



2026 MINISTRY GUIDE



Christ's Hands and Feet

HOSPITALITY
PRAYER
FORMATION
SERVICE



St. Barnabas is a Stewardship Parish Built on the Four Pillars of

HOSPITALITY, PRAYER, FORMATION, AND SERVICE

Take a moment to review the various ministries of our parish and prayerfully discern what God may be calling you to do to serve Him and others.

HOSPITALITY

Parish Life Commission

Commission members provide oversight over parish ministries involved with parish life, such as the Men's Club, Parish Picnic, parish social events, etc. Contact: **Ja-Deen** at jjohnson@stbindy.org

Ushers and Greeters Ministry

This ministry consists of greeting parishioners as they come to Mass, opening doors, assisting with seating, complete collections, take collection to the safe, pass out bulletins when Mass is completed, clean up pews as needed, close the doors afterward. Contact: **John Wagner** at jjw5284@aol.com

Livestream Operator

Volunteer to run the livestream operation at one of our weekend Masses and bring the Mass to the homebound and those unable to attend. No technical skills needed, as volunteers can be trained in minutes. Contact: **Brian O'Toole** at botoole78@gmail.com

Funeral Mercy Meals

Volunteer to provide food/other items or to set-up/serve a meal at the parish for families following the Funeral Mass for their loved ones. Contact: **Patty Cain** at pcain@stbindy.org

Grant Writing

Volunteers would aid staff in researching grant opportunities and write compelling proposals in hopes of securing funding for various projects for the church and school. Contact: **Ja-Deen Johnson** at jjohnson@stbindy.org



Parish Picnic Committee Member

Serve on the planning team for the annual August Parish Picnic. Involves only seasonal commitment. Contact: **Brandi Spindler** at bspindler@stbindy.org

Men's Club

All parish men are invited to join the Men's Club, which meets once a month for prayer, fellowship, and to plan activities to support our parish youth athletic activities. Contact the president of the Men's Club at stbmensclubpresident@gmail.com

Photography/Videography

Any individuals talented in these fields can assist in capturing visual images of parish liturgies and activities to be used in parish publications. Contact: **Amberlie O'Toole** at aotoole@stbindy.org

School PTO Officer or Event Chair

Join the PTO and provide leadership support for our school, which involves fundraising activities and other activities to support our teachers and students. Contact: pto@stbindy.org

School Advancement or Publicity

If you have marketing, fundraising, or communication skills, volunteer to support our school. Contact: **Principal Ryan Schnarr** at rschnarr@stbindy.org

Sunday Collection Count Team Member

No accounting skills needed. Join a team that is scheduled to count the money collected at Weekend Masses one Monday morning a month. Approximately a 3-hour commitment per month. Contact: **Brandi Spindler** at bspindler@stbindy.org

Electrical/Painting/Plumbing/Repairs

Skilled parishioners can assist our parish's Director of Facilities in maintaining our facilities. Contact: **Carl Grill** at cgrill@stbindy.org

Building and Grounds Committee

The committee serves in an advisory role to the Director of Facilities and the Business Manager to help plan and sustain our parish facilities. Contact: **Sean Boyle** at sboyle68@sbcglobal.net

PRAYER

Worship Commission

Serve on a team which meets once a month to help direct and foster the liturgy and worship practices that take place at St. Barnabas parish. Contact: faith@stbindy.org

Art and Environment (church decorating)

Assist in decorating our worship space for each liturgical season throughout the year, in particular the Christmas/Easter seasons. Contact: **Dianne Mohr** at mohrdianne@hotmail.com

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

Serve as Communion Minister at weekend and Holy Day Masses. Contact: **Jeff Biltz** at stbemhc@yahoo.com

Lector Ministry

Persons participating in the Lector Ministry are called to reveal God's presence in the liturgy of the living Word for our parish community. Contact: **David Heinekamp** at ddh82@att.net

Sewing of Baptismal Garments

Volunteer to make the baptismal bibs that our children wear for their baptism. Volunteers cut fabric and then stitch and sew them. Simple sewing skills are needed, and everything can be done at your home and on your time. Contact: **Loretta Goddard** at mrs_goddard1@gmail.com



Mass Coordinator

Support the Holy Mass and the Priest by ensuring all other ministries are present and assist in setting up for the Mass. Contact: faith@stbindy.org

Sacristan - Altar Linens

Volunteers launder the purificators (and iron), the towels, washcloths and drying towels used at all the Masses. Contact: **Karen O'Toole** at ksotoole@sbcglobal.net

Altar Server

Any baptized parish youth who have received First Holy Communion and are in at least third grade can serve at the altar at weekend and Holy Day Masses. Contact: **Wendy McCoy** at wendymccoy6@yahoo.com

Eucharistic Adoration

Volunteers commit to a weekly one hour of prayer and devotion in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

Contact: faith@stbindy.org

Cantor

Using your singing talent, you can serve as music cantor at weekend Masses. Contact:

Sam Jones at sjones@stbindy.org

Choir

Join either our youth or adult choir and use your vocal talents to lead worship during Mass.

