# Ministry Contacts

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To register for *Faith Formation Sessions (CCD)* you must be a registered member of the parish. New registrants will need to please fill in a new registration form, emergency care form and a classroom choice form. Once registered you will receive classroom assignments at the end of summer before the start of the year. Registration Fees are:
1 child - $40, 2 children - $50 and 3 children (or more) - $70.

The Adult Education and Faith Formation Ministry will make available adult religious, contemporary and topical educational and faith formation opportunities which encompass the demographics of **Our Lady of Joy Parish**. Parishioners will have access to educational and faith formation opportunities available via a variety of formats including but not limited to: internet, video, CD, print, small group, traditional classroom style and tours.

The Parish announces through the bulletin, a variety of spiritual enrichment opportunities for the adult membership of the parish. These are made available to help us to grow in the love and knowledge of our Catholic Faith, to deepen our own spirituality and relationship with God and to be supported by our Parish Faith Community.

**Altar Servers**

Fr. Al Zapf – 412-795-3388 – church@ourladyofjoy.org
Greg Callaghan – 412-795-3399 – greg@ourladyofjoy.org

Children in fourth grade and older can become altar servers at our weekend and Holy Day Masses and at funerals and weddings. We have practice for new altar servers every spring.

**Art and Environment**

Connie Vaskov – 724-219-2216 – evaskov@comcast.net

Parish members are invited to join our committee to design and prepare the church environment to allow for a meaningful experience of holy worship. We decorate the church for the various celebrations of the liturgical calendar to provide an atmosphere that is both beautiful and reverent. This activity includes not just the sanctuary but the entire church and exterior.

**Bereavement**

Liz Bachtel – 724-337-0049 – lizbachtel@comcast.net

*Our Lady of Joy* has a bereavement ministry that is committed to assisting those who have experienced the loss of a loved one. We offer a support group that meets for seven weeks twice a year in the spring and fall and concludes with a memorial service. We provide a place and structure that encourages participants to work through their loss. Our ministry is open to all in the community. All information exchanged within our support group remains private and confidential; no information will be shared with others. Our team has been trained by **Catholic Charities** and we are affiliated with the **National Catholic Ministry to the Bereaved**.
Building & Grounds
Gene Sommer – 412-795-3388  (Pastor appointed only)
Our Building and Grounds Committee helps to assess our needs in these areas. The committee makes recommendations to the pastor, Finance Council, and Pastoral Council. Based upon the committee’s recommendations, the Pastoral Council and Finance Council make a plan of action to present to the pastor. The Building and Grounds Committee answers to the maintenance personnel, pastoral associate, and pastor.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word
Theresa Taylor – 412-793-6022

The Directory for Masses with Children tells us that in Masses with adults, it is necessary to take great care that the children present do not feel neglected because of their inability to participate or to understand what happens and what is proclaimed in the celebration. For this reason, Our Lady of Joy will celebrate a Liturgy of the Word with the children in a way they can understand. The children process downstairs where there is an altar with candles and a cloth - and where the Lectionary is brought.

This Liturgy of the Word follows the same format as the one in the Church. It includes readings, an introduction to the Gospel a Gospel acclamation a simplified version of the Gospel a homily and some kind of appropriate activity to help break open the Gospel - to help the children understand a simplified Creed and prayers.

The children rejoin the assembly for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. They arrive back as the congregation is finishing their prayers of intercession.

Christian Ladies of Joy
Theresa Taylor – 412-793-6022

The Christian Ladies of Joy is a social organization made up of the ladies of the parish. We meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Father Marchukonis Hall.

The Christian Ladies of Joy mission statement is:
“To joyfully do charitable works of mercy and enhance the fellowship of Christian women, to seek the honor and glory of God”.

