Holy Spirit Catholic Church
Parish Ministries and Activities
2025

Ministries

Holy Spirit Catholic Church
300 West Pine Street
Palmyra, PA 17078

Parish Office 717-838-3369
holyspiritpalmyra.com
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Christianity can be more fun and authentic when it's social. This book is designed to let people know about different clubs, small groups, and social organizations that exist officially at Holy Spirit Parish. Whether you are looking for a way to help others, help the parish, or simply to meet others, these groups may be able to make you feel more at home and comfortable at our Church and can push you to further live out your Christian vocation to love God and neighbor.

I am very proud of the number of parishioners at Holy Spirit that take the social aspect of their faith seriously through commitment to one of these groups. You may also find other unofficial small groups that are not publicized through our parish office, or you may want to start a more private group with your church friends to pray, study, or do works of charity. May this book help you to consider a small group.

In Christ,

Fr. Michael Metzgar, Pastor

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PARISH MINISTRIES and ACTIVITIES

ADORATION CHAPEL

A Eucharistic Adoration Chapel was established at the Holy Spirit Church in 1995. It started in a small room at the east end of the building. It has since been relocated to the west end of the property with the addition of our new church. The chapel has a separate entrance and convenient parking.

You are invited to visit our Lord in this beautiful space. Sit in silence with our savior and let Him heal you. Take time out of your day to thank Him and express your gratitude. This precious time, in His presence, will fill you with love, peace, patience, answers, and healing.

If you are interested in joining us by taking an hour prior to or following the current hours, contact us. If you need additional information or would like to get involved but are not sure of how or what to do, contact us for a chapel tour and orientation on how to make a Holy Hour. Our team is ready to help you get started! Email adorers@hspalmyra.com or call at 717-838-3369 ext. 111.

The Adoration Chapel at Holy Spirit Catholic Church is presently open during the following schedule:

Monday: 10am-5pm
Tuesday: 6am-9pm
Wednesday and Friday: Noon-5pm
Thursday: 11am-9pm
Saturday: 2am-9am and 7pm-9pm
Sunday: Noon-1pm and 6pm-10pm

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

The Adult Faith Formation Ministry seeks to create a supportive and enriching environment where adults of all ages can grow in their faith, build meaningful relationships, offer opportunities to share one's faith, support one another, and form lasting relationships. Adult Faith organizes small groups, retreats, and social gatherings to provide a variety of programs and opportunities designed to deepen faith, foster community, and encourage active participation in the life of the church. This includes Bible studies, book studies, prayer and meditation, scripture, Church teachings, contemporary issues, personal spirituality, and social events to help adults understand and live out their faith more fully.

Volunteer opportunities are available to join the Adult Faith Ministry Committee to help develop, organize, and support our various events. We welcome volunteers who would be willing to facilitate a small group or lead an event. Help and guidance is available for roles such as small group leaders. We also welcome suggestions on various activities and studies. It's about fostering a life-long journey of faith and discipleship that impacts every aspect of an adult's life. For more information or to participate in our Adult Faith Ministry, please call the parish office at 717-838-3369 or email faithstudy@hspalmyra.com.

ALTAR MINISTRY

ALTAR SERVERS

Students from 3rd grade to senior year of High School and even into college, help set up for Mass and serve at the Altar during Mass. Training is held when needed. Schedules are published in multi-month increments. If you need more information or have any questions, please contact altar@hspalmyra.com.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

People dedicated to the Eucharist help the priest distribute Holy Communion at Mass. There is brief training with Deacon Jorge, Father Metzgar, and eventually the Diocese. Scheduling occurs every four months and training is done when needed. Extraordinary Ministers can also help the Caring Ministry by taking communion to assisted living homes.

If you are interested in joining us, need more information or have any questions, please contact Deacon Jorge Reyes: EMHC@hspalmyra.com.

LECTORS

If you have a devotion to the scriptures and a strong voice, you may be called to proclaim the Word at Weekend Masses and Holy Days of Obligation. For more information, please email us at EMHC@hspalmyra.com.

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

A group that helps organize documents and items from our parish's history for display and writing a history of the church. If you are interested in joining us, need more information or have any questions, please contact archives@hspalmyra.com.

ARIMATHEANS

The Arimatheans are parishioners who pray for the faithful departed and their survivors by attending the funerals. Members are contacted when there is a funeral Mass or service. This ministry is part of the Bereavement Ministry. If you are interested in joining us, need more information or have any questions, please contact us at arimatheans@hspalmyra.com.

