

How the Commissions Work Together



Engagement

When the Holy Spirit inspires people to connect to our mission, this team is ready to welcome them into our parish family.



Evangelization

After the invitation to join is accepted, these programs help reveal the truth, goodness, and beauty of our faith.



Faith Formation

Ongoing formation helps strengthen practicing Catholics and share spiritual heritage with newcomers.



Liturgical Life

Our spiritual hunger is satisfied in the Eucharist and through the gift of the Sacraments, made manifest in our Liturgical life.



Social Justice

Our relationship with Christ and confidence in truths of the Gospel deepens our faith, calling us to serve those in need.



Stewardship

With grateful and generous hearts, we give our first fruits back to God, and work to ensure that our mission can continue.



Education

We look to the future, forming the next generation into active, engaged Catholics ready to take ownership and live faithfully.

> Starts over again!



Members of the Evangelization Commission help foster a strong personal devotion to Christ.

After the invitation to join our parish is accepted, EVC programs help reveal the truth, goodness, and beauty of our faith. The EVC and aligned ministries will:

- Intentionally help people develop a strong personal devotion to Christ
- Anticipate and create more opportunities to share the truth of the Gospel, in an authentic manner that is accessible to all and appropriate to the audience.
- Recommend and develop new avenues to proclaim the fullness of the faith to parishioners, and others in the community.

Ministries and Programs: "The 99" Program, Welcome Retreat, Fall Retreat, Padre Pio Prayer Group, Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and Teens, Legion of Mary, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Martha Guild, Bereavement, Separated and Divorced Ministry, Alliance to the Two Hearts





While continuing to prepare and empower laity for leadership roles within the church, we need to build connections among all our members. We must work collaboratively to evangelize effectively.

- Evangelization is the responsibility of all Baptized
 Catholics. While Evangelization is a specific Commission, it is interconnected to all Commissions and the Parish as a whole.
 - Through Programs like the 99 Experience the EVC casts a wide net to invite and engage all members of our Parish community
 - Ministry members of The Legion of Mary also serve on the Engagement - Social Justice - Liturgical -Education Commissions
 - Legion of Mary Members also lead the Ascension Food
 Pantry





Next, we must consider new and accomplished ways to engage to a higher level all our members, especially those already on campus for other activities. Build the community by lifting up all in prayer and charity.

- The EVC is offering a new program this January based upon the book "Return" by Brandon Vogt. The central theme of the book is "how to draw your child, spouse, friend, sister/brother back to the Church. Watch the bulletin for registration details.
- The Legion of Mary leads the Divine Mercy Chaplet daily
- The Legion of Mary sponsors an annual Pilgrimage to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Shrine in Pevely MO which is open to all Parishioners.
- Each Sept 23rd the Padre Pio Ministry holds a feast day celebration including Mass and reception honoring Padre Pio, a modern day Saint. Surrounding Parishes are also invited.
- This past June the EVC held a "send off" for Jimmy Fiudo for his work in the NET ministries.
 Next year we would like to expand the event to celebrate all Ascension family members
 who are in religious vocation including Seminary, Religious Orders, FOCUS, NET, etc.
- Fall Retreats are offered annually with interesting and timely topics. See bulletin for future details.



Third, we will proclaim the Gospel message in an authentic manner that is accessible to all. Make the Gospel message personal and alive as you share the truth, goodness, and beauty of God with others.

- It is important that the scope and purpose of current and new EVC Ministries align with the goals of Ascension Parish.
- The Ascension Bereavement Ministry calls Parish Families who have lost a loved one. Sympathy cards are also sent expressing the prayers and condolences of the entire Parish community. Families are also invited to a special Bereavement Mass on Nov 2nd in honor of the deceased parish members or family members.
- The Legion of Mary zooms weekly meetings to members who are homebound or traveling. The Legion also assists at Masses and Rosaries at Friendship Village, and Garden View Centers.
- The Ascension Prayer Shawl Ministry knits and crochets prayer shawls and lap blankets for those who are in need of comfort due to a life altering diagnosis, other health issues, or loss of a loved one. The Ministry uses their hands for God's glory. Love and prayers are included in each stitch.
- During Lent 2023 the EVC will again be offering the 99 Masterclass on Mondays (7).
 The Theme of this class is to learn how to effectively evangelize.





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- The Search-video series will be offered in a power packed one-day retreat in 2023. This series tackles the key questions of every human heart. Date TBD.
- Ascension RCIA and RCIT programs are offered annually for those who are interested in the Catholic Faith, with an invitation to join our Catholic Family. Classes typically begin in September.
- Martha Guild is a ministry of dedicated parishioners who offer prepare-serve meals after Ascension Parish funerals. Events are scheduled through the Parish office





Finally, we must continue to ensure current structures are benefitting the mission. We must position our efforts in such a way all things work together for the good of all. We must engage that hard evaluation of each ministry's effectiveness. Each ministry should evaluate how their work directly enhances the larger community.

- At Ascension Parish "there are a lot of moving parts" and opportunities to serve others. It is important the scope and purpose of each ministry to be certain it aligns with the goals of Ascension Parish.
- The EVC keeps in close contact with its ministries and ministry leaders are invited to the monthly EVC meetings.
 Working together we are able to support, promote, attend and pray for the success of each ministry endeavor.





Questions?

If you have any questions, you are welcome to ask

Thank You...

