



# Ministry Stewardship

2024 - 2025

## Service With Purpose

Stewardship within the parish is an expression of our faith and an opportunity to deepen our relationship with God. As the Church teaches, *"The parish offers an outstanding example of the apostolate on the community level, inasmuch as it brings together the many human differences found within its boundaries and draws them into the universality of the Church"*<sup>1</sup>. This highlights how our diverse community, with each member's unique gifts, contributes to the parish life.

1 Peter 4:10 reminds us, *"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."* This call to stewardship encourages reflection on our personal gifts and how we can best serve with them. Engaging in activities that bring us joy enhances fulfillment and strengthens our connection with God and other Ascension parishioners. For example, an accountant might naturally consider joining the finance council. However, they might find greater fulfillment in a ministry that aligns with their interests rather than their skillset. This not only enriches our own spiritual journey, but becomes palpable to those around us. Other considerations might be whether we notice a specific need that isn't tended to or an area that we'd like to see improved based on our own experience.

As you (and your family) review our list of volunteer opportunities, consider how each member's unique gifts and interests can contribute to our parish life, ensuring that everyone benefits from a fulfilling and enriching experience.

## Practical Tips for Sharing Stewardship to Children

- **Start Early:** Children begin to form attitudes about sharing and giving between the ages of 6 and 10. Encourage gratitude and generosity by distinguishing between wants and needs, and involving children in family service activities.
- **Highlight God's Gifts:** Discuss each child's unique gifts and their benefits to others. Have them create posters or journal to reinforce this understanding.
- **Create Traditions:** Establish family service projects or ministries that involve giving back to the community. Consider signing up as a family for a parish ministry to model and practice stewardship together, thereby integrating these values into your daily life.
- **Teach through Stories:** Use the lives of others to illustrate stewardship virtues, and explore Ascension's history to share its development.
  - **Model Parishioners:** Identify and discuss community members who exemplify good character and virtue. Highlight their contributions and the impact they have made, showing how to practice stewardship in everyday life.
  - **Model Saints:** St. Ignatius of Loyola, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Pope John XXIII, St. Teresa of Calcutta, St. John Vianney, St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, St. Benedict, St. Margaret of Scotland, St. Dominic, St. Elizabeth of Hungary, St. Lawrence, etc.

<sup>1</sup>Pope John Paul II. *Christifideles Laici. Apostolic Exhortation, 1988.* Vatican, [https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/apost\\_exhortations/documents/hf\\_jp-ii\\_exh\\_30121988\\_christifideles-laici.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/apost_exhortations/documents/hf_jp-ii_exh_30121988_christifideles-laici.html).



# Ministry Form

Feel free to remove this sheet from the packet to make it easier to fill out.

**Please return to the parish office: Ascension, 4600 Lynnbrook Drive, Louisville, KY 40220**

You may also complete this form online at [www.ascension-parish.com/parish/stewardship](http://www.ascension-parish.com/parish/stewardship)

My family is already registered with Ascension:    Yes     No

I give permission for photos of my family to be published by Ascension:    Yes     No

Please list ministries you wish to support from Sep. 2024 - Jun. 2025. For quicker notation, refer to the letter of the heading and number. E.g. If you want to note the Choir, note "W4". Note email and phone number for each member only if applicable.

**Family's Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Member 1's Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ministries:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Member 2's Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ministries:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Member 3's Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ministries:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Member 4's Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ministries:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Member 5's Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ministries:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Member 6's Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ministries:** \_\_\_\_\_



# Ministry Opportunities

Contact the office with questions: 502-451-3860 dschabel@ascension-parish.com

Scan to see  
the full list of  
descriptions  
online:



## Administration (A)

1. Administration Committee<sup>1</sup>
2. Audio Support<sup>1</sup>
3. Building & Grounds Committee
4. Collection Counters
5. Digital Communications Team<sup>1</sup>
6. Finance Council
7. Historical Archives Team<sup>1</sup>
8. Meeting Minutes Recorder<sup>1</sup>
9. Office Help - Parish
10. Office Help - School<sup>1</sup>
11. Pastoral Council

## Worship (W)

1. Adoration Sacristan
2. Art & Environment
3. Altar Linens
4. Children's Liturgy (Assistant) Teacher
5. Choir - Adult, Youth, Christmas, Funerals, Handbells, etc.
6. Communion to the Homebound - Nursing Home, Hospital, or Individuals
7. Instrumentalist - Piano, Organ, Guitar, etc.
8. Liturgical Minister - Cantor, Lector, Server, Sacristan, Hospitality, Live-Stream, etc.
9. Rosary Leader
10. Worship Committee

