

# PARISH MINISTRIES

Fervent Disciples Living Our Vision

2014-2015

## TO EACH THE SPIRIT IS GIVEN

At St. Norbert Parish, we encourage all of our parishioners to serve in some way as part of their life of faith. Our service both at Church and in the community helps us to live our parish vision of Fervent Disciples lovingly embracing Jesus present in the poor, the alienated and the spiritually hungry.

Wherever you are in your journey of faith or as a member of the Catholic Church, the St. Norbert community is alive with ministry opportunities to grow in faith and service. Our ministries are organized along the following areas of parish life:

Worship.....	1
Community.....	2
Evangelization.....	3
Formation.....	3
Service.....	4
Leadership.....	5
Stewardship.....	6

### Our Vision

*St. Norbert Parish aspires to become one in Christ as a community of fervent disciples, who listen attentively for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and who lovingly embrace Jesus, present in the poor, the alienated and the spiritually hungry.*

## WORSHIP

### PRAYER AND SACRAMENTAL LIFE



Worship is the center of life at St. Norbert Catholic Community. As we gather to praise God we receive the grace to grow in unity and discipleship and to serve our families, our parish, and our world. All our ministries reflect this centering grace of Jesus Christ.

We invite you to join us at our weekly liturgies and consider joining one of the following ministries to help you grow in your spiritual life and serve our community.

#### Altar Servers

Boys and girls fourth grade and older assist at worship celebrations. They serve at Mass, weddings, Eucharistic Adoration and other spiritual programs.

#### Audiovisual Ministry

Members of the audiovisual ministry are trained to operate the sound board in our church for weekend and Holy Day Masses, as well as other worship events. Volunteers for this ministry need to have a good ear and a moderate to high degree of comfort with technical equipment, but **most importantly**, they believe that helping God's word to be proclaimed clearly in spoken and sung form is vital to our worship experience.

#### Children's Liturgy of the Word

**(CLOW)** Children in grades K-3 listen and participate in the Sunday readings at an age-appropriate level designed to relate the Gospel to their lives while praying and petitioning the Lord in the Oratory during

9:00 AM and 11:30 AM Masses each week during the school year.

**Eucharistic Adoration**

The exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is held every Thursday after 8:00 AM Mass in the Oratory and concludes with Benediction at 3:30 PM; also on Saturdays from 4 to 5 PM during Reconciliation and every second Thursday evening of the month at 7:30PM during the Prayer and Healing Gatherings. Thursday Benediction is not held during July and August.

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

*“The Body of Christ!”*



How wonderful to be able to say these words and share in the Eucharist in this very special way. Our Extraordinary Ministers aid the clergy in distributing the consecrated Body and Blood of our Lord during Mass. These ministers serve on a rotating basis. The parish provides training for those who may be called to serve our church community in this special ministry.

**Festival of Praise**

Joyfully celebrate the glory of our Lord through worship music and song from the very lively to the deeply reverential. These monthly evenings include a time of Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction. The Festival of Praise (“FOP”) begins at 7:30 PM and usually concludes around 9:00 PM. Open to all, young and old, families and singles, the FOP is held the first Friday of each month at 7:30 PM in the Oratory. All are invited to praise and worship the Lord with prayer and song.

**Greeters & Ushers**

These ministers help create a spirit of hospitality and community. They represent the Lord reaching out to the world in invitation. Our Greeters are the first to welcome those who enter our church to worship and make them comfortable in our community. Ushers assist visitors and parishioners in our worship experience before, during and after Mass.

**Lectors**

Sacred Scripture guides us throughout our busy

lives and inspires us to live the Word daily. Our Lectors are assigned to specific Masses to proclaim the Scripture readings to the community. For daily Mass, Lectors usually serve one day every other week. Our Saturday Vigil and Sunday Lectors serve approximately once a month. We invite those with the gift to proclaim the Word clearly, with understanding and reverence, to share in this vital ministry.

**Legion of Mary**

This lay Catholic organization serves the Church on a voluntary way through prayer and active cooperation with Mary. Members participate through visitation of families, the sick — both in their homes and in hospitals — and through collaboration in every apostolic and missionary undertaking sponsored by the parish. Meetings are held weekly on Thursdays at 10 AM.

**Morning Prayer**

Open to all, recitation of morning prayer is held Monday through Saturday at 7:45 AM in the Oratory before the 8 AM daily Mass.

