DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REPORT

April 2023

CORRESPONDENCE

Keeping parishioners connected to the Church, wrote and mailed 21 letters as follow-up during the 1st five years after Baptism; 9 remembrance letters on the one-year anniversary following deaths; 4 letters to parishioners celebrating landmark wedding anniversaries.

OCIA

* Prepared for and held 13 meetings with our four candidates 1 catechumen and mystagogia with our newly baptized.
* Preparing sessions for year round OCIA that would be open to anyone wanting to know more about their faith.

BIBLE STUDY

* Every other Monday in June, I will offer the Bible Study on the Eucharist again, and also begin a new study called “Lectio with Mary”. It will be an eight-week program meeting every other Monday evening also.

HOMEBOUND

* Have recruited 5 people to be Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist to the homebound. Fr. Dan is preparing a prayer service for them to use when they visit the homebound. Updated the lists of homebound for the 4 parishes and sent them to Fr. Dan. He made up a spreadsheet of all who are not able to attend Mass and it will be distributed to the ministers.
* As a volunteer, I visited the 17 homebound from St. Mary’s one Sunday.

SACRISTAN

* We will begin adoration on Tuesday mornings from 11am to noon after Pentecost.
* Was sacristan on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Sunday Mass at St. John’s. Was also asked to be Eucharistic Minister at St. John’s Easter Mass.
* Helped prepare for Holy Saturday night Mass at St. Boniface.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

* Preparing lessons on the Mass for all religious education children. Still editing the Mass booklet.
* Text all parents about the Holy Week schedule.
* The religious education programs have ended as of the last of April. Have already had children missing because of sports on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings.
* On the last class in West Point, the children were introduced to the Eucharistic Miracles display in the O Center. Then they younger children had work sheets on the mass and their guardian angel. The older children had work sheets on the Mass. On Sunday morning in St. Paul, the children were given a church tour that explained things they see but may not understand. They then went to their classrooms and started on their worksheets.
* The USCCB has presented a new Rite of Penance for priests to use and it includes a new Act of Contrition.
* Started changing children’s prayer books to show the new Act of Contrition.

VIRTUS

* At our deanery meeting we were informed of changes to come in the Virtus program. Received some notification on the changes but awaiting further notification.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

* Met with Cheyrl Wellman to get ideas for crafts for this years sessions.
* Ordered some supplies from Oriental Trading and Our Sunday Visitor.
* Have talked to eight parishioners about volunteering this year.
* Gave registration forms to HTC to send home with the students.

BAPTISM

* Held a baptism preparation class for first time parents.

OTHER

* Worked on presenting Formed to all the parishes.
* Emailed a list to Jen of all anniversaries and birthdays for the month of May for both bulletins.
* Wrote a weekly insert for the bulletin on what is happening in religious education.
* Informed adoration participants for the ending times of adoration during Holy Week.
* Met with a parishioner and Cortney about planning a bake sale on Mother’s Day.
* Reviewed the terminology for Spirituality helpers and participants for Fr. Dan.
* Helped Cortney with Confirmation preparation and attended the Confirmation Mass in Mt. Pleasant.
* Started work on the programs for First Communion and met with Fr. Dan to discuss how it will flow at the three parishes.
* Found ministers for all First Communion Masses.
* Notified to possible speakers for an upcoming End of Life seminar to be held in July.
* Called to line up two priests to help Fr. Dan with the Anointing Mass on May 9.

Respectfully submitted,

Dixie Booten, DRE