

St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish Life and Hospitality Committee

The purpose of the Parish Life and Hospitality Committee is to serve God and the parish community by providing hospitality in many ways. The committee is comprised of a core group of active members who plan and provide most activities, and a large group of volunteers who donate time and food, when requested, to social events and the other ministries.

Any parishioner may serve on the committee as a core member or occasional volunteer. To join the committee, please contact the parish office or indicate your desire to serve on the yearly Time and Talent survey sheet.

Ministries of Hospitality:

Easter Vigil and Pentecost

Hospitality members prepare and host a reception to welcome new Church members at both Easter and Pentecost.

Adopt- A-Student

This ministry matches interested university and college students with families in the parish. Students receive the support of a family during the academic year, often participating in family activities and sharing meals and worship. Families receive the joy of helping to mentor a student during their college years and providing a “home away from home.” Students and families are paired at the beginning of the academic year in the fall.

Faculty Receptions and Lunches

Hospitality members sponsor a reception in the fall of each academic year for students, faculty and staff. The reception is held prior to the 9 pm student Mass, and faculty members serve as liturgical ministers at the liturgy. This affords students the opportunity to see Catholic faculty as witnesses to their faith. Catholic faculty are hosted at luncheons several times each semester. Faculty have the opportunity to interact and witness to their faith in the context of the academic world. Speakers often highlight the discussions which follow lunch. Faculty are asked to make a nominal contribution for the meal.

Penitential Rites

Hospitality members provide meals for priests who assist with penitential rites during Advent and Lent.

International Women

This group brings together International women and American women to make friendships and to share conversation and their faith.

Funeral Ministry

Hospitality members provide comfort to parish members who suffer the loss of a loved one through receptions, meals, and house sitting during the funeral service. Parishioners are informed of this service when they contact the priest about the death and impending funeral.

Special Events

Hospitality members provide assistance and meals at numerous other parish events, such as arrival and departure of staff, parish picnics, parish work days, and special lectures.

Meals Ministry

Meals are delivered to church members after hospitalization or the birth of a baby, on a short term basis.

Card Ministry

Cards are sent to ill members of the community and to those who have lost a family member.