

# COMMUNITY LIFE COMMISSION Ministry Guideline Booklet



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# **COMMUNITY LIFE COMMISSION**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Community Life Commission is to provide a welcoming, hospitable atmosphere throughout the parish. We foster interaction and communication among parish organizations and encourage broad-based parishioner involvement as well as opportunities for community building.

## **SUMMARY**

The Community Life Commission is comprised of nine members, each serving a three year term. Each year three new members are discerned and the third-year members roll off of the Commission. The Commission members meet with its various ministry leads to review needs and resources available within the parish and to communicate important information between the ministries and Pastoral Council.

Each of the ministries has a chairperson. A commission member is assigned as a liaison to one or more ministries and will contact the chairperson of the ministry each month prior to the commission meeting to gather information concerning the ministry's needs and/or concerns.

# COMMUNITY LIFE COMMISSION MINISTRIES

Adult Singles (MAS)

American Heritage Girls

Boy Scouts

Buttons and Bows (Craft Guild)

Cub Scouts

Columbian Squires

Fall Festival

Filipino Ministry

Knights of Columbus

Legion of Mary

Ministry of Mothers (MOM)

Newcomers Welcome

Senior Friends

Spirit of New Life

Squirettes of Mary

St. Joseph Altar Guild

Vietnamese Ministry

Women's Club

Donna Genser/Carly Gisclair

Mark Stegmeier

Madeleine Mullarkey/Pat Heinz

Don Hightower/Tim Nolte

Jesse Rios

Tom Donnelly

Cynthia Abdon

Patrick Dexter

Leticia Hemmerly/Angela Kasten

Christopher Kennelly

Nora Hahn/Virginia Hitt

Lanette Murtagh

Jo Simpson

Gina Family

## **ADULT SINGLES (MAS)**

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Ministry of Adult Singles (MAS) is a ministry of single, separated, divorced and widowed adults 40 and over whose mission is to serve as a spiritual, social and service group offering an option for growth and friendship. It is a journey of faith that welcomes Catholics who have gone through any of these life-altering situations.

### SUMMARY

The Ministry of Adult Singles (MAS) was organized in the 1990's as a ministry of single, separated, divorced and widowed adults over 50 (at that time).

We hold regular monthly meetings in the Red Room of the Christus Center from 7 pm to 9 pm, beginning in August and concluding in June. We put out a monthly newsletter as well as postings in the bulletin and St. Ignatius web site. We have a monthly spiritual night, a monthly celebration of that month's birthdays, as well as, several types of social events.

With regular meetings, social events, discussion groups and more, it is a great place to meet new people and create lasting friendships.

We have three annual events:

1. Christmas Party, combined with, wrapping presents for our Christmas Angels.
2. Wreaths Across America
3. Membership drive.

Money is raised throughout the year through members' dues. That money is used to fund charitable projects like the ones listed above.

The ministry is now small but vital. We hope to increase our membership and continue to provide spiritual and social services' opportunities for Catholic singles over 50.

# **AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS**

## MISSION STATEMENT

To be a premier national character development organization for young women who embraces Christian values and encourages family involvement, our mission is the building of women of integrity, through service to God, family, community and country.

## OATH

"I promise to love God, cherish my family, honor my country, and serve my community."

## SUMMARY

Our Troop was created in Fall 2012, with St. Ignatius Loyola as the charter organization. . Families in our church wanted a Christ-centered scouting program for their daughters with wholesome leadership and character development opportunities. Many families of our parish already had girls in the AHG troop at Prince of Peace and spoke highly of this program. Troop TX2928 agreed to be our Sister Troop and mentor, to help us through the process of setting up a charter, recruiting members, and organization of a new troop. Our troop is open to all faiths that agree to the AHG Statement of Faith (see [www.ahgonline.org](http://www.ahgonline.org)), and is a mix of public, private, and home school girls. For the new 2013-2014 program year, we now have 30 Girl members and 17 Adult members. Parents are excited to give their time and talent, as well as, perform leadership roles in this AHG troop.

We currently have the following unit levels: Pathfinder (at least 5 years old and in K), Tenderheart (Grades 1to 3), Explorer (Grades 4 to 6), and Pioneer (Grades 7 to 8). We are hoping to expand to the Patriot level (Grades 9 to 12) within two years. Most of our troop meetings focus on activities that fill badge requirements. Activities include: crafts projects, social and leadership skill-building activities, visiting performers and educators, and ceremonial activities.

Our first troop meeting was held on January 7, 2013. Our troop meetings are held every 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, with a few holiday exceptions, in the Christus Center, from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm.

