

# WELCOME MINISTRY

# MINISTRY DESCRIPTION/OVERVIEW:

The Welcome Ministry is one of hospitality. As new members join Our Lady of Mercy Parish, this ministry reaches out to the new families and schedules a welcome meeting, to assure they feel cared for and valued. Whether the meeting take place in their home or at church, the purpose is to connect new members with veteran parishioners, and to help familiarize families with all that the Our Lady of Mercy Community has to offer.

# ACTIVITIES OF MINISTRY:

- Meet new or prospective parishioners at Mass or their home
- Inquire how they wish to be contacted
- Send emails/text messages inviting them to activities: Feast Day, Festival, Lenten Supper, Mission, etc
- Take part in the New Member Welcome Breakfast

## EXPECTATIONS OF MINISTRY

- Warm and friendly welcoming qualities
- Members are called on a rotating basis to welcome new families
- Attend new member gatherings
- Look for new members at church and make them feel welcome

### Witness Statement 1:

The greatest gift we can give one another is to love them and make them feel welcome. This is why I love being a part of the Welcome Ministry. Meeting new parishioners and truly wanting them to feel like they belong to the Our Lady of Mercy family, where all are welcome, is so rewarding to me.

Linda Kaleta

#### Witness Statement 2:

OLM felt like HOME! As soon as we walked into church, we were greeted by a greeter with a big smile. Fr. Ritchie shook our hands and wanted to know our names and has called us by name ever since. I'm not sure I could ever do that! There was a wonderful welcoming breakfast for new parishioners. We met other new members and were asked to introduce ourselves and tell others about us. It was fun! We were given the Directory of Our Lady of Mercy families and a detailed book informed us about all the committees. We were told we would be welcomed on any of the committees. OLM is a great place to be and we are so blessed to be part of the family. Mary Beth Smith



Our Lady of Mercy Church, Harborcreek, PA Ministry Coordinator: Linda Kaleta Contact information: 814-899-1222 lak8@psu.edu

### Witness Statement 1:

The greatest gift we can give one another is to love them and make them feel welcome. This is why I love being a part of the Welcome Ministry. Meeting new parishioners and truly wanting them to feel like they belong to the Our Lady of Mercy family, where all are welcome, is so rewarding to me.

Linda Kaleta

### Witness Statement 2:

OLM felt like HOME! As soon as we walked into church, we were greeted by a greeter with a big smile. Fr. Ritchie shook our hands and wanted to know our names and has called us by name ever since. I'm not sure I could ever do that! There was a wonderful welcoming breakfast for new parishioners. We met other new members and were asked to introduce ourselves and tell others about us. It was fun! We were given the Directory of Our Lady of Mercy families and a detailed book informed us about all the committees. We were told we would be welcomed on any of the committees. OLM is a great place to be and we are so blessed to be part of the family. Mary Beth Smith

Our Lady of Mercy Church, Harborcreek, PA Ministry Coordinator: Linda Kaleta Contact information: 814-899-1222 lak8@psu.edu

#### Witness Statement 1:

The greatest gift we can give one another is to love them and make them feel welcome. This is why I love being a part of the Welcome Ministry. Meeting new parishioners and truly wanting them to feel like they belong to the Our Lady of Mercy family, where all are welcome, is so rewarding to me.

Linda Kaleta

#### Witness Statement 2:

OLM felt like HOME! As soon as we walked into church, we were greeted by a greeter with a big smile. Fr. Ritchie shook our hands and wanted to know our names and has called us by name ever since. I'm not sure I could ever do that! There was a wonderful welcoming breakfast for new parishioners. We met other new members and were asked to introduce ourselves and tell others about us. It was fun! We were given the Directory of Our Lady of Mercy families and a detailed book informed us about all the committees. We were told we would be welcomed on any of the committees. OLM is a great place to be and we are so blessed to be part of the family.

Mary Beth Smith



Our Lady of Mercy Church, Harborcreek, PA Ministry Coordinator: Linda Kaleta Contact information: 814-899-1222 lak8@psu.edu