**Music**

Through talented cantors, musicians and singers, our congregation is led to deeper worship at Masses. Four specific choirs and instrumental accompanists provide music through:

- ◆ **Saturday Vigil Mass Ensemble** featuring guitars and various other instruments and singers
- ◆ **Sunday Choir** includes a robust ensemble of musicians and singers, cantors, instrumentalists, organists and pianists
- ◆ **Youth Choir** teens provide energy and musical talent via percussion instruments, guitars and piano
- ◆ **Spanish Choir** enthusiastic musicians with gifts of rhythm and melody praise the Lord in Spanish with joy and reverence

**Novena**

Perpetual Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal is recited every Friday morning after 8 AM Mass.

**Prayer and Healing Ministry**

Do you, or someone you know, need to be set free spiritually, physically, psychologically, relationally, or in any other way? Come to the Prayer and Healing Ministry on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM for a night of praise, worship,

and healing prayer in our Church along with the sacraments of Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick and Eucharistic Adoration.

**Rosary**

Following the daily 8 AM Mass, Monday through Saturday, the Rosary is prayed.

**COMMUNITY**  
**A WELCOMING AND CARING**  
**PARISH FAMILY**



At St. Norbert's, Community Life and Fellowship are about supporting our parishioners in mind, body and spirit. From working to insure academic excellence in our school, to providing hospitality, to playing sports, to caring for those in need at times of distress, our mission is to share the experience of Christ's merciful love through a wide and diverse offering of activities, programs and efforts designed to foster our Catholic Community life.

**50+ Group**

Our 50+ Group provides adults age 50 and up with spiritual, social, educational, and service activities as well as fellowship in a welcoming environment. Join us for pilgrimages, lectures, social events, service projects and other enrichment experiences.

**CARES**

A safe, caring after-school program available to families with children at St. Norbert School from 3-6 PM Monday through Friday.

**Catholic Youth Organization (CYO)**

Provides opportunities for all parish children to develop strong moral character and self-worth through athletic, recreational, service and social activities. Based on Catholic Christian principles, basketball, field hockey, soccer, track and cheerleading are among our most popular activities. Also provides adults the opportunity to act as coaches for various athletic teams and service projects.

**Eucharist to the Homebound**

Extraordinary Communion Ministers bring Communion to homebound parishioners who are unable to attend Mass.

**Fellowship**

The Fellowship Ministry fosters a welcoming atmosphere for everyone and hosts a refreshment table on the third weekend of each month after all Masses and at other parish celebrations during the year. There are many ways in which people may serve this ministry, including shopping for supplies and food, setting up, baking an item to be served, serving drinks and refreshments, reaching out to people in conversation, and cleaning up.

**Home and School Association (HASA)**

HASA is designed to support Catholic education at our School. The activities of HASA are two-fold in nature. First, social activities bring together parents and families for the purpose of building a stronger feeling of community and school morale. Secondly, fund raising activities are designed to fund school improvements which benefit all the children and support the task of providing a quality education.

**Men's Basketball**

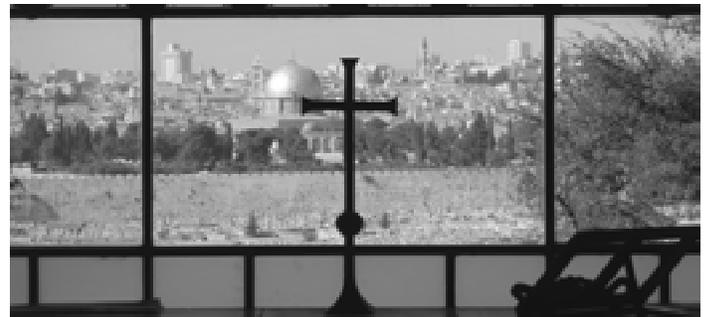
Sunday evenings adult men of the parish gather in the gym for recreational basketball games, fellowship, camaraderie, talk and healthy competition.

**Separated and Divorce Care**

Provides support for those who have experienced separation and divorce

**EVANGELIZATION**

**WITNESSING, PROCLAIMING,**  
**INVITING & EVANGELIZING**



Adult Catholics are called to an ongoing process of

discipleship in Jesus Christ. As part of the New Evangelization announced by Saint Pope John Paul II and reinforced by Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis I, we are dedicated to helping our parishioners better understand our Catholic faith so we can live it and profess it confidently in our daily life.

### **Gethsemani Ministry for Addictions**

This new effort is intended to reduce the stigma associated with addictions while raising awareness and providing a Catholic faith-based approach to recovery, healing and support to those in need. To those with addictions and their loved ones, Gethsemani evokes both the agony and hope that leads to recovery and new life.