We host/participate in the following annual events:

Spring and Fall camping trips, family fun days, mother-daughter wrapping party, Girl Day Camps (work on badges), End-of-Year Ceremony and other special events.

We have up to three fundraisers annually. For example, girls sell chocolate bars to raise money for their "Girl Account" that is used towards the next program year troop dues. We also do extra activities like camping, and summer bake sale to help pay the troop's annual AHG support fees.

Our troop participated in church and local community service projects like, building care packages for the US military and helping at church functions. Throughout the year, we work on troop-wide badges, like Toys & Games, Dance, Geology, and Social Skills & Etiquette. The girls select other badges to work on for home-based, personal hobbies and sports. Everyone shares their interests with the troop during the meetings.

Upcoming events include visiting area nursing homes and gardening at the local public libraries. The purpose is to build life-long friendships among the girls and their families.

## **BOY SCOUTS**

### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices throughout their lives by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

### SCOUT OATH:

On my honor I will do my best  
To do my duty to God and my country  
and to obey the Scout Law;  
To help other people at all times;  
To keep myself physically strong,  
mentally awake, and morally straight.

### SCOUT LAW:

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

### SUMMARY

Boy Scout Troup 1324 was chartered by St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church in Spring, Texas in 1989. The troop is part of the Phoenix District in the Sam Houston Area Council of the Boys Scouts of America. The troop invites boys, ages 11-17, to learn everyday-life skills, as well as, outdoor and camping proficiency, while practicing leadership and service in the community. We provide boys with positive role models, education, and chances to learn and practice leadership skills. The program also develops a wide base of skills for boys to use throughout their lives (e.g., first aid, citizenship).



The St. Ignatius Boy Scout Troup 1324 has had a very active scouting program. Since its inception, 38 young men have earned Eagle, the highest rank in Scouting. Ten of these have been earned since 2010.

The troop is scout-led, with the scouts electing a Patrol Leader and a Senior Patrol Leader to plan and coordinate activities of the Troop.

Our Scout groups learn everyday life skills, as well as, outdoor and camping proficiency; while practicing leadership and service in the community. Adult volunteers serve as leaders and mentors. Adult leadership includes a Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmasters, and a Troop Committee that provides guidance and support to the Scouts.

Troop meetings are held on Monday nights at 7:00 p.m. in the Christus Center. We have campouts/activities at least once a month. We also spend a week at summer camp each year, with locations in Texas and out of state. The Troop has recently attended camps in Colorado, Arkansas, and Oklahoma. Older scouts have the opportunity to experience separate High Adventure programs such as canoeing, hiking, and whitewater rafting.

In addition to weekly and monthly activities, the Troop participates in several annual events:

- Summer Camp (June/July)
- Junior Leadership Training (September)
- Webelo Woods (October)
- St. Ignatius Fall Festival (October)
- Scout Fair (April)
- Ad Altare Dei Catholic Religious Emblem Program - offered in 2012 and 2013 and included a Scout Day of Recollection at St. Ignatius

Funding is primarily through annual dues, fees for monthly campouts, and summer camp fees. In addition, the Troop participates in two BSA-sponsored fundraisers each year: Boy Scout popcorn sales in the Fall and Scout Fair Coupon Books in the Spring.

## **BUTTONS AND BOWS (CRAFT GUILD)**

### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Buttons and Bows is to create handcrafted items that are usually sold at The Fall Festival. We share ideas and fellowship, encouraging all, with or without special talents, to nourish their creative side in an atmosphere of fun and service.

### SUMMARY

Buttons and Bows started in June 2003 with Joyce Rodnicki as the Chairman and Maggie Schaffer as the Vice-Chairman. During that time, there were about 10 members making hand-made items that were being sold at the Fall Festival, with money turned over to the Parish. Membership has now grown to about 20 members, with an average age of 75 years young.

Meetings are held in the temporary building from 10:00 am until noon; every second Tuesday from January through June, and every Tuesday until the Fall Festival. There are no meetings in November and December, but members continue to be busy, gathering creative ideas.

We have a yearly budget based on the previous sales at the Fall Festival. People donate fabric and craft items as well. Receipts for items purchased are turned over to Mark Schaffer, who does the reimbursement.

# **CUB SCOUTS**

## MISSION STATEMENT

### SUMMARY

Cub Scouting is a year-round program uniquely designed to meet the needs of young boys in grades 1 – 5 and their parents. The program offers fun and challenging activities that promote character development, citizenship, and physical fitness.

Service projects, ceremonies, games, and other activities guide boys through the core values and give them a sense of personal achievement. Through positive peer group interaction and parental guidance, boys also learn honesty, responsibility and respect.

