

# *St. Rita Ministries*

We are a people called to be Christ for one another through Prayer,  
Eucharist, Community Involvement and Social Justice.

-St. Rita Mission Statement



## *Liturgical Ministries*

St. Rita offers a wide range of liturgical ministries for those wishing to offer their gifts in the worship life of the community. Liturgical ministers make it possible for the community to experience themselves as an assembly of believers, ready to respond to the Gospel's call to mission and service.

Training is provided throughout the year. Most liturgical ministers serve once or twice a month at the Mass they regularly attend. For more information, please call Lisa Porter 503-252-3403 (x101) or email her at [lporter@qwestoffice.net](mailto:lporter@qwestoffice.net).

### **Ushers and Greeters**

Ministers of Hospitality really like people! As ushers and greeters, they are the first to welcome parishioners and visitors to our parish. Ushers also see to the collection and presentation of our gifts at Mass and help seat parishioners as needed.

### **Sacristans**

Sacristans prepare all that is needed for the celebration of Mass. They are responsible for opening and closing the church, setting out the bread and wine, and attending to all the other details in preparation for the liturgy.

### **Lectors**

Come, proclaim the word of God! As a lector, you will increase your knowledge of the Scriptures, deepen the assembly's understanding of God's word, and contribute to the hospitality St. Rita provides to the members of our parish family and to visitors. Comfort with public speaking is helpful.

### **Eucharistic Ministers**

Share your love of the Eucharist with the community. Eucharistic Ministers offer Holy Communion, both bread and wine, to those gathered at every Mass. This ministry is open to all baptized and confirmed Catholics of the parish, age 16 or older.

### **Altar Servers**

The altar servers assist the priest at the altar to ensure the smooth flow of the liturgy. Any person in the fifth grade or older who has received their First Eucharist, is invited to become a server at Mass. Both adults and young people can be altar servers. Families often choose this ministry to do together.

### **Musicians**

If you love to sing or play an instrument, this is the ministry for you. Anyone age 13 or older is welcome to join our 10:00 Mass choir. We welcome instrumentalists, as well as vocalists. No music experience is necessary for singers. Rehearsals generally take place before 10:00 Mass. Music is provided. Contact Robert Bolton at 360-256-4670, email [arbolton@comcast.net](mailto:arbolton@comcast.net), or stop by and talk to Robert after Mass at the piano.

### **Banner Committee**

We continue to care for the banners we've made and see they are hung at the proper liturgical times. If anyone is interested in helping, call Pat Shanahan at 503-253-8810,

### **Church Decorating**

Come and join the fun! If you love flowers, like to use your imagination, or have an eye for decorating, this is the ministry for you. The Decorating Committee decides on and executes the décor of the church for the major feasts and seasons of the church year. Training is on-going. For more information contact Holly Gillette, 503-252-5912.

# *Christian Formation*

## **RCIA - The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

The Catholic Church welcomes those people seeking to join the church – those who have never been baptized and those who have been baptized in other faith traditions and seek to come into Full Communion with the Catholic Church. The Church tries to provide a process of formation to meet each person's needs. These sessions meet on a weekly basis and consist of prayer, Scripture, reflection, and sharing. Each person is paired with a sponsor who is a parishioner. The sponsor's role is to be a companion and offer support to those participating in the process. There are four periods in the process: Inquiry, Catechumenate, Purification / Enlightenment, and Mystagogy. A person moves from one period to the other with the celebration of rites in church. St. Rita's Parish offers an on-going process and you can start this process anytime. If you'd like more information or would like to start, please contact Barbara Stanton, 503-252-3403, ex. 104 or [b.stanton@qwestoffice.net](mailto:b.stanton@qwestoffice.net).

## **RCIA for Children**

The RCIA process is also used for children over the age of seven who have never been baptized or have been baptized in other faith traditions. It is adapted for their age level and uses the same format as the adult process. Children and their parents meet on a weekly basis and celebrate the same rites as the adults. For more information, please contact Barbara Stanton, 503-252-3403, ex. 104 or [b.stanton@qwestoffice.net](mailto:b.stanton@qwestoffice.net).

## **Adult Faith Formation**

Sessions to help adults form their faith are offered throughout the year. Information about these events is posted in the parish bulletin prior to the event. The events include Parish Retreats, Advent and Lent small groups, The Catholicism Series, Bible Study, and other gatherings.

