

## Altar Servers

*At St. Peter's, there are 46 experienced and 5 novice Altar Servers to serve at 6 different Mass times. The novice servers are asked; to learn the duties of serving by watching from the side of the altar, to arrive earlier to practice different parts of the Mass, to read the Manual for Altar Servers and to watch the Training Video for more specific training.*

*St. Peter's has 8 Altar Server Mentors whose duties include; scheduling the servers for their preferred Mass time, mindfully training the novice servers before mass or arranging another time and date for specific training in the Sanctuary; using experienced servers to mentor the novice during Mass. Some Mentors send out a reminder to the scheduled altar servers for the upcoming Mass.*

*Fr. Arjay is the Spiritual Guide and the Overseer of specialized training for special Masses.*

*New this year is the use of incense. The 11:30 Mass has 5 trained Thurifers. All Mentors would welcome more servers for each Mass time and ideally for Holy Hour. Active recruitment for Mass Mentors is needed.*

*An Altar Server Meeting with a variety of activities will be announced for Feb. or March.*

## Arts & Liturgical Environment

*Objective:*

*To make St. Peter's a welcoming and inspiring parish through **beauty**, following the liturgical season and giving special emphasis to Christmas and Easter Seasons.*

*The Team also decorates the Narthex and Parish Hall for any special occasion or celebration.*

*Number of Team members: 6*

*Highlights from 2019*

- Changed the name of the Ministry to Arts and Liturgical Environment as per Bishop's Pastoral Report suggestion*
- Got many compliments from parishioners for the Easter and Christmas decorations*
- Since 2018 St. Peter's has an account with a flower wholesaler where we can get better prices and high-quality flowers*

## Audio/Video

*Mission of our Ministry:*

- To support the Priest, Choirs and Lay-ministers in the clear delivery and communication of the Prayers, Hymns and spoken word of the Mass*
- Secondary ministry: To support the parish's other activities and ministries that require Audio/Visual technology support*

### *Highlights of 2019:*

- *Regular use of our systems to broadcast Masses to the lower rooms to accommodate overflow during Christmas and Easter seasons*
- *We have begun regular webcasts of our 3 Sunday Morning Masses for the sake of the infirm/people who otherwise are unable to attend Mass*

### *Numbers:*

- *We have approximately 22 volunteers spread across 6 Masses and other events*
- *We are in need of more helpers particularly for 7pm Sat and 9:30, 11:30 and 5pm Sundays*
- *Training provided!*

### **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd**

*The CGS program is new to St. Peter's since 2019. It is a Montessori based program for children ages 3-9. This program helps the child come closer to Christ by introducing scripture and liturgy. We call the classroom the Atrium, which at St. Peter's parish is in Room C, and becomes a classroom when the rolling shelves with materials are opened. In 2019, we completed a 10-week session for Level 1 children (ages 3-6) and Level 2 children (ages 6-9) during the Advent period. The Lenten 10-week program will begin the week of Feb. 24th. Paula Sabatini and Louise Adams ran the Level 1 on Mondays from 1:00 to 2:30 pm (both are parishioners). Paula and Dorothy Burns (from St. Peter's in Okotoks) ran the Level 2 program on Thursdays from 3:30 to 5:30 pm. We are in need of more trained catechists of CGS who are from St. Peter's parish and are hoping that a few will register for the training program in Calgary from April 20-26, 2020.*

### **Celebrating the Word**

*'Celebrating the Word' is a publication created and produced by a number of priests who belong to the Congregation of the Resurrection. The topic is always the readings for the coming Sunday. There is a commentary about the readings written by one of the members of the congregation followed by questions for reflection and discussion. We have intercessory prayers and conclude with prayer (Our Father).*