Family involvement is an essential part of Cub Scouting, and parents are encouraged to play an active role in the program. Through interaction with parents, leaders, and friends, boys learn cooperation, compassion, and courage. This family and community-centered approach to learning means that Cub Scouting is truly time well spent.

## **COLUMBIAN SQUIRES**

### MISSION STATEMENT

The John T. Sansano Columbian Squires Circle 4703 is designed to develop young men, from ages 10 to 18, as Catholic leaders who understand their Catholic religion and have a strong commitment, dedicating themselves to serving Christ and the Church through fellowship, community service, and leadership for the betterment our local community and the world.

The Columbian Squires program at St. Ignatius strives to provide spiritual, cultural, civic, social, physical improvement and leadership development to its members. We take heart Matthew 5:14, which states, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven."

### SUMMARY

The John T. Sansano Columbian Squires Circle 4703 is one of 1,500 Columbian Squires Circles worldwide. The Columbian Squires program was begun in 1925, under the oversight of the Knights of Columbus, in order to give young men a better opportunity in life - a chance to receive the leadership training and the spiritual and moral guidance they will need in order to succeed. Currently there are more than 25,000 Catholic young men who are members of the Columbian Squires.

The St. Ignatius John T. Sansano Columbian Squires Circle 4703, the first for St. Ignatius, was established in 2001 with 12 young men. Our group was created to provide an avenue for St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Community's young men to strengthen their faith and become community leaders. Today, our Circle has grown to over 45 members. We also serve like mentors to other local parish Circles seeking to form or grow their Circle.

New Squires are always welcome to our Circle. To become a Squire, the Squire must pay yearly dues and be invested by the John T. Sansano Columbian Squires Circle 4703.

The John T. Sansano Columbian Squires Circle 4703 meets every third Sunday of the month. At 1:00 pm, the Squires officers, the Chief Squire, Deputy Chief Squire, Bursar Squire, Notary Squire and Marshall Squire meet before the 2:00 pm General Circle Meeting to discuss the meeting ahead of time. The 2:00 pm meeting includes the discussion of the Circle's finances and membership, upcoming events, reflection on the past events and ways on how to give back to the Church.

The Squires hold several events throughout the year. On an annual basis, the Squires enjoy the following events:

- Easter & Christmas Magnet Sales (Fundraising)
- Seminarian Support & Dinner (Spiritual)
- Christmas Angel Family & Distribution (Service, Civic, Physical)
- Work at the Fall Festival (Service)
- Carry the Cross and Candles for all Friday Stations of the Cross (Spiritual)
- Squires' & Squirettes' Mass (Spiritual)
- End of the Year Event (Physical)

The Squires prepare and maintain a budget each year for the upcoming year. We collect yearly membership due and raise money through fundraising, such as Easter Magnet Sales, Christmas Magnet Sales..The Knights of Columbus sponsors some of the Squires events, such as, sponsoring Squires to attend Houston Astros' Faith Night Games.

## **FALL FESTIVAL**

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Fall Festival Committee is a team of volunteers who plans, organizes and executes all activities associated with the Fall Festival, with full authority granted by the Pastor. Our mission is to showcase the time, talent and treasure of parishioners, connecting "Playing with Praying" and "Fun with Fundraising."

### SUMMARY

The Fall Festival Chairman and Co-Chair serve for a term of 2 years. The Co-Chair is usually the next replacement for the Chairman.

The Fall Festival Committee performs the following roles in support of the above mission: Administration, Facilities, Finance, Auction- Live, Auction- Silent, Bingo, Book Fair, Craft Fair, Senior Crafts, Parking, Advertising, Sponsorships, Entertainment, Talent Show, Food Court, Beer/Wine Booth, Pit Area, Games/Attractions, Grounds, Raffle, Sweet Shoppe, Volunteers, Squires, Squirettes, Pictures/Webmaster, TABC licenses. The majority of these roles have a Chair and Co-Chair who manage their assigned activities during the Fall Festival from opening through closing.

### Plans and activities, and major responsibilities of the Co-Chairs:

1. Reserve Fall Festival on the Church calendar – always on the first weekend of October. For 2013, October 4 and 5.
2. **Late December:** Contact Church and reserve the following:
  - a. Set meeting dates and reserve room for 20 people.
  - b. Fall Festival meetings - April to September: Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
  - c. First Saturday after Labor Day in September (not Labor Day weekend)  
- Raffle stuffing at 9 am.

