

# HELP WANTED

**The SEE (Stewardship, Evangelization and Education) Committee** is looking for additional members. This ministry's activities have included *The Juliette* newsletter, Commitment Weekend, and the ministry videos shown before Mass. SEE is looking to pursue more work in the area of evangelization, helping to strengthen the faith of others while nourishing our own. This group meets for one hour per month. If you are interested, please contact the parish office.

If your life has been blessed by adoption, please consider becoming a part of the **Adoption Ministry**. We need like-minded parishioners to help further adoption awareness. If you are willing to help, please contact Jody Babbitts at (440) 934-7220.

**PrimeTimers** is a group of parishioners, age 55 years and over, who meet bi-monthly to communicate, educate and **have fun**. Members pay annual dues of \$5, and pay for their own attendance at activities. Communication is conducted by newsletter, telephone and email. If you would like more information, please contact Natalie Treece at (440) 309-4269.

All adult voices are invited to join the **Adult Choir**. The Adult Choir sings at the 10:30 Sunday Mass, and rehearsal is on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. The choir sings every Sunday from Labor Day through Pentecost Sunday. The choir is off during the summer. If you are interested in joining, please contact the parish office.



Diocese of Cleveland  
**St. Julie Billiart**  
 Catholic Church  
 5500 Lear Nagle Road • North Ridgeville, OH 44039  
 (440) 327-1978

**FUN WEBSITES FOR LENT, EASTER, AND EVERY DAY!**

<http://familyfun.go.com/crafts/handprint-lilies-675224/>  
[www.ewtn.com/ewtnkids](http://www.ewtn.com/ewtnkids)  
<http://catholicmom.com/kids/lenten-activities-for-children/>

St. Julie Billiart's  
 Stewardship  
 Herald



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## Eastertime at St. Julie Billiart

Once again, I am pleased to share this article with all my parishioners as we look forward to celebrating the Easter Triduum. For those of you who do not know that special time it is simply the last three days of Holy Week. Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday with the wonderful feast of Easter Sunday are the most sacred days of the Catholic Church's season of grace. All of our prayers, fasting, works of charity and special days of retreat and

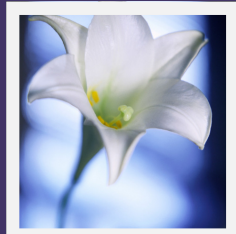


mission prepare us to deepen our faith, strengthen our hope, and increase our love for God and our neighbor. We will be welcoming five new members of the parish catechumenate to full membership in the Church on Holy Saturday. Our freshmen and eighth graders will still be rejoicing in the gifts of the Holy Spirit that they received in the Sacrament of Confirmation on March 12th. Our second grade students will make their

first Holy Communion on Saturday, April 16th. These occasions of grace are awesome examples of the spiritual growth and renewal that is occurring on a regular basis in our parish. We are a strong, active and welcoming faith community that continues to attract many new families on a weekly basis throughout the year. I am very humbled and grateful to the many men, women, teenagers and children that are involved and responsible members of our parish. Without their commitment to faithful stewardship we could not provide all our parishioners and guests the many opportunities for spiritual, moral, social, educational and ministerial enhancement. God bless us in this holy season of Lent as we look forward to celebrating the Paschal Mysteries of our beloved faith in Holy Week.

*"Lent is the time for trimming the soul and scraping the sludge off a life turned slipshod. Lent is about taking stock of time, even religious time. Lent is about exercising the control that enables us to say no to ourselves so that when life turns hard of its own accord we have the stamina to say yes to its twists and turns with faith and hope... Lent is the time to make new efforts to be what we say we want to be."*

-- Sister Joan Chittister



Welcome to the *Ministry Minute*, where the SEE Committee is excited to spotlight the many thriving ministries here at St. Julie's. We will be highlighting several ministries in every edition of *The Juliette*, but, as there are over 60 active ministries in our little church in the woods, it will take us some time to showcase all of them. So in the meantime, please remember that there is always an opportunity to volunteer, and the need for more helping hands is ongoing and certainly welcome. If you are interested in becoming more actively involved in one of our many ministries, please check your parish directory for a full ministry listing and contact person for each.



# Ministry Minute

## BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

We are called by the healing ministry of Jesus to serve all people who have experienced the death of a loved one. Our holistic care is dedicated to the spiritual support of individuals in our parish and surrounding communities. St. Julie's has answered the call to this ministry in many ways:

- ◆ Bereavement support groups that meet for seven weeks. We usually have a new group starting about every two months or when the need arises.
- ◆ Staff that help plan the funeral rites with the family of the deceased.
- ◆ Resurrection Committee who serves the bereaved family a meal immediately following the Mass of Resurrection.
- ◆ Staff that continue to minister to the family through phone calls and cards throughout the first year of bereavement.

We look to expanding the role of the laity in leadership to ensure that this Catholic ministry continues on far into the future. If you feel called to be a part of this ministry, or if you are in need of the healing comfort of God and your community, please contact Nancy Kubiak through the parish office.

In the Scriptures, Jesus comforts those who mourn, as in Matthew 11:28-29—“Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and put it on you, and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit; and you will find rest.”

## WOMEN'S RENEWAL MINISTRY

All women of St. Julie's and St. Peter's parishes are invited to participate in this year's "Christ Re-news His Parish" weekend entitled "In His Time."

This free gift from the parish, taking place on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at St. Julie's, has been prepared by a group of women who have met weekly for the last few months. It focuses on personal growth through the sharing of prayer, faith experiences, Scripture, the sacrament of Reconciliation, and celebration of the Eucharist, all while enjoying delicious meals and five-star accommodations!