Some of the events sponsored by the Christian Ladies of Joy are:

Pot Luck/Installation Dinner - September
Christmas Party for Children - December 10th, 2017 2 pm - 4 pm
Christmas Tea for Ladies of the Parish - December
Easter Bunny Lunch for Children -Saturday before Palm Sunday
Annual Luncheon – May

College Care Packages
Diane Mozelewski – 724-733-2664 – moz_family@windstream.net

Our Lady of Joy sponsors our young adults who are off at college, commuting to college from home or have entered the military through our College Care Packages program. We send cards and packages throughout the year to offer our support and encouragement as they go through this next phase in their lives. There are no fees involved, but snack food and monetary donations are welcome.
Divine Mercy
June Papciak – 412-795-4995 – papciakjl@comcast.net

All are welcome every Thursday to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Litany of the Saints, Rosary, and intercessory prayers, concluding with a song and quiet time. Each Holy Hour begins promptly at 3 p.m. as we spend time in Adoration, meditation, and prayer to be enlightened about the mercy and love of God and to trust in Jesus.

Eucharistic Ministers
Debbie Roe – 412-793-6607 – djroe716@yahoo.com
Pat Roe - 412-793-6607 – roe_patiq@outlook.com

Eucharistic Ministers assist the Pastor and visiting priests in distributing Communion at weekend and Holy Day Masses. They also take the Eucharist to hospitalized or homebound members of our parish. A specific form of clothing is not required of Eucharistic Ministers; however, the dignity of the Sacred Liturgy requires that all those in ministry dress in a manner reflecting the profound nature of the call.

Evangelization
Carol & Joe Dello Stritto – 412-793-9567- cimellodello@comcast.net

Our Lady of Joy Evangelization Ministry envisions providing opportunities for our parish community and the community at large, to enliven their faith in such a way that our parish is viewed as a welcoming parish where people experience the peace and love of Christ and want to share the Good News with others. This ministry helps promote opportunities for active parishioners to participate in evangelization efforts through prayer, worship and education. The ministry also helps develop ways for the parish community to reach out to inactive Catholics in our community.

Finance Council
Appointed by Pastor only – Father Al Zapf – 412-795-3388 – church@ourladyofjoy.org

Definition: The Parish Finance Council is a consultative body of persons established to advise and aid the Pastor in matters pertaining to the financial affairs of the parish. Canon 537 (CIC) states: "Each parish is to have a Finance Council which is regulated by universal law as well as by the norms issued by the Diocesan Bishop; In this council the Christian faithful, selected according to the same norms, aid the Pastor in the administration of the parish good with due regard for the prescription of Canon 532."

Relationships: The relationship between the Pastor and the Council is one of support and collaboration. The authority of the Pastor, as defined in Canon 582, to act and decide on behalf of the parish, is not lessened by the establishment of the Parish Finance Council.

The Code of Canon Law requires the creation of the Parish Finance Council and clearly states that its primary task is to assist the Pastor in the administration of the temporalities of the parish. The Code also allows the establishment of Pastoral Councils to assist the Pastor in planning, coordinating, guiding, and directing most aspects of parish life (Canon 536). It has been the policy of the Diocese of Pittsburgh that a Pastoral Council is established in each of the parishes of the diocese. While the two councils are separate and each has a different and specific role in the life and operation of the parish, they must work together for the good of the parish.
Funeral Luncheon
Mary Bertolino – 724-339-9992 – marybj20@verizon.net

Our Funeral Luncheon Ministry helps set up and clean up whenever parishioners would like to use the church hall for a luncheon after a funeral mass. The ministry organizes the hall to get ready for a caterer to bring food, then helps serve the lunch and stays to help clean after the family has left. All arrangements for funeral luncheons are made through the rectory office at the time that funeral arrangements are made.

Holy Name Society
Tom McDonald – 724-327-4577 – tpmcvd@windstream.net

The Confraternity of the Most Holy Names of God and Jesus (Holy Name Society) promotes reverence for the Sacred Names of God and Jesus Christ, obedience and loyalty to the Magisterium of the Catholic Church, and the personal sanctification and holiness of its members. Members are called to contribute to the evangelization mission of the Church and to make perpetual acts of reverence and love for our Lord and Savior.

