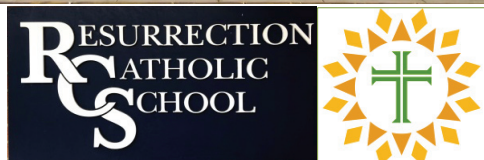




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Parish Ministries Guidebook

2023

The Catholic Community of Christ Our Light
402 Kings Highway N, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
856-667-2440

The Catholic Community of Christ Our Light

402 N. Kings Highway
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034

Phone - 856-667-2440

Fax - 856-482-0332

www.ChristOurLight.net

parishoffice@ChristOurLight.net

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Liturgical Schedule

Masses

Through June 30, 2023:

Saturday - 4:30 PM

Sunday - 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM

Monday thru Friday - 8:00 AM

Saturday - 9:00 AM

Beginning July 1, 2023

Saturday - 4:00 PM

Sunday - 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM and 6:30 PM

Monday thru Friday - 8:00 AM

Saturday - 9:00 AM

Holy Day Schedule - Call the Office

Confessions

Saturdays - 9:30-10:00 AM; 3:30-4:00 PM

Resurrection Catholic School

402 N. Kings Highway
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034

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Fax - 856-667-9160

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office@rcscherryhill.com

Parish Staff

Pastor

Fr. John Picinic jpicinic@christourlight.net

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Christopher Myers cmyers@christourlight.net

Parish Deacons

Dcn. Joe Seaman jseaman@christourlight.net

Dcn. Frank Baratta fbaratta@christourlight.net

Pastoral Associate for Justice and Community Outreach

Ms. Pat Slater pslater@christourlight.net

Pastoral Associate for Lifelong Faith Formation

Mrs. Cathy Johnson cjohnson@christourlight.net

Pastoral Associate for Worship and Music

Mr. John Vovak jvovak@christourlight.net

Principal, Resurrection Catholic School

Ms. Gerry Janansky principal@rcscherryhill.com

Director of Youth Faith Formation

Ms. Sherine Green sgreen@christourlight.net

Director of Elementary Faith Formation

Mrs. Ginny Grogan ggrogan@christourlight.net

Assistant for Communications and Information Technology

Mr. Cort Hrivnak chrivnak@christourlight.net

Assistants for Lifelong Faith Formation

Mrs. Mary Lou Lymper mlymper@christourlight.net

Parish Catechetical Apprentice (through May 2023)

Ms. Cheyenne Schuster cschuster@christourlight.net

Parish Business Administrator

Mrs. Kathy Zippilli kzippilli@christourlight.net

Ministry Associate

Ms. Amelia Conte acont@christourlight.net

Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Nancy Bradis nbradis@christourlight.net

Maintenance & Janitorial Services

Mr. John Murray maintenace@rcscherryhill.com

Mr. Joe Prisco parishoffice@christourlight.net

Mr. David Eves parishoffice@christourlight.net

Mr. Bob Erman parishoffice@christourlight.net

Dear Friends:

Each person is born into a family. No matter how old we are or where we live, we know how important it is to be part of a family and community where we always feel welcomed and can find a home. Through our Baptism in Christ Jesus, we become a member of Christ's universal family called the Church, as well as a member of the local parish to which we belong.

The Catholic Community of Christ Our Light is privileged to have you as part of our family. As a registered family or person, we want you to share fully in our mission of living, witnessing and proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ. To do this, we invite you to celebrate with us in our liturgical worship each week, as well as to become an active participant in the various ministries within our parish. It would be impossible to accomplish the multiple tasks that make up a vibrant parish without the support and involvement of a very large number of parishioners. We are indebted to so many for their contributions, talents and skills which are so generously given on behalf of our parish family.

This parish ministry directory which we present to you will give you an overview of what Christ Our Light is about. It explains who we are and lists the ministries, services, organizations and activities that we provide. If you are already a member of any ministry listed, we thank you. If you would like to become an active participant in some area of your interest or expertise, we welcome you to get involved. It is our hope that each and every person who is a member of our parish becomes a part of the fabric of our spiritual, liturgical, administrative, educational, formational, social, and justice and outreach ministries in order to build up the Body of Christ among us. In addition to the stewardship ministries listed, this booklet will also provide for you a list of the social and special interest organizations that are affiliated with our parish that you are also invited to join.

I express my deep gratitude to all who make this ministry directory possible.

In Christ Jesus,

Reverend John P. Picinic
Pastor



The Parish Vision Statement:

As the parishioners of the Catholic Community of Christ Our Light in the Diocese of Camden, we are called and sent by Christ to reflect His light in our words and actions. Thus, in the spirit of inclusion, renewal, healing, and service, we will strive to bring all people closer together and closer to God.

