agenda, but often the open discussions "swerve" off on tangents to address items of interest to the group.

Boy Scouts/ Cub Scouts: The Boys Scouts of America is one of the nation's largest and most prominent "values-based" youth development organizations. Cub Scouts are open to boys from 1st through 5th grade or 7-10 years old. Cubs, who have earned the Cub Scout Arrow of Light Award and are at least 10 years old, or have completed the 5th grade, are eligible to enter the Boy Scout program. The Boy Scouts of America provides programs to build character, trains boys in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and develops personal fitness. Individual may stay in the Boy Scouts until 18 years old.

Eucharistic Ministers- Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist: (EMs) Eucharistic Ministers assist with the distribution of Communion at Mass. Some EMs will provide the Eucharist through an outreach program, serving the homebound, individuals in care facilities, or in the hospital.

Fellowship Sunday: "Donut Sunday" is held the 1st Sunday of each month. Teams take turns providing and organizing the pastries and drinks for the parishioners. Another great way to meet new people.

Greeters: Greeters are the first people everyone encounters when coming into the church. Can you greet people with a smile? Maybe hold the door open for them? Say hello, welcome? This is one of the ministries where your children can help.

High School Youth Ministry: The High School Youth Ministry is committed to leading teens to a life-long personal relationship with Jesus and with other faith-centered youths. The Youth Choir leads the songs at one Mass each month. This is a great way for a teen to meet other like-minded, Christ-centered teens.

Knights of Columbus: Our Knights are a backbone for the Shrine of St. Padre Pio. They perform many service functions inside and outside of the parish. This is another way to meet new friends.

Lectors: If you are a good reader and can speak with a love for the Word of God, then you can have the privilege of proclaiming the Word of God to the congregation.

Marriage Ministry: This group provides marriage events, celebrations and retreats to enrich marriage and family life. With training, they can also provide marriage preparation for pre-marital couples and convalidation of civil marriages. **Love Strong:** Married Couples spend a weekend with other couples enhancing their relationship with each other, with the other participants and with God.

Music: You may have noticed that the question above is not whether you <u>can</u> sing or not; simply do you <u>like</u> to sing. A number of the members of the choir have had training. Others have had little or no training. All are welcome to join to lift their voices to God.

Natural Family Planning: This group meets to discuss ways for family planning within the teachings of the Catholic Church

Pace Setters: This is a group who likes to get together for fun, including cards, board games, movies, and dinner parties. This is typically referred to as the "Senior Citizens", but there is no age requirement to participate.

Prayer Blankets: Members of this ministry add their prayers for healing to prayer blankets that are distributed to members of the parish who are ill or in the hospital.

Refresh & Renew Women's Day Retreat: This is a one-day retreat for women to meet with other women of faith; to take time from their daily lives. Small-group discussions and a variety of activities provide an opportunity for self-reflection, meditation, and renewal.

Religious Education: You have the opportunity as a teacher, mentor, or assistant to educate others in the Catholic faith. You will be provided with instructional materials and maybe, just maybe, you might re-learn something or even learn something new.

Catholic Education Program (CEP): CEP teaches children from Kinder through 12 grade, including sacramental preparation for sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.

- **EDGE middle school formation:** This program helps our teens grow in their relationship with Jesus
- **Life Teen** for high school formation. This allows your teen to become part of our active teen life program.
- **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):** This program is intended to facilitate adults to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church.
- **Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC):** This program is intended for ages 7-17 who were not baptized as infants. The participants are instructed in the basic teachings of the Catholic church, a study of the Mass, and the sacraments.
- **Children's Liturgy:** Every Sunday, during the 10:30 Mass, children Kinder through 2nd grade are invited to go out and listen to the good news in terms suitable to their age. Volunteer ministers teach the lesson of that Sunday's readings through activities, songs, or even role play. The children return to Mass at the Preparation of the Gifts.
- **Vacation Bible School:** During the summer, the Shrine offers a Vacation bible School for the Kinder-4th grade. Each year there is a need for coordinators, teachers, and assistants. The older children can get involved in this program.

Rosary Making: Small groups get together for fellowship while they make rosaries for special needs, such as the ACTS retreats.

Teams of Our Lady: A group of 5-7 couples meets monthly. After a meal, the group has a short, organized program and then discuss their challenges and victories that have occurred since the last meeting. These couples provide support to each other. Another great way to meet people.

Ushers: Ushers assist with seating, preparation of gifts and taking up offerings- and with smiles.

Visitations to the Hospital/ Shut Ins: Committee members bring companionship and support to others who may be isolated.