AUDIO/VISUAL (A/V) MINISTRY

The Audio/Visual ministry strives to aid the Holy Spirit parish in embracing technology to enhance faith activities. The primary service the AV ministry provides is livestreaming of both daily and weekend masses. Additional support is provided for any technology needs of the parish. More information is available on the ministry website at https://sites.google.com/hspalmyra.com/avministry.

If you are interested in joining, please contact av@hspalmyra.com.

BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE

The Benevolence committee meets in person annually. They receive requests from people needing financial assistance. If you are interested in joining the committee, would like more information or have questions please contact us at 717-838-3369, ext. 112.

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Bereavement Ministry offers support to those who have lost a loved one. The support consists of sending special cards during the first year of the loss. Those experiencing a loss are invited to an annual All Souls Prayer Service. The ministry members help to coordinate it. If you are interested in joining us, need more information or have any questions, please contact us at bereavement@hspalmyra.com.

BOWLING TEAM

Holy Spirit has teams in a Palmyra area church league at Palmyra Bowling on Monday nights. If you are interested in joining us, need more information or have any questions, please contact us at bowling@hspalmyra.com.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

The Buildings and Grounds Committee is designed to improve and maintain our Parish facilities both inside and outside. It meets regularly with our Facilities Coordinator, Joe Cesari, to discuss any needed repairs and upgrades and how to best go about completing them. This committee works with our Decorating Committee at times to make any permanent decisions in regards to church décor and how to best implement them. The committee will organize volunteers to complete these tasks and if hiring professionals is needed will bid that work out as well. If you are interested in joining us, need more information or have any questions, please contact grounds@hspalmyra.com.

CARING MINISTRY

The Caring Ministry is comprised of dedicated Extraordinary Ministers who bring Holy Communion to the Catholic residents in our local nursing homes and to our homebound parishioners every Sunday. We give a short Communion service, which includes reading the Sunday Gospel.

Our Goal is to have an Extraordinary Minister at each nursing home for every Sunday of the month, including the fifth Sundays that occur four times a year. Since we aim to have four to five Extraordinary Ministers assigned to each facility, we are in the process of filling those volunteer positions. This coverage ensures that no one is overly burdened, and each group can cover for each other, whenever someone needs to switch dates.

You will receive training prior to starting the ministry to review proper procedures. A pyx and burse are supplied, along with a laminated Communion Service Booklet. The Extraordinary Ministers attend the 8:30 AM Mass on the Sundays when they are scheduled to bring Holy Communion. If you are interested in becoming an Extraordinary Minister but have not received training, Father Metzgar can issue an initial mandate until a Diocesan training is available.

If you are interested in joining us, need more information or have any questions, please contact caring@hspalmyra.com.

CENACLE OF THE MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS

“My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way to lead you to God.” (Our Lady of Fatima 2nd apparition on June 13, 1917). We are a faithful “little Flock” which Our Blessed Lady is forming and guarding each day.

We are a prayer group, a unit of the worldwide organization, the Marian Movement of Priests. It was started by the Blessed Mother in 1972. The Cenacle proposes three commitments to life:
1) Consecration of Priests, Religious and Laity to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
2) Unity with the Pope and with the Bishops.

3) Leading the faithful to live the spiritual experience of Consecration to Our Blessed Mother. Cenacle has spread to every part of the world, in a silent and discreet way, as a beneficial medicine for healing the numerous grave evils that our Holy Mother Church is suffering in these painful and difficult times in which we live.

We meet every Tuesday from 3:15 – 4:15pm in the Multipurpose Room. Come join us for an hour of prayer and Marian Devotions. "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Mt:20). Please bring your rosary. Books will be provided.

If you are interested in joining us, need more information, or have any questions, please contact us at: cenacle@hspalmyra.com.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

We provide a joyful, nurturing, safe environment where children from our parish can learn to sing hymns and songs of praise, learn their purpose in the liturgy, and provide music at Sunday Children's Masses held throughout the school year. Typically, choir members are in grades K through 6, but any child from Holy Spirit is welcome to be part of the choir!

If your child is interested in joining the Children's Choir, or if you are interested in helping with this ministry, please contact us at: childrenschoir@hspalmyra.com.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) is a wonderful time for children ages 4-7 to build their relationship with God in the company of their peers. We will use the week's scripture, faith-based activities, song, and prayer to explore our faith with the help of a religious education volunteer. Listen for the announcement during 11am Mass. Children will go to a separate classroom with a volunteer before the first reading and return after the homily.

