

Saint Maria Goretti Catholic Church Peace & Justice Ministries

Mission Statement

"As followers of Jesus Christ, fully committed to His gospel as professed in the Roman Catholic Church, we deliberately strive to live in an on-going state of spiritual conversion. As we move closer to our goal of being transformed by the power and love of the Spirit of God, we move out in catechesis and service to our brothers and sisters. We recognize that we are called in stewardship to build relationships of love and justice.

We are undaunted in our zeal for souls, in our eagerness to walk in the steps of Jesus, who came "to bring glad tidings to the poor...liberty to captives...recovery of sight to the blind" (Lk 4:18-19), who identified Himself with the last of these, the hungry and the stranger."

Ministry Information

This ministry is continually being blessed and renewed by the Holy Spirit. There is not only an increase of ministries and clients served, but equally important, an increase of parishioners who are being actively involved in stewardship.

Parishioners of all ages are becoming involved in praying, sharing, and serving the needy through stewardship. On a daily basis the powerful work of the Spirit is witnessed in people's lives as miracles unfold, joy returns to desperate faces and once again hope abounds. At times there are no words to express the joy witnessed with God at work in His children's lives. Yes, there are days of great stress, constant demands, and needs, but always great joy and hope in the midst of it all!

Ministries

ST. ANTHONY'S BREAD FOOD PANTRY

- Established November 1, 1998

Open every Tuesday and Saturday. 8:30 AM except holidays

Closed the month of July

Coordinators: Tuesday - Director, Saturdays - Brad Maunders

Serve 30 families each day open = 240 families per month = average 1000 fed

After clients have been coming one year, they step off the rolls so others may be helped. We receive support from parishioners, other SMG ministries, SMG school; St. Joseph Catholic Church and the local community.

ST. TERERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS BABY'S WORLD

- Established April 2, 1999

Open every Tuesday and Saturday, 8:30 AM except holidays

Closed the month of July

Coordinator: Nancy Beruman Serve about 150 - 200 women per month

Clients are referred by John Peter Smith Hospital, local crisis pregnancy centers, other social agencies, and by word of mouth. The annual fundraiser, "Baby Banks:" helps to fund this ministry. The ministry is always in need of good, used infant and toddler clothing, cribs, playpens, and strollers. Donations of formula, diapers, and baby wipes are always appreciated.

TOOLS FOR SCHOOL

Coordinator: Brad Maunders Serves about 300-500 children per year
Gathering of school supplies (new and slightly used) given to SMG School Teachers, parishioner children in need and children from the Food Pantry/Baby's World client list in need.

PRISON MINISTRY

Coordinator: Ben Weiberg. This ministry has been in effect for over ten years and serves two major facilities: Green Bay Facility (Off 820 North) on Sunday mornings and the local Tarrant County Jail (Downtown Fort Worth) on Tuesday evenings. Always in need of compassionate ministers, good used Bibles, and rosaries.

VISITING MINISTRY

Coordinator: Joan Brown. This ministry visits the sick and elderly in local hospitals, nursing homes, and the home bound to include bringing Communion and the word of God. There are about 12 - 15 regular visitors. Some go in teams, others alone. The coordinator works with the SMG directors and trains the volunteers. The pastor is notified if someone desires reconciliation (confession).

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKET DRIVE

Coordinators: Les and Terry Martin

Serve an average of 150-200 needy families each year. There is lots of support from the parish and SMG School. It is a wonderful service to the local community and a great outlet of stewardship for SMG parishioners to live out the gospel this holiday season.

CHRISTMAS ANGEL TREE PROJECT

Coordinators: Volunteers each year Serve an average of 400-600 angels to needy children each year. Tables are set up in the cafetorium after all Masses in order for parishioners to adopt an angel and provide a few Christmas gifts for them.