



Ministry Report from: Donna Walker, Pastoral Assc. Evangelization

Date: 03/16/18

1. What have you accomplished or worked on this month? What events or activities have you sponsored or presented? (please include numbers of participants and helpers)

Compassionate Connection Ministry

Goals

- To personally connect with those grieving the loss of a loved one especially in the months following the funeral.
- To continue building the trusting, one-on-one relationship begun during the parish funeral process, to be a Catholic witness to the healing, saving power of Our Lord as the grieving identify and deal with their unique needs & situations.

Process – **Starting April 1, 2018, our desire is to be Christ to family/friends of all funerals held at Saint Kateri Parish.** (Pilot program currently underway reaching out to some families from funerals end of 2017 and early 2018.)

- Realizing how difficult the weeks after losing a loved one can be, our parish family wants to stay in touch. When meeting with Family/Friends to plan the funeral, we will explain our parish family's desire to stay connected, and ask if we can contact someone, identify whom and give the Compassionate Connection card. (above, both sides)
- Within 1 to 3 months following the funeral, a minister will call the family contact person to listen and talk; to find out how things are going, offer the condolences of the parish family and prayer.
- Other connections may develop over time. Currently, ministers are calling some families from Nov. and Dec. funerals.

Planning Members: Denise Bryan, Jan Caretta, Janet Mogab, Donna Moll, Mary Ann Noto, Chris Ramsey, Julia Russo, Fr. Evan Simington, Dorothy Vinci, Donna Walker.

2. CMA – Since January, at Fr. Paul's request, I have had the great opportunity to make calls to around 250+ people from on the CMA lapsed donor list (participated in CMA last year, but not 17/18). The purpose of the call is to connect with our parishioners; ask them for intentions to be prayed for by our parish devotional groups and the Carmelite Sisters on Jefferson Rd.; and to ask if they can show their thanks to God for their Catholic faith in prayer and/or donation to CMA (aka: participate in 1500 Families Strong). The impact of these calls has been purely driven by the Holy Spirit. When calls are answered, conversations can go on from 5 to 10+ minutes and cover a wide range of heartfelt concerns: illnesses, recent deaths, the life of prayer, loneliness, marital problems, births of new children and grands, family tragedies

including accidents, financial problems, drug addiction and arrest. During these conversations many attest to their trust in our Lord and the Blessed Mother and always prayers of supplication are offered. When people share their story and identify how God has been there with them, I often encourage them to share their stories of faith with their families as time and circumstances permit. These are true encounters with Christ and gift from God to us all. The response to the CMA participation may not be significant, but the connections are invaluable.

3. Workshop: Julia Russo and I attended one-day workshop **Tainting Saints to Lead Hearts to Christ** on 3/8/18 with Dc. Ralph Poyo in Cicero, NY. This was an excellent, hands-on, active workshop on Evangelization and Discipleship. Great content and foundation for discussion with Fr. Paul and Staff on our parish efforts. Good connections made with experienced parish staff from the Syracuse Diocese.

4. **Welcome Info Centers** –February Activity Reports prepared by Janet Mogab
Thanks to our Welcome Information Ministers weekly service at church Kiosks. Based on the reports, 22 people were served primarily answering process questions and giving directions. Here are some of the meatier ones:

- "nice discussion" with an on the fringe Catholic with a note that perhaps reconnect
- A Parishioner wanted to know how to obtain a host for his wife. He was referred to Father Mike.
- Question about small cards - Minister able to handle (Good Job)
- An elderly parishioner asked if SMM has a hearing loop. Minister was not aware at time of question; however several SKT staff followed up with parishioner with a YES and explanation.
- Kneeler fell against leg and cut shin. First aid was administered. Mark K completed report.

5. What are the current or active plans and dreams you are currently working on or discussing??

40 Hours Adoration – Prior to Pentecost (5/20) –

Thurs. May 17 6PM through Sat. May 19 10 AM At SC –

Schedule- Opening Mass and Fri. Mass 6PM and Closing Mass Sat. 10 AM

NEWS: Homilist (3 Masses): Bishop Emeritus Matthew H. Clark