### **Small Groups**

A number of adult parishioners (both men and women, together and separately) gather regularly in parish facilities or in members' homes, with the intention of sharing and deepening their faith. Centered in the Scripture, these groups are about making the Word of God an integral part of everyday life, growing closer to God and experiencing the grace of Christian community.

### **Word of Life**

Members meet monthly to share faith experiences based on a specific Scripture verse. There are separate gatherings for men (4th Thursday), at 7:30pm and women (2nd Tuesday) at 7:30 pm.

### **Young Adults**

Do you seek fellowship and community while having a desire to get to know Jesus Christ, but find it hard to connect with church activities because you are at that point in life of being both too old and too young? Whether you are single or married, if you are in your 20's and 30's this ministry welcomes you to be a part of our Christian community of young adults as we nurture and develop our personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Join them as they grow together in faith through prayer, fellowship, service and fun.

## **FORMATION**

### **EDUCATION, INITIATION AND FAITH FORMATION**



Wherever you are in your journey of faith as a member of the Catholic Church, a St. Norbert parishioner or a non-member, there are ongoing formation and evangelization programs offered throughout the year to help you grow in your faith. Faith Formation at St. Norbert's has been created for young, old, seekers, singles, newly married, young families, and everyone. Scripture study, personal growth development, lectures, retreats, history programs, Catholic Book Clubs and more are offered to help you discover and live your faith. Among the key offerings are:

### **Alpha Program**

Alpha is a 10 week series that explores the essential components of the Christian faith in a manner that is engaging for people who have little or no background in Christianity or a lifetime of involvement with the church. Alpha provides an opportunity for people of all ages and levels of faith to experience Christian community, engage in discussions in a safe and friendly environment, and encounter the love of God in a personal relationship through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

### **Bible Study**

*"Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ,"* said St. Jerome. As such, St. Norbert offers many opportunities to engage in the study of God's word through The Great Adventure Bible Timeline program and individual scripture studies like

A Quick Journey Through the Bible, Mary: A Biblical Walk With the Blessed Mother, Luke and more. Groups meet Tuesday from 8:30AM-9:30AM and Thursday from 9:00AM -11:00AM.

## 2014-2015 ST. NORBERT PARISH MINISTRIES

### **Pre-Cana**

For those couples preparing to enter the Sacrament of Marriage, Pre-Cana is a weekend program given by married couples. It is designed to help engaged couples grow closer to each other and in their understanding of successful and sacramental marriage.

### **Pre-Jordan (Baptism Preparation)**

Parents are the most important models of faith in the lives of their children. Pre-Jordan ministry provides an opportunity for parents to informally meet with other families preparing for their children's Baptism and reflect on their own relationship with God. Considering their personal faith experience and sharing it with others helps parents assume their responsibility as Christian role models for their children. Pre-Jordan is held every other month and is required for those who wish to have their children baptized at St. Norbert.

### **Parish Religious Education Program**

**(PREP)** The fundamentals of Catholicism are instilled in our children each week during the school year in children in grades Pre-K through 6. Children are prepared for the Sacraments with First Penance, First Communion and Confirmation. They become knowledgeable about our faith, traditions, history, lives of the Saints, Bible stories, prayer, Catholic morality and the Sacramental life of the Catholic Church. PREP is offered for those children not attending a Catholic school.

### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

Have you been considering the possibility of becoming Catholic or do you know someone who may be interested? RCIA (the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is for those interested in exploring the Catholic faith, and perhaps, in becoming Catholic. Weekly meetings are held Sundays from 10:15AM-11:15AM to discuss the Catholic Church and its teachings in a relaxed, conversational environment. No commitment is required to come and explore the faith, but the opportunity to freely choose to continue toward becoming Catholic is available. RCIA is also the place for those who are already certain that they would like to become Catholic and for baptized Catholics who may not have learned about their faith or completed the sacraments of initiation (Confirmation and/or Eucharist). Come and see!

### **St. Norbert School**

Our Pre-K through 8th grade school provides a

strong Catholic education rooted in faith, academics and service in a safe, Christ-centered atmosphere. Our students' Catholic identity is formed through daily religion class, daily morning prayers, First Friday Mass, weekly Adoration, Penance services, Stations of the Cross, and May Procession. Our challenging academic curriculum is rigorous, relevant, and utilizes the latest technology with iPads for all students. Each classroom is equipped with a smart board or flat panel TV with an Apple TV. Students in Grades 5-8 use the iPads to enhance their learning in the classroom and at home.

