

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REPORT

February 3, 2020

We will be starting a new Bible Study on February 3rd on the Acts of the Apostles. Our sessions will begin at 6:30 in the parish office. For more information or to register, please give me a call. As on Monday morning we have 11 participants registered.

Beginning on February 5th, I will start teaching Confirmation classes for the 4 parishes. We will start at 6:30 pm and go to 7:30 pm at the old school in West Point. I will be able to take care of both the classes and religious education this way. I will do this only until a youth minister is found to take over. One child may not be able to attend on Wednesdays and I have told the parents I will meet with her whenever she is available.

Starting January 1 2020, all parishioners who have Virtus will have 2 weeks to watch a new training video. Please call if you need help accessing the video. Still have a few people who have not complied. Please do so as soon as possible.

The churches now have 4 people who are in the process of joining the church. If you know of anyone who would like to join the family, give Fr. Dennis, Fr. Bruce or myself a call.

There are currently 17 Catholics at the West Point Care Center and 5 at the Donnellson Care Center. St. Mary's also has 11 homebound parishioners and 6 parishioners in assisted living. Fr. Dennis has Mass at the West Point Care Center the first and third Thursdays and Maureen Kieler takes the residents communion the other Thursdays and I take them Communion on Sundays. Fr. Dennis and Fr. Bruce have Mass at the Donnellson Care Centers on first Fridays. They alternate months and the other Fridays I take communion there and to 3 of the homebound in that area. The rest of the homebound receive communion on Sundays. I am working on setting a schedule for other Eucharistic Ministers to help out a couple of Sundays a month. St. James and St. Johns currently have 18 parishioners in nursing homes, assisted living, or are homebound.

Looking to get a schedule set up with Eucharistic Ministers to help out on Sundays. Will begin this month if they agree to help out.

St. Mary's gives the parents of the newly baptized a blanket donated by either Eileen Pranger or Doris Kassmeyer, a book donated by an anonymous donor, and a cross made by Ron Westberg. The K of C donates a rose to the mother and a rosary to the father of the baby for the Houghton and St. Paul parishes and a blanket. St. Boniface Altar and Rosary ladies get a gift for the newly baptized in their parish and a blanket. The K of C donates a rosary to parents at St. Mary's and St. Boniface.

The four parishes remember families who have lost a loved one with a prayer card on the one year anniversary of the person's death. There are also cards sent at Christmas and Easter to all parishioners who are in long term care facilities. If you have a family member in a care facility please let me know. The parishes are honoring couples on their 25th, 50th, 60th anniversaries and all anniversaries over 60 will be remembered yearly.

The four parishes have a prayer shawl/lap robe ministry. If you like to knit or crochet, please give me a call. So far we have 3 ladies who are using their talents.

Respectfully submitted

Dixie Booten, Director of Religious Education