Contact: **Sam Jones** at sjones@stbindy.org



Instrumentalist, Organist & Pianist

Instrumentalists, Organists and Pianists serve by using their hands to create music, thereby offering praise and thanksgiving to God with the parish community. Contact: **Sam Jones** at sjones@stbindy.org

Handbell Choir

The Handbell Choir is made up of adults and high schoolers, who practice weekly and play once a month at Mass with music that imitates church bells. Contact: **Sam Jones** at sjones@stbindy.org

Children's/Youth Mass

Children and Youth Mass volunteers joyfully serve our parish by helping lead the assembly in prayer and worship. Through roles such as lectors, ushers, Eucharistic ministers, and members of the children's choir, young people actively participate in the Mass while growing in confidence, responsibility, and love for the Eucharist. Contact: faith@stbindy.org

Prayer Blanket Ministry

Meets weekly to crochet and/or knit blankets. Each blanket is prayed over and donated to ill parishioners or individuals who need prayer in the form of a warm blanket. Alternately, you can make blankets at home and drop them off instead. All experience levels are welcome. Donations of washable yarn accepted.

Contact: **Tanya Pongracz** at ptpongracz@yahoo.com

FORMATION

Faith Formation Commission

Serve on a team which meets once a month to help direct and foster the formation programs which take place at St. Barnabas parish.

Contact: faith@stbindy.org

School Commission

Serve on a team that meets once a month during the school year and serves as an advisory body to the principal of the school.

Contact: **Principal Ryan Schnarr** at rschnarr@stbindy.org

OCIA Team/Speaker

Present a session on a truth of the Catholic faith or serve as support to individuals walking through the OCIA journey preparing for their initiation at the Easter Vigil. Contact:

faith@stbindy.org

Marriage Prep and Sponsor Couples

Assist in the sacramental prep for engaged couples. Contact: **Leslie Biltz** at

lbiltz@stbindy.org

Women of Worship (W.O.W.)

A ministry for women of all ages, promoting personal and spiritual growth alongside opportunities for fellowship and hospitality in the community. Contact: **The W.O.W. coordinators** at wow@stbindy.org

Bible Study Participant

Various studies on Catholicism are held throughout the year at St. Barnabas. This ministry is for those wishing to participate in a study and continue their own formation or lead a study for their fellow parishioners. Contact: **faith@stbindy.org**

Women's and Men's Annual Retreats

Once a year an overnight retreat is held off-site, once for men and once for women. This ministry is for those interested in participating or serving on the core team to coordinate the retreat. Contact: **faith@stbindy.org**

Women's and Men's Welcome Retreats

"Welcome" is an overnight weekend experience for parishioners given by a team who has previously attended a "Welcome" weekend. Through fellowship, faith sharing, hospitality, Mass and more, participants have the opportunity to step back from the everyday to reflect on their lives and their spiritual journeys. Contact: **faith@stbindy.org**

Small Church Communities

A Small Church Community (SCC) is a small group of adults who regularly gather to reflect on their lives in light of the Gospel and to share their Christian faith through prayer, friendship, and service. Contact: **Peggy Racke** at peggyracke@gmail.com

Religious Liberty Action Committee

This committee keeps parishioners informed about threats to religious liberty and Christian family values. Contact: **Dave Webb** at dgwebb4849@att.net



Vacation Bible School Volunteer

This is a summer catechetical program that is offered annually in June. Contact: **faith@stbindy.org**

CLOW (Children's Liturgy of the Word) Volunteers

Children's Liturgy of the Word volunteers help share the Sunday Gospel with children ages 4 to 4th grade, in an age-appropriate and engaging way. Volunteers lead prayer, read Scripture, and guide simple discussion to help children connect God's Word to their daily lives. Contact: **faith@stbindy.org**

Sunday Faith Formation Catechist/Teacher

Children in grades K-8th grade meet on thirty Sundays throughout the year to continue their own formation in the faith. Individuals who are interested in passing onto the students what they themselves have learned are needed to make this program successful. Contact: **faith@stbindy.org**

Youth Ministry Volunteer

Serve on the Core Team or otherwise assist the parish Youth and Young Adult Minister in planning and carrying out activities for parish youth to help them on their walk with Christ. Contact: **faith@stbindy.org**

Vocations Awareness

Help organize prayer support and visibility for vocations to encourage our youth to consider the priesthood or religious life.

Contact: **faith@stbindy.org**

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Work

Share in the work of CRS in our parish through prayer, participation in a yearly Rice Bowl campaign, and participation in the advocacy of CRS programs. Contact: **faith@stbindy.org**

CYO Coaching

Adult volunteers help shape our young people in mind, body, and spirit through coaching the sports sponsored by our parish. Contact: Athletic Director, **Jed Buxton** at **athletics@stbindy.org**

Grandparent Ministry

Our mission is to help Grandparents pass on our Catholic faith and keep prayer in the heart of family life. Monthly meetings are held to chat, observe and share in our passion of passing on the faith to our grandchildren.

