

SAINT DANIEL CHURCH

SERVICE COMMISSION

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Organizational Notes for Christian Service

Purpose of the Commission

- The Christian Service Commission coordinates the charitable and social endeavors of the parish community.
- Included in this commission are charitable drives and service projects, parish organizations and other activities.
- All parishioners and parish organizations are welcome to participate in the charitable endeavors of the parish.

Commission Leadership

- The Pastor appoints a parish staff member to serve as the Director of the Christian Service Commission.
- The Commission Director meets with the pastor and the Staff Council regarding the goals of this Commission.
- The Director meets with all the commission members on a regular basis, both individually and as groups.

Commission Membership

- The Commission members are either the leaders or designated representatives from each organization.
- Each year, commission members are appointed by the Director in consultation with the Pastor.
- The Director recommends a commission member to the Pastor for membership on the parish council.

Fundraising Activities

- Any fundraising activities are approved and scheduled by the Pastor through the parish Finance Council.
- All fundraising activities follow all the financial, insurance, legal norms that are required for parish events.
- A special monthly Christian Service collection helps fund the various service projects and parish charities.

Education and Advocacy

- Education and advocacy for the social teachings of the Church are also an important part of this Commission.
- The spiritual and corporal works of mercy are at the heart of the Christian Service Commission and its programs.
- The involvement of parish organizations and students is essential to the success of these charitable endeavors.

Parish Facility Usage

- The parish facilities are primarily for the use of St. Daniel Church and its parish community organizations.
- The use of parish facilities for outside groups is limited for reasons of insurance and practical concerns.
- Exceptions to this rule are subject to review by the Parish, Staff, and Finance Councils with the pastor.

Please contact the parish office for contact information about our Service Commission leaders and members.

CHARITABLE PROGRAMS

PARISH CHARITY DRIVES

Name and Purpose

- The name for these parish-sponsored activities is the Saint Daniel Church Charity Drives.
- As a parish-based activity, this service program is part of the Christian Service Commission of the parish.
- The purpose is to practice the Corporal Works of Mercy in our neighborhood and our local community.
- Funding for this program is made possible by parishioners through the monthly Parish Charities Collection.

Organizational Notes

- We are thankful to the Saint Vincent DePaul Society for organizing these regular parish charity drives.
- These charity drives consist of food drives for a local food pantry, and clothing drives for charitable groups.
- Various other charity drives are conducted as special needs are recognized and addressed by our parish.
- We also participate in a community wide program for giving Christmas presents to local poor families.

SAINT VINCENT DEPAUL

Name and Purpose

- The name of this parish-affiliated activity is the St. Vincent DePaul Society at St. Daniel Church (SVDP).
- As a parish-affiliated activity, this service program is part of the Christian Service Commission of the parish.
- The purpose of SVDP is to grow in Vincentian spirituality and to provide charitable services to people in need.
- The Society of Saint Vincent DePaul provides resources for spirituality and for organizational protocols.
- The SVDP organizes various charitable drives for the poor throughout the year for our parish community.
- Funding for this program is made possible by parishioners through the monthly Parish Charities Collection.

Organizational Notes

- The officers are selected according to the national by-laws of the St. Vincent DePaul Society.
- An approved SVDP member serves as a delegate to the parish Christian Service Commission.
- The Christian Service Director is the liaison between the parish and the St. Vincent DePaul Society.
- The parish calendaring process for the upcoming year starts right after Easter each year.
- The SVDP parish hotline is 630-384-0126, and the SVDP email is SVDP@StDaniel.org.
- The parish provides a room for the SVDP food pantry and general storage of materials.

PROLIFE INITIATIVES

Name and Purpose

- The name of this parish-affiliated activity is ProLife Initiatives at Saint Daniel Church in Wheaton.
- As a parish-affiliated activity, this service program is part of the Christian Service Commission of the parish.
- The purpose of ProLife Initiatives is to educate and advocate for the sanctity of all human life in our parish.
- The parish website is the main resource for information about our prolife initiatives: StDaniel.org/ProLife.

Organizational Notes

- The Coordinator(s) are approved by the pastor, subject to renewal each year by mutual consent.
- An approved Coordinator also serves as a delegate to the parish Christian Service Commission.
- The parish prolife initiatives committee meets regularly as scheduled through the parish office.
- During Hospitality Sundays, prolife parish initiatives may have a regular table in the parish center.
- The Christian Service Director is the liaison between the parish and the ProLife Initiatives group.
- The prolife parish email address is ProLife@StDaniel.org. Any phone calls go through the parish office.

