

SHARING OUR GIFTS

A GUIDE TO MINISTRIES

*“As each one has received a gift,
use it to serve one another,
as good stewards of God's varied grace.”*

—1 Peter 4:10



ST. JOSEPH  THE WORKER
CATHOLIC CHURCH

WORSHIP

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place every Wednesday in the Parish Center chapel from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and every First Friday.

Altar Servers

Altar servers assist the priests at weekday, Sunday, and holy day Masses and at funerals, marriages, quinceañeras, First Communions, Confirmation, and the Stations of the Cross during Lent. They serve at English, Spanish, and Vietnamese liturgies.

Catholic Mothers Guild

Vietnamese mothers who meet monthly to pray and worship.

Charismatic Prayer Group

The prayer groups (English and Spanish) meet weekly to praise, worship, and honor God and to build up the Body of Christ through faith-sharing and prayer. All are welcome to participate in these gatherings.

Environment Committee

Volunteers provide year-round decoration of the church, according to the liturgical seasons (Advent, Lent, Christmas, Holy Week, Easter, etc.).

Eucharistic Ministry

Eucharistic ministers distribute the Sacred Body and Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ at Mass. Each minister is trained and receives certification prior to being commissioned by the Pastor before the parish community.

Eucharistic Ministry to the Sick

Ministers visit with and bring Holy Communion to homebound parishioners and those in hospitals and nursing homes. Specialized training is provided.

Infant Jesus of Prague Apostolic Group

Since 1984 this group has held an annual nine-hour novena devotion to the Infant Jesus of Prague, featuring a replica of the famous 17th century statue residing in Prague.

Lectors

Lectors proclaim the Word of God at Mass. They are trained in the readings and gain deeper knowledge of and love for God through this ministry.

Liturgy Committee

This committee meets eight times a year to evaluate, recommend, and assist in planning parish liturgies. The group fosters increased participation of the laity in liturgical functions.

Mass Coordinators and Sacristans

These leaders oversee all the liturgical ministers at Mass, including, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, altar servers, ushers, and musicians. They set up the sanctuary, organize Communion stations, confirm lector and server assignments, and provide other services as needed to allow Mass to be celebrated as prayerfully as possible.

Music Ministry

Good and appropriate music enhances the Mass experience and contributes to the liturgy and spirituality. This ministry is for anyone who enjoys psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs and can sing or play an instrument. New members are always welcome. Choirs sing in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Tagalog. Each of our Masses offers a different type of music. There are also dance ministries including liturgical dance and ballet folklórico.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

This devotional prayer group gathers each Wednesday evening to pray before the exposed Blessed Sacrament and to our Mother Mary for blessings.

Rosary Group

Parishioners pray the rosary daily after the 8:30 a.m. Mass in the church.

Sacred Heart Group

Vietnamese men who meet monthly to pray and worship.

Simbang Gabi

Nine days of Masses celebrating the birth of Christ beginning each year on December 15 at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels and ending on December 23. While the Masses are generally in English, they may include Filipino Christmas traditions and prayers. The Masses rotate among various parishes in the San Fernando Valley.

Ushers and Greeters

Also known as ministers of hospitality, these volunteers greet

those arriving for Mass, assist with seating, take up the collection, guide the assembly during Communion, and distribute bulletins and other materials.

Vocation Ministry

Vietnamese parishioners who meet regularly to pray for vocations.

Wedding Coordinator

The wedding coordinator assists with all aspects of the wedding ceremony including rehearsals and the physical aspects of the church.

FAITH FORMATION

Baptism Preparation

Baptism is the beginning of the journey of faith for our children. Through baptism, each child becomes part of our faith community. Pre-baptism preparation classes provide instruction about the sacrament of baptism and prepare parents and godparents for a commitment to raise their children in the way of Christ.

Bible Study

Parishioners study, share, and pray the scripture.

Confirmation

This program prepares candidates to receive the sacrament. Sessions are designed to inspire candidates to continue their faith journey throughout their lives, to encourage community, and to develop a sense of belonging.

RCIA

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

The RCIA is a process whereby those interested in learning about the Catholic faith come together on a weekly basis to learn about the scriptures and the teachings of the Catholic Church. The process is designed for those adults and children over the age of seven who are unbaptized, baptized in another faith tradition, or baptized Catholic but with no further religious training or sacraments.

Religious Education Program

Elementary and middle school children learn the basics of the Catholic faith and prepare to receive the sacraments of First Penance and First Communion. After receiving these sacraments, students continue in the program through the eighth grade, learning and developing in their faith.

