

NURSING HOME MINISTRY

MINISTRY DESCRIPTION/OVERVIEW:

The Nursing Home Ministry is an opportunity to share God's love and to be a presence to our parishioners who are in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. We share our time and faith by regular individual visits and by participating in prayer and communion services.

ACTIVITIES OF MINISTRY:

- Regularly visit one or two parishioners who are in nursing homes in the area
- Help with or lead the weekly rosary and communion service (currently on Wednesday afternoon)
- Attend the Sunday Mass at Ball Pavilion
- Help distribute communion in the resident's rooms, for those who cannot make it out to Mass

EXPECTATIONS OF MINISTRY

Time Commitments:

- Visits one to two hours per month
- Wednesday service one hour weekly or a once or twice a month
- Sunday Mass one and a half hour weekly or on a rotating schedule if there are enough people

Responsibilities:

- Work with current volunteers to become familiar with the process of delivering communion in the rooms for Sundays and Wednesday
- For those interested in a leadership role for the Wednesday Service: Prepare the reading of the day and prepare a short reflection from one of the prayer books

Witness Statement 1:

"The Nursing Home Ministry is an opportunity to sit and "chew the fat", say a silent prayer by a bedside, or just hold a hand in quiet reflection for someone whose circumstances have brought them to a space, where once so very active, they now rely on others for their basic needs. To give folks some brief moments where perhaps the sharing of old memories, stories and a laugh brings healing, then it is a good day. God call us and sometimes we just need to show up and be a presence."

Witness Statement 2:

When I take the time to visit one of our parishioners in the nursing home, I am never disappointed. It is always a rich life giving experience. What I receive first is the deep gratitude of the person I am visiting. They usually express how difficult it is to be in this environment and they are fearful that they will be forgotten. I am always blessed when I visit.

Marilyn



Our Lady of Mercy Church, Harborcreek, PA Ministry Coordinator: Donna Clark Contact information: 814-899-5342 dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org