The **Parish Library**, located in the church near the Baptismal Font, is filled with books, DVDs, CDs, and videos on many subjects of interest. The Library is open before and after all Masses, and also during the week by appointment. Materials may be checked out on the honor system and kept as long as necessary.

**Exploring Your Strengths** -- Have you ever wondered what your "gifts and talents" are? Do you spend too much time trying to get better at doing the stuff you aren't good at, rather than embracing the talents you know you have? The Strengths Finder process provides an opportunity to investigate the results of an on-line assessment that identifies your God-given talents and how to develop them into strengths for serving others. If you would like more information, contact Chris Kresek at 503-665-3721 or by email at [ckresek1@gmail.com](mailto:ckresek1@gmail.com).

## **Infant Baptism**

Preparation sessions for Infant Baptism and children under the age of 7, are held three times a year (Fall, Winter & Spring). Baptisms are celebrated Saturday during the 5:30 PM Mass, or Sunday during the 10:00 AM Mass. Contact Lisa Porter, 503-252-3403 ext. 101 or [lporter@qwestoffice.net](mailto:lporter@qwestoffice.net).

## **Liturgy of the Word with Children**

On most Sundays of the year from September through May, during the 10:00 AM Mass, children in preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grades celebrate a Liturgy of the Word adapted to their level of understanding. They are dismissed with a blessing, leave with a catechist, and hear the Word of God in a way that they can understand and apply it to their lives. Children then return to their families and continue the celebration of Eucharist. Very young children can participate when accompanied by a parent or older sibling. Contact Barbara Stanton, 503-252-3403, ex. 104 or [b.stanton@qwestoffice.net](mailto:b.stanton@qwestoffice.net).

## **Children's Faith Formation**

Children in Kindergarten through eighth grade meet on Sunday mornings, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM, to pray, learn about Catholic teachings and traditions, and share their faith experiences with their catechists and one another. Sessions meet during the regular school year, September through April. Contact Barbara Stanton, 503-252-3403, ex. 104 or [b.stanton@qwestoffice.net](mailto:b.stanton@qwestoffice.net).

### **Preparation for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist**

Baptized children in second through fourth grades prepare for First Reconciliation (Confession) in the fall and First Eucharist (Communion) in the spring. Preparation for each sacrament includes six sessions for parents and children, a parent and child retreat, and participation in Sunday Faith Formation. Baptized children in grades 5 through 12 can also be prepared to celebrate these sacraments. Please contact Barbara Stanton for more information 503-252-3403 ex. 104 or [b.stanton@qwestoffice.net](mailto:b.stanton@qwestoffice.net).

### **Confirmation Preparation**

Preparation for high school youth, grades 9 through 12, takes place every other year. Sessions include fun activities, prayer, Scripture, reflection, and faith sharing several times a month starting in the fall. Confirmation candidates are also expected to participate in service work in our parish and in the community. The sacrament of Confirmation is celebrated during the Easter season. Contact Barbara Stanton, 503-252-3403, ex. 104 or [b.stanton@qwestoffice.net](mailto:b.stanton@qwestoffice.net).

## *Parish Mission*

### **Pastoral Council**

The Pastoral Council is the parish planning body. We work to communicate with groups and individuals within the parish to hear their ideas, hopes and concerns for the parish and to create a 5-Year Plan. We are an "advisory council" to the Pastoral Administrator.

The Pastoral Council meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Religious Education Center. Current Members: Glenn Kugel (Chair), Liz Collman, Tom Dawson, Harry Guildner, Herman Leu, Ron Rivera and Dale Yuckert. Bill Lindekugel, Chair of the Finance Council, serves as an ex-officio member of the Council. For more information, contact [Glenn.Kugel@TCMCorp.com](mailto:Glenn.Kugel@TCMCorp.com)

### **Finance and Administration Council**

The Finance and Administration Council advises and assists the Pastoral Administrator on parish financial and resource management and communicates our financial status to the parish. Essential duties and responsibilities of the Council required by the Archbishop include:

- Assist in the development of an annual budget.
- Advise the Pastoral Administrator on large non-budgeted expenditures.
- Ensure that annual financial reports are submitted to the Archdiocese.
- Regular review of parish financial statements and budget.
- Consult with the Pastoral Administrator on extraordinary administrative acts, including significant capital repairs or improvements.

