



Saint Mary's

Parish Life

Finance Council

This is a consultative body offering advice to the pastor on financial matters for the parish. Members assist the pastor and Financial Manager in areas such as preparing budgets; reviewing income statements, balance sheets and statements of cash flow. Input is provided on major decisions concerning: ordinary operations, the management of parish assets or significant administrative acts that may incur a long-term expense to the parish.

Invitation: to interested parishioners with appropriate talents are invited to contact the pastor to serve on various subcommittees. Members are appointed for a specific term.

Parish Mailings

This involves the preparation for mailing of Church information, special announcements, etc., to all parishioners. These mailings, of various sizes, are collated, placed into envelopes, and prepared for delivery to the Post Office. The number of mailings varies throughout the year.

Invitation: to coordinators to lead teams of volunteers and to volunteers to serve on teams to participate in the preparation of mailings.

Pastoral Council

Comprised of clergy and laity, the purpose of the council is to assist the pastor in the ministry of the parish, to enable the parish to share in the general pastoral thrust of the Diocese of Fall River and to promote programs and activities recommended or presented by the Diocesan Bishop.

Invitation: Laity are appointed or elected for a specific term.

Permanent Diaconate

Permanent deacons are qualified laymen who, after being trained by the Diocese, are ordained by the Bishop to serve the needs of the parish and the Diocese. The training involves a 5-year program and new candidates will be notified when the next 5-year program will begin.

Invitation: to men of faith willing to explore the possibility of becoming a permanent Deacon and through prayer and discernment, determine if this is their vocation.

Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee is responsible for the annual stewardship renewal process and overall stewardship awareness in the parish. Stewardship is a way of life. It is a way of acknowledging and thanking God for all His blessings. Good stewards receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly, and return them to Him abundantly.

In realizing that all that we are and all that we have are gifts from God, we experience a change in mind and heart. God calls each of us individually to be disciples and to love and serve God and one another. God created our world and then entrusted it to us. The challenge for us is to understand our role, not as owners but as caretakers, managers, or stewards. Living a life of stewardship engenders a spirituality that deepens our relationship with God by intentional, planned, proportionate, and sacrificial giving of our time, talent, and treasure.

Invitation: to individuals and families thankful for God's blessings and desiring more information on living a life of stewardship may seek more information through the committee.

To participate in any of these ministries, visit our website at www.StMaryMans.org or take a ministry coordinator list & contact the appropriate ministry head.