**SYNOPSIS OF CURRENT AND NEW MINISTRIES @ ST. CATHERINE OF SIENNA**

1. **Altar Servers** - Altar servers assist at the liturgy in preparation for and during mass. Altar servers must be very familiar with the order of the mass in order to effectively and efficiently fulfill their duties.

2. **Altar Society** – The purpose of this ministry is to prepare the worship space for the liturgy. This ministry ensures that there is in the worship space, cleanliness and ornamentation that befit the “House of God”.

3. **Liturgical Dance & Mime Ministry** – Minister through dance and mime through expressions of love and prayer. Psalm 149:3 says “Let them praise His name with the festive dance.

4. **Bible Study Ministry\*\*** - The purpose of the Bible Study ministry is to develop a love for the Word of God as we study it, search for and reflect on its meanings, and decide how to apply it to our daily lives.

5. **Choirs –** The choirs provide music at all masses to enhance the liturgy.

6. **CRE Ministry** – This ministry is the religious education program of our parish. Christian Religious Educators contribute to and foster the development of young people and adults as informed Catholic Christians and provides each child with the awareness of having a distinct Catholic identity in faith.

7. **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion -** They assist in the distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ at the weekend and daily masses in the parish. Members of this ministry take communion to the sick at their homes, hospitals and nursing homes.

8. **Finance Council** – The Finance Council advises and helps the pastor in the administration of parish finances.

9. **Fundraising-Family Day Festival Committee** – This ministry helps establish a strategic plan that will enable **All** fundraising ministries at St. Catherine of Sienna to become more effective with their efforts. This committee also organizes and helps insure that the church’s primary fundraiser, Family Day Food Fest, (soon to be renamed) is a financial success.

10. **Grieving with Faith Ministry (Bereavement) \*\*** The mission of this ministry is to offer support and comfort to all who are experiencing grief and to assist in handling grief with faith. The goal is to communicate with family members immediately after the death of a loved and inquire about their needs. Offer moral support and guidance in preparing the liturgy, funeral arrangements, music and repast.

11. **Hospitality Ministry (Ushers, Male & Female)**-Ushers are the first members of the church that visitors see; therefore, ushers must be people oriented. Ushers serve as “hosts and hostesses”. They represent the pastor and parishioners of St. Catherine of Sienna. **They are the first impression** **of who we are.**

12. **Knights of Peter Claver & Ladies Auxiliary**- The K. of P.C., Inc. is the largest historically African-American Catholic lay organization in the United States. The Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary is a Catholic fraternal organization whose purpose is to render service to God and His Holy Church; for giving edification by good example in word and deed, especially to the youth who emulate these virtuous deeds.

13. **KPC Junior Knights (inactive) and Junior Daughters (active)** – This ministry welcomes Catholic Youth between the ages of 7 - 18. They are organized using the same structure of the Senior Division. Interested youths must have made their First Holy Communion.

14. **Lector’s/Announcer’s Ministry** – The purpose of this ministry is to skillfully proclaim the Word of God so that it comes alive to the hearer such that it challenges, comforts, encourages or admonishes to the point where the listener has a total experience of the passage.

15. **Maintenance Ministry** – Maintaining the buildings and equipment of the parish is very important. The goal is to immediately clean, fix or replaces things as they are needed on a timely basis.

16. **Pastoral Council** – The Pastoral Council is the primary advisory body to the pastor on matters affecting all aspects of the life of the parish. It promotes pastoral action through *reflection and planning.*

17. **Saturday Morning Prayer Group** – This group meets in the Sanctuary every Saturday morning @ 10:00 to recite the rosary and pray for the sick and homebound parishioners. They are also available for individual prayer requests.

18. **Social Ministry (“Jesus Cares” Ministry)** - This ministry provide food packages to families, necessities to families in distress and a source of comfort to those who have no one to turn to in a time of unplanned, unforeseen calamities in life.