COMMUNION CALLS

- This Christian Service Ministry is provided by the parish clergy and by specially trained Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. This is a joint venture of both the Liturgy Director and the Christian Service Director.
- Communion Servers receive special training so that they may go to homes, hospitals, and health care centers, to bring Holy Communion to the sick and the infirmed. Training is provided by a special diocesan program.
- Please note that, due to privacy laws, hospitals no longer report admissions to churches. Therefore, we rely on family members and friends to notify the parish. Please call the parish with this information!
- A Communion Service is usually held on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Sunrise Health Care Center in Wheaton. The pastor also goes there for Anointing and Confession throughout the year.
- Communion Calls are scheduled through the parish office. Bulletin articles remind people to call the parish for this service, as the need for these spiritual services become evident.
- When special situations are noted by those who are making these Communion calls, they report them to the parish office so that the Christian Service organizations may follow up on them.
- Requests for Anointing and Confession, and other spiritual matters, are reported directly to the pastor so that he may follow up on them. People should not wait until a person's last days before contacting the priest.
- At least twice a year, the Anointing of the Sick is offered to our parishioners after all the Masses on the Sunday nearest all Saints Day, and at the special noon prayer service on Good Friday.
- In case of illness or surgery, Anointing can also be done individually at any time throughout the year. In case of an emergency, there is a special prompt on the parish phone service to report any such emergencies.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Other Charitable Associations. In addition to our own parish charitable organizations and service activities, our parishioners are involved in many local community charitable groups and activities as well. Here is a list of some of the groups and agencies in which our parishioners are involve, or with whom our parish has associations.

Support Groups:

Marriage Enrichment Programs: www.WWME.org, and www.ForYourMarriage.org

Central DuPage Pastoral Counseling Center: www.cdppcc.org, 630-752-9750

Bereavement Support Groups: Referrals are made through local area funeral directors at this time.

L.O.S.S. Support Group: Please contact the parish office about this diocesan suicide survivors support group.

Twelve-Step Programs: Please contact the parish office for referrals to local support groups for addictions.

Courage Support Group: Please contact www.CourageRC.org about this Catholic support group for SSA.

Catholic Faith: Please consult CatholicsComeHome.org for information about our Catholic Christian Faith.

Charitable Agencies:

Catholic Charities: 3130 Finley Road, Suite 520, Lombard, www.catholiccharitiesjoliet.org, 630-495-8008

Catholic Diocese of Joliet: 16555 Weber Road, Crest Hill, www.dioceseofjoliet.org, 815-221-6100

DuPage P.A.D.S. Homeless Shelter: 705 West Liberty, www.dupageoads.org, 630-682-3846

People's Resource Center: 201 South Naperville Road, www.peoplesrc.org, 630-682-5402

St. Vincent DePaul Thrift Store: 213 Main Street, West Chicago, www.svdppjoliet.org, 630-293-9755

Outreach Community Ministries: 122 West Liberty, www.outreachcommunityministries.org, 630-682-1910

ESSE Adult Day Care Services: 41 N. Park Blvd., Glen Ellyn, www.EsseAdultDayCare.org

Milton Township Offices: 1492 North Main Street, www.twp.milton.il.us, 630-668-1616

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

HOSPITALITY EVENTS

Name and Purpose

- The name of this parish-sponsored organization is the St. Daniel Church Community Events Committee.
- All parishioners are welcome to become active members of this parish fellowship organization.
- As a parish-based organization, this organization is part of the Christian Service Commission of the parish.

Organizational Notes

- The Coordinator(s) are approved by the pastor, subject to renewal each year by mutual consent.
- An approved Coordinator also serves as a delegate to the parish Christian Service Commission.
- The Community Events Committee is not a fund-raising organization, but rather a fun-raising group.

Regular Community Events

- Fall Fellowship Event
 - First Saturday of October: family buffet dinner in the parish center.
 - Coincides with a parish ministry fair for service and liturgical volunteers.
- Christmas Fellowship Event
 - First weekend of December: a home-baked Christmas Cookie Extravaganza.
 - Activities for children are provided to focus on the real “reason for the season.”
- Winter Fellowship Event
 - First Saturday of March: Chili Cook-Off dinner in the parish center.
 - Activities for children are provided as part of our parish festival of faith.
- Spring Fellowship Event
 - First weekend of May: Mom’s Pastries shared in preparation for Mother’s Day.
 - Pictures of mothers and ingredients or recipes are encouraged for this event.