- d. Final meeting – Last Tuesday before Festival
  - e. November – wrap up dinner
3. After receiving confirmation of meeting dates, send e-mail to the Committee announcing dates and time. Ask if anyone will not be returning to have ample time to fill the slot.
  4. Recruit a Co-Chair if necessary (requiring Pastor's approval).
  5. **March:** If there is a need for new committee members, make an announcement in the bulletin requesting for volunteers to fill the open slots. Requests for bulletin announcements need to be sent to Mary Blanton two weeks in advance.
  6. **April:** First meeting – Prepare agenda and send meeting notice and agenda to the Committee. Agenda should always include an opening prayer or reading and a safety review.
  7. Contact Deacon Greg to change e-mail distribution for Co-Chair ([festival@silcc.org](mailto:festival@silcc.org)) and new fall festival committee members
  8. When e-mails come in from [festival@silcc.org](mailto:festival@silcc.org), forward to the appropriate person. The majority of the e-mails are requesting Craft Booth information.
  9. Issues: Any issues you need guidance contact Deacon Greg first and then Fr. Norbert.
  10. Parking: Need to contract parking lots.
  11. Security: contact Diane Hill - in August
  12. **July:** Prepare the Fall Festival bulletin inserts for Community Life, and general inserts for August and September and mail to Mary Blanton. She will ensure they get into the bulletin.
  13. Remind everyone that Father Norbert has reserved signatory authority on all Third Party Contracts, and that, efforts should be made to obtain Proof



of Insurance Certificates from all Third Party contractors with equipment and/or manpower on the premises.

14. Permits and Licenses:

- a. Beer and Wine permits
- b. TABC licenses - Silent Auction and Beer and Wine booth
- c. Bingo License – Kathy Schaeffer to get the required license. Kathy handles getting bingo callers, and Toni handles the rest of her volunteers.

15. T-shirt Orders: We ordered the shirts through John Carnahan. Prepare a list with the name of those who should have a T- shirt, Order T-Shirts. Include shirts for Fr Norbert and Fr Marshall.

16. Announcements/Signage: Send note to Liturgy Director, Karla Jackson, to have tables set up in the Narthex for volunteer sign ups and a table for the Raffle Barrel. This should be done **late August for September**.

17. **First of September:** Fall Festival notices should be on display.

18. **Stewardship Weekend:** Stewardship will send an email requesting how many tables you need for that week-end. Fall Festival needs 2 tables. Stewardship will make the sign. We start volunteer sign ups that day. Antoinette will make sure everything is ready with regard to sign ups. We should have copies of the Fall Festival advertising flyer prepared by Alicia and the flyer prepared by Cathy McCue (See Flyers Tab). Volunteer sign ups should go on each weekend until the Fall Festival. Antonette will bring sheets and set those up on Saturdays. A sign-up sheet for committee volunteers will be handled by Antonette.

19. Raffle Tickets: Person responsible will prepare letter, print and fold letters. He/she will also order the tickets and have those sent to church. We use the stamp machine in the office for stamping and sealing. The letters are taken to the Post Office for mailing. On Raffle Stuffing day, get there 30

minutes early to ensure tables are set up and everything is ready to go. A white board should be at the raffle ticket booth to list hourly winners.

20. Send a note to Father Norbert, requesting him to say a prayer before the Festival starts each day. Remind him as to when the raffle ticket drawing will be (Meet at 5:15 pm, drawing at 5:30 pm).

21. **1 month before the Fall Festival:** Print the meal and drink tickets. Each committee member gets 2 meal tickets and 4 drinks tickets for the 2 days of the festival.

22. Fall Festival Entertainment: The person responsible provides all entertainment for the festival.

The Fall Festival is the major fundraiser for St. Ignatius and the only activity managed by this Committee.

The Finance group develops the budget based on the input received from the various Chairs of the Fall Festival Committee and the previous year's spending. The budget is approved by the Finance Council of St. Ignatius. Once approved, the Committee gets a copy and the budget is assigned to the various committee chairs for management.

## **FILIPINO MINISTRY**

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Filipino Ministry is a team of committed Filipino Parish members who believe that diverse cultures are enrichment to the Parish. Our mission is to coordinate, plan, and promote various religious and social activities which promote unity among the Filipino members and other cultures within the Parish.

### SUMMARY

Sometime in 1995, there was a Filipino couple who were both very active members of the Parish. Tita Lares was a very active member of the Women's Club at St. Ignatius, and her husband was a member of the Knights of Columbus. In some special events, Tita Lares would cook Filipino food and share it with the parishioners, the Knights, and members of the Women's Club.