We envision growing ever more into a community that welcomes all people, celebrates liturgy with enthusiasm and joy, reaches out compassionately to those in need, and encourages and empowers people to grow in relationship with God. This we will accomplish when we:

- Accept everyone as he or she has been created
- Develop strong leadership from within the community
- Invite others to be part of our faith and community
- Build bridges to those disconnected from the church community
- Make liturgy integral to our lives
- Empower people to work for justice
- Reach out and serve our brothers and sisters locally and globally
- Nourish and heal the broken
- Create opportunities for continued spiritual growth and lifelong faith formation
- Adopted by Parish Pastoral Council, May 2013

Our Mission as the Catholic Community of Christ Our Light:

To Embrace the Body of Christ and Reflect His light to the World.

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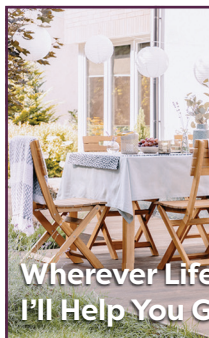
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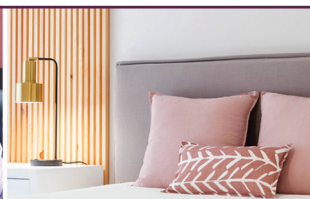



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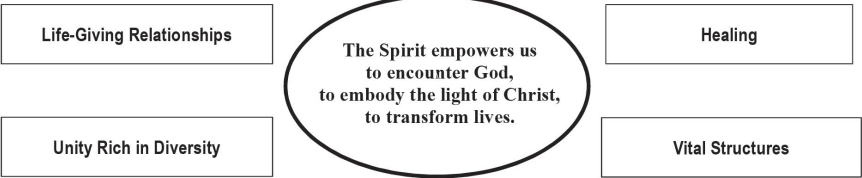
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VISION 2024

In 2018, Christ Our Light parishioners and staff members embarked on a year-long process to craft a pastoral strategic plan for the next six years. Based on the parish mission and vision statements, Vision 2024 is the product of inspired and enthusiastic work of the core committee, staff members and 40 parishioners who met over the past year to discuss and name pastoral priorities for this time in our history as a parish. Vision 2024’s strategic vision leads us to four pastoral themes of priority, all of which will be attended to over the next several years as our community continues to grow and thrive.

VISION 2024 Vision Statement and Themes



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Parish Administration

Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council is a consultative body made up of twelve to sixteen members who collaborate with the Pastor by serving as a unifying and coordinating structure for all aspects of parish life: worship, service, education, formation, evangelization, stewardship, and justice and community outreach. The Council strives to develop a unified vision among parishioners and also provides direction for the appropriate actions necessary to attain this vision. The primary concern of the Parish Pastoral Council is the manifestation of the parish's Mission and Vision through the implementation of VISION 2024.

Pastoral Council Chair - Luisa Foster, Parish Council Co-Chair - George Sundell, Parish Council Secretary - Margaret McGill

Moderator: Fr. John P. Picinic

Finance Council

The Finance Council is responsible for budgeting, reporting, and analyzing parish financial data (church & school). The Council has the responsibility to keep the parishioners updated on the financial condition of the parish and, through the sound management of funds, to ensure a balanced budget. All parish fundraising activities, as well as all major expenditures, both capital and expense, are reviewed by the finance council.

Finance Council Chairperson – Jim Rivard

Secretary/Treasurer – Fr. John P. Picinic

Parish Trustees

The Parish Trustees, both members of the Finance Council, along with the Bishop, Vicar General, and Pastor are the trustees of the civil corporation, The Catholic Community of Christ Our Light, Cherry Hill, NJ.

Trustees – Jim Rivard and Mary Hennessey

Bishop's Annual Appeal for South Jersey Catholic Ministries

Each year the Diocese of Camden conducts the Bishop's Annual Appeal to raise money to fund Compassionate Outreach, Social and Community Services and to support Lifelong Faith Formation, Vocations, Youth Ministry and Special Education. The annual appeal pledge drive at Christ Our Light begins in February.

Contact: Kathy Zippili (kzippili@christourlight.net)

Worship And Music

Welcome And Hospitality Ministries

Welcome and Information Center

The purpose of the welcome and information center is to provide parishioners and visitors with up-to-date information about all ministries and any upcoming parish events. Members of this ministry staff the center before and after weekend Masses. In addition, announcements, images of parish events, and happenings in the diocese are displayed on a large screen monitor.

Contact: Amelia Conte (ameliaconte@comcast.net)



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Welcoming Committee

The Welcoming Committee contacts newly registered parishioners to personally welcome them to the parish. Some members also assist at the Welcome and Information Center.

Contact: Amelia Conte (ameliaconte@comcast.net)

Mass Assistants

Mass Assistants serve the parish community in the celebration of the liturgy. As ministers of hospitality, Mass Assistants greet people and assist in seating as needed. Their responsibilities include coordinating the offering of gifts, assisting anyone with special needs, ensuring the church is ready for the next Mass, and other duties as necessary for special occasions.