Sagrada Familia

Volunteers in this ministry, specially designed for Spanish-speaking families who are unable to come to the parish regularly, go out to nearby neighborhoods to teach the basics of the Catholic faith and prepare children and youth to receive the sacraments of First Penance, First Communion, and Confirmation, here in our parish.

Small Faith Communities

Small groups of parishioners who come together regularly to personalize and talk about their faith, to support one another, and read and share Scripture. These groups encourage spiritual growth and community building.

Vacation Bible Camp

A Catholic summer camp experience, located in the parish, for elementary and middle school children. Parishioners, especially our youth, are encouraged to volunteer to be on the camp planning team.

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER SCHOOL

St. Joseph the Worker is a fully accredited, Catholic parish school in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The parish serves its community through the school by providing a caring, educational environment in which each child is able to develop spiritually, academically, socially, and physically. In full cooperation with the family, the faculty and staff provide the students with a foundation for success in high school and for development into responsible adolescents and adults. By affirming and modeling the values Jesus lived and taught, the school community

reflects our parish's Catholic identity. Students continue to perform far above the national average in yearly Standardized Tests. Tuition assistance and scholarships are available for qualified families. These are funded by the Archdiocesan Scholarship Foundation and generous parishioners



OUTREACH

ACCW

The Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women is a social ministry which provides women the opportunity to meet and spend time with women of other parishes. The group meets three times a year.

Bereavement Ministry

Spiritual and emotional support is provided to families following the death of a loved one. Ministers help with funeral arrangements, planning the liturgy, and coordinating the reception.

Catholic Daughters of America

Catholic Daughters is the largest Catholic women's group in the country. Our local chapter meets monthly in the name of unity, charity, and service. Blessed with the gift of hospitality, the group serves coffee and donuts after the first two morning Masses every Sunday.

Gift Shop

Located in the church vestibule, the parish gift shop sells a wide variety of religious merchandise. Operated completely by volunteers, the Gift Shop is open Sunday and Wednesday mornings.

Hospitality Committee

Volunteers organize receptions, dinners, luncheons, simple refreshments, and the food and beverage component of a variety of parish events.

Literacy Group

Volunteers teach English in order to promote reading and understanding among limited and non-English speakers.

New Leaf Divorced and Separated

This support group, which meets twice a month, assists those who are separated or are going through divorce in coping with loss and grief.

Scouting

This program for boys and girls builds leadership skills and character.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Our local chapter feeds the needy of our parish and surrounding community through a food pantry and cash assistance. This ministry provides food baskets and toys to needy families during the holidays.

Warm Up America

Members meet every Monday (except summer) after 8:30 a.m. Mass to make blankets for the poor.

Welcome Committee

This group provides a warm, personal greeting to new parishioners. The committee organizes welcome events and informs new households about parish ministries and services. The committee encourages new parishioners to become actively involved in parish life

Women's Journey

A support group for women in the parish to share their thoughts and concerns. Meets twice a month from September to June.

Young Adult Ministry

Single and married adults, age 18 to 40, gather to discuss life issues, attend social activities, and discover a deeper relationship with God through faith sharing, prayer, friendship, and Christian service. Our Spanish-language group is called Nueva Generación en Jesucristo.

Youth Ministry

Youth ministry is a place and time where the young people of the parish community come together in fellowship to live, learn, and enjoy faith in the company of friends and peers.

ADMINISTRATION

Filipino Coordinating Committee

This committee plans and coordinates activities of Filipino parishioners and introduces the Filipino faith tradition to the parish.

Finance Council

Appointed by the Pastor, the members have professional experience in financial management and advise the Pastor in the administration of parish finances through financial analysis, planning, and policy development.

Hispanic Coordinating Committee

This committee plans and coordinates the activities and ministries of the Hispanic parishioners and reaches out to our Spanish-speaking neighbors in the surrounding community.

Money Counters

These parishioners, selected by the Pastor, count the collection.

Our Lady of La Vang

Vietnamese Coordinating Committee

This committee organizes Vietnamese community-building activities for the entire parish; promotes the preservation of traditional Catholic faith practices among the Vietnamese community; and undertakes an annual cultural outreach project.

Pastoral Council

An advisory group to the Pastor, the Council develops the parish vision, identifies and prioritizes needs, and assesses the parish mission, goals, and use of resources.

Safeguard the Children

This committee works in conjunction with parents, civil authorities, educators, and community organizations to assure a safe environment for children and young people. The committee provides education and training for children, youth, parents, ministers, educators, and volunteers.



For more information about the ministries listed here, please contact the Parish Center

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ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

is a Eucharistic community of believers commissioned through our Baptism to share the Gospel message of Jesus Christ with all people. Out of our diversity we create unity through respect for every person, common celebrations, sacramental worship, Christian education of all ages, and outreach programs. ■