If you are interested in becoming a CLOW volunteer in either a lead or assistant role, or have additional questions, please contact us at childrensliturgy@hspalmyra.com.

CHOIR

The choir sings all year round at Mass on Sundays, both at the 8:30am and 11:00am Masses. They also sing on Holy Days and other special occasions. Rehearsal is Thursday evenings at 7:00pm. All are welcome to join, ability to read music is not required, and neither is perfect attendance. Musicians are also welcome to accompany the choir.

If you are interested in joining us, need more information or have any questions, please contact music@hspalmyra.com.

COLLECTION COUNTERS

The task of the people in the Collection Counter Ministry is to process the Sunday giving according to the rules and guidelines of the Diocese of Harrisburg. Must be good with numbers and have experience with a calculator. There are always at least two (2) people scheduled at a time and we schedule quarterly with most people counting twice during the quarter. They also may be asked to assist with counting at various fundraising events, such as Festival and Fish Fry. If you are interested in joining us, need more information or have any questions, please contact counters@hspalmyra.com.

DECORATING COMMITTEE

The Decorating Committee is a ministry made up of parishioners who use their talents to ensure the church interior and exterior is appropriately decorated year-round to give glory to God and be pleasing and welcoming to our parish community and visitors to Holy Spirit Catholic Church. At the direction of the Maintenance & Facilities Coordinator, we are responsible for feast day & special occasion flower arrangements, Christmas decorations, artwork and accessories inside the church, and beautifying the church grounds. In addition to the members of this Committee, we have a group of parishioners who will assist with decorating and beautification on an as-needed basis. We gather to work on seasonal projects such as Advent, Christmas, Easter, and other special occasions. If you are interested in joining us, need more information or have any questions, please contact: decomm@hspalmyra.com.

DIVORCE CARE MINISTRY

Divorce Care is for those who are hurting from the loss of separation or divorce. It is a 13 week biblically based program that you can join at any time. Each week we discuss different topics and watch a video series as we navigate through the healing process. When in session, we typically meet on Tuesday evenings from 6-7:30pm. If you are interested in joining us or learning more, please contact us at divorcecare@hspalmya.com.

FESTIVAL

A committee that meets monthly and plans and directs our annual festival goals, logistics and subcommittees.

If you are interested in joining us, need more information or have any questions, please contact us at: festival@hspalmyra.com.

FINANCE COUNCIL

Canon 537: “Each parish is to have a Finance Council which is regulated by universal law as well as norms issued by the Diocesan Bishop; in this council the Christian faithful, selected according to the same norms, aid the pastor in the administration of parish goods with due regard for the prescription of Canon 532 (The pastor represents the parish in all juridical affairs in accord with the norm of the law).”

The Finance Committee’s Responsibilities are: Faith Giving Program, Annual Budget, Monthly Financial Report Review, Appropriate Controls, Long Range Financial Plan, Bequest Program and to insulate the Pastor. The Finance Committee shall have no less than three (3) and no more than nine (9) members and it is recommended the committee is an odd number. A rotation of membership should be done periodically while retaining at least one member for continuity. A quorum shall consist of the majority of members. The Finance Committee will consist of a Chairperson appointed by the Pastor and a Secretary who will be responsible for the recording and distribution of minutes. All members should act in the interest of the Parish rather than personal interest. Members are appointed by the Pastor for a fixed term. Members should maintain confidentiality on matters such as agendas, meeting minutes, and review materials if designated as confidential. All members should have a background in accounting or finance.

The Finance Committee meets 4 – 5 times a year.

If you are interested in joining us, need more information or have any questions, please contact: financecouncil@hspalmyra.com.

FISH FRY

The Lenten Fish Fry is an event where we as a parish invite our parishioners and members of the local community to join us for dinner and enjoy some time getting to know each other. We serve fried and baked fish, shrimp, crab cakes, clam strips, pierogis, soup and macaroni and cheese. We also provide home baked desserts generously donated by the members of the parish.

We serve meals from 3:00 - 7:00pm every Friday during Lent. The preparations begin Thursday morning, and cleanup on Friday ends around 9:00pm. We can always use help in preparing, working at the fish fry and cleaning up after the fish fry every week. If this does not fit your schedule, donations of desserts, soda and bottled water to serve our guests are always needed.

If you are interested in joining us or donating, need more information or have any questions, please contact: fishfry@hspalmyra.com.

FOLK GROUP

We provide music for the 4:00pm Mass on Saturday evenings. Practice is every Tuesday evening from 7:00 – 8:00pm; anyone is welcome to join! If you are interested in joining us, need more information, or have any questions, please contact folkgroup@hspalmyra.com.