The Holy Name Society was established in the United States in 1870 to promote reverence for the Sacred Name of God and Jesus Christ and to in parish ministries by performing the Corporal Works of Mercy: to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, give drink to the thirsty, shelter to the homeless, tend the sick, visit those in prison, and bury the dead; as well as the Spiritual Works of Mercy: to convert sinners, instruct the ignorant, counsel the wayward, comfort the sorrowing, bear adversity patiently, forgive offenses, and pray for the living and the dead.

The Holy Name Society was established at Our Lady of Joy in March of 1997. We meet on the 2nd Sunday of the month at the 10 AM Mass. A short meeting (usually under an hour) follows in the Fr. Marchukonis Hall from September through May. Dues are $12.00 a year.

Spiritual Benefits of Membership

Every member of the Confraternity of the Most Holy Names of God and Jesus, while they are faithful to their obligations; shares in all of the blessings from the Masses, good works, preaching, teaching and the manual labor of the Dominican Order. This includes a share in the thirty-three Masses which each Dominican is bound to say every year for the souls of the departed brethren.

The following partial indulgences are particularly applicable to faithful members of the Holy Name Society who:

- In the performance of their duties and in bearing the trials of life, raise their mind with humble confidence to God, asking – if only mentally – some pious invocation. "Blessed be the name of God", and similar invocations of devotion to the name of God would be applicable in this grant. (cf. The Decree in the Apostolate of the Laity, 4, "Whatever you do in word or work, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, giving thanks to God the Father through Him").
- In a spirit of faith and mercy give of themselves or of their goods to serve brothers in need. In the spirit of penance voluntarily deprive themselves of what is licit and pleasing to them.
- Recite the Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus.
- Wear the Holy Name emblem – properly blessed by any priest.
Plenary indulgences have been granted to the members of the Most Holy Name of God and the Most Holy Name of Jesus, by the Sacred Penitentiary in response to the petition of the Dominican Order on the following occasions:

- The day of the member's induction into the Confraternity
- Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ - Christmas Day (December 25)
- The Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus (January 3)
- Resurrection of the Lord - Easter Sunday
- The Solemnity of Christ the King (Last Sunday in Ordinary Time – last Sunday prior to the start of the Season of Advent)
- The Annunciation of the Lord (March 25)
- The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (August 15)
- The Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker (May 1)

Knights of Columbus
Duane Cardamone – 724-327-4468 – dcardamone@windstream.net

Our Lady of Joy Parish, Knights of Columbus Council #12219, is a brotherhood of Catholic gentlemen. The Council provides an opportunity for fellowship with men who hold the same beliefs, values and priorities in life and in God. We are dedicated to the support of our brothers, their families, our parish, the community, our country and the Catholic Faith. Our charitable work, worship and devotion are unified as we focus on the four principals of our Order; Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

The roots of the Knights of Columbus were planted in the rich soil that was 19th century North America. Out of the melting pot of the 1880's, our Catholic, family, fraternal service organization emerged. Whether helping the poor, the sick, the orphaned and the widowed or supporting their Catholic brothers with their practical or spiritual needs, the first Knights of Columbus stood ready to help.

Since 1882, we've been working for the improvement in the lives of our members and our societies. Today, the Knights of Columbus boasts a membership of over 1.6 million strong and growing! We are a fraternal organization that draws membership from Catholic churches around the world. Our Lady of Joy Council #12219, operates as a church council and meets in the Fr. Marchukonis Hall the first and third Thursday of each month. (Except Holy Thursday.) We are active in church, community, council, family and youth activities.