### *Intention of the Group:*

- *To engage in prayerful reflection, dialogue and discernment.*
- *To find meaningful connections between our personal life stories and the current Sunday scripture reading.*
- *To be open to new insights and deeper understanding of the Word.*
- *To experience the presence of the Holy Spirit.*
- *To recognize the transforming power of the Holy Spirit in our lives.*
- *To co-create a nurturing and supportive 'small community'.*
- *To witness to the generosity of God's love and bring this to those we serve.*

*This gathering offers an opportunity to celebrate with gratitude our awareness of the Holy Spirit working in our lives as we continue our journey of conversion and transformation.*

## **Church Linens**

*The Church Linen Ministry is responsible for washing and ironing the Purificators and Corporeals used during Mass. We have a team of 6 volunteers who pick up the dirty linens on one Sunday, every six weeks, and return them clean and ironed on the following Sunday. A highlight for 2020 was welcoming 3 new members to our team last spring.*

## **Collection Counters**

*The Collection Count Ministry is mandated to safeguard monies collected against loss or misappropriation, protect personnel involved in the cash handling, record receipts accurately and deposit all cash received intact. To accomplish this, we are divided into 4 teams of 10-12 volunteers, each with a Team Lead. Each team is scheduled to count once a month. All members are required to apply for and obtain a police check.*

*Through the direction of the Team Lead, each count is performed against defined, approved procedures which ensure compliance to our mandate from the Diocese.*

*The collection team is always looking for dedicated volunteers with an attention to details, a strong ability to focus, working knowledge of email, and an ability to use an adding machine.*

## **Couples for Christ**

**Couples for Christ (CFC) Global Mission Foundation Inc.** *is a Catholic movement intended for the renewal and strengthening of Christian family life. CFC couples have committed themselves to the Lord and to one another so that they may grow in maturity as men and women of God and fulfill their primary vocation of raising families grounded in Christian values, in the service and love of God.*

**CFC Vision Statement:** *Moved by the Holy Spirit, one with the Catholic Church, blessed to witness to Christ's love and service, Couples for Christ is a united global community of family evangelizers that sets the world on fire with the fullness of God's transforming love.*

### **Highlight for 2019:**

*Christian Life Program (Sep 21 - Nov 23) – 5 Couples completed the program*

*Served in "Simbang Gabi" Filipino Mass (Dec 5) – about 250 people*

*Served in "Simbang Gabi" Filipino Mass (Dec 25) – about 400 people*

## **Catholic Women's League**

*The purpose of C.W.L. is to unite Catholic Women to grow in faith and to promote social justice through ministry and service to the Roman Catholic Church, Canada, and the World. Therefore, our core values are faith, service, and social justice.*

*This year, the 99th national C.W.L. Convention was held in Calgary, Alberta. One of the National Co-chairs of this event was the Past President of St. Peters C.W.L., Judy Montes; and from St. Peters C.W.L., Past President and now Diocesan President Jan Myhre; also from our St. Peters C.W.L. Council, was host of the Convention, our own Fr. Jonathan, and Calgary Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, who was central in all Liturgical Events. The ladies of the St. Peters C.W.L. Council provided the highest number of volunteers to ensure a successful Convention. Our Membership in 2019 was just over 250 ladies.*

## **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

*Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (Ems) are commissioned to serve Holy Communion, in the absence of sufficient clergy, at weekend and daily Masses as well as special occasion Masses such as First Holy Communion, Confirmation, School Masses and Funerals.*

*All Extraordinary Ministers are required to be recommissioned once every three years. The next time Ems will be recommissioned will be in the spring of 2021.*

*This year, we recommissioned 145 Extraordinary Ministers. Of these:*

- *106 are regularly scheduled to serve at Weekend Masses*
- *26 serve as spares when needed at these Masses*
- *7 individuals serve exclusively at weekday Masses*
- *6 individuals serve exclusively in the Pastoral Care Ministry*

*We had Recommissioning of all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion in May of 2018, with the next recommissioning scheduled for the Spring of 2021.*

