

# Social Justice Ministry

## the Church of St. Michael

### Action for Charity and Justice

As Christians, we value the God-given dignity of all human beings. This includes all races, nationalities, age, gender, religious beliefs, education, health, wealth, etc. To accomplish this, all Christians have a responsibility to become active in promoting the well-being of God's family.



*"The one who does justice will live  
in the presence of the Lord."  
(Psalm 15:1)*

### Social Justice Ministry Committee

The Social Justice Committee meets, 4-6x/year at 7:00 p.m.  
in the Parish Office.

Watch the Bulletin for scheduling

## **SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE**

(Eileen Schmokel ~ 447-4151)

The Social Ministry Committee meets to study the Catholic Church's teaching on social justice and charity, apply those principles to local, national, and world concerns, and to coordinate action that enables parishioners to participate in the social mission of the Church.

## **EDUCATION FOR JUSTICE**

(Laura Shupe ~ 447-5604 or Shirley Gengler ~ 447-8517)

The mission of this sub-committee is to provide educational and consciousness-raising opportunities for the whole parish in regards to justice issues.

## **COMMUNITY CARING FOR LIFE/RESPECT FOR LIFE**

(Jim Anderson 952-447-2905)

The Respect Life group works to build a culture of life in our parish by our Christian example and advocacy for life. We will stand up for the unborn, the elderly, dying and disabled. No human life is beyond our support, because none is beyond the reach of God's love.

## **LOAVES AND FISHES**

(Michele Damico ~ 855-4094  
or Sharon Schirmers ~ 447-6752)

St. Michael's Loaves and Fishes Team prepares and serves meals to the needy at St. Mark's Church in Shakopee on the second Thursday of every month.

## **HOLIDAY PROJECT**

(Pat Stevens ~ 447-7194)

The Holiday Project works with the Prior Lake Lions Club to identify and sponsor families in the community of Prior Lake.

Call for more information on how you can help.

**Christmas Holiday Project** provides gifts/food to those in need.

Contact Kathy Poepping at 952-447-9034

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Social Justice Ministry Committee is to guide and empower the people of the Church of St. Michael, as disciples of Christ, to meet the social ministry needs of our sisters and brothers.

This is to be accomplished by researching the needs and organizing or supporting programs both to remedy the effects of social problems and to remove the basic causes of the problems through prayer, education, and action of the parish and community.



Come to a meeting and learn more about how you can help!

Social Justice is also a member of F.I.S.H. (Families and Individuals Sharing Hope)

Committee Chair: ..... Eileen Schmokel ~ 447-4151  
Secretary: ..... June Schmokel ~ 440-3306  
Staff Liaison: ..... Kathy Poepping ~ 447-9034

## CHEERFUL GIVERS

Cheerful Givers is a ministry whose mission is to share God's love with those in need in our society by donating food and personal necessities that help individuals maintain dignity and hope in their lives. Through our food donation rotation program, we collect and donate one specific food item each month to assist the CAP Agency in providing complete meals for local families.

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

The Social Ministry Committee has committed to join in the mission of Habitat for Humanity to eliminate sub-standard housing in the world. Volunteer opportunities to build or renovate homes for needy families in the Twin Cities are available to persons of all skill levels. Each spring the Church of St. Michael sponsors a group work day in Prior Lake; volunteers age 16 or older are needed to work on the home, while others are needed to provide lunch for the workers. Please contact the Parish Office at 952-447-2491 to learn more.

## GIVING TREE

(Renee Laughery ~ 440-5197  
or Bonnie Lund ~ 496-2963)

St. Michael parishioners purchase new, unwrapped gifts for the needy, which are placed under a specially decorated Giving Tree during the Christmas season. The gifts are then distributed to various agencies that help the poor. We support Catholic Charities, Saint Kateri Catholic Community, Franciscan Brothers of Peace, Safe Haven, Southern Valley Alliance of Battered Women and Sharing and Caring Hands.