If you are a practical Catholic man, 18 years of age or older, you are invited to join the Knights of Columbus. You may attend a meeting on the first Thursday of the month or, to learn more about becoming a Knight, contact our Council’s Membership Director, Don Stanczak @ (724) 327-0067 or our Grand Knight Duane Cardamone @ (724) 327-4468.
Lectors
Chris Kearns – 724-327-5829 – ckearns@ccac.edu

Lectors proclaim the Word of God through the reading of Scripture at weekend and Holy Day Mass. A person wishing to become a lector should have a meaningful desire to minister in this capacity at mass, with a deep respect for God’s presence in Sacred Scripture. All lectors receive a copy of the book, “Workbook for Lectors and Gospel Readers.” This book not only has the correct readings for the year, it explains each reading and considers how it relates to the Gospel and homily. The book also gives correct pronunciation assistance and historical background into the readings. When you have been assigned to proclaim the Word, prepare, read aloud and pray the reading during the preceding week in order to help you proclaim the Word with understanding. A specific form of clothing is not required of lectors; however, the dignity of the Sacred Liturgy requires that all those in ministry dress in a manner reflecting the profound nature of the call. Any adult or high school student who is in full communion with the Catholic Church and is serious about the practice of their faith can become a lector.

Marketing Parish Ministry
Ron Zezza 412-780-6480 – ron.zezza@earthlink.net

Ministry to the Sick & Homebound
Emmy Lou Caylor – 724-327-8276 – frankcaylor@msn.com

Our Lady of Joy is a faith community of families welcoming and supporting each other. Ministry to Homebound was created to enable each person to maintain his/her place in our parish community. If you or anyone you know are in situations where any of the following services are needed, please contact the Parish Office (412-795-3388).

- Taking Eucharist to the sick and homebound and providing the Parish Bulletin, Pittsburgh Catholic and Missals
- Greeting cards mailed to sick and homebound, birthdays and holidays, get well and thinking of you
- Provide transportation for the homebound in need for church services, shopping etc.
- Relief for caregivers, etc.
- Provide spiritual support by weekly phone calls and/or visits to those who live alone

Money Counters
Appointed by Pastor only – Fr. Al Zapf – 412-795-3388 – church@ourladyofjoy.org
The **Music Ministry** consists of volunteers who dedicate their time and musical talent in service to the church and community. **The Adult Choir, Resurrection Choir, Contemporary Ensemble, Youthful Spirit (Children’s Choir), Cantors, and Instrumentalists** comprise the Music Ministry.

**The Adult Choir** rehearses every **Monday evening from 7:00 - 9:00 P.M.** from September through Pentecost. The choir prepares music consisting of 3 to 5 part compositions for weekend liturgies, holy days, and sacramental celebrations, as well as visiting nursing homes and participating in local ecumenical services. Time is made to maintain a prayerful atmosphere while arranging some social outings that include trips to New York City as well as attending local performances.

**The Resurrection Choir** provides a valuable service to the community by offering prayerful musical enhancements to funeral liturgies. The choir assembles 30 minutes before the funeral Mass to prepare for its repertoire. **Contact Jean Howard @ notemakerjean@comcast.net**

**The Contemporary Ensemble** consists of dedicated individuals whose avocation is providing prayerful music throughout the church year, as well as local community events.

**Youthful Spirit** consists of children from grades 3 through 8. They rehearse **every other Monday evening from 5:30 - 6:30 P.M.** and sing at least one mass a month, major holidays, holy days, and participate in ecumenical services. They will also combine with the Adult Choir for special liturgies, as well as visit local nursing homes. **The Cantor** provides trained musical leadership to the congregation, displaying a prayerful persona that is warm and inviting.

**New Member Outreach**

Howard Bachtel - 724-337-0049 – hcbachtel@comcast.net

The New Member Outreach team provides a personal welcome to new members of the parish. Team members contact new parishioners and inform them of the wide variety of activities of the parish.

**Organist/Resurrection Choir**

Jean Howard – 412-704-7093 - notemakerjean@comcast.net
The SOS Ministry is composed of five (5) major service areas: Senior and Caregiver Services, Social Services, Seminar/Information Sessions, Legal Information Services and Faith in Action (FIA). The one key service area that Our Lady of Joy has worked in conjunction with is the United Way of Westmoreland County - Western Westmoreland County Faith in Action (Murrysville).
SOS volunteers are serving members of Our Lady of Joy Parish (that generally are 55 and over and living at home) providing FREE volunteer companionship and assistance to help seniors remain living in their homes and communities, independent and healthy. Assistance may include transport to medical appointments, caregiver relief, friendly visiting, social outings, informational lectures on various topics, limited legal assistance, senior service guidance within Allegheny County, and some other minor home and safety services.
Since our inception in October 2013, Our Lady of Joy SOS Ministry continues to be up and running – ready to serve our seniors! A more detailed description of all services provided and contact information can be found on the following pages. Seniors wishing to register for FIA services need to contact Faith In Action (FIA) at 724-327-3353 or 412-468-0296.