## Education (E)

1. After School Volunteer<sup>1</sup>
2. Cafeteria Help<sup>1</sup>
3. Christian Initiation Team - Catechists, Sponsors, etc.
4. Formation Committee<sup>1</sup>
5. Parent Teacher Organization Volunteer
6. Religious Education (Assistant) Teacher
7. School Board Member
8. School Library/Media Volunteer<sup>1</sup>
9. School Marketing Committee
10. Small Group Study Facilitator
11. Vacation Bible School Volunteer

## Fellowship (F)

1. A.Men Club Volunteer
2. Athletics (Assistant) Coach
3. Athletic Ministry Advisory Committee
4. Bridge Club Volunteer
5. Faith Club (Assistant) Teacher
6. Festival Planning Committee
7. Festival Volunteer - Booth Leader, Games, Raffles, Setup/Breakdown, etc.
8. Fiftysomething Volunteer
9. Lenten Fish Fry Volunteer
10. Youth Ministry Volunteer<sup>1</sup>

## Outreach (O)

1. Bereavement Team - Leader, Food Donor, Event Setup/Breakdown, etc.
2. Blood Drive Volunteer
3. Donation Collections Transport<sup>1</sup>
4. Mustard Seed Food Pantry Volunteer<sup>1</sup> - Transport, Organizer, Distributer, etc.
5. Prayer Blanket Group
6. Respect Life Committee
7. Social Outreach Committee<sup>1</sup>

**Legend/Key:** <sup>1</sup> Inactive, but may start with interest



# Ministry Descriptions

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*While committees have the flexibility to operate differently, most have three key offices:*

- *Chair: Leads meetings, oversees activities, promotes communication and formation.*
- *Vice-Chair: Supports the Chair, and assumes the role when necessary.*
- *Secretary: Maintains records, distributes minutes, and manages member information.*
- *When possible, an additional person should record minutes and summary reports.*

## Administration

1. **Administration Committee**<sup>1</sup>: Promotes parishioner engagement and responsible stewardship of parish resources. It handles stewardship renewal, coordinates fundraising, and recommends facility policies. Collaborating with the finance council, it oversees property maintenance and safeguards. The committee ensures diverse involvement opportunities, effective communication, leadership training, and accountability for resources.
2. **Audio Support**<sup>1</sup>: Ensure that the parish's sound system is properly managed so that music and spoken words are clear, ensuring a high-quality experience for all visitors and parishioners during events. This could extend to school plays, social events, but primarily ensures Mass is audible for both parishioners in the pew and viewers at home.
3. **Building & Grounds Committee**: Join a team focused on the maintenance and enhancement of the parish's physical facilities. This committee is responsible for overseeing the upkeep of church buildings and grounds, coordinating repairs, and planning for improvements. Your role will involve assessing the condition of facilities, managing projects to beautify and maintain the church property, and working with contractors or volunteers to ensure the space remains welcoming and functional.
4. **Collection Counters**: Join the team responsible for counting and recording weekly collections on Monday mornings, ensuring that parish funds are handled accurately and securely. This maintains the financial integrity of the parish, and you'll work closely with others to ensure transparency and accountability in the handling of donations.
5. **Digital Communications Team**<sup>1</sup>: Support the parish's digital outreach efforts by helping to create and manage online content, including social media posts, website updates, and newsletters. Your work will help keep the parish connected, informed, and engaged with the wider community, using digital tools to share the Good News.
6. **Finance Council**: As required by Canon Law 537, advises the pastor or pastoral administrator on financial matters and the management of parish assets. While it operates separately from the pastoral council, open communication between the two is crucial to align financial resources with parish priorities. The finance council ensures that financial decisions and key information, such as budgets and expenditures, are managed effectively and shared with the pastoral council as needed.

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7. **Historical Archives Team<sup>1</sup>**: Help preserve the parish's history by assisting with the maintenance of archives and historical resources. Your work will involve organizing documents, photos, and other materials that tell the story of the parish, ensuring that future generations can learn from and appreciate the legacy of Ascension.
8. **Meeting Minutes Recorder<sup>1</sup>**: Takes notes during committee meetings, capturing key discussions and decisions. By handling the note-taking, they let the Chair and Vice-Chair focus on leading and guiding the meeting. They provide clear and organized summaries, keeping everyone informed and ensuring that important details are well-documented.
9. **Office Help - Parish**: Provide administrative support, especially phone calls when office staff is unavailable. You'll assist with a variety of tasks, ensuring the smooth operation of parish activities. This helps maintain effective communication and organization. Possible Hours are Monday-Thursday: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM and Friday: 8:30 AM-3 PM.
10. **Office Help - School<sup>1</sup>**: See above, but school hours are Monday-Friday: 7:30 AM-3 PM
11. **Pastoral Council**: As asserted by Canon Law 536, support the mission of Jesus in our parish through a consultative role, assisting the pastor in defining the parish mission, responding to the Holy Spirit, and developing a pastoral plan. They aid in planning, organization, and communication, ensuring alignment with the Church's mission and fostering good relations with other churches and organizations.