The Council welcomes people with a wide variety of occupational and educational backgrounds. Business, accounting, legal experience is valuable as is the tradesman's knowledge and that of building and grounds specialists. Finance Council Members available to answer questions you may have:

Bill Lindekugel 503-317-0574 [w.lindekugel@comcast.net](mailto:w.lindekugel@comcast.net)  
Loretta Kelly 971-678-1455 [coyotegal35@yahoo.com](mailto:coyotegal35@yahoo.com)

Our Pastoral Administrator (Lisa Porter) and Pastoral Council Chair (Glenn Kugel) are ex-officio members of the Council.

The Finance Council meets at 7:00 PM on the third Monday of every month in the Religious Education Center. Visit a Council meeting and see what the Council does for your parish and see if you would like to contribute in a way that fulfills you and puts your strengths and talents to use.

### **The Welcome Committee**

The Welcome Committee is a small group of parishioners who extend a welcoming hand to our newly registered members. We work with the parish office to ensure new members are warmly welcomed into our

community. We contact newcomers by phone soon after they register and offer to meet with them and get to know them. We host a New Parishioner Social 2-3 times a year so that folks can meet and talk informally over a meal in the Religious Education Center. Our purpose is to provide a simple way for new individuals and families to know that they are welcomed and wanted in our community. For more information, please contact Karen Taylor 503-539-0183 or [karent47@comcast.net](mailto:karent47@comcast.net).

### **Social Justice Ministry**

And Jesus answered: "I give you a new commandment. Love one another as I have loved you." (John 13:34)

St. Theresa of Avila writes: "Christ has no body now but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which He looks with compassion on this earth. Yours are the feet with which He walks to do the good. You are Christ's body. Christ has no body on earth but yours."

Join us. Expand our Ministry to the community. Be the body, hands, feet and eyes of Christ to complete His new commandment - to feed the hungry, to quench thirst, to welcome the stranger, to cloth the naked, to comfort the sick, to visit the imprisoned. (See Mat.25:31-46)

## *Prayer*

### **Prayer Tree**

The Prayer Tree was established to respond to the many prayer requests of parishioners. One call to the person at the "top" of the Prayer Tree sets in motion a whole network of PRAY-ERS branching out over the entire parish. Members of the St. Rita Prayer Tree are committed to daily prayer for those requesting prayer in times of crisis, illness or for any other concerns. To request prayer or become a member of the Prayer Tree, call the Parish Office at 503-252-3403.

### **One Minute a Day Prayer**

All it takes to be part of this ministry is to set aside one minute each day to pray for the parish. There is no set time or formula you need to use. Simply pray for the well-being and growth of the parish, its parishioners and staff. The time you choose, the words you use...all are up to you. If you would like a formula, you may use the following: It takes about one minute to pray the Sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be, slowly and thoughtfully out loud. You can begin by making St. Rita the intention for those specific prayers. That's all there is to it!

## *Parish Social Outreach*

### **St. Vincent de Paul**

The mission of St. Vincent de Paul is to serve God by serving the poor of our local community. Our St Vincent de Paul Chapter provides food on a monthly basis to families in need. We also provide: propane (for the homeless), prescriptions, clothing vouchers, rent and utility assistance, and bus tickets as funds allow. This past year we provided food to 2,636 families. This is an increase of 23% in the number of families served over the prior year. We are able to meet the increased need because of your wonderful generosity. St. Vincent de Paul meets Wednesdays at 5:00 pm in the pantry located in the church basement. For additional information please contact Rita Lambert 503-253-0872 or Sally Shannon 503-252-3585. Volunteers are needed and welcomed with open arms.

### **Family-to-Family Christmas Boxes**

Each year at Christmas time, parishioners (either families or groups) choose a family for whom they provide a Christmas gift box. Our boxes include Christmas dinner, food for a week, and simple gifts for each family member. Family-to-Family is organized by our St Vincent de Paul. There are no meetings to attend. Family information is available at the beginning of December and deliveries are made the Saturday before Christmas. In addition to adopting a family, volunteers also can prepare food boxes for additional families and to help with deliveries. Last year St Rita parish provided Christmas boxes to over 160 families. All are welcome to participate. Watch the bulletin for information in November and December.

### **Catholics Coming Home**

Have you been away from the Catholic Church for a while? Do you have questions about the faith and practices of the Church? The Catholics Coming Home Team invites anyone who answers "yes" to either of these questions, to join us for conversation. Our purpose is simply to answer any questions participants might have about their Catholic Faith, and to walk with them as they explore whether or not God is calling them back to the Church. We meet twice a year (Fall & Spring) for five weeks. If you are interested in participating in these sessions, call the parish office. For more information, call Barbara Stanton in the parish office at 503-252-3403 (x104) or [b.stanton@qwestoffice.net](mailto:b.stanton@qwestoffice.net).