The Lord said “I have created you and cared for you since you were born. I will be your God through all your lifetime, yes, even when your hair is white with age. I made you and I will care for you.”

SOS Ministry has been providing aid and information in the following five (5) major service areas, under the leadership of:

Salvi Altomare…………………………………..412-780-6929 (altomars@aol.com)
Bill Molyneaux……………………………….....412-215-0560 (molyneauxb2000@yahoo.com)

1) Faith in Action (FIA)

Faith in Action is a volunteer-based service that provides guidance and direction for finding and obtaining non-medical services that assist and aid Our Lady of Joy Parish senior members 55 years of age and older. Our goal is to provide:
- Appointment escort help
- Transportation to and from doctor appointments, grocery stores, etc.
- Helping with errands, shopping, supportive visits (just being there to keep you company.)
- Making telephone calls
- Caregiver relief, handy person and minor repairs and home safety checks.

If necessary we will install safety bars, smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors. All of these FREE services will provide you with comfort and help when your family members cannot be there. Because of insurance issues, we cannot provide any type of medical help such as administering medications or lifting of a disabled person.

If you would like to be included in these services, simply call the FIA office at the number above. We will send a volunteer out to meet with you, gather some pertinent information and then register you for this program. When you are ready to use our service, just call! We will schedule a volunteer to come and help! Be sure to register BEFORE you need us! The sooner the better!
2) Senior and Caregiver Services

The purpose of the Senior and Caregiver Services is to provide guidance and direction for finding and obtaining services that promote, enhance and preserve the dignity, honor and quality of life for the senior adult member of Our Lady of Joy Parish. The Senior and Caregiver Services maintain a Service Directory of approximately 200 entries that summarizes and collates all existing programs for senior adults and caregivers. These resources include local, diocesan, county, state and federal programs as well as Faith In Action.

3) Social Services

The mission of the Social Services area of the SOS Ministry is to provide our parish seniors with opportunities for fellowship while enjoying various social activities. Most activities are held in our Father Marchukonis Hall during daylight hours to encourage senior participation. Since our inception in 2015, volunteers involved with Social Services have helped organize and host:

- Luncheons in our church hall
- Luncheons at Pugliano’s Italian Grill
- Movie day
- Game day
- Craft day
- Swinging Thru the Ages oldies dance
- Soldiers and Sailors field trip

We are always looking for ideas to encourage participation. Please feel free to contact me with your ideas to help our area of ministry serve our seniors.

4) Seminar/Information Sessions

The Seminar/Information area provides opportunities for all parishioners to attend a monthly speaker series. Our guest speakers are experienced professionals who are experts in their field. Their presentations are usually an hour long with plenty of time for discussion and questions. The sessions are held on weekday afternoons and light refreshments are provided. These short informational programs have proven to be enjoyable learning experiences that have helped us in dealing with many issues we all may have faced in the future.

Since the fall of 2014, we have had over 25 programs on a variety of topics. Although many are focused on senior citizens interests, there are many that are interesting to the general population. Examples of past programs: elder law, estate planning, fraud and identity theft, stages of senior care, dementia & Alzheimer’s, Allegheny County Senior Services, Medicare 101, Veterans Benefits, long-term care planning, advance funeral planning, benefits of exercise, healthy holiday eating, caregiver stress and spirituality for the senior years. We look forward to continuing offering these programs and are always open to suggestions for new topics.