In 2000, Dr. Leticia Carlos-San Luis came up with the idea that they should organize a Filipino Ministry within the Parish. She gathered a small group of Filipino parishioners and had a meeting at her house to officially organize the Filipino Ministry. The elected officers were: Tita Lares, Chairman, Judith Cubillo, Secretary, and Lettie Mallari, Treasurer. Since then, they have been celebrating the Simbang Gabi at St. Ignatius, identifying themselves as members of the Filipino Ministry. Since there were not a lot of funds coming in from donations, they decided to raise funds through the Women's Club by occasionally catering for breakfast and lunch in some of their functions. The proceeds were then used for the celebration of the Simbang Gabi.

In 2002, the group became bigger when Vic Angeles joined the group along with his fellow employees from Rigid Building. In 2003, Tita Lares moved to League City, passing along the chairmanship to Vic Angeles who held the role until 2011. In one of the planning meetings, Vic Angeles and the planning team decided to pass on the role of chairman to a then new member of the team, Cynthia Abdon, who currently holds the Chairman role.

The Filipino Ministry participates actively in almost all events in the Parish, as well as, special events in other parishes. Some of the members are active leaders in the five Commissions: Community Life, Outreach, Formation, Administration, and Worship. Some members are also heads of other ministries.

Meetings with the planning team are held on “as needed” basis. There are times when three or four meetings are held to discuss Fall Festival planning. The same thing holds true for the Simbang Gabi, a Christmas celebration.

This ministry hosts/participates in several annual events:

- Salubong (Easter): celebrated with the Filipino communities from nearby parishes and usually held at Prince of Peace starting from 4:00 am to 7:00 am on Easter Sunday. The American and other cultures actively participate during this event.
- Fall Festival (St. Ignatius Fundraising): sale at the food booth.
- Simbang Gabi (Christmas): usually scheduled in the second week of December, beginning with a 7:00 PM mass, followed by a reception at the Social Hall.
- Donut Social: the ministry as the host, every year in March.
- International Food Festival.
- Festival of Ministries.
- Other Parish events.

The Filipino Ministry’s major fundraising event is the Fall Festival. We raise money through the generous donations being made by Filipino families every year. This money is has always been used to purchase food items that we sell at the booth, with 100% of the proceeds going to the Parish.

For the Simbang Gabi, we also raise money through the generous donations being made by Filipino families every year. We use the money to cover the cost of food we serve to the general public during the reception. The event is usually attended by about 200 to 250 people who are members of the Parish and other parishes.

The Filipino Ministry continues to actively participate in almost all events in the Parish, as well as, special events in other parishes.

# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

## MISSION STATEMENT

Through our Principles of **Charity, Unity, Fraternity,** and **Patriotism,** the Knights of Columbus are dedicated to serving our Diocese, our Parish, our Community, and our Families. Our service to One is service to All.

## SUMMARY

Through the efforts of Father Michael J. McGivney, Assistant Pastor of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, and some of his parishioners, on March 29, 1882, the Connecticut State Legislature officially chartered the Knights of Columbus as a fraternal benefit society. The Order has since remained true to its founding principles of charity, unity and fraternity.

The Knights of Columbus was formed to render financial aid to members and their families. Mutual aid and assistance are offered to sick, disabled and needy members and their families. Social and intellectual fellowship is promoted among members and their families through educational, charitable, religious, social welfare, war relief and public relief works.

The Knights of Columbus has grown from several members in one council to more than 14,000 councils and 1.8 million members throughout the United States, Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, Poland, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Panama, the Bahamas, the Virgin Islands, Cuba, Guatemala, Guam and Saipan.

Our Council meets on the third Tuesday of each month (except March, June, and December). We start with a light meal at 6:15 pm, followed by the Council meeting (for members only) at 7:00 pm.

The Council holds many events throughout the year for fund raising for our Diocese vocations, our Parish support, and charitable contributions:

1. Community Breakfasts: second Sunday after 7:30 and 9:00 Masses each month
2. Wine Tasting Event: January
3. Vocations Dinner: Fall
4. Lenten Dinners: Fridays in Lent
5. Casino Night: April

The Council has supported:

Parish: Votive Candles  
Ice Machine for Kitchen

Capital Campaign: Yearly donation and furniture storage

Fall Festival: Council members volunteer for setup, food court, and tear down  
Major committee positions: Chairman, Grounds, Food Court, Games, and Transportation

Youth: Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts Pack and Troop 1324, Squires, Squirettes, American Heritage Girls

Vocations: Vocation Dinner: Proceeds go to Arch Diocese for Vocations support.  
Seminarian and Religious Support

Charitable: NAM  
Covenant House  
Christmas Angel

Community: Special Olympics  
State Convention Mobile Sonogram Program  
Parish Blood Drives

## **LEGION OF MARY**

### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Legion of Mary is the development of its members through holiness, by prayer and cooperation, for the glory of God, under ecclesiastical guidance, in Mary's and the Church's work of crushing the head of the serpent and advancing the reign of Christ.

