

# **Social Ministries**

## **Bereavement**

The pain and sorrow that accompanies the loss of a loved one does not end with the funeral and burial. Those who serve in this ministry try to develop skills necessary to help those who are mourning.

## **Meal Ministry**

St. Mary's has members who are willing to provide a meal to fellow parishioners during a time of need such as funerals, births, and difficult situations (i.e. extended illness, surgery, etc.) This is an opportunity to minister to the physical needs of our church body and is a loving way to put our faith into action. If you are interested in joining this ministry or would like to have meals provided, please call St. Mary's (983-3255).

## **Welcoming Committee**

Members of the Welcoming Committee serve as welcome agents to the newest members of St. Mary's. They meet with the new members and share information about our parish family and provide a census form to be completed. Please call St. Mary's (983-3255) if you are interested in joining this ministry.

## **Visiting the Sick and Homebound - Elim Home**

Members of this ministry take the time to visit parishioners who are sick or homebound or may currently be residents at the Milaca Elim Home. At times they may be the persons who bring the Eucharist to the homebound and sick.

## **Meals on Wheels**

St. Mary's and St. Louis serve on a rotating schedule to assist in delivering *Meals on Wheels* to local Senior Citizens. Members serving in this ministry must have reliable transportation and pick up the meals at the Milaca Park Apartments at 11:30 a.m. Monday-Friday for one week. Each parish provides parishioners to deliver meals two months each year. If you would like to deliver meals, please call St. Mary's (983-3255) or Lori Hastings (St. Louis) 320-260-9975.

## **Milaca Area Pantry**

St. Mary's and St. Louis serve on a rotating schedule with other Milaca area churches to assist in working at the Milaca Area Pantry. Workers help those in need to have enough food for one week. Help is needed on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon and 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. St. Mary's and St. Louis parishioners serve at the Milaca Area Pantry food shelf one month each year. If you would like to serve in this ministry, please call St. Mary's (983-3255) or St. Louis (294-5460).

## **Friendship Ministries**

Members serving in the Friendship Ministry assist by sending cards to those who are celebrating a sacrament or special anniversary; have lost a loved one; are ill or have experienced an accident; or just thinking of you. If you would like to be a part of this ministry, please call St. Mary's (983-3255).

## **Prayer Blankets**

Parishioners make prayer blankets for those who are in need of moral and religious support. The blankets are given to them with the assurance that parishioners are praying for them in their need. Prayer blankets are also given to newly baptized babies at their baptism. The blanket reminds the parents that there are parishioners praying for the new life that is entrusted to the parents. If you are interested in joining this ministry, please call St. Mary's (983-3255).

## **Funeral Luncheon Servers**

St. Mary's Guild provides a luncheon following the funeral service. All women of the parish are members of the Guild and may be called upon from time to time to serve at a funeral or provide a cake.