5) Legal Information Services

Legal Information Services is a legal support group within the SOS Ministry established to be the point of contact for legal assistance available to senior adults and their caregivers at Our Lady of Joy Parish or elsewhere within the Diocese or Government Agencies.

Legal Information Services may provide access to an attorney who may offer general information about legal issues and available resources, assist in finding ways to obtain information, suggestions to address legal issues and/or identify available sources for specific legal questions/issues.
Outreach to the Poor
Marge Smith – 412-795-6164 – gardengirl134@yahoo.com

The Outreach to the Poor Ministry involves parishioners from Our Lady of Joy in service to the poor locally, regionally, nationally and globally. At present we are focusing on the following areas:

- Plum Food Pantry
- St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store
- Jubilee Soup Kitchen
- The Angel Tree
- The Coat Drive
- The Prayer Shawl Group (knitting for the poor)
- The Chimbote Project
- Collection of used eyeglasses (Lions Club)

Outreach to the Parish (Evangelization)
Greg Callaghan – 412-795-3388 – greg@ourladyofjoy.org

Our Lady of Joy Evangelization Ministry envisions providing opportunities for our parish community and the community at large, to enliven their faith in such a way that our parish is viewed as a welcoming parish where people experience the peace and love of Christ and want to share the Good News with others. This ministry helps promote opportunities for active parishioners to participate in evangelization efforts through prayer, worship and education. The ministry also helps develop ways for the parish community to reach out to inactive Catholics in our community

Parish Festival
Steve Mahr – 724-733-0131 – steve.mahr@comcast.net

The annual parish festival is held in late summer. In addition to a variety of ethnic foods, there are games for adults and children, entertainment, prize raffles held throughout the day, children’s rides, and bingo. The festival is open to the community and is a great way to socialize and help support Our Lady of Joy Parish.

Pastoral Council
Appointed by Pastor only – Father Al Zapf - 412-795-3388 – church@ourladyofjoy.org

Structure: The Pastoral Council makes recommendations for pastoral policies as a consultative and consensus-driven body of concerned parishioners called forth from the parish body. A pastoral policy or plan provides general guidelines for implementing actions in areas that have broad impacts on parish life and serve to fulfill the mission of our parish. Pastoral Council recommendations are focused on pastoral plans and policies, not on acts of administration.

Acts of administration involve the daily operation of the parish which includes the implementation of pastoral plans and policies, parish programming, budgeting, and personnel responsibility. Decisions relating to acts of administration are the responsibility of the Pastor and the pastoral staff. These decisions include the development and application of administrative policies, plans, structures and procedures.
Prayer and Spirituality
Irene Plutto – 724-733-8146  - irenep37@aol.com

This ministry’s main purpose is to foster spiritual growth in all members of our parish and to help them develop a deeper level of prayer in their lives. This is accomplished through the use of workshops, speaker events, prayer services and other devotions. We also provide assistance to the Pastor during our Parish Mission and are responsible for the Prayer Chain, Prayer Calendar and Intercessory Prayer.

Prayer Shawl Ministry
MaryLou O’Malley – 412-795-2131 – grammlo@verizon.net

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is a group of knitters and/or crocheters who meet at 9:00 am on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of every month. They make shawls to distribute to the sick of the parish in which they have knitted or crocheted their prayers for the recipient of the shawl. Besides the shawls, the group also makes chemo caps, hats, scarves, mittens and holiday items that are passed out to the homebound of the parish.

Pre-Baptism
Greg Callaghan – 412-795-3388 - greg@ourladyofjoy.org

Pre-Baptism classes are for new parents and those parents who have not been to a baptism class. They are held six time a year on a Wednesday evening from 7:00-8:30pm. The class is intended to help parents understand the important gift they are celebrating in presenting their child for the Sacrament of Baptism. Couples from the parish present how they have integrated faith life in the family and their children’s lives.