The Legion of Mary is at the disposal of the Bishop of the diocese and the Parish Priest for any social service and Catholic action which these authorities may deem suitable to the legionaries and useful for the welfare of the Church.

### SUMMARY

The Legion of Mary was founded in Dublin, Ireland on September 7, 1921 by Frank Duff. It is the largest lay apostolic organization in the Catholic Church with over 10 million Active and Auxiliary members throughout the world.

The Legion of Mary at St. Ignatius of Loyola was affiliated on March 15, 2009 by Reverend Norbert Maduzia, Jr., the Church Pastor. In 2012, Reverend Martial Oya, Parochial Vicar, was appointed the new Spiritual Director.

Types of work focus primarily on the Spiritual Works of Mercy:

**Conversion** – establishing friendly contact with those outside the Church; promoting the 'New Evangelization' called for by Pope John Paul II.

**Conservation** – fostering Catholic ideals and devotions in parish communities and Catholic families.

**Consolation** – Visiting prisons, hospitals; nursing homes; shut-ins; praying the Holy Rosary at wakes and funerals, Pilgrim Virgin home visitations and home enthronement of the Sacred Heart.

The Legion of Mary holds weekly meetings every Monday at 7:00 P.M, in the Christus Center in the Pink Room in an atmosphere made supernatural by its wealth of prayer, by its devotional usages, and by its sweet spirit of fraternity,



The meetings begin with the recitation of the Holy Rosary. Members pray as if Our Blessed Lady herself were visibly present. This is followed by a spiritual reading from the Legion Handbook by the Spiritual Director (or in his absence, by the President); the minutes of previous meetings by the Secretary; standing instructions (1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the month and when a prospective active member attends first time); treasurer's report; members' report on Legion work done the previous week; recitation of the Catena or "Magnificat; Legionary Promise if there is a candidate who has attended twelve meetings; Allocutio (brief, 3 to 5 minutes commentary on the Spiritual Reading); Secret bag collection; the handbook study taken from the Legion Handbook; business pertaining to the Legion of Mary; work assignments for the following week; spiritual reading and handbook study for the following week; concluding prayers; and, the Priest's blessing. The meeting lasts about one hour.

This ministry holds four annual events:

1. Annual General Reunion - held around December 8, on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception
2. ACIES - the single most important Legion event of the year, held around the 25<sup>th</sup> of March
3. Feast of the Annunciation
4. Holy Mass - offered for deceased Legionaries in November.

The Legion system does not permit any fundraising in the Church. However, donations from individual members and benefactors are used to fund all Legion activities and to provide for all the religious books and articles used for our work.

As the largest lay Apostolic organization in the Catholic Church, the Legion of Mary at St. Ignatius has recited the Rosary at several funeral wakes, made Eucharistic visits to the sick and home bound, conducted Pilgrim Virgin Home Visitations, and distributed religious books and religious articles to Parishioners.

Our 6-month plans include the promotion of the True Devotion to Mary and Total Consecration to Jesus to the Parish Community, recruitment of more active members to the Legion and distribution of 1000 rosaries, miraculous medals and scapulars.

## **MINISTRIES OF MOTHERS (MOM)**

### MISSION STATEMENT

Our purpose is to serve as a ministry for mothers; fostering a community of fellowship, charity and witness of our Catholic faith for our children and for the St. Ignatius Loyola Community.

### SUMMARY

The Ministry of Mothers (formerly Mothers of Young Children) started in May 2003 through the commission and Pastoral Council process. The founding mothers, Tammy Prewitt and Kimberly Reisinger, are still active today. The ministry was started to provide mothers of young children and their families a focused community, considering that this phase of life can often be very isolating.

The activities during the year are as follows:

1. Play Group - once a week
2. Bible Study (moms only) – once every other week
3. Bible Study (dads only) – once every other week
4. Mom's night out – once a month
5. Charitable endeavors – determined based on need
6. Christmas Angels
7. Houston Coalition for Life – we provide donation

Planning Meetings are held three times a year and we participate in four annual events:

1. Mom's Half-Day Retreat
2. Mother's Luncheon (in cooperation with the Women's Club & Familia)
3. Family events (twice a year)

Money for this ministry is raised through bake sales after masses two weekends per year.