Contact: Chris Fencl (cfencl@comcast.net)

Liturgical Ministries

Music Ministry

The members of the Music Ministry sing and play to accompany several Sunday Liturgies as well as join together for special parish events and celebrations.

Music of all styles and genres are part of the parish repertoire. All voice parts and instruments are welcome. Instrumentalists should be proficient on his/her instrument at an intermediate level.

Contact: John Vovak (jvovak@christourlight.net)

Cantors

Cantors are the leaders of song for all weekend Masses. The cantor's responsibilities include leading the assembly in hymns, songs and responses, proclaiming the Responsorial Psalm, and teaching new music, when necessary. Cantors meet/rehearse individually as needed, and attend choir rehearsals as much as possible.

Contact: John Vovak (jvovak@christourlight.net)

Children's Choir

The age of children's choir members ranges from Grade 5 through Grade 8. The choirs sing on average once per month at a Sunday Mass, as well as other parish special events and celebrations. The children's choir leads the assembly in song. Children in grades 6-8 are encouraged to begin training for the ministry of cantor.

Contact: John Vovak (jvovak@christourlight.net)

Instrumentalists/Accompanists

All instrumentalists are welcome to accompany Parish Liturgy. While many musicians play weekly, additional musicians join in playing for Holy Days, other parish events and celebrations, or as needed.

Contact: John Vovak (jvovak@christourlight.net)

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Processional Cross Ministry

Men, women, and teens are invited to carry the processional cross to lead our community into prayer and worship. Ministers carry the cross for the entrance and gifts processions, and the recessional at our weekend Masses and special occasions.

Contact: John Vovak (jvovak@christourlight.net)

Altar Servers

Children, youth and young adults 4th grade and older are welcome to serve as altar servers. This ministry provides children and youth the opportunity to assist in the celebration of the liturgy as book bearers and table servers. Because of the intimate involvement with the liturgy, the ministry of altar server leads children to a greater appreciation of the Mass, and a deeper awareness of the importance of Christian service. Schedules are created based on family availability and needs of the parish.

Contact: Anthony DiTrollo (anthony_ditrollo@msn.com)

Lectors

Lectors proclaim the Word of God during liturgy, at all weekend Masses (Saturday evening, Sunday morning, Sunday evening) and Holy Days. Preparation includes praying with the readings before Sunday, and individual practice of the readings. Lectors are trained through both the diocesan Office of Worship School of Liturgy programs and the parish. They are encouraged to practice at the ambo with the microphone, and to participate in various continued formation opportunities. Schedules are created based on individual availability and needs of the parish.

Contact: Carla Clarke (41carla@gmail.com)

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for Liturgy

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for Liturgy serve the community by assisting in the distribution of communion at all parish liturgies. Ministers distribute both the Precious Body and Precious Blood, as communion is offered under both forms at all Masses.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are trained through the diocesan Office of Worship School of Liturgy programs. Once that training is complete, individuals are prepared to serve at Christ Our Light by parish staff or experienced EM's. Schedules are created based on individual availability and needs of the parish.

Contact: Janet George (janetg_313@comcast.net)

Leaders of Eucharist Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest

Occasionally, the parish celebrates a communion service led by a lay presider. These leaders of prayer have significant experience in guiding prayer services and are Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. They offer a reflection on the readings of the day, and distribute the Eucharist to all present.

Contact: Cathy Johnson (cjohnson@christourlight.net)

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Sacristans

Sacristans arrive early in order to prepare for the parish liturgies. With reverent and careful attention to set up and the handling of sacred vessels, they help make sure everything is ready for both Sunday and weekday liturgies.

Contact: John Vovak (jvovak@christourlight.net)

Altar Linen Ministry

The Altar Linen Ministry is responsible for the care of all the linens used for liturgy. Members are scheduled on a rotating basis to clean, press, and fold purificators and corporals from daily and weekend Masses.

Contact: Nancy Bradis (nbradis@christourlight.net)

Art and Liturgical Environment Committee

The members of the Art and Liturgical Environment Committee help plan and create the liturgical environment for our worship space.

This ministry helps the community by preparing the space in which we receive God's word and enter into communion with God and one another. The liturgical year comes alive through the visual arts and attention to the color and beauty of each season.

Contact: Cathy Johnson (cjohnson@christourlight.net)

Lifelong Faith Formation **Elementary Faith Formation**

Catechists

Catechists share their faith through a planned and guided curriculum with students in grades Pre-K through 6. Catechists may or may not be experienced professional teachers.

Contact: Ginny Grogan (ggrogan@christourlight.net)

Elementary Faith Formation Classes

The Elementary Faith Formation offered at Christ Our Light strives to be in partnership with parents in the religious instruction and faith formation of children in grades Pre-K through 6 in an effort to realize the development of responsible, respectful persons who celebrate God's love. Classes are offered on Monday afternoons, grades 1-6, Tuesday afternoons, grades 1-6, and Sunday morning, Pre-K (4yrs. – K). The opportunity for parents/guardians to Home Study EFF is an option for grades 1-6. Parents/guardians are required to have a conversation with the Director addressing their need/desire to Home Study. All registration policies and fees apply. Families receive a schedule of lessons and access to the Sadlier "Christ In Us" portal. All EFF families are encouraged to participate in a selection of parish events.