Pre-Marriage
Greg Callaghan – 412-795-3388 – greg@ourladyofjoy.org

Marriage preparation classes are held three times/year, September, February, and May. The preparation classes consist of a Friday evening (7-10pm) and Saturday morning (9am - 12:30pm). These classes are intended to fulfill the diocesan requirement for marriage preparation. The weekend helps couples understand the sacrament of matrimony and the joys and pitfalls marriages may encounter through a variety of presentations. Some of the topics presented are money, communication, intimacy, sacrament, and God in the family.
The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.)** is the name given to the gradual process of conversion to Christ and formation in faith within the Catholic Church. Through this rite (sacred ceremony), the Catholic Church and its community of believers prepare interested adults to receive the Sacraments of Initiation; Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

R.C.I.A. is primarily designed for the unbaptized adults who hear the good news of Christ, open their hearts to His message, and freely choose to follow Him and His message within the Catholic Church. There is an adaptation of this rite which is also available for adults already baptized in another Christian faith tradition, but who are interested in joining the Catholic Church.

Since this R.C.I.A. process is a journey of faith, there is no way to affix a specific element of time required for an individual to complete this journey to the Sacraments of Initiation. Much depends on the individual. Catechesis (instruction and spiritual formation) for the baptized Christian may require less time especially if they have been active in another faith tradition.

**Period of Evangelization and Pre-catechumenate:**
The time of inquiry / Telling of your story / Faith sharing / The time when the inquirer experiences faith and initial conversion.

**Period of Catechumenate:**
A time of conversion to Christ / Formation or development in faith for the catechumen (the one who is the one seeking formal entry in the Church via the Sacraments of Initiation) / The intense time of preparation for the sacraments / Breaking open (discussion of) the Word of God

**Period of Purification and Enlightenment:**
A time during which deeper prayer and reflection continues in final preparation for the celebrating of the rites of initiation at the Easter Vigil

**Period of Post-baptismal Catechesis or Mystagogy:**
A time after the Rites of Initiation (during the Easter season) when the Neophyte (the newly initiated) along with the local Church take time to share and reflect on being fully a part of the Catholic Church / Discussion continues on the implication of baptism and the full participation with the rest of the community in the Eucharist and how to carry out the mission of the entire people of God within the Church and in our every day lives.

The initiation of adults is the responsibility of the entire Catholic Church Community. The faithful (who are not directly involved in the catechesis process) have an equally important role. By our baptism, we are all called to share our faith and to welcome those individuals questioning faith and seeking to know God. Inviting people to scheduled inquiry classes is a good first step. Better yet, accompanying them to the program would be better. Encouraging words shared, prayers offered, and your visible, active and full participation at the liturgies they attend all make vast difference for those on this faith journey. Being a sponsor for one seeking to be a member of the Catholic Church is also an important role to consider.
Religious Education (CCD)

Jane Siatkosky – 412-795-4389 – siatkosky1@yahoo.com

Our mission is to welcome, proclaim Jesus Christ, educate by sharing his Life, Gospel Message, and Mission, and call each family of our parish to renewal and ongoing conversion through catechesis. Each member, hopefully, will become more spiritually enriched by the Word, actively involved in the Body of Christ, the Church, and fruitfully respond to the Holy Spirit by generous service to others at home, and in the local and world community.

The catechist faculty and staff of Our Lady of Joy Parish participate in a sacred trust given to parents by God. That trust means that together, we assist you, who echo God's presence and action in your home as your child’s primary catechists, in providing your child with a faith education and formation in mind, spirit, and body for life.

Registration for new students begins in March. You are required to register as a member of the Church. You may call the Church Office at (412) 795-3388 to complete your registration by phone. Forms for CCD registration can be picked up at the Religious Education Office, adjacent to the Church or on the parish website. If your child was not baptized at Our Lady of Joy, a copy of the baptismal certificate from the church of baptism should be presented at the time of registration. CCD class schedules are sent out in August with the teacher’s name, room number and phone number, class day and time.

Religious Education classes for students in Kindergarten through Grade 8 are held in the Fr. Marchukonis Hall September through March /April. With various times and days for each grade.