### **Training Sessions:**

*New Extraordinary Ministers are required to attend a 2 hour training session, be verified by the Diocese, and then to be commissioned by one of our Priests. We are planning on holding a training session this year on Saturday, 1 February 2020.*

*In conjunction with Deacon Stephen, we will be holding a Liturgical Refresher Session in the spring after Easter as part of the Ministry's ongoing efforts to enrich the understanding of our service, both as individuals and as a ministry.*

## **Faith/Bible Studies**

*In January 2019 St Peter's had a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, the 5th Gospel. To captivate this experience and share it with others we found a 4 week study from FORM.org "Footprints of God Study: Jesus-The Word Became Flesh". Many in the study relived what they had just experience and shared it with others, some had been there previously!*

*St. Peter's Summertime Strolls for Prayer, Faith and Fellowship took place on Tuesday evenings. We began with praying the Rosary in our Grotto then walked through the Birth Place Forest in Silver Springs.*

*We are currently studying the DVD series 'The Great Adventure – Romans The Gospel of Salvation with Andrew Swafford and Jeff Cavins.*

*Our study sessions usually have just over 30. Like the summertime strolls this ministry is about growing in faith and fellowship as we see the Holy Spirit working in our lives and each other.*

## **Feed the Hungry**

*St. Peter's has been hosting a Sunday every year for more than 10 years, perhaps closer to 20 years. Our contribution is a financial donation of \$5,000 and 100 volunteers who work together to prepare and serve meals to between 400 and 500 guests. Our parish successfully serves every year - we live Matthew 25:35 - serving those in need. Our date for 2020 is September 13th and volunteer recruitment will begin in the Spring.*

## **Gift Cards**

*The purpose of the Gift Card Ministry*

*To raise funds to put towards the cost of St Peter's renovation. To offer grocery cards at every Mass (based on volunteer availability) and thereby engage parishioners in a win-win proposition; where we offer them a means to put the funds, they would ordinarily spend on food to count towards reducing St Peter's mortgage.*

*2019 Gift Card Highlights*

*2019 marked our second year and we made over \$100,000.00 in commissions. All funds are directed to the Rock of Our Faith Campaign.*

*Number of people participating in the Gift Card Ministry*

*We have 15 active and very dedicated volunteers.*

*We could easily use double the volunteers. One is volunteering at every Mass, others several times a weekend.*

## **Infant Baptism Preparation**

*Parents prepare for their young children's Baptisms here at St. Peter's by participating in a half-day Baptism Preparation seminar, typically about a month prior to the actual Baptism.*

*Baptism Preparation normally takes place in the morning of the last Saturday of each month, except during holidays and Lent. Volunteer Catechists lead discussions on topics such as the history of Baptism in the Church, the reasons we baptize infants and young children in modern times, the meaning of the various elements and symbols in the ceremony, and the various ways our Church supports families in their Christian mission, together with a rehearsal in the Church to prepare them for the Sacrament as it will be celebrated here at St. Peter's.*

*During 2019, 62 couples each attended a Baptism Preparation seminar. In total, 96 infants and young children received the Sacrament of Baptism.*

## **Journeying Through Grief**

*The purpose of this ministry is to provide grief support in a spiritual environment that reminds participants that they are not alone.*

*In September we offered a film screening of video "Voices of Grief-The Sacred Journey". The objective of the screening was to share a fresh perspective on the many ways we navigate successfully through grief or companion others along their journey. This was also an opportunity to meet the facilitators and learn about the grief programs that were coming available.*

*Following the screening attended by 20 people we had 7 registrations for our first 6-week*

*program that began October, 1. Some choose the once a month Sunday drop-in which does not require registration.*

*There are 3 experienced facilitators with master's degrees in social work, psychology and psychotherapy that facilitate the 6-week grief support program.*

*One other experienced grief facilitator provides the 3-hour drop in program every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday afternoon. Some people chose to attend both programs.*