Contact: Ginny Grogan (ggrogan@christourlight.net)



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Children's Liturgy of the Word

Those who facilitate this ministry proclaim the Sunday readings to children during the Sunday morning Masses. Following the Opening Collect, the children are dismissed to the ministry center of the church. Adult facilitators proclaim the day's Scripture readings and encourage the children to participate in a scripted, interactive homily. Facilitators are scheduled approximately eight times a year. CLOW is appropriate for children 5 years of age through 5th grade.

Contact: Mary Lou Lymper (mlymper@christourlight.net)

Vacation Bible School

Christ Our Light offers VBS to children aged 5 years to entering 5th grade for a week over the summer. Volunteer help is needed to lead groups of children through activities, prepare refreshments, assist with arts and crafts, games, and skits. VBS runs from Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM-noon one week in July.

Contact: Ginny Grogan (ggrogan@christourlight.net)

Living In The Light Sacrament Preparation

First Reconciliation Preparation

Children in second grade or older, together with their parents/guardians, attend two events in the fall of the year in preparation to celebrate this sacrament of God's love and forgiveness. This process requires assistance with set up, refreshments, hands on activities, and facilitating the textbook lesson. First Reconciliation precedes the celebration of First Eucharist. Children celebrate the sacrament for the first time during an Advent Reconciliation Service or a Lenten Reconciliation Service as decided by the family.

Contact: Ginny Grogan (ggrogan@christourlight.net)

First Eucharist Preparation

Children in second grade or older, together with their parents/guardians, attend three events through the winter months in preparation to celebrate First Eucharist. This process requires assistance with setup, refreshments, hands on activities, and facilitating the textbook lesson. First Eucharist is celebrated at four regularly scheduled weekend liturgies during the Easter season.

Contact: Ginny Grogan (ggrogan@christourlight.net)

Youth Faith Formation/Ministry

7th and 8th Grade Youth Faith Formation/Catechists

Students meet one evening a week, for interactive class sessions, 6:30-7:30 PM, from September-April. Throughout the year youth are involved in retreats, stewardship, youth community engagement, parish life and journaling. A Final Project is handed in after completing all requirements.

Contact: Sherine Green (sgreen@christourlight.net)

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Confirmation Preparation

This program prepares 8th grade students of the parish to receive the sacrament of Confirmation during 9th grade of high school. This program is built on Christian Service, learning and reflection. Small groups meet several times throughout the spring, summer and fall to prepare for receiving the sacrament. The program includes a large group Closing Retreat and post Confirmation opportunities.

Contact: Sherine Green (sgreen@christourlight.net)

Middle School Youth Ministry

Students in middle school are invited to grow in community and spirituality. The objective is to encourage students to begin to ask deeper questions about faith, and spend time with one another while recognizing solidarity. Students obtain opportunities to lead prayers and reflections and also participate in games, music and dance. Various opportunities are offered year round for immersion in parish life.

Middle School Youth can participate in the week-long service program ServiceWorX at the parish through the Center For Faith Justice (CFJ) during the summer. This week-long immersion offers opportunities to work directly with service sites such as Joseph's House, Cathedral Kitchen, Urban Promise, Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Center and many more.

Contact: Sherine Green (sgreen@christourlight.net)

High School Youth Ministry

The objective of this ministry is to build our community of faith. Growth in our faith continues after Confirmation through social interaction, interactive presentations, service learning, immersion, leadership building, mentoring, prayer and networking - all in a safe, friendly atmosphere. 8th grade students are also invited to experience the Youth Group Community as an introduction. Students are given opportunities to deepen their understanding of God and community through Catholic Social Teaching, scripture and the world in which they live. Students have multiple opportunities for fellowship and friendship.

Throughout the summer months there is an intentional focus on the daily examen, leadership building, service immersion locally, through the Cherry Hill Food Pantry, Joseph's House, Urban Promise and internationally, through Mustard Seed Communities.

Contact: Sherine Green (sgreen@christourlight.net)



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Young Adult Formation

Young Adult Ministry

Young adults are invited to spend time in fellowship and stewardship as they strengthen their understanding of faith and community through liturgy, parish life, and service in seeking to live in the world as followers of Jesus. This ministry reaches out to those in college or working, and people in their 20s and 30s who are married or single, all who share a desire to grow in relationship with God and neighbor. It can be reshaped as needed to attend to contemporary issues and desires of those who are involved.