## **NEWCOMERS WELCOME**

### MISSION STATEMENT

### SUMMARY

We have new parishioner registration on the third Sunday of each month after every Mass. If you are unable to register during one of these times, please feel free to contact the office. These new parish registration times give you an opportunity to hear more about our family and to get to know some people in the parish. It is also a chance for the pastor to meet with the new people and put names and faces together. Registration in the parish is not necessary to be involved in any of our activities.

There is a lot going on in our active, vibrant parish. We encourage you to linger after worship service to meet with fellow parishioners and clergy. Be sure to pick up a copy of the Sunday Bulletin on your way out for all the latest news.

## **SENIOR FRIENDS**

### MISSION STATEMENT

Senior Friends (SF) at St. Ignatius who are 55 years and older are invited to minister and be ministered to both spiritually and socially within the organization.

### SUMMARY

We meet on the second Wednesday of the month, September through May. The dues are \$15 per person, per year. Meetings start at 10 am in the Social Hall and generally last two hours. A light lunch is provided after the meeting. We want our members to feel they are part of our Saint Ignatius family of friends, who value our Christina faith and love of country.

The Senior Friends Board meets on the first Tuesday of the month from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm in the Christus Center.

No meetings are held during the summer months, except for a “membership drive/social” Bingo from 9 am to 1 pm on the second Wednesday of August. Members are invited to bring a salad to share.

Senior Friends was founded in the fall of 1985 under the guidance of Fr. Tom Gillen, the first pastor. The first meeting was held at Suzanne’s Bakery on FM1960 and Wunderlich with about 15 people in attendance. Ruth Donadio was chosen to be president and Maude Johnson offered to be secretary/treasurer. Many fun service activities followed with the first out of town trip to Grand Coteau, LA, the spirituality Center for the Jesuits.

The ministry became involved with parish activities such as Fall Festival, taking on the running and baking for the Sweet Shop, working at Northwest Assistance Ministries, helping the Latter Day Saints Church with the Quilting Bee for Interfaith Ministries and many other services such as buying a refrigerator for the

church office use and tables for use in the Social Hall. A retreat has been held in March each year since 2000, giving us inspiration for the coming year.

Dues were \$10 until 2007 when membership had grown to around 100 members and we were serving lunch; the Board voted then to raise membership dues to \$15. September, 2013 has brought the Senior Friends from 15 members to 178 paid members.

In 1994, Jerry Eversole, Precinct 4 Chairman was able to get us free buses and many enjoyable trips have been taken within 150 miles. The only restriction was that you must be 55 years of age.

Senior Friends Ministry participates in many annual events, including: Retreats or days of reflection are offered to the entire SILCC community. One-day trips as well as extended trips lasting 3-4 and 7-10 days are planned and enjoyed throughout the year. Our ministry also participates in special projects of the parish community, such as Christmas Angels, the Fall Festival and St. Joseph's Altar.

The ministry raises money in the following ways:

1. Membership dues
2. 50/50 Door Prize Tickets

## **SPIRIT OF NEW LIFE**

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Spirit of New Life Ministry provides newborns and their families with a welcome and acceptance into the Body of Christ through the Sacrament of Baptism at St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Community. Our mission is to help initiate the life-long journey toward eternal life. We seek to do this by providing mothers and their children with an invitation to join the Ministry of Mothers playgroup in order to share their faith and experiences while building community.

### SUMMARY

The Spirit of New Life Ministry started over ten years ago. At that time, a group of parishioners decided to put together a gift bag from the Parish for the newly-baptized infant's family that would involve them in the faith community, as well as, provide them with helpful materials for spiritual growth.

The gift bag contains an instrumental CD from the St. Ignatius Music Department, holy cards, a bookmark, an invitation to join the Ministry of Mothers playgroup, and a Mass Schedule with nursery times for those parents who would like to use this service while they attend Mass.

Meetings (approximately two hours) are held every four months to assemble the Spirit of New Life gift bags. Depending on the inventory and the number of volunteers, extra meetings may be scheduled.

The Spirit of New Life does not have an annual event; but, we support the Fall Festival by putting together a newborn gift basket that is raffled off at the Festival.

The Spirit of New Life receives a budget to cover the cost of the items that are put into the gift bags. The budget covers CD's, CD cases, CD labels, bag labels, magnet

labels, magnets, paper and holy cards. The bookmarks, invitations, ribbon and paper bags that contain the gift items are donated.