### **Kids Rock**

*Kids Rock is a program geared for children ages 3 to grade 1. Our program runs during the Sunday 9:30am Mass. Our purpose is to teach the children about the Gospel reading through stories, crafts and games geared to their level. We also have a "Saint of the Week" which the children learn about. We currently have 35 children registered in the program, but registration is ongoing. We also 5 teachers and 19 assistants. Several of our Kids Rock Children participated in the Christmas pageant. We are so proud of the children who took part in the pageant as they spent several weeks practicing and learning their lines. The children also enjoyed making tilma's for the feast of St. Juan Diego and lambs for the Lamb the God to name a couple of the crafts we have done.*

### **Knights of Columbus**

*The St. Peter's Knights of Columbus (KOC) group consists of approximately 225 members. Our four pillars of service include, faith, community, youth and the parish.*

*Our annual budget is \$40,000. We utilize our funds to support community based projects including the St. Peter's building fund, St. Vincent De Paul, Catholic school based projects, coats for kids, Elizabeth House, keep Christ in Christmas, other youth based projects, university scholarships, and an emergency funding for parishioners. To date we have contributed \$80,000 to the St. Peters renovation project.*

*Our KOC group is very active in the parish. We lead and/or support over a dozen events each each year. We are proud of the impact we have not only within the parish, but in the local community. Evangelization is a significant component of our work. Our outreach programs are a critical component of our programming.*

*As a service group to the community, we are committed group who work behind the scenes to support faith in action. Our main fund raising event is the annual Men's Night Out Event which takes place in the fall of each year which attracts over 200 men annually.*

*Our challenge moving forward is to secure younger men in the parish to join our ranks, as many of the group are retired individuals. Recruitment is critical to sustaining our good work.*

## **Lectors/Readers**

*A Lector does, indeed, read out loud at mass a passage from the bible. However, a Lector is **not** a reader. He or she is more like a trumpeter who announces the arrival of royalty to the city. He or she declares that there is someone great and wonderful and true entering right into the midst of the holy people of God. That is why we call the bible Good News. That is why it matters that the Lector is spiritually prepared to be a vehicle for the Holy Spirit to address the people. That is why it matters that the Lector reads well and clearly and with a joyful heart. God's Word, proclaimed well, prepares us to receive the true Word of God, Jesus Christ himself, in the Eucharist. It points us to that communion with the God who loves us, and invites us to share that love with others. That is the Good News proclaimed by the Lector.*

*St. Peter's Lector ministry has approximately 75 members. We recently had a workshop by Bishop Barron to assist them in developing a greater understanding of the Word of God.*

## **Moms' Book Club**

*Our Moms' Book Club Ministry is a book club for mothers that meets once a month at St. Peter's. The purpose of our ministry is twofold; to help busy moms grow in their faith and provide an opportunity for fellowship.*

*We have 17 members and our meetings typically include at least 12 members. In 2019 we read; 'Own Your Life' by Sally Clarkson, 'Building the Benedict Option' by Leah Libresco, 'Mere Christianity' by C. S. Lewis, 'Time for God' by Fr. Jacques Philippe, and 'In This House of Brede' by Rumor Godden.*

## **Mothers' Support Group**

*We see motherhood as a vocation and our purpose is to strengthen families through encouragement and education. We welcome women at all stages of motherhood, from babies through teens, to mother's with grandchildren.*

*The highlights of 2019 were the appreciation and enthusiasm expressed by members as they learn to cope with daily challenges of being a mother.*

*We currently have 16 active members.*

## **Music Ministry**

*St. Peter's Music Ministry is comprised of 7 choirs, 6 that cover all the weekend Masses and our Funeral Choir. Our purpose is to enhance the experience of the Mass by heightening the Word of God through music, in such a way that the congregation is able to participate fully, actively and consciously.*

*We also provide music for special liturgies and devotional services such as our Friday evening Holy Hour.*

*There are many highlights for us throughout the year but our key seasons are Holy Week and Easter as well as Christmas.*

