

Pastoral Care:

Communion to the Homebound/ Hospitals/ Pastoral Visits:

If you or a loved one is unable to get to Mass but would like to have a pastoral visit and receive communion, please contact Fr. Dennis at (651) 463-3360. Additionally, if you or a loved one is in the hospital or a nursing home, and would like someone to visit, you may also call Fr. Dennis. If he is unavailable, the calls will be directed to Dottie Knutson at (651) 463-5224.



Prayers at Mass for those who have died:

If you have a family member who has recently died and would like that name mentioned in the Prayers of the Faithful at Mass, please contact Dottie at (651) 463-5224 or the parish office at (651) 463-3360. Requests need to come from a family member directly. Requests should be made Monday—Friday between 8:00 am-4:00 pm during parish office hours.



Prayers at Mass for those who are seriously ill:

If you or a family member is dealing with a serious illness and would like that name mentioned in the Prayers of the Faithful at Mass, please contact Dottie at (651) 463-5224 or the parish office at (651) 463-3360. Requests need to come from the individual or a family member directly. Requests should be made Monday—Friday between 8:00 am-4:00 pm during parish office hours.



Prayer Chain and “Request a Prayer”:

At St. Michael’s there are a couple of ways to request prayers. One is by contacting Kayla Hajduk at (952) 431-4643 or by email at joehajduk@gmail.com and having your request put on the **Prayer Chain** (a group of parishioners who pray daily for those who have requested prayers). If you would like to be a “pray-er”, you may also call Kala for more information. Additionally, if you go to our parish website www.stmichael-farmington.org you will see the link for “**Request a Prayer.**” Be sure to indicate if you would like your request on the Prayer Chain, in the “Remembrance Book,” or both. The “Remembrance Book” is a book that is in the Worship Space near the votive lights. The prayers written in that book are remembered (collectively) by all who gather for Mass each weekend.



Samaritan Ministers:

The Samaritan Ministers Ministry began at St. Michael's in the spring of 1986 with a three month training period. Some of the individuals who were in the first group of ministers are still involved with the ministry today. Samaritan ministers are truly ministers of compassion and caring. They are responsible for visiting homebound parishioners, conducting Word and Communion Services at the nursing home, and much more. A Samaritan Minister must be a loving, compassionate, non-judgmental listener to people in need. If you would like more information about this ministry you may contact Dottie Knutson at (651) 463-5224 or dknutson@stmichael-farmington.org. The group typically meets every other month for prayer, check-in, and social. Occasionally, a guest speaker will be invited to share his/her insights into this type of ministry.



Funeral Luncheon Brigade:

Help set up, serve a simple meal, clean up, or run the dishwasher following a funeral at St. Michael's. Men and women are invited to be a part of this brigade. If you are unable to help at the funeral, we are also in need of people to donate salads or desserts. Please contact one of the following people for more information:

- Jane Nielson: (651) 463-4521
- Jeanne Thompson: (651) 463-8848
- Gretchen Bergman: (651) 463-7385
- Carole Hansen: (651) 460-6541



Prayer Shawl Ministry:

The Prayer Shawl Ministry began at St. Michael's in July of 2009 meeting monthly. At this time, the group is not actively meeting; however there are several individuals who continue to knit/crochet shawls for those who might be comforted by receiving a shawl.

The following is what was said about prayer shawls in the November 2006 Franciscan Retreat House brochure: *"Shawls...made for centuries, universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, give solace, mother, hug, shelter and beautify. Those who receive these shawls have been uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to fly above their troubles...Whether they are called Prayer Shawls, Comfort Shawls, Peace Shawls, or Mantles, etc., the shawl maker begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient. The intentions are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. Upon completion, a final blessing is offered before the shawl is sent on its way. Some recipients have continued the kindness by making a shawl and passing it on to someone in need. Thus, the blessing ripples from person-to-person, with both the giver and receiver feeling the unconditional embrace of a sheltering God!"*

Shawls from St. Michael's have been given to people in the hospital, people recovering from illness and are homebound, a family struggling with personal problems, families struggling with the loss of a child— just to name a few. If you know someone who might be comforted by receiving a shawl or are interested in helping create prayer shawls for those in need, you may contact Dottie Knutson at (651) 463-5224 or dknutson@stmichael-farmington.org.



Retrouvaille™:

The word “Retrouvaille” is a French word meaning rediscovery. The program offers tools needed to rediscover a loving marriage relationship. Thousands of couples headed for cold, unloving relationships or divorce have successfully overcome their marriage problems by attending the program.

The Retrouvaille Program consists of a weekend experience combined with a series of 6-12 post-weekend sessions over 3 months. It provides the tools to help couples put their marriage in order again. The main emphasis of the program is on communication in marriage between husband and wife. It gives couples the opportunity to rediscover each other and examine their lives together in a new and positive way. For more information, call (651) 464-5855 or click on the link: www.retrouvaille.org.

**Separated and Divorced:**

Catholic Charities of St. Paul and Minneapolis has a website with many resources to help those who are separated or divorced. The link to this website is www.cctwincities.org/sepdiv_resources. Catholic Charities Counseling Services offers a wealth of information and referrals, a free newsletter, support group facilitator training, short-term counseling, divorce education, annual fall conference, pre-marriage seminar for second marriages and assistance to parishes. You may also call (651) 647-3126 for more information.

**Rachel's Vineyard:**

Rachel's Vineyard offers weekend retreats for any woman or man who has struggled with the emotional and spiritual pain of an abortion. For more information please call (952) 882-2072 or email marypio37@usfamily.net. You may also click on the link to the national website at www.rachelsvineyard.org.



Support Groups for those dealing with Grief, Loss, and Depression:

There are a number of support groups available “South of the River” for individuals dealing with a variety of situations:

- **Depression:** www.DepressionSupportCoalition.org
- **Grief Support:** www.popmn.org/gethelp/supportgroups/
- **All Saints Grief Support Ministry:** Meets on the second Saturday of the month with Mass at 8:00 am followed by grief support fellowship. For more information contact [:griefsupport@allsaintschurch.com](mailto:griefsupport@allsaintschurch.com)
- **Griefshare:** Meets weekly on Tuesdays from 6:00-7:30 pm at Hosanna (Lakeville). For more information contact: kelliew@hosannalc.org
- **Growing Through Loss:** Watch for brochures and posters in the Gathering Space.



Senior LinkAge Line ®:

The Senior LinkAge Line® is a free telephone information and assistance service which makes it easy for older adults and their families to find community resources. This agency can connect you with services such as transportation, home health care, housing, food, grocery delivery, legal and financial help, housework and home repairs, employment, volunteering and caregiver support. They also provide comprehensive, objective information about Medicare and health insurance options to persons with Medicare of all ages.

Job Connections Group:

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 13901 Fairview Drive, Burnsville, hosts a “Job Connections Group” every Tuesday from 6:30 pm-8:15 pm in the Christian Life Center building—Room # 200. For more information, please call the “Job Connections Group Hotline” at (952) 898-9388 or go to their webpage: www.popmn.org/gethelp/jobs/