Contact: Cheyenne Schuster (cschuster@christourlight.net)

[After June 1, 2023, contact Sherine Green (sgreen@christourlight.net) or Cathy Johnson (cjohnson@christourlight.net)]

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Sacrament Preparation/Inquiry Team Ministry/OCIA

Countless men and women have chosen to undertake the journey to become Catholic through the Sacraments of Initiation. Adults baptized in other Christian traditions desire to come into full communion with the Catholic Church. Team members assist with the catechetical and formation process, serve as sponsors, and participate in events with seekers through the various rites of the Christian Initiation of Adults. In accompanying others on this journey, team members enter into a deeper relationship with the Lord while walking with catechumens and candidates to the fullness of Christian life in the Catholic Church. Contact: Cathy Johnson (cjohnson@christourlight.net)

Baptism Preparation

Baptism Preparation sessions are intended to support parents as they prepare for the Sacrament of Baptism. The program provides a welcoming environment that is structured around small group sharing and discussions. Parish members serve as facilitators. Individuals and couples interested in joining the facilitation team are always welcome. Contact: Deacon Joe Seaman (jseaman@christourlight.net)

Marriage Mentoring

Marriage preparation is more than planning for a wedding, it is preparing for a lifelong commitment in marriage. One of the best ways to be successful in something is to be mentored by people who have lived experience. There are couples in our community who are willing to share their faith and experience in marriage with engaged couples as a mentoring couple. The mentoring couple meets with the engaged couple for three face to face meetings. The intent is for the mentoring couple to facilitate the engaged couple into discussing the key elements for a successful marriage.

Contact: Deacon Joe Seaman (jseaman@christourlight.net) or Cathy Johnson (cjohnson@christourlight.net)

Misa de Gallo

The Misa de Gallo ministry conducts and supervises a nine day Christmas novena mass celebrated just before Christmas Day at 530 AM each morning. The mass is followed by a festive hospitality of mainly Filipino food and delicacies celebrating the Filipino roots of this tradition. The novena is a joyful and spiritual preparation for Christmas.

Contact information: Mike and Liz de Leon 856-7958109 and Frances Estella 856-428-3855

COL Book Club

The book club meets monthly to discuss books chosen by the members that have a “spiritual dimension.” Titles are announced in the bulletin, and all are welcome to read the book and attend the meeting for discussion.

Contact: Tom DeWolf (tjmdewolf@gmail.com)

COL Movie Nights

Parishioners make suggestions and we occasionally meet to watch and/or discuss movies, classic and new. How do we watch through the eyes of faith? What insights can we discover for our own lives in the stories told through full length movies? What stories of faith are being told through the world of entertainment?

Contact: Cathy Johnson (cjohnson@christourlight.net)

COL Prayer Group

The COL Prayer group meets weekly on Friday evenings from 7-9 PM. This is a Catholic Charismatic prayer meeting, we pray the Rosary, and have lively Praise and Worship, read Sunday’s Gospel, and have small group sharing. We also offer a few “Do-it-yourself 33-day consecrations” and a Bible in A Year/Catechism in a Year program. All are welcome.

Contact: Michael Eltham (mickey.mys@gmail.com)

Courageous Conversations

There are times in the life of the Church when we struggle and wrestle with scandal, crisis, and confusion. We need time and space to reflect, pray, talk, and listen to each other to sort through the challenges and assign meaning to these experiences. Trained facilitators guide small groups through conversation in a non-judgmental, open, and welcoming manner, with structure and clear boundaries so that participants feel encouraged to share thoughts, feelings and hopes within a loving atmosphere. Gatherings are held at various times as requested.

Contact: Cathy Johnson (cjohnson@christourlight.net)

Faith Study and Sharing

In this small group setting, individuals come together to learn about the faith, and to share their experiences of a deepening spirituality and greater love of faith and one another. Sessions include video presentation, conversation, sharing, and prayer; program examples include Catholicism and Catching the Fire, Becoming Flame. The same program is offered Friday mornings and Monday evenings to fit the needs of different schedules.

Contact: Cathy Johnson (cjohnson@christourlight.net)

Grandparents Ministry

The Grandparents Ministry helps grandparents and mature adults pass on the faith and keep prayer a central focus in family and community life. Wisdom and faith are shared across generations in different events through the year. Family and community life are strengthened in the recognition that we all share the responsibility of helping all children grow and thrive, and that parents need support in their primary responsibility of raising their children in the faith. The Grandparents Ministry also helps with Family Movie Nights, 2nd grade Sacrament preparation, and other events.

Contact: Jean Lombardi (jalombardi71@gmail.com)

KOCA (Knights of Celestine Association)

KOCA promotes a greater sense of community and volunteerism among the men of our parish community. Their efforts benefit our parish, school, and community by assisting in the management of the grounds and facilities, providing input to the pastor, working with the school to perform minor repairs and upkeep, and assisting the PTA, and supporting Catholic Charities in the diocese. Meetings and social events are held throughout the year.