### **Blood Drive**

Each year in early December, St. Rita hosts a blood drive for the American Red Cross. Typically, December is a slow donation month, but a very busy one in terms of need. Donors must be at least 18 years old, in good health, and willing to pass a simple screening. Donations take about one hour. Sign-ups are in November and early December. For additional information, please contact Blood Drive Chair Linda Buttler at 503-254-3888, or the parish office at 503-252-3403.

### **Summer Reading Program**

Members of St. Rita parish tutor local students in reading with books and materials from Parkrose schools. Tutoring sessions consist of one-to-one listening to children practicing their reading skills. Tutors also share quality time with elementary students, motivating them to be the best they can be. Tutoring sessions are held the last two weeks in June in the Religious Education Center. For additional information, contact Barbara Stanton in the parish office, 503-252-3403.

## *Pastoral Care*

### **Eucharistic Ministers to the Homebound / Nursing Homes**

This dedicated group of ministers makes weekly visits to the homebound or those confined to nursing homes in our parish area. They bring communion, as well as the presence of the community to those unable to get out. The assignments may be short-term or long-term, depending on the needs of those involved. Visits can be made any day of the week that is convenient for both the visitor and the homebound person. Any baptized, adult parishioner can take part in this ministry. Training is provided. For additional information, please contact Lisa Porter at 503-252-3403 (x101).

### **Funeral planning**

The Pastoral Administrator is available to assist grieving families with the preparations necessary to celebrate a Catholic funeral including a Funeral Mass, Service of the Word, Scriptural Wake or the recitation of the Rosary. Families should contact the parish office prior to visiting a funeral home to make arrangements. For more information, please contact Lisa Porter at the parish office, 503-252-3403 (x 101). A planning tool is available to use before the death of a loved one if desired.

### **Funeral Receptions/Luncheons**

The Women's Guild of the parish is available to assist with the planning and serving of a reception or luncheon following a funeral for a minimum charge. For information, contact Sharon Schuler, 503-661-3199.

### **Sacraments of Healing:**

**Reconciliation:** The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance/Confession) is celebrated every Saturday between 4:00-5:00 PM in the Church. You may choose to celebrate the sacrament face to face or behind the screen.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Any Catholic who is seriously ill, facing surgery, or suffering from a long term illness either physical, or mental, is welcome to ask for the Anointing of the Sick. Arrangements can be made by

contacting Lisa Porter at the parish office, 503-252-3403. We celebrate the sacrament communally twice a year in the church.

## *Buildings and Grounds*

### **Adopt-A-Bed**

Members of St. Rita's do the primary maintenance of the church grounds to keep our church property presentable. For many years, parishioners have accepted responsibility to maintain and care for one or more of the 17 identified beds, which helps reduce the number of work parties needed to accomplish this task. If you adopt one or more identified beds, you are responsible for the removal of the weeds, leaves, trash and dead plants and necessary pruning in the selected bed(s).

Fall is the time weeds begin to go to seed and leaves start to fall, so that is the time to get ready for winter. If you wish to do more, planting bulbs, flowers in season, etc., it is your option, and much appreciated. Follow your own available time schedule, but be sure the beds always look good year-round. Individuals, couples, families, organizations, service groups and companies are all invited to sign up. If you have any other ideas on landscape maintenance, call the parish office 503-252-3403.

### **Maintenance Committee**

The Maintenance Committee is a sub-group of the Finance/Administrative Council. This committee inspects parish facilities quarterly to provide input to the Finance Council for the annual budget related to building repairs and maintenance, as well as necessary expenditures for major repairs facility upgrades. Persons with a background and/or experience in construction, remodeling, electrical, plumbing and related facility care are integral to the work of this committee. To become a part of this committee, or for more information, contact Roy Garbarino, 253-5746, or the parish office 503-252-3403.

## *Parish Life*

### **Senior Rita's**

The Senior Rita's main purpose is to provide comradery and entertainment for our retired folks 55 and up.

*"Let's Eat Out"* is everyone's favorite activity. Every month, we visit a local restaurant to enjoy lunch together. We are always looking for new members to spend time with us. Car pools can be arranged. For more information, please contact Sande Wilhelm at 503-665-1315, or check the bulletin for monthly events.