## Worship

1. **Adoration Sacristan**: Prepare and assist with the exposition and reposition of the Blessed Sacrament during Adoration. Your role involves ensuring that the setting for Adoration is properly arranged and providing support to individuals participating in Adoration. This ministry requires a mandate given by our archbishop as well as a commitment to respecting the sacredness of the Eucharist and facilitating a prayerful experience for those engaging in Adoration.
2. **Art & Environment**: Take responsibility for decorating and maintaining the church's liturgical spaces to reflect the beauty and sacredness of the liturgical seasons. Your role will involve selecting and arranging decorations, coordinating with other ministries, and ensuring that the church environment enhances worship. This includes changing decorations for different seasons and special occasions, as well as maintaining the overall aesthetic of the church (narthex, nave, and sanctuary).
3. **Altar Linens**: Manage the care of altar linens by washing, ironing, and preparing them for use during Mass and other liturgical celebrations. This ministry ensures that all altar linens are clean, presentable, and ready for use. Your role includes scheduling regular laundering, inspecting linens for wear and tear, and coordinating with other members to ensure that the linens are properly maintained and available for liturgies.

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4. **Children's Liturgy (Assistant) Teacher:** Lead or assist in providing age-appropriate liturgical experiences for children during Sunday Mass. Your responsibilities include preparing lessons, engaging children with interactive activities, and helping them understand the Mass in a way that is accessible and meaningful. This role aims to foster a sense of participation and understanding of the liturgy among young parishioners.
5. **Choir - Adult, Youth, Christmas, Funerals, Hand Bells, etc.:** Join one of the parish choirs to enhance the liturgical experience with your musical talents. Whether you sing in the adult choir, or youth choir, or participate in special choirs for events such as Christmas or funerals, your role will involve rehearsing and performing music that supports and enriches the worship experience. This ministry includes working with other musicians and choir members to prepare and present music for various liturgies.
6. **Communion to the Homebound - Nursing Home, Hospital, or Individuals:** Bring the Eucharist to those who are unable to attend Mass due to illness, age, or other circumstances. This role offers spiritual support, and maintains a connection with our parish community. This ministry requires a mandate given by our archbishop. Your responsibilities include ensuring that the sacrament is delivered reverently and providing comfort and companionship to those you visit.
7. **Instrumentalist - Piano, Organ, Guitar, etc.:** Play an instrument during Mass or other liturgical celebrations to contribute to the musical worship of the parish. Your role involves providing instrumental accompaniment for hymns, service music, and special liturgical pieces. As an instrumentalist, you will work with the choir and other musicians to enhance the worship experience and support the celebrations with your musical skills.
8. **Liturgical Minister - Cantor, Lector, Server, Sacristan, Hospitality, Live-Stream, etc.:** Serve in various roles during Mass to support the liturgical and worship needs of the parish. Duties may include proclaiming the Word as a lector, assisting with the setup and cleanup as a sacristan, providing hospitality, or streaming our services. These ministries involve being a key participant in the liturgical celebration, ensuring that each aspect of the service is carried out smoothly and reverently. You'll learn more about each of these ministries and select your Mass times and frequency preferences through our parish software. If you do not already have an account, you will be sent an invitation from us or can go to [www.ascension-parish.com/ministry-schedule](http://www.ascension-parish.com/ministry-schedule) to sign up or adjust ministries.
9. **Rosary Leader:** Guide parishioners in praying the Rosary 20 minutes before each Mass. By leading these prayers, they help create a reflective and prayerful atmosphere, preparing the hearts of the faithful to fully participate in the Eucharistic celebration. Draw the parish community closer to Mary and the mysteries of Christ.
10. **Worship Committee:** Manages the training and scheduling of lay participants in various liturgical roles and supports the sacramental needs of the parish community, including those in challenging situations such as homebound parishioners. The committee ensures that liturgies foster full participation from the faithful and provide diverse prayer experiences to support the spiritual growth of the parish.