For the past six months, and prior to that, we have printed the labels for the magnets, as well as, the labels for bags on our computers at home. The cover inserts for the CD cases, as well as, the labels for the CD's are prepared by the St. Ignatius Music Department. A CD duplicating machine is borrowed from the St. Ignatius Music Department to make copies of the CD's and then returned. All the items for the gift bags are then brought to the Christus Center where they are assembled and brought over to the church. They are now ready to be given out on the day of Baptism.

We will continue to assemble the bags, as stated in the previous paragraph. In the Spring, we plan to have an ice cream social for our members to thank them for their help and generous spirit.



## **SQUIRETTES OF MARY**

### MISSION STATEMENT

The name, Squirettes of Mary, was chosen because of its sacred meaning and because its organization is consecrated to the United Catholic Action through devotion to Our Blessed Mother, under whose protection the organization was founded. Squirettes of Mary's mission is spiritual, moral and intellectual advancement of its members, and the promotion of that which is best, both in their church and community life.

### SUMMARY

Sponsored by St. Ignatius Loyola Knights of Columbus Council 10861, the Our Lady of Grace Squirette Circlette is open to Catholic girls ages 10 to 18. The Squirettes conduct their own activities independently, but also participate in joint activities with the John T. Sansano Columbian Squires Circle 4703.

The Squirettes at St. Ignatius held their charter investiture in November 2008 with 40 members and is the only Circlette west of the Mississippi River. We were told that our St. Ignatius Loyola Squirettes is the largest charter investiture on record!

The Squirette Program was founded by Father Michael Keane, Father Prior of the Immaculate Conception Circle of Columbian Squires in Colton, California. Father Keane felt that there should be a group comparable to the Columbian Squires for Catholic girls. Through his efforts, the first Squirette of Mary Circlette was formed. The organization has a very active program planned by the members under the guidance of their Counselors. At the present time, there are Circlettes operating in the United States, Canada and Japan.

Meetings normally take place the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month from August through May each year.

We are a Catholic girl's youth group from ages 10 to 18 years old. We are involved in the following activities:

1. **Community Service:** · Assist at Knights of Columbus events · Raise money for Charity
2. **Spiritual:** · May Crowning of Mary · Corporate Communion
3. **Social:** · We have Parties

The Squirettes elect their own officers. The officers are: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Sentinel. The President appoints committee chairs. The committee chairs are: Spiritual, Social and Service.

The Committee of Counselors consists of a Chief Counselor, and at least one counselor for each activity appointed by the sponsoring organization. The Counselors are in direct control of the Circlette but are responsible to the sponsoring organization at all times for the welfare and progress of the Squirette Circlette. The sponsoring organization is directly responsible to the Supreme Council Columbiettes.

The Squirettes host five annual events:

1. Pancake breakfast
2. Fall Festival
3. Lenten Dinner
4. Care packages for the US soldiers
5. Living rosary and Mary crowning in May

and raise money by making and selling brownie mixes, cooking Lenten dinner, etc.

## **ST JOSEPH ALTAR GUILD**

### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the St. Joseph Altar Guild is threefold:

1. to feed the needy
2. to honor St. Joseph by celebrating his Feast Day
3. to perpetuate the Sicilian American tradition of the St. Joseph Altar celebration.

### SUMMARY

Everyone is welcome to join the guild.

## **VIETNAMESE MINISTRY**

### MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to serve the needs of the Vietnamese community within our larger Parish Community.

### SUMMARY

The Vietnamese Ministry was organized to serve the needs of the Vietnamese community within the St. Ignatius Loyola Parish. It is open to all Parishioners who have roots back to Vietnam.

The ministry does not hold regularly-scheduled meetings but participates in the annual Parish Fall Festival using monetary donations, time and effort of its members in setting up and running their booth.

## **WOMEN'S CLUB**

### MISSION STATEMENT

The St. Ignatius Women's Club is a team of women from the Parish, called together to participate in promoting the spirit of fellowship, support and education of its members, as well as, in meeting the social and spiritual needs, not only of its Parish members, but also the parish's surrounding communities.

### SUMMARY

The St. Ignatius Women's Club, according to its by-laws, was chartered on May 6, 1987 with the following offices: President; Vice-President; Secretary; and Treasurer.

Board meetings, which are open to all members, are held at varying locations on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. at the Christus Center.

Generally meetings, which include various activities, are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month in the Social Hall, unless otherwise notified, from August through May. Social time begins at 6:30 P.M. followed by the general meeting at 7:00 - 9:00 P.M.

The Women's Club participates in the annual Fall Festival and other social events within the Parish. We also have our annual November Holiday Bazaar, Christmas Dinner and May Banquet for installation of new officers.

Funds come from membership dues and our annual Holiday Bazaar held in November.