### **Women's Guild**

Do you know that every lady in our parish is automatically a member of the Altar Society, known in our parish as the Women's Guild? The Guild supplies everything needed for the celebration of the Mass. They supply the breads, wine, linens, holy oils, candles, vestments, albs, Sacramentary, Lectionary, chalice, goblets, dishes, even visual things, such as the crucifix and the banners. Some of our major contributions have been: the elevator, blinds in the hall and drapes in the rectory. We carpeted and refurbished the confessional, replaced the old vacuum cleaner – and the list goes on.

In addition to providing these necessities, some of our ladies visit the sick or provide receptions for weddings and funerals. Our main source of income is the Women's Guild Annual Fall Festival and Bazaar held each November.

We meet September through May on the second Monday of each month at 1:00 PM in the Religious Education Center. We are divided into 3 Circles, with each Circle taking turns hosting a meeting and cleaning the church once every 3 months. When there is a large event, ladies from all 3 circles are asked to help.

The Women's Guild invites you to join us in one of the most important jobs in the parish. For more information, please contact our President, Sharon Schuler at 503-661-3199 or Sande Wilhelm at 503-665-1315.

### **Book & Bake Sale**

Once a year, in late Spring, the parish holds a Book and Bake sale. Parishioners donate gently used books, DVDs, CDs, video tapes and puzzles all year long and we offer them to the community for sale. Books, both hard back and paper back, fiction and non-fiction, are priced inexpensively enough to allow readers to stock up for the year. Additionally, the Women's Guild hosts a Bake Sale booth filled with wonderful homemade pastries, jams and jellies. We serve coffee and encourage everyone to take their time browsing through our stacks. For more information, contact Chris Kresek (503) 252-3403 or ckresek1@gmail.com. Proceeds from the Book and Bake sale go to the parish general fund.

### **Coffee & Donuts**

Coffee and donuts are served Sundays after the 10:00 AM Mass starting in October. We have approximately 30 Coffee & Donut socials each year. These events provide an opportunity for parishioners to enjoy quality time getting to know each other and our visitors. Parishioners are also welcome to bring cakes to celebrate birthdays or other milestones. Each event takes approximately 2 hours of volunteer time. You can host one event - or more if you wish. Training provided. If you are interested in hosting Coffee & Donuts, please contact the parish office at 503-252-3403.

### **Advent Fair**

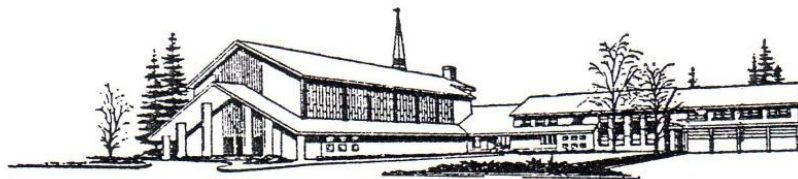
Each year, on or right before the first Sunday of Advent, we gather in the lower hall to celebrate the beginning of Advent, the season of preparation for Christmas. Food, crafts and other activities for children and adults are available. Everyone has the opportunity to make an Advent Wreath. The fun begins at 11:15. Everyone is welcome.

### **Spaghetti Dinner – Largest Fundraiser for the Parish**

79 years ago St. Rita Parish's traditional spaghetti and meatball dinner began with a group of Italian ladies. Today the dinner's goal is to serve 3000 meals and raise over \$25,000. This parish wide volunteer operation requires over 1200 volunteer hours to successfully meet our goals. We have parish members who have been volunteering for over 50 plus years.

The fellowship shared between generations of parish members is beautiful to witness. There are multiple opportunities for parish members to volunteer their time and talent to raise treasure: Vegetable chopping, meatball rolling, Dining room service, kitchen service, publicity, parking, take-out services, desserts. This is a great opportunity for family members of all ages to give back to our parish.

Patrons of our spaghetti dinner travel from all over the city and claim the dinner to be, "the best spaghetti dinner in the city." Guests can count on a warm greeting, scratch meatballs and homemade desserts served family style. For more information contact Laura Bowman, Dinner Chair, 503-287-9699 or [lbowbowman@comcast.net](mailto:lbowbowman@comcast.net)



## **St. Rita Catholic Church**

10029 NE Prescott St., Portland, OR 97220

503-252-3403 - Fax 503-256-9682  
[stritapdx@qwestoffice.net](mailto:stritapdx@qwestoffice.net) / [stritapdx.com](http://stritapdx.com)