Our Terra Nova testing scores are above the local, diocesan and national scores. In 2014 our 8th graders earned over \$459,000 in scholarships to archdiocesan and private high schools. Come for a visit and a tour by calling 610.644.1670.

### **Youth Ministry**

All 7th-12th grade students in public, Catholic, private or home schools are encouraged to be part of our vibrant Youth Ministry. Our young people face a variety of challenges as they navigate their way to spiritual maturity. St. Norbert Youth Ministry is dedicated to guiding them along this journey of faith. Each Sunday night is "Youth Night" for our high school students beginning with our 6 PM Youth Mass followed by "Sunday Night Live" from 7:15 to 9 PM. On Thursday nights we have our Middle School program called THE EDGE. In addition, there are yearly summer mission trips, weekend retreats, local service projects and an annual pilgrimage to the Steubenville Youth Conference at Franciscan University in Ohio. Come check us out!

## **Service**

### **PASTORAL OUTREACH AND SERVICE FOR JUSTICE**



## 2014-2015 ST. NORBERT PARISH MINISTRIES

The mission to which Christ calls the Church clearly includes works of charity and justice. Throughout his public ministry, Jesus demonstrated the degree to which we are to be of service to others in need while working to change the social conditions that create such needs. At St. Norbert Parish, we “listen attentively for the guidance of the Holy Spirit and lovingly embrace Jesus present in the poor, the alienated and the spiritually hungry.” Join us in our service ministries:

### **Aid for Friends**

Aid for Friends is a regional five county program. Its mission is to serve needy, isolated shut-ins, primarily the frail and elderly with free daily home-cooked meals prepared by parishioners and delivered weekly by empathetic volunteer visitors. The goal is to enhance the quality of life for our homebound “friends/clients” and to help them maintain their cherished independence by supporting their determination to remain in their own homes for as long as possible.

### **Bethesda Project**

For over 30 years, our parishioners have been serving hundreds of the most vulnerable homeless men and women in 12 Bethesda Project facilities in Philadelphia. Our volunteers collect clothes, bedding, toiletries and prepare food that is delivered to feed those in shelters. We also have weekly visits and meal preparation with residents and shelter guests.

### **Christmas Giving Tree**

For more than 20 years, St. Norbert parishioners have sponsored a Christmas Giving Tree filled with ornaments with names of children, shut-ins, families and organizations. Each year over 1,600 gifts and gift cards are collected and distributed.

### **Clothing and Small Household Item Collection**

Clothing and small household items are collected on the first full weekend of the month. These items are given to the Second Mile Thrift Shop, Bethesda and Birthright to help those in need.

### **General Volunteers**

Parishioners register to help, when available, with various parish projects such as office work, mailings, event set up, cleaning and where needed.

### **Helping Hands**

Parish volunteers provide visits, meals, rides or other support to St. Norbert parishioners with

varied needs.

### **Knights of Columbus**

Men of St. Norbert support and assist the parish community and sponsor fundraising, educational and social activities for parishioners. The primary mission of the Knights of Columbus is to help those less fortunate. Their web site is [www.kofcpaoli.org/info.htm](http://www.kofcpaoli.org/info.htm).

### **Pajama Buddy Project**

Volunteers sew pajama bags or fill finished bags with new pajamas for children arriving in shelters around Chester County.

### **Respect Life**

Members gather to pray and work for the protection of human life from conception to natural death. Respect Life also plans, schedules and coordinates our annual trip to the March for Life in Washington along with local prayer days at clinics. We also work closely with Birthright to provide infant and toddler clothes, maternity clothes and household goods.

### **St. Gabriel Parish**

Parishioners provide food for St. Gabriel’s Food Cupboard run by our sister parish (and our pastor, Father Mike’s former parish) in Gray’s Ferry. Volunteers donate, help load, and deliver non-perishable foods. At holidays, we provide special meals (turkeys and fixings) and supplies to the food cupboard and every August parishioners donate new backpacks filled with school supplies for the needy children of Our Lady of Angels, St. Gabriel School.

## **Leadership**

### **PARISH LEADERSHIP, ADMINISTRATION AND FACILITIES**



While the pastor bears the ultimate responsibility and authority within the parish, the gifts of the laity

## 2014-2015 ST. NORBERT PARISH MINISTRIES

are needed and welcomed in the service of the parish. The Church's mission in the world is the responsibility of the baptized fostering a collaboration between the clergy and laity. St. Norbert Parish Leadership works in concert to guide Fervent Disciples in our mission making sure there is sufficient and ongoing strategic planning, managing and maintaining of resources on our physical campus.