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## Education

1. **After School Volunteer<sup>1</sup>:** Provide supervision, homework help, and enrichment activities for students. You'll ensure a safe, supportive, and structured environment where children can learn, play, and grow outside of regular school hours.
2. **Cafeteria Help<sup>1</sup>:** Assist in the kitchen with dishwashing and other tasks during the week. Shifts are approximately 11:30 AM-1 PM, Monday-Friday. This is a great opportunity to support our students and contribute to a smooth-running cafeteria. Your help will ensure meals are served efficiently and the kitchen remains clean and organized.
3. **Christian Initiation for Adults Team - Catechists, Sponsors, etc.:** Guide adults on their journey into the Catholic Church. You'll provide spiritual companionship, share your faith, and help catechumens and candidates understand Catholic teachings, fostering a deep understanding of the sacraments, and nurturing a personal relationship with Christ. Help prepare candidates for Baptism, Confirmation, and/or Eucharist, supporting their transformation into active, faithful members of the Catholic community.
4. **Formation Committee<sup>1</sup>:** Supports lifelong formation within the parish by implementing and recommending programs for all parish groups and committees. It collaborates with our school to provide support for Catholic culture, identity, religious education, living of the faith and development for faculty. The formation committee should emphasize the importance of not only understanding our faith, but accepting the responsibility to actively participate and transmit it.
5. **Parent Teacher Organization Volunteer:** Lead efforts to enhance collaboration between parents and the school by supporting educational initiatives and organizing events. Coordinate activities, communicate with parents and teachers, and help plan events that foster a strong school community. Your role will involve facilitating meetings, addressing parent concerns, and working to strengthen the partnership between home and school.
6. **Religious Education (Assistant) Teacher:** Educate the youth of our parish primarily on Sundays between Mass times. Guide children in their Catholic faith, helping them grow in their understanding of doctrine, and preparing them for sacraments. You'll work closely with families to ensure children are spiritually ready to receive sacraments. Additional opportunities may arise on weeknights for special events or retreats to further support their faith journey.
7. **School Board Member:** The board is responsible for governance, policy-making, and oversight of the school, including setting direction, approving budgets, and aligning programs with the school's mission. For more details, see the Archdiocese of Louisville's Handbook for Catholic Schools.

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8. **School Library/Media Volunteer<sup>1</sup>:** Support the parish school library by helping with tasks such as shelving books, assisting students, and organizing materials, especially during book fairs. Your role will contribute to the educational environment of the school, fostering a love of reading and learning among students. Additional areas may include maintaining resources in the Parent Child Chapel and the Ave Maria Room.
9. **School Marketing Committee:** Support the promotion of our Catholic identity and educational values by assisting in the marketing efforts for the parish school. Your work may involve creating promotional materials, organizing open houses, and engaging with the community to showcase the unique benefits of a Catholic education. Emphasis will be on strengthening the school's visibility and appeal to prospective families.
10. **Small Group Study Facilitator:** Lead or assist in facilitating small group studies that delve into various aspects of the Catholic faith. You'll be responsible for organizing meetings, guiding discussions, and helping participants apply their faith to everyday life. Your role is to foster a supportive and engaging environment where parishioners can deepen their understanding of Catholic teachings.
11. **Vacation Bible School Volunteer:** Be a part of the team that brings the fun and faith-filled experience of Vacation Bible School to life. You'll help organize activities, lead children through faith-based lessons, and ensure a safe and enjoyable environment for all participants. Your role may include setting up, assisting with crafts and games, and providing spiritual guidance to young attendees.

## Fellowship

1. **A.Men Club Volunteer:** Support Ascension's men's group by assisting with activities, events, and fellowship opportunities. You'll help plan and execute events that foster spiritual growth, community service, and camaraderie among the men of the parish, strengthening their connection to the church and each other.
2. **Athletics (Assistant) Coach:** Play an integral role in the parish's athletic programs by coaching or assisting with a specific sport. Emphasize Christian sportsmanship and teamwork while helping young athletes develop their skills and character. Sports include Soccer, Girls Volleyball, Cross Country, Flag Football, Basketball, Swimming, Boys Volleyball, Field Hockey, Track, Golf, Archery, and Tennis.
3. **Athletic Ministry Advisory Committee:** Oversees youth athletic programs primarily for grades JK-8, but also a few for grades 9-12. Their duties are to follow CSAA policies and Catholic Church teaching. The committee establishes policies, recommends funding, selects coaches, and enforces discipline. Its mission is to promote Christian sportsmanship, and develop responsible young athletes. Members collaborate on evaluating activities and suggesting improvements, also including roles such as Assistant GameDay Coordinator, Concessions, and leadership for Fish Fries.