Other Social Events

- Coffee and Tea in the parish center after the 9:00 a.m. Mass each week, throughout most of the year.
- Hospitality Sunday after all Masses, on the first weekend of the month, September through May.
- Assistance is given to the Senior Christmas Party in December and the Senior St. Patrick Party in March.
- Other Social Events are scheduled as the opportunities and needs arise throughout the year.

PRAYER PARTNERS

Name and Purpose

- The name of these parish-sponsored prayer groups is collectively the St. Daniel Church Prayer Partners.
- These small sharing groups meet either at the church or in parishioner homes throughout the year.
- As parish-based organizations, these groups are part of the parish Christian Service Commission.
- The purpose of these sharing groups is to foster Christian friendships among our parish members.

Organizational Notes

- The leaders of these small church communities meet with the pastor for planning and coordination.
- Small groups are organized for men, for women, and for mixed groups of our adult parishioners.
- A representative from these small groups serves as a delegate to the Christian Service Commission.
- The activities of these small sharing groups are fourfold: prayer, study, charity, and social activities.

- Prayer: these gatherings commence with prayer, and group members may sometimes attend church together.
- Study: these groups engage in Bible Study or other learning activities together, or in other parish programs.
- Charity: members of these groups are involved on their own or together in other parish charitable activities.
- Social: our parish fellowship groups are not for fund-raising purposes, but for fun-raising social activities.

SENIORS CLUB

Name and Purpose

- The name of this parish-sponsored organization is the St. Daniel Church Seniors' Club.
- All the seniors of the parish, men and women, are welcome to become active members of this club.
- As a parish-based organization, this club is part of the Christian Service Commission of the parish.
- The purpose of this group is to provide social events for the seniors of our parish community.

Organizational Notes

- The Coordinator(s) are approved by the pastor, subject to renewal each year by mutual consent.
- An approved Coordinator also serves as a delegate to the parish Christian Service Commission.
- The Christmas Luncheon and the St. Patrick's Day Luncheon are the main highlights of the year.
- Other activities and outside excursions are being planned for the seniors of our parish as well.
- The Seniors Club is not a fund-raising organization but may participate in parish charitable activities.

PRAYER SHAWLS GROUP

Name and Purpose

- The name of this parish-sponsored organization is the St. Daniel Church Prayer Blanket Program.
- As a parish-based organization, this program is part of the Christian Service Commission of the parish.
- The purpose of this group is to pray and to make prayer blankets for the sick and the elderly of the parish.

Organizational Notes

- The Coordinator(s) are approved by the pastor, subject to renewal each year by mutual consent.
- An approved Coordinator also serves as a delegate to the parish Christian Service Commission.
- The members of this program pray, knit, crochet, and sew prayer blankets for the sick and the elderly.
- The prayer blankets are usually distributed by the Ministers of Care volunteers throughout the year.

GREENS KEEPERS GARDENERS

Name and Purpose

- The name of this parish-sponsored organization is the St. Daniel Church Greens Keepers Garden Program.
- As a parish-based organization, this organization is part of the Christian Service Commission of the parish.
- The purpose of this program is to continue the tradition of taking care of the parish gardens each year.
- The budget for this activity is provided, in part, by the semi-annual flower collection in the offertory packet.

Organizational Notes

- The Coordinator(s) are approved by the pastor, subject to renewal each year by mutual consent.
- An approved Coordinator also serves as a delegate to the parish Christian Service Commission.
- In March, the Coordinator(s) contact all the Greens Keepers members for the new gardening year.
- Also in March, a sign-up weekend for recruiting new gardeners is held in the narthex of church.
- In April, the Greens Keepers meet to fill out their order forms for flowers, for which the parish pays.
- Members of this program may order additional flowers, at their cost, for their own home gardens.
- In May, the garden flowers arrive the week after Mothers' Day, and are planted soon thereafter.
- Name plaques are available to recognize the garden spaces tended by the various gardeners.
- Throughout the summer, the Greens Keepers members faithfully tend their beautiful gardens.
- In the fall, the plants are removed, and preparations are made for winter and for the next year.