

St. Timothy Catholic Community

August 12, 2009

Dear Ministers of Care,

I hope you are staying cool during these last weeks of summer. The ministry has been extremely busy over the past few weeks but somehow we are handling the load. Thank you to all of you who minister so lovingly to those in need. I am writing this letter because I wanted to touch base with you on a few things.

After much prayer, thought and conversation, Heide and I have come to the conclusion that we need to change the name of this ministry to Ministers of Communion. In addition to Holy Communion, the parish provided a variety of services related to "care" over the years. For a time, medical supplies were loaned. For several years we had an active Helping Hands group to provide the handicapped with everyday household assistance, etc. All of these services were coordinated through our Ministers of Care. Now our focus is to bring Communion to those who are homebound. Although we still offer many other services such as the prayer chain, Prayers of the Faithful, meals and Anointings (every Monday), these are provided through other ministers instead of the "Ministers of Care." In short you are now Ministers of Communion.

Many of you might not be aware, but at daily Mass, following Communion, the Presider calls forth those who are bringing Communion to the homebound and imprisoned. He then asks them how many hosts are needed and offers a blessing over the ministers on behalf of the entire community. Beginning Tuesday, September 1, we are asking those Ministers of Communion who bring Communion to the homebound or imprisoned directly from daily Mass, to sign-in ahead of time. A calendar will be in the Sacristy for this purpose. Just sign your name on the appropriate date, no later than five minutes prior to the start of Mass. Rather than calling asking for ministers and sometimes not having ministers present, the Presider will only call ministers forth when someone has signed in ahead of time.

Also a quick reminder: August is here and it's time to update your Called to Protect status. You may renew on-line at <http://safeenvironmenttraining.org/index.php>. If you do not have access to a computer, please call Heide or me and we can make arrangements for you to come to the church and use a computer here for the renewal. Please watch the bulletin for classes to be scheduled at St. Timothy's this fall or check the diocesan website for locations throughout the Diocese.

In our July MOC meeting, we discussed the benefits of meeting quarterly. Our next meeting will be from 7-9pm Wednesday, October 21 in Room 10. (Please use the back stairwell as you enter, coming through the Social Hall to the classroom.) Hopefully we will not need the entire two hours, but we were a little rushed last time and so we would rather plan for more time and be surprised if we finish early.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Heide or me anytime. We appreciate you and your ministry to those in need.

God bless,

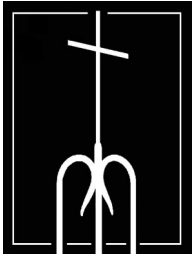
Debbi Mesa

Director of the Liturgy Department
480-775-5273
DMesa@sttimothymesa.org

Heide Hille

Administrative Assistant to Liturgy
480-775-5270
Hhille@sttimothymesa.org

1730 W. Guadalupe Rd., Mesa, AZ 85202
(480) 775-5200 FAX (480) 820-7984
www.sttimothymesa.org



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1730 W. Guadalupe Rd.
Mesa, AZ 85202