Renewal weekend is a relaxing time of quiet listening with the opportunity to enjoy the company of new friends laughing, praying and celebrating together. If you've never considered or have put off making a Renewal, ask yourself these questions: *Where do I draw strength to face daily challenges? Do I take time to enrich my spiritual life? How do I share in the life of my parish community? What have I done this Lenten season to express gratitude to God and to be more aware of His healing presence? Will I accept the invitation to participate in the weekend, allowing Jesus, "In His Time," to guide, heal and direct my life?*

Each renewal is as unique and special as those who attend. This Lent is the perfect time to allow Jesus to recharge our spiritual battery, while finding forgiveness, renewed hope and a sharing in His victory over sin and death. There is still time to be a part of this event. If you are interested, please call the parish office today.

## PRISON MINISTRY

The CALL is great; the rewards...infinite. Sunday mornings and Thursday afternoons, the Prison Ministry folks of St. Julie's meet to reach out to the prisoners in Grafton Correctional and the Camp Prisons under the authority of CMTI (Catholic Ministry to the Incarcerated), which is lead by our Deacon, John Rivera. CMTI also reaches out to Lorain County jails (men's and women's), as well as the Lorain Correctional Institute and North Coast Drug and Alcohol Prison through our sister church, St. Peters.

The prisoners that come to Catholic services or mass during these visits have accepted their mistakes and are looking for help. Your time with them is often the only outside contact many of these men and women have. Many of them are very strong and knowledgeable Catholics who are willing to share their faith with you. Please consider this important ministry.

*"Come you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me."*

# It Takes a ~~Village~~ Parish

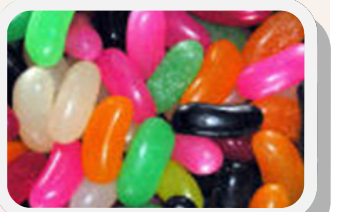


By  
Ceil  
Morrison

Thanks to *The Juliette* crew for this opportunity to share my point of view. I am blessed with the responsibility of involving our young people in the fabric of this fabulous community. There are many opportunities for our young people to become activated Christians at St. Julie's instead of passive members of a church. Most of the time, I find that St. Julie's teens are involved in programs like Interfaith Hospitality Network or Crock Pot Thursday without my knowledge. I say, "Good job, St. Julie's." Good job to the people who put these programs together. You have created an environment where young people can become involved, without joining a club or signing up for a long-term project. You have created opportunities for REAL service to Christ and his people.

I am also blessed with a wonderful and committed group of volunteers, some of them parents of teens, but many just people committed to the young people of our parish. Carol and Bob Becka are sent to us straight from heaven. They're born to work with young people. They have served our youth for close to 10 years and have modeled faith and family values to all of the teens lucky enough to know them. Joe and Val Kotarsky are parishioners who run many of our fundraisers—you can't do much these days without financial support. Joe says that he doesn't want to stop being part of the lives of St. Julie's young people, even though his son is well beyond his NTV years. The Yaroshes have graced our group for many years with heartfelt scripture sharing and friendship to our children. Every year, they donate their time and treasure to make sure every child who comes to *Breakfast with St. Nicholas* has a photo with our dear saint. Ed and Laura Knoblauch (even though they are not currently active in our New Teen Vision ministry because they are involved in PSR) actively recruit eighth grade PSR students to join NTV. Debijo Lamb doesn't have a child in our program any longer, but remains a vibrant part of the team. Our newest additions to New Teen Vision are Tamala and Ken DiFilippo and Beth Paoloni. These new members are excited to continue old NTV traditions and bring new life to our group. Like I said, I am blessed. We are blessed. God has blessed us with each other.

## Lenten FUN With the JELLY BEAN Prayer



Since 40 days is a bit long for some little ones to give up one thing, here's a fun Lenten activity that teaches them the meaning of this beautiful season. On Ash Wednesday, set out a glass jar for each child with a small copy of the jellybean prayer taped to it. Each day, the kids can earn a jellybean of any color they follow through on. They cannot eat the jellybeans until Easter. They cannot earn white jellybeans—these represent the Grace of Christ, which is a gift not earned ourselves. On Easter morning, the kids wake to find their jars filled up where they were still empty (lacking) with white jellybeans (Christ's grace).

- Red is for the blood Christ gave (each morning the child chooses something to sacrifice that day to earn the red jellybean. It has to be something they would have had the opportunity to have or do on that day)
- Green is for the palm's cool shade (green jellybeans are earned for good deeds. It was a good deed to provide shade for Jesus with the palm)
- Yellow is for God's light so bright (yellow jellybeans are earned for sharing God's light through kindness to others)
- Orange is for prayers at twilight (orange jellybeans are earned for attentive behavior during bedtime prayer or bible reading)
- Black is for sweet rest at night (these are earned for going to bed well. You can substitute blue jellybeans for black, as some kids are not fans of the licorice flavor)
- White is for the Grace of Christ (these are not earned, but given as a gift on Easter morning)
- Purple is for His days of sorrow (they earn these through apologizing to anyone they hurt with their words or deeds that day)
- Pink is for each new tomorrow (pink jellybeans are earned when they forgave those who apologized to them for hurtful behavior)

This was how one family interpreted each color. You can make your own ideas based on ages and needs of your children. For more Lenten crafts, activities, and games, try the websites listed on the mailing label page (on the back of this page). Have lots of FUN!!!