



It is well known throughout the diocese that CCOP parishioners have a strong sense of what it means to be good stewards of not only treasure but also of our time and talent. This is a particular characteristic of this parish of

which I am very proud!

One of the primary ways that we express our sense of stewardship is on Ministry Sign-up Sunday. I wish to discuss this as well as present an opportunity for our teens in this message.

1) It has been a custom in our Parish to have Ministry Sign-up Sunday sometime during the first few weeks of summer, followed a few months later with training and scheduling so that we could begin the new ministry year on the first Sunday in October. This model has its value, primarily giving us the entire summer to enter names into the parish ministry database. Ironically, this long summer break is also its greatest weakness. It is this weakness and our solution that I address below.

Over the years, I have noticed that our wonderful and generous intentions of serving in one of the various liturgical ministries (as documented in our Ministry Sign-up Forms) do not come to fruition in the Fall when we need to schedule ministers. There are many reasons for this but, quite frankly, "life happens"! The time that we initially believe that we can commit gets a reality check during the summer months when we realize that there are other things that compete for time. School or sport schedules unknown to us at the beginning of summer, changed work schedules, or just simply forgetting that we even signed up - all of these, through no real fault of our own, can conflict with our original intention of serving which results in major scheduling gaps.

This is very apparent every fall when we prepare the ministry schedules and find out that we are short between 300 and 600 ministers. The result is that those ministers who do not have scheduling conflicts are asked to serve more than once per month, some even serving every Sunday. This can, and often does, lead to ministry "burn-out".

The solution is to move the ministry sign-up date closer to the actual scheduling date. Therefore, **all**

**ministries (Liturgical and Service) will be renewed on the weekend of August 23.** Training and scheduling will take place during the months of September and October, with the ministry "year" beginning the First Sunday of Advent -- a more appropriate date since that is also the beginning of the ecclesiastical or church year. We are asking the ministers signed up for this year to hang on for a couple more months than the original commitment, which normally would have ended in October. I sincerely hope that this is a small imposition on you. Our hope is that we will know our other commitments by the Fall and will be better able to commit to a particular ministry for the coming year.

An additional effort that we are planning during the summer is to have small Ministry Fairs after each Mass on the first Sunday of every month where we will present information on the many available liturgical ministries.

2) I am very pleased to announce that our Youth Liturgy Sub-committee has really taken off this year and its members have some great ideas for the 6:30 PM Youth Mass. One of these many great ideas coming from our youth is that they would like to take greater ownership of that Mass – to make it speak to the issues that are taking place in their lives. This ownership means that the youth will be asked to take a greater role in leading the various ministries at that Mass. We are also beginning a Family Liturgy Sub-committee that will plan the liturgies for our 4:00 PM Family Liturgies. I will be speaking at all Masses in the very near future in an effort to excite our youth about this wonderful opportunity to serve your peers and the greater CCOP community.

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There are no words that can adequately thank you for your commitment to making the liturgies at CCOP the Spirit-filled worship opportunities that they are known to be. Rest assured that they are a direct result of your love for our faith, for our Church, and for the people of the Catholic Community of Pleasanton! Thank you!!

Peace and God Bless,

*Deacon Gary*

Director of Liturgical Ministries

## LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Team 1A – Scheduled for June 14 & 15  
Team 3A – Scheduled for June 21 & 22

### CONCERT

Our accompanist, Ira Stein, and Music Director, Joe Hebert, will give a concert at **St. Elizabeth Seton on Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 PM.** They will be performing classical and original music, and will be joined by a surprise guest. Admission is free. Donations are welcome.



### GRIEF SUPPORT

The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss, whether the death was sudden and tragic, or one with warning and preparation, the reality of death leaves most of us in a state of shock, confusion and sadness. Please join us at **St. Elizabeth Seton, beginning Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup>,** and continuing on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month (June 12 and 26, July 10 and 24, August 14 and 28). These meetings are open to all, regardless of religious affiliation. If you have any questions, please call Joan at (925) 828-6864.



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR



#### Welcome Ministry

Fr. Padraig will meet with the **Newcomers Team and the Welcome Basket Teams** who prepare and distribute baskets to new families on **Tuesday, June 10, at 7:30 PM in St. Augustine Hall.**

#### Farewell

After the **12 noon Mass on June 22,** we will gather for a reception in **St Augustine Hall** to express our gratitude to Jim Silva, Andrea Giovannoni, Anna Adams, and Sandi Wilson for their years of ministry in our parish. Please plan to attend.

## USED BOOK COLLECTION

**St. Mary's Library** needs paperback or hardcover books:

- Adult Fiction or general interest non-fiction
- Children's literature
- National Geographic or Smithsonian magazines

Please, no text books or technical material. Collection bins will be in both church vestibules before each mass June 14-15. Thank you in advance for your donation.

### CCOP PICTORIAL DIRECTORY UPDATE



We want to honor our parishioners serving in the military in our pictorial directory. Please send a picture in dress uniform and attach a note with name and instructions where we can return the picture to: Marcia Berardi P.O. Box 10926, Pleasanton, CA 94588. We need to receive these photos by **June 27, 2008.**

Over 700 families have signed up to have their picture taken for the upcoming CCOP Church Directory. Thanks to all the families that have signed up via the online schedule or visited our sign-up tables following last weekend's masses. Please note the on-line schedule page is down during weekend sign-ups. We do not want to double book a time slot!

We need **you** to make our upcoming 2008 Parish Pictorial Directory complete! You will be photographed, view your images, and select your directory pose in **one** trip. Every family receives a **complimentary** 8 x 10 portrait and a free directory for participating. There is no sitting fee and there is no cost to the church. You will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits at competitive prices if you choose.

Portrait locations and dates are as follows:

#### St. Augustine Parish Hall

June 17 – 21 ♦ June 30 – July 3 ♦ July 16 – 19

#### St. Elizabeth Seton

June 23 - 28

Go online [www.catholicsofpleasanton.org](http://www.catholicsofpleasanton.org) and click the Portrait Sign Up link, email our Directory Coordinator at [esther@edirectories.biz](mailto:esther@edirectories.biz) or call Esther at (510) 381-0168.