19. **Youth Ministry** – The Youth Ministry develops a plan for effective ministry with young children and adolescents. Young people are empowered to live as disciples of Jesus Christ to foster the total personal, spiritual, physical and emotional growth of young people. Youths participate in wholesome outings, youth gatherings in the Diocese of Baton Rouge, Annual World Youth Day, choir, youth ushers, and liturgical training to be able to fully participate in the monthly Youth Mass. To achieve this, the ministry will provide: After school tutoring, mentoring, Teen & Pre-teen Discussion groups on the power of prayer & faith, abstinence and self esteem, the importance of education, and talent development.

20. **Elder Care Ministry\*\*** - This ministry will begin working with the elderly by developing an individualized program to manage their daily needs. Some of the services would include: Telephone check-ins, home and nursing home visitations, hygiene assistance, light meal prep., diet monitoring, light housekeeping, errands, shopping and joyful companionship.

21. **Social Entertainment Ministry\*\* -** This ministry coordinates social functions for parish events. It takes care of food prep and service, music and decorating the facility.

22. **Collection Counters** – This ministry secures, counts, records and deposits all church collections from masses an turns over records to administrative office.

23. **Graphic Design Ministry**\*\* - This ministry will design a welcome brochure for visitors, an annual calendar of events and any graphic work (programs, flyers banners, t-shirts, stationary and invitations) needed for church sponsored events.

24. **The Christian Arts Ministry\*\***  -This ministry will enlist talents of any one in our church parish inmusic ( instrumental and vocal), fine arts, photography, rap, creative writing, poetry and dramatic arts.

25. **Separated and Divorced Ministry** – This ministry will provide a place to share, discuss and provide prayer and support for those going through this transitional period in their lives.

26. **Prayer Garden Ministry\*\*** – Landscape throughout the grounds of the public areas of the church grounds that would make those areas conducive to prayer. This ministry would design areas of beauty and quietude.

27. **Sacristan Ministry** - This ministry maintains the sacristy by ensuring all the sacramental vessels, liturgical articles, ceremonial equipment, and ritual books are in place. They also prepare the bread and wine before each mass. They are responsible for the cleaning and purification of all vessels and returning them to the sacristy after mass.

28. **Angels of the Clergy\*\*** - This ministry is responsible for arranging and providing transportation, sightseeing, lunch and dinner outings, assisting with special needs and getting visiting priests acquainted with their new surroundings. (This service may also be extended to people of the parish who are in need of these services.)

29. **Sunshine Circle Ministry\*\*** - This ministry brings cheer to parishioners who may be ill, grieving, homebound or away from the church for some reason or another. They call, visit homes, nursing facilities and hospitals and send cards to sick and homebound parishioners.

30. **Parish Religious Ed. Ministry/Commission** \*\* The responsibility of thisministry/commission is to insure quality Catechesis/Religious education for the entire parish community, all ages.

The agenda of the commission includes:

 -determine needs

 -judge priorities

 -approve and support programs

 -determine an overall budget for total religious education program of the parish

Composition of a Religious Education Commission includes:

 -representatives of all leadership groups involved in total Religious Education

 -a priest representative

 -the parish DRE/RC

 -interested members selected from the parish at large

Note: The parish DRE/RC is a member of and a possible resource to the commission, but not its

 chairperson.

**Serving as Disciples --- Sharing Your Talents**

As a member of our parish family, each one of us possesses a special gift given to us by God. The stewardship of our talents calls us to discover and share these talents with other members of our community.

However small you may feel your gift is, it will be multiplied as it is shared. Jesus calls us to share our talents as he compares them to a light created to illuminate “all in the house” not to be hidden “under a bushel basket.” (Mt. 5: 14-16)

Gifts of money do not substitute for gifts of time and talent “Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us exercise them: If prophecy, in proportion to the faith; if ministry, in ministering: if one is a teacher, in teaching; if one exhorts, in exhortation…” (Romans 12:6-8)

St. Catherine of Sienna has many ministries which are always in need of energetic parishioners willing to serve. Please consider participating in one of our ministries. By giving your time and talents, it expresses your gratitude to the God who has given you these gifts.

A Commitment to Serve

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, I wish to generously respond to the call of the Lord to participate in the ministry of Christ and His Church. I promise, to the best of my ability, to use my God given talent, time and energy to serve my community through service in my parish.

**Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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