### Altar Guild

As our community celebrates the Word of God, our church shines not only in the love for Our Lord but also by the ongoing devotion of the Guild that cleans our beautiful church. The members of the Guild meet on Friday mornings after the 8 AM Mass. We always welcome new members and are grateful for their hard work and devotion to the Lord's House.

### Altar Linen Care Ministry

The members of this ministry volunteer on a rotating schedule to reverently launder and care for the sacred linens used on the altar at Mass. Training is provided on how to care for these special linens that contain the Body and Blood of our Lord.

### Gardening and Landscaping Committee

The Gardening and Landscaping Committee cares for and beautifies the parish grounds. Not only do the members of this committee use their time and talent to keep St. Norbert's grounds beautiful, they also plan for gardening and landscaping needs for the future with emphasis on minimizing maintenance and cost.

### Parish Finance Council

This Council meets regularly to advise the Pastor in the planning, budgeting and control of our financial resources, parish materials, goods and resources.

### Parish Pastoral Council

According to the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, the purpose of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) is to foster full participation of the entire parish in the life, the mission and the long-term planning of the local faith community and of the universal Church. Specifically, our PPC advises the pastor on a range of topics that lie at the very heart of parish life, including issues related to community, evangelization, leadership, service, stewardship, teaching and worship.

### School Advisory Board

The primary mission of the School Advisory Board is to provide strategic guidance, advice and support to our Principal and Pastor. Our board is comprised of school parents, parishioners, local business leaders and educators.

## Stewardship

### LIVING RESPONSIBLY THROUGH PRACTICE AND PURPOSE



*"Stewardship is the grateful response of a Christian disciple who recognizes and receives God's gifts and shares these gifts in love of God and neighbor."*

Through our Baptism each of us is called to follow the stewardship model of Jesus, the good and faithful servant. At St. Norbert Parish, it is the grateful response of a Christian disciple who recognizes and receives God's gifts and shares these gifts in love of God and neighbor.

### Living Your Strengths

Ever wonder what your unique gifts are? What you have to offer to others and how you can be of best service for God? Living Your Strengths consists of a two-week introductory session and an optional four-week small group follow-up program to help you discover your God-given talents and how to apply them for growth and service at home, at work and in the Church community.

## CALLED TO MINISTRY & SERVICE

*"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*

**CONTACT:** Ed Grady at 610.644.1655 ext. 115 or [egrady@StNorbert.org](mailto:egrady@StNorbert.org) to take an active role.

# ST. NORBERT PARISH 2014-2015

## CONTACTS:

Rev. Michael J. Lee, O. Praem., **Pastor**  
Rev. Carl Braschoss, O. Praem., **Parochial Vicar**  
Deacon John Lozano

Mary Kay Hennessy, **Principal**

## STAFF:

Adult Formation: Deacon John Lozano  
Business Manager: Dan D'Auria  
Bookkeeper: Nancy Dougherty  
Communications Director: Mark Christmyer  
Liturgy and Parish Calendar Coordinator: Laura Peterson  
Religious Education: Scott Johnston  
Parish Secretary: Truus Smith  
Administrative Assistant: Ruth Finley  
Stewardship: Moira Murphy  
Volunteer and Activities Coordinator: Ed Grady  
Youth Minister: Mark Griswold

For contact information see [www.StNorbert.org](http://www.StNorbert.org)

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Nathan Ball, Forrest Fisher, Peggy Kravitz, Maryann Lockard, Heather Makowicz, Therese McElwee, Jim Ryan, Steve Ryan

## PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL:

Deacon Bill Massapollo, Forrest Fisher, Rob Healy, Megan Liney, Frank Merenda, Bill Stemper, John Ziegler

## SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD:

Mary Cavallaro, Nicole Elguicze, Hank Fila, Forrest Fisher, Maria Gatto, Mary Kay Hennessy, Megan Liney, Katie Lopresti, Scott Johnston, Joanne McAdams, Meg Sargent, John Ziegler

## ST. NORBERT SCHOOL

For information regarding programs at St. Norbert School please call Mary Kay Hennessy 610.644.1670 or [mkhennessy@stnorbert.org](mailto:mkhennessy@stnorbert.org)

For more Parish information please visit our website at [stnorbert.org](http://stnorbert.org)

## SAFE ENVIRONMENT

### PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN

At St. Norbert, the safety and protection of our children is paramount. Therefore, volunteers in any ministry involving children are required to complete the appropriate Safe Environment training.

**CONTACT:** Ed Grady at 610.644.1655 ext. 115 or [Egrady@StNorbert.org](mailto:Egrady@StNorbert.org) for more information.