Contact: Joe Hoag, KOCA Secretary (Jfhoag34@gmail.com) or sign up to get text notifications @20ba61 to 81010.

Men's Spirituality Group

This group is open to all men over the age of 18. All races, creeds, sexual orientations, and levels of Church participation are invited. It's about helping each man to become a transformed man of God: a better person, husband, father, partner, son, brother, and friend. It is about growing up spiritually, emotionally, and socially by enabling a man to get in touch with his shadow.

Contact: Liam McGrory (liammcgrory@usa.net)

One Book One COL

We are a parish who prays together, serves together, and reads together! All parishioners are invited to read a common book, and participate in small faith sharing groups to discuss themes of the book and how it helps us continue to grow in faith as disciples in the world. A core committee chooses the book based on suggestions from parishioners, plans the opening and closing events, and helps serve as group leaders as needed during the weeks of the program. Participate by reading, hosting a small group, or serving on the core committee.

Contact: Kathy Zippilli (kathyzipp@comcast.net)

Open Heart Centering Prayer

Come and pray in the company of one another in the silence of Centering Prayer, an ancient Christian meditative practice. In our prayer gathering, we silently contemplate God's presence and listen for the voice of Love. We gently consent to God's action in our hearts. Using a sacred word, we ever so gently reorient ourselves to the Center where God's loving will dwells. Centering prayer helps us reach out to others with compassion, address life's challenges with less anxiety, and live with inner peace.

Contact: Anne Landau (alandau_h@verizon.net)

Prayer Warriors

This ministry brings together women of all ages and walks of life who meet virtually twice a month. We believe that it takes a community to get through life and we all have something to learn from one another. We meet to study scripture and analyze practical ways we can adapt it's wisdom in our busy, chaotic, and joyous lives. When possible, we try to attend local Christian events (such as Dare to Be or Abbeyfest) to deepen our relationship with Jesus. Commitment to the group is not required—come once or come regularly....you are always welcome!

Contact: Maria Trotty (trottym@gmail.com or 609-220-5105)

Small Group Faith Sharing Communities

Various groups meet at different times during the week for faith sharing on a more intimate level. GoodNews People (from JustFaith Ministries), and the Year of Encounter with Pope Francis (PICO Network) are examples of programs groups have used. Other groups meet to discuss various topics in spirituality or books about faith development.

Contact: Cathy Johnson (cjohnson@christourlight.net)

Tuesday Morning Scripture Group

Every Tuesday morning, a group meets to explore the Sunday readings for the upcoming week. Faith sharing, catechesis, social time, and scripture study are all part of the morning.

Contact: Barbara Long (blong37416@verizon.net or 856-810-0881) or Deb Celhar (debbiecel@aol.com or 609-932-4507)

Women's Cornerstone Retreat Ministry

The Women's Cornerstone Retreat is offered annually for all women of the parish. Women who have attended the retreat participate in the Cornerstone ministry by serving as Team members to prepare and lead the retreat for new participants. Meetings are held monthly during the autumn, and every two weeks leading up to the spring retreat. Team members also host reunion evenings to nurture the sense of community built during the retreat.

Contact: Cathy Johnson (cjohnson@christourlight.net)

Justice And Community Outreach

We seek to educate parishioners in the rich heritage of Catholic Social Teaching, advocate for change to help those who are poor and marginalized, and provide compassionate care to those in need.

Justice Education and Formation

We provide education about our rich tradition of Catholic Social Teaching and also opportunities to put faith into action through advocacy efforts on issues such as immigration, budget proposals that would affect those who are poor, etc. There is a commission which plans these activities and initiatives for the parish.

Contact: Pastoral Associate for Justice and Community Outreach
(856-667-2440 x.327)

Bereavement Ministry

Ministers meet with families to support them in their loss and to help plan the funeral. The bereavement ministers also help with the annual Mass near the feast of All Souls with special invitations to those who have lost a loved one during the year. We also have a special commemoration for any children who have died.

Contact: Pastoral Associate for Justice and Community Outreach
(856-667-2440 x.327)

Cancer Care Ministry

Through this ministry, a team member accompanies a person with cancer and their family through their journey. Their focus is on spiritual and emotional support for the patient and for the family, but can also help people get in touch with other services they may need.

Contact: Pastoral Associate for Justice and Community Outreach
(856-667-2440 x.327)

Caregivers Support Group

This group is composed of adults who are the primary caregivers for a loved one. The meetings are held during the day twice a month and last approximately 2 hours. One meeting is held in person and the other via zoom. Group leaders also reach out to talk to those who are not able to connect via computer.

Contact: Pastoral Associate for Justice and Community Outreach
(856-667-2440 x.327)

Cathedral Kitchen

A team of 6 parishioners serves lunch at the kitchen the 3rd Saturday of the month. Volunteers usually serve 2 or 3 times a year.