Respect Life

Lisa Callaghan – 412-335-8997 – luckyboodo@hotmail.com

The Respect Life Ministry supports pro-life activities and organizations whose purpose is to speak for and act on behalf of the youngest and most defenseless members of the human family... The Unborn Child. One of these groups is the Crossroads Pregnancy Center whose objective is to help and counsel those who are facing tough decisions regarding pregnancy. Other groups are Catholic Charities, Birth Right, Roselia and People Concerned for the Unborn Child.

Retreats

Larry Howard 412-704-7093 notemakerjean@comcast.net
Lou Strazzer – 412-793-9647
Women’s Retreat – Sandy Barca – 724-733-2163 – tmc73@aol.com

Men’s and women’s retreats are held annually. Information on these ministries will be published in the weekly bulletin.

Ushers & Greeters

Sal Altomare - 724-327-0328 - altomare@aol.com
Mary Ann Stoops - 412-795-3984 – hcbachtel@comcast.net
Tony Morell – 724-327-7942 – tonyrc20@hotmail.com
Randy Duva – 412-638-1605 – rduva@verizon.net

Website Team

Adam McLaughlin – 724-519-7177 – armclaughlin@comcast.net
**Wedding Coordinator**  
Muretta Rethage – 724-337-1003 – rethagema@hotmail.com

Wedding Coordinators work with couples planning to be married at Our Lady of Joy by helping to conduct the wedding rehearsal and assisting in the Wedding Liturgy on the day of the wedding itself. A coordinator is assigned to each couple when the wedding is officially scheduled through the rectory office and the pastor. Prior to the wedding, the coordinator works with the couple to discuss the ceremony and to review the practices for wedding ceremonies at Our Lady of Joy. On the wedding day, the coordinator is there to ensure that every detail runs according to plan.

**Worship Commission**  
Randy Duva – 412-638-1605 – rduva@verizon.net

The Worship Commission includes leads of the following ministries: Music and Choirs, Art & Environment, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers & Greeters, and Altar Servers. They meet bi-annually to review liturgical seasons and events throughout the year.

**Young Adult Ministry “Ministry 4:12”**  
Kristin Consuegra – 412-610-4433 – kristinconsuegra@gmail.com  
Caitlyn Earnshaw 724-217-6657 – caitlyn.earnshaw@gmail.com

*Ministry 4:12 at Our Lady of Joy* encourages young adults to strengthen their relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, worship, service, and social events.  
**Mission Statement:**  
“Let no one have contempt for your youth, but set an example for those who believe, in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity (1 Timothy 4:12). Ministry 4:12 at Our Lady of Joy encourages young adults to strengthen their relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, worship, service, and social events.”

**Youth Ministry**  
Michael MacConnell - 412-607-3056 – mmacconnell09@aol.com

The *Youth Ministry Program of Our Lady of Joy* seeks to address the spiritual needs of students in grades 6-12. **We have two youth ministry groups:** Junior Youth Ministry (JYM) for grades sixth through eighth **and Sr. Youth Ministry, grades ninth through twelfth.** Opportunities for spiritual development can be reached through a variety of catechetical experiences, prayer services, and Eucharistic celebrations. Youth Ministry has several distinct areas of focus, including Evangelization, community outreach and Religious Education. Furthermore, Youth Ministry seeks to build community among the adolescents of our parish through social activities such as outings to amusement parks, the YMCA, ski facilities and bowling allies. Schedules for YM events are sent home with the students through CCD classes.  
**Regular meeting times are Sunday evenings from 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm in the Fall/Winter and Wednesday evenings from 7:00 until 9:00 in the Spring/Summer.**

The *Junior Youth Faith Formation is a part of the Catechetical program of Our Lady of Joy* to which all sixth, seventh and eighth grade CCD students belong. The mission of *Our Lady of Joy Junior Youth Faith Formation* is to build better relationships with each other and with God through social interactions with peers and with adults. The students are expected to attend events in the same manner they attend CCD classroom teaching. Each event is planned with the idea of catechesis within the event.

Kristin Consuegra – 412-610-4433 – kristinconsuegra@gmail.com