*Our membership numbers well over 150 and we are very blessed to have so many gifted and talented singers and musicians. We are also extremely grateful for the support we receive from our clergy, the staff and the parishioners of St. Peter's.*

### **Outdoor Gardens**

*The Grotto, with the statue of Blessed Mary holding the Rosary, is the heart of the gardens. To create a serene environment for meditations, both in the Grotto & the area outside the confessional, plants are carefully selected & maintained; work are in progress in maintaining the fountains to run year round. Rosaries & prayer cards are also provided at the grotto entrance. Flower pots around the churchyard are decorated year round to welcome parishioners & visitors as they enter the Church.*

*Behind the church's fence is the Beds of Thorns. Previous professional herbicide treatments didn't seem to be effective, however, it provides a great opportunity for anyone who would want to weed the Canada Thistle as an act of faithful sacrifice. We currently have 7 members.*

#### **Highlight 2019**

*The pansies – the cool summer had allowed them to thrive all summer long. Many positive comments were received.*

### **Pray & Play**

*Pray and Play, along with our sister ministry the Mother's Book Club is a ministry focused on developing a community of Catholic mothers who wish to grow in their faith, and support each other. As mothers, we are the spiritual heart of our families, and Pray and Play aims to encourage mothers to turn to prayer, teach their children and celebrate the liturgical seasons of the church at home.*

*We meet regularly on Wednesday mornings for Pray&Play and monthly for the book club. About 20 moms come on and off throughout the year. Our mornings usually start with coffee and conversation, and then we have various guest speakers and book studies we enjoy for the second half of the morning. This year we are focusing on CCO Faith studies, Fr. Jonathan taking us through a study of the Book of Ruth, and a series on St. Gianna from Peggy Gibson. Our Mother's book club has read C.S. Lewis, some catholic fiction, Fr. Jacques Philippe and more.*

*We are blessed to have a few volunteer babysitters who help us care for our numerous young children, though we are always in need of more help.*

### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

*Adults with little experience of Church prepare for their Sacraments of Initiation by participating in the Rites of the RCIA. They also attend regular meetings on Thursday evenings, and "Breaking Open the Word" on Sundays.*

*For baptized adults with more experience, we provide a shorter process through our Adult Confirmation classes, offered on Mondays both during the spring and the fall.*

*For older children seeking Baptism or Profession of Faith, we offer a three-part program of preparation that is then followed by participation in regular children's Sacrament Preparation programs.*

*We provide customized programming for teenagers seeking to become Catholic, to meet their individual needs.*



*All are supported by a dedicated team of volunteer Catechists and Sponsors.*

*In 2019, five older children and six adults were baptized. Three older children and seven adults made their Profession of Faith.*

## **Sacristans**

*The role of the Sacristan is to prepare the Church for the celebration of the Mass, to ensure that positions for all the ministries have been filled prior to the Mass time. The majority of the Sacristan's duties are done prior to the Mass. The Sacristan's role begins in the Sacristy. It involves organizing all sacred vessels and other items that are used during the Celebration, and making sure that they are arranged properly in the Sanctuary and on the gifts table.*

*There are 2 main events that stand out for sacristans in 2019. We had an opportunity to meet with the Bishop McGrattan and discuss our ministry as a group. In September, Father Jonathan gifted sacristans with a teach and learn hour followed by a social.*

*Our Saturday/ Sunday Sacristans are responsible for the 6 weekend masses. There are 21 active sacristans in this ministry. They also serve as Eucharistic Ministers at their chosen mass.*

## **Ushers**

*Our Purpose/Mission Statement:*

*To assist parishioners in the following duties;*

- + Greeting and welcoming of parishioners and guests.*
- + Attentive to special requests for communion.*
- + Ensure an Offertory Family is available.*
- + Ensure safe and orderly entrance of procession.*
- + Seating assistance until first reading.*
- + Collection and offering.*
- + Ensure doors to narthex are open for communion.*
- + Distribution of bulletin / handouts.*