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4. **Bridge Club Volunteer:** Help coordinate the parish bridge club, providing support for Monday card games and ensuring a welcoming atmosphere for participants.
5. **Faith Club (Assistant) Teacher:** Faith Club is an effort to meet the catechetical needs of adults with developmental or intellectual disabilities. Help support the activities of the faith club by helping to plan and organize meetings, events, and spiritual exercises. Your role is to assist in creating opportunities for members to deepen their faith, engage in meaningful discussions, and participate in prayer and reflection.
6. **Festival Planning Committee:** Take part in organizing the parish's largest fundraiser, ensuring it is well-planned and successful. Responsibilities include coordinating with various parish groups, managing event logistics, and ensuring that all activities are smoothly executed. This committee will coordinate everything from setting up booths and arranging entertainment to promoting the event and managing volunteers, aiming to create memorable and enjoyable experiences for the community.
7. **Festival Volunteer - Booth Leader, Games, Raffles, and Setup/Breakdown, etc.:** Participate in planning and executing the parish festival by taking on various roles. The festival involves not only organizing booths, games, and raffles but also securing sponsorships that contribute to the event's success. Your help with setup and cleanup will ensure a smooth and enjoyable experience for all attendees.
8. **Fiftysomething Volunteer:** Volunteer with the parish's Fiftysomething group, helping to organize activities and events. Your role is crucial in providing social, spiritual, and service opportunities for parishioners in their 50s and beyond, fostering a strong sense of community.
9. **Lenten Fish Fry Volunteer:** Join the team that runs the parish's Lenten Fish Fry. You'll help with tasks such as preparing and serving food, managing kitchen operations, and ensuring that parishioners enjoy a delicious meal while observing the Lenten tradition. Your role is vital in fostering community spirit during this important liturgical season.
10. **Youth Ministry Volunteer<sup>1</sup>:** Assist with the parish youth ministry by helping to plan and run events that engage and inspire young people in their faith. Your role may involve leading discussions, organizing service projects, or simply being a supportive presence for the youth as they explore their relationship with God and their place in the Church.

## Outreach

1. **Bereavement Team - Leader, Food Donor, Event Setup/Breakdown, etc.:** Offer compassionate support to those grieving the loss of a loved one. Whether you lead activities, prepare meals, assist with event setup and breakdown, send comforting cards, or assist with organizing the All Souls Mass, your involvement helps bring solace and community to those in need during a difficult time.

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2. **Blood Drive Volunteer:** Help organize and run the parish's blood drives, contributing to a lifesaving cause. Your role may include recruiting donors, assisting with registration, providing refreshments, and ensuring a smooth and welcoming event for all participants.
3. **Donation Collections Transport<sup>1</sup>:** Assist with collecting, organizing, and transporting donations and essential items those in need through local organizations, including, but not limited to, the St. John Center, St. Vincent de Paul, Little Sisters of the Poor, Sister Visitor Center, St. Bernadette Diaper Bank.
4. **Mustard Seed Food Pantry Volunteer<sup>1</sup> - Transport, Organizer, Distributer, etc.:** Assist with the operations of Saint John Paul II parish's food pantry by organizing and distributing donations. Your work ensures that those in need receive essential supplies.
5. **Prayer Blanket Group:** Participate in creating prayer blankets for those in need of comfort and prayer. Your time and skills will be used to craft these blankets, which are then blessed and given to individuals facing illness, grief, or other challenges as a tangible sign of the parish's love and prayers.
6. **Respect Life Committee:** Promote and organize activities that uphold the sanctity of life from conception to natural death. Your role will involve planning and executing events, campaigns, and outreach efforts that support pro-life causes. The committee works to raise awareness, provide educational resources, and support initiatives that reflect the parish's commitment to respecting and valuing all human life.
7. **Social Outreach Committee<sup>1</sup>:** Coordinate and oversee efforts aimed at supporting those in need within the community. This role involves organizing donation drives, service projects, and other initiatives, while working with volunteers to plan events, manage resources, and ensure that efforts address community needs effectively. The Social Outreach Lead helps foster parish support by enhancing Christian life, promoting Catholic social teachings, and collaborating with local charities and organizations to improve community well-being.

**Legend/Key:** <sup>1</sup> Inactive, but may start with interest