Contact: **Chris Lang** at **chrislang1@aol.com**

Men's Ministry

Join a group of men at the parish who meet to deepen their prayer life, engage in spiritual discussion and share in fellowship.

Contact: **faith@stbindy.org**

SERVICE

Faith in Action Commission

Volunteer to serve on the Outreach Ministry. On behalf of the parish, this ministry acts as good stewards, sharing a small portion of the Sunday collection to support ministries outside our parish. Ministries are chosen that align with the social teaching of the Catholic Church. Faith in Action also creates volunteer opportunities for our parishioners to share their time and talent. Contact: **Connie Merkel** at **connie_merkel@yahoo.com**

Communion for Homebound and Hospitalized

Volunteer to take Holy Communion to Catholics within our parish boundaries in their homes, nursing homes, or hospital, usually on a weekly basis. Contact: **Patty Cain** at **pcain@stbindy.org** or **Deacon Jerry Matthews** at **jmatthews@stbindy.org**

Bereavement Support/GriefShare

Whether you just lost a loved one or lost one some time ago, this group comes together to find support during their time of loss. Contact: **Patty Cain** at **pcain@stbindy.org**

Prison Ministry/Kairos

Volunteers join a Christian ecumenical team to carry the Good News of Christ into the prison. Other volunteers support from the outside by signing up for prayer chains, while children can design placemats to be used during meals on the retreat in the prison. Contact: **Deacon Tom Hosty** at **thosty@stbindy.org**

Little Helping Hands

Little Helping Hands is a service ministry for elementary aged kids in our parish. Contact: **Heather Leyes** at **heatherleyes@yahoo.com**

Homework/Tutor Ministry for Students

Volunteer to work weekly after school during the school year with school children and tutor them on their homework. Contact: **Paul Hnin** at **phnin@stbindy.org**

Cathedral Soup Kitchen

Volunteers prepare and serve a mid-day meal to approximately 150 people each day, seven days a week, though volunteers need only help when they can. This ministry is operated by St. Peter and Paul Cathedral. Contact: **Terrence Toon** at **cathedralkitchen@archindy.org**

HOOP

HOOP (Helping Our Own People) is a ministry serving those experiencing homelessness and living on the streets of Indianapolis. St. Barnabas parishioners prepare soup, sandwiches, and other items on the fourth Sunday of each month to be dispersed at the homeless camps. Contact: **Don and Karen Beckwith** at djkabeckwith@att.net

Kitchen Crusaders Ministry

Kitchen Crusaders Ministry delivers meals to those in need due to an illness, loss of job, birth of a baby and/or elderly persons who need meal supplements, as well as providing donations to parish events like the Welcome Weekends and Parish Picnic. Contact: **Elizabeth Szentes** at elizabeth.szentes@gmail.com

Mission Trip (New Mexico and Arizona) For almost 18 years, the St. Barnabas mission team has made an annual, week-long, or longer, mission trip to address the physical and financial needs of Navajo Native Americans in New Mexico and Arizona. Contact: **Bob Hoereth** at drhoereth@sbcglobal.net

St. Anthony/Holy Trinity Food Pantry Volunteers

Join a team of volunteers that distributes food to families in need on the near west side of Indianapolis. The pantry is located at St. Anthony Church. Food is distributed once a week on Fridays from 1-3PM. Contact: **Connie Merkel** at connie_merkel@yahoo.com

Catholic Charities Christmas Store/Giving Tree Volunteers

Help organize or simply give new gifts at Christmas time for families in need. Donated items are given to the Catholic Charities Christmas Store which serves over 850 needy families. Contact: **Sharon Williams** at smwilliamsindy@yahoo.com



St. Vincent de Paul

St. Vincent DePaul is made up of many helping hands serving our neighbors and has done so for over 75 years in central and southern Indiana following the example of Frederick Ozanam, the founder. Contact: **Craig Blandford** at Gaby_11@comcast.net

Food Pantry Garden Volunteers

A wonderful ministry of volunteers whom tend to the garden in Hill Valley Estates on Beechview Lane near Frieden's United Methodist Church. The vegetables grown are given to the patrons at St. Anthony & Holy Trinity Food Pantry. No experience needed. Free "on the job" training. Contact: **Connie Merkel** at connie_merkel@yahoo.com or **Kathy Kreuzman** at kmkruz7@yahoo.com

Respect Life

The Gospel of Life encyclical was written by Pope St. John Paul II to reaffirm the value and inviolability of every human life; to appeal to all people to protect, respect, love and serve all of our brothers & sisters in whatever life circumstances they are in. The Gabriel Project is one component of our Respect Life ministries. Contact: **Connie Merkel** at connie_merkel@yahoo.com for more information.

Sports Volunteers

High School & 6th-8th grade Volunteers learn valuable customer service and dependability skills while earning service hours by running the scoreboard and admission table at St. Barnabas Home Sports Events. Contact athletic director, **Jed Buxton** at athletics@stbindy.org

OUR PARISH MISSION

THE "GREAT COMMISSION"

GIVEN TO US BY OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST:



"Then Jesus approached and said to them, 'All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.'"

Matthew 28:18-20



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