Contact: Colleen Poole (colleenpoole@gmail.com or 609-217-2352)

Thursday mornings, parishioners take donations of sandwiches and snacks down to Cathedral Kitchen. Snacks must be individually wrapped. These items can be dropped at Maureen Pagano's house, 66 Ivy Lane, Cherry Hill.

Contact: Maureen Pagano (Maureenpagano@comcast.net or 856-779-7590) if you have any questions.

Cherry Hill Food Pantry

We support this area food pantry with two annual food collections and with volunteers several times a year.

Contact: Janet Giordano (cherryhillnjfoodpantry@gmail.com or 856-912-2353)

Normally, the Cherry Hill Food Pantry only serves those with a Cherry Hill zip code; however, if you are a parishioner and live outside Cherry Hill, you can still receive food by obtaining a letter from Pastoral Associate for Justice and Community Outreach at the parish office (856-667-2440 x.327). All requests are confidential.

Christ Our Light Food Pantry

The parish maintains a food pantry with canned and boxed items for anyone in need. Items can be donated by leaving them in the hallway to the right of the gathering space. If you are in need of food, contact the parish office (856-667-2440). All help is confidential.

Contact: Please contact Nancy Bradis in the parish office if you would like to volunteer to prepare bags of food for families in need. (856-667-2440 x.321).

Fair Trade

The parish uses fair trade coffee for all meetings. In addition, a fair trade sale is held prior to Christmas. A fair trade coffee co-op also allows parishioners to order fair trade coffee, chocolate and tea throughout the year.

Contact for Fair Trade festival: Betty Atkins (jonas2741@aol.com or 856-667-3407)

Contact for fair trade coffee and tea co-op: Nancy Denton (nandent@comcast.net)

Giving Tree/Adopt-a-Family (help for families at Christmas)

At Christmas, we have several initiatives. There is a traditional giving tree from which parishioners can pick up an ornament and buy a gift for those served by Guadalupe Family Services in Camden. In addition, volunteers can opt to adopt an entire family. There are announcements in the bulletin and at Mass when this is happening.

Contact: Pastoral Associate for Justice and Community Outreach (856-667-2440 x.327)

Grief Support Group for Widows and Widowers - To Live Again

This is a support group for those who have lost a spouse. This group meets weekly and also has a chapter meeting once a month.

Contact Sharon Scharr through the parish office (856-667-2440)

Helping Hands

These volunteers provide rides and other services to those who need them. If you need a ride or would like to become a volunteer driver, contact Judy Bodary (ritasgirl@aol.com or 856-866-1170).

Hospital and Nursing Home Visitation

Volunteers take communion to residents of local nursing homes and assisted living facilities. We serve Jefferson Hospital, Barclay Nursing Home, Springhills Assisted Living, Dwellside and Arden Court.

Contact: Pastoral Associate for Justice and Community Outreach
(856-667-2440 x.327)

Interfaith Homeless Outreach Council (IHOC)

Several congregations house homeless men for two weeks as part of a network of congregations in the area. While we are unable to house the men due to our limitations on space, we do help out when they are housed at St. Mary's. Our volunteers help prepare a meal for the men once or twice in the two week period they are at St. Mary's and also men volunteer to stay overnight with the men.

Contact: Pastoral Associate for Justice and Community Outreach
(856-667-2440 x.327)

Joseph's House

Joseph's House is an overnight café for people who are homeless. Volunteers provide homemade soup and casseroles. Some volunteers work at the site serving the meal and visiting with the guests.

Volunteer time is from 8:30 PM-11:00 PM.

Call 856-246-1087 if you would like to volunteer there. Call the parish office (856-667-2440 x.327) if you would like to shadow someone from the parish to find out how this works.

There is also a ministry for making casseroles for Joseph's House. You will be put on an email list and receive notifications when casseroles are due.

Contact: Phyllis Sanders (dfcps@hotmail.com or 856-667-7064)

Leisure Club

The group is for senior adults. The group meets once a month most of the year.

Contact: Margaret McGill, president (clanmcgill@aol.com, 856-667-4494))

The group also sponsors various trips which are open to anyone in the parish, not just group members. Both the meetings and the trips are advertised in the parish bulletin.

Contact: Jackie Gibney (jawgibney@gmail.com)

Ministers of Communion to the Homebound

Eucharistic ministers visit and take communion to the homebound.

If interested in having communion brought to you or a loved one or if you are interested in volunteering for this ministry, please contact George Sundell (GSundell1@gmail.com or 856-755-0174).

Mitzvah Day

This annual parish-wide day of service is held the third Saturday in October. Besides hundreds of people going to service sites, we provide the opportunity to participate in a blood drive and special service projects for school age children. There is extensive publicity in the parish bulletin and registration is done after church and online in late September. The committee begins planning in the spring.