*At each Sunday mass, ushers are organized under the direction of a leader and co-leader along numerous individuals assisting as needed (between 30 to 45 part-time to full-time).*

## **Pastoral Care**

*Team: 37 members*

*Senior & Nursing Homes: organize church services in 7 facilities*

*Foothills Medical Centre Catholic visitors: 7 members*

*Holy Communion to Homebound: 11 visited weekly*

*Training & Purpose: The Diocesan Pastoral Care Course equips participants with the understanding necessary to meet the pastoral care needs of the lonely, shut-ins, the sick and dying, as well as the visiting skills that the Diocese requires of the pastoral care ministers.*

*2019 Highlights: Pastoral Care notices in the Sunday bulletin continue to attract new team members.*

## **St. Vincent de Paul**

***To be a network of friends, seeking personal holiness through service to the needy and in defence of social justice.***

*Our conference is over 60 volunteer members strong. We provide emergency assistance by way of food, clothing and financial aid; giving those in financially stressed situations the ability to meet their basic needs. Friendship, guidance and advocacy are also offered to enable individuals and families assistance through community programs and parish involvement.*

*In 2019:*

- We were fortunate to have Deacon Stephen join us as our Spiritual Advisor. In early January 2020 we will have a Commissioning Ceremony to formally install him to the position.*
- We delivered approximately 750 food hampers.*
- Assisted approximately 15 families to pay rent/utilities.*
- Established a partnership with the Calgary Food Bank that allows us to save over \$13,000.00 a year. This savings allows us to assist more families with financial requests.*
- We ended our year delivering 75 Christmas Hampers with the help of many parish volunteers and donations from parishioners.*

## **The Font**

*The Font is a ministry focused on the development of community among the young women of St. Peter's parish and beyond. While providing this outlet of support through friendship and mentorship, we hope to instil a deeper faith in these young women.*

*The Font is a place to grow in the spirit of true womanhood. Here we hope to provide an understanding of real catholic femininity, and what God calls us to do as women. Not only that but we also dive deeper into the future through talks about vocations, and testimonies from our leaders about their experiences.*

*We usually meet once a month on Fridays, and anywhere from 12 to 21 girls come regularly. We start with snacks and conversation, and then we dive into an icebreaker game where we all get to know each other better. After that we have a short testimony from one of our leaders or a guest, and then we all play a big engaging game. Following that, we either watch a catholic speaker in a video, or we listen to a someone who we have invited to come speak to us. The fun part comes after the talk, when we split into age groups and have small group discussions where we break down what was said and open up to each other about our faith.*

*Recent themes of our meetings have been; The Journey to Heaven, Advent, Mary's Rosary, and True Beauty.*

*We are so thankful to anyone who has volunteered for us, but we are in need of some more young adult women who are willing to be leaders and volunteer for our monthly meetings.*

## **The Forge**

*Our ministry aims to bring the young men of our parish together, to grow in fellowship and support each other in the Faith. We host events once a month where we enjoy fellowship over board games, team building activities, and through the study of various topics on the Faith. We are always encouraged by the discussion that takes place, and the desire we see in these young men to grow.*

*Recently, we had 9 Forge members volunteer to help out with the SVDP Christmas Hampers campaign. It was a great example of the desire that exists among young people to give back to their communities when given the opportunity.*

*At this time The Forge has approximately 30 members and 8 volunteers who attend and help out on a regular basis.*

## **Young Adult Group**

*The purpose of the St. Peter's Young Adult Group is to keep young adults coming to church, by building their faith with educational presentations, and helping them have friends in the church. It's a place for them to learn more about their faith and ask any questions they have.*

*This fall we had seven regular meetings where we went through the seven essential modules from the Credible Catholic.com by Fr. Robert Spitzer, and we had three social events.*

*We usually get 10 to 15 people at our meetings and events, and they are a really nice group of people*