Contact: Pastoral Associate for Justice and Community Outreach
(856-667-2440 x.327)

Multi-faith Action for Social Justice of South Jersey

This group meets monthly at Christ Our Light, usually the third Monday of the month. The major focus of the group is immigration reform and support of immigrant communities and individuals through legislative advocacy and personal support.. Contact Phyllis Sanders if you would like to get the invitation to the Zoom call.

Contact: Phyllis Sanders (dfcps@hotmail.com or 856-667-7064)

Respect Life Ministry

Parishioners support women who have opted not to have an abortion and also pray and witness against abortion.

Contact the parish office, parishoffice@christourlight.net

There is a national network for post-abortion healing called Rachel's Vineyard. You can call the national hotline at 888-456-HOPE(4673).

Operation Rice Bowl

During Lent the parish, Resurrection Catholic School and Faith Formation classes learn about the work of Catholic Relief services around the world. The committee provides educational pieces for the bulletin.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Parishioners knit and crochet prayer shawls which are distributed to people who are in need of prayer.

Contact: The parish office (856-667-2440) if you need a prayer shawl for someone or if you would like to get involved in this ministry. We also accept donations of yarn for this ministry.

Parish Nursing

Parish nurses visit parishioners to make assessments, put people in touch with the resources they need, and accompany people for appointments if needed. They do not provide direct nursing care. We presently have four parish nurses. If interested in becoming a parish nurse or if you need the services of a parish nurse, contact Susan Bruce , Leslie Skolnik or Pauline Sundell through the parish office (856-667-2440).

Sandwich Making Ministry

Sandwich making is usually done the last Saturday of the month, but check the bulletin or the calendar on the website to check the date. Parishioners are asked to bring a pound of turkey or beef bologna, a king sized loaf of bread and a half pound of cheese. We also collect donations of fresh fruit, individually wrapped snacks, and bottled water. Look for announcements in the bulletin. If you would like to be on the coordinating committee, contact Kathy Zippilli (kathyzip@comcast.net). Otherwise, you can just show up on the announced Sunday.

Short Term Mission Trips

During the summer, parishioners travel to Guatemala to work with the indigenous Maya in a ministry of presence for one week. There is also a one week-long trip for service in Appalachia where another team does home repairs. There are formation meetings for each of the teams prior to the trips. Youth Faith Formation also sponsors a trip to Jamaica to work with Mustard Seed Ministries.

Contact: Tom Bluesteen (tom.bluesteen@gmail.com or 856-235-7917) or Deacon Joe Seaman (jseaman@christourlight.net) regarding the mission trip to Guatemala. Contact Cathy Johnson regarding the mission trip to Kentucky. (cjohnson@christourlight.net)

Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Center

We collect food for the pantry at the Neighborhood Center the second weekend of each month. We also collect t-shirts and pillowcases which are made into reusable bags for transporting food for their food distribution. Contact Pastoral Associate for Justice and Community Outreach (856-667-2440 x.327)

Stephen Ministry

This is a ministry of one-on-one Christian caring. Stephen Ministers meet weekly with a parishioner who has experienced any loss or crisis whether it is the loss of a loved one, a job, a divorce, a move, retirement or even the readjustments that come with a new baby in the home. Stephen Ministers go through 50 hours of training and also attend twice monthly supervision group meetings after they are commissioned. All requests are treated with the utmost confidentiality. Contact: Pastoral Associate for Justice and Community Outreach (856-667-2440 x.327)

Thanksgiving Collection

We collect turkeys and hams which are matched with baskets of food collected by the Resurrection Catholic School Community. These baskets and hams and turkeys are distributed the Friday before Thanksgiving.

Resurrection Catholic School

Resurrection Catholic School is the premier elementary school in Cherry Hill that serves students from Preschool 3 through eighth grade. We are known for our welcoming, Christ-centered, and family focused atmosphere, as every student is treated with the love and respect that are inherent in our Catholic faith values. We believe all of our students matter, and we strive to meet their individual needs through a curriculum that challenges students and helps them to reach their full spiritual, academic, and social potential.

RCS offers half-day and full-day three and four year old Preschool programs as well as full-day Kindergarten to help meet the needs of our diverse parent population. We are the only Catholic school in the region offering a full time Resource Center that utilizes technology and a multi-sensory approach to teach our students with special learning needs. Our accelerated Math program, accelerated Language Arts program, and REACH (Resurrection Educates and Challenges Holistically), all challenge students with exceptional potential. Our new, state-of-the-art gymnasium provides students with an opportunity to develop their athletic abilities through a wide variety of intramural sports. The gymnasium includes a modern stage equipped with a superior light and sound system that offers our students the chance to discover their unique talents in our performing arts program.

We invite you to come tour our school, meet our students and teachers, and find out why RCS was voted the 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 Courier Post Reader's Choice Award for the Best School System in South Jersey. We really are "that good!"

Principal: Ms. Gerry Janansky (principal@rcscherryhill.com)

Advancement Director: Mrs. Barb Hertline (bhertline@rcscherryhill.com)

School phone: 856-667-3034