FRATERNITAS CRUCIS– BROTHERHOOD OF THE CROSS

Originally formed by a group of devout Catholic men at Queen of Heaven Parish in Levittown, PA, a satellite group formed at Holy Spirit starting August 2025. Fraternitas Crucis' purpose is to gather a group of men who desire to grow deeply in their faith, who are looking for a like minded group of Catholic men to anchor to, or any man curious about the Catholic faith yearning to learn more. The group's focuses are 1) Authentic Catholic Masculinity 2) Spiritual Closeness with God and our fellow man 3) Accountability and Fraternity 4) Vulnerability and a support system of like-minded men walking the same Christ-minded journey. The main pillars of the group revolve around Catholic stoicism, asceticism, and self-denial/control coupled with deep prayer in order to more closely join ourselves to the Cross. The group also encourages the implementation of "old-fashioned" Catholic traditions for renewal of authentic values. All men, or mature teens accompanied by a parent/guardian, are welcome to attend. The group meets Tuesday evenings 7:30 - 8:30 PM in the Multipurpose room. Activities involve - Saint Micheal's Lent, book studies, Adoration, volunteering, on-call prayer, etc. For more information, please contact FraternitasCrucis@hspalmyra.com.

FUNERAL GREETERS MINISTRY

This is a ministry of hospitality, greeting and welcoming families and funeral guests as they enter Holy Spirit Catholic Church. Our responsibility is to make parishioners and guests feel welcome and comfortable as they gather for the visitation/funeral service. We are the first interaction with anyone who walks through our doors and we want to convey a sense of belonging along with showing compassion and sympathy to those who are in mourning.

Along with working in conjunction with the Funeral Directors, we will be attentive to the needs of the family and their guests throughout the visitation/service, especially people who appear to be unfamiliar with our church.

If you are interested in joining us, need more information, or have any questions, please contact us at: funeralgreeters@hspalmyra.com.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Where do you find comfort when you are grieving the loss of a loved one? Holy Spirit Parish offers a grief support group for individuals that are suffering the loss of a spouse, an adult child, or a parent.

For more information on this ministry, please email griefsupport@hspalmyra.com.

HEALTH & WELLNESS MINISTRY

The Health and Wellness Ministry is a healing ministry, integrating the body, mind, and spirit to promote wholeness, health, and a sense of well-being, through the care of self and others, with the guidance and inspiration of the Holy Spirit, as an expression of God's love and presence. Focus of the ministry is:

Health education
Environmental safety
Advocate/Resource person
Liaison to church and community resources
Teacher of volunteers; developer of parish support groups
Hear and assist parishioners with concerns of body, mind, spirit, and community

If you are interested in joining us, need more information, or have any questions, please contact health@hspalmyra.com.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Knights of Columbus International was founded by Father Michael McGiveny in 1882 and is open to Catholic men over 18 years old. Our Knights of Columbus Council supports the Pastor, the Church community and each other, by standing up for the core values of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. The Knights are involved with Parish activities such as Coats for Kids, Spirit Fest, Fish Fry, Giving Tree and Caring Cupboard Food Pantry. We serve as Color Guard at special Masses and Services, hosting parish wide events and much, much more.

If you would like to join other men of action, living out your faith and serving Holy Spirit Catholic Church and community, please consider joining the Knights. The benefits you will enjoy are immeasurable and the impact made by your actions will be massive and appreciated by those you will serve. Vivat Jesus.

For more information please contact our Grand Knight at knights@hspalmyra.com.

LEGION OF MARY AND AUXILIARY

The Legion of Mary is a world-wide lay apostolic association of Catholics who, with the sanction of the Church and under the powerful leadership of Mary Immaculate, Mediatrix of All Graces, they serve the Church and their neighbors on a voluntary basis in about 170 countries. There are approximately 2 3/4 million active members and 10 million auxiliary (praying) members worldwide. The Legion's spirituality is centered on the Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier, the One who not only overshadowed Mary in the work of the Incarnation but also came down upon the Apostles on Pentecost. The Legion provides a framework to develop our personal relationship with the Holy Trinity and Our Lady and it is a way to put our Catholic Faith into action. Following Jesus command at the Ascension to continue His teaching of the Gospel message, we place ourselves in partnership with Mary. We give our all and she gives her all. By uniting with Mary in her army, she brings us into a closer union with her Divine Son. Is Our Lady calling you to be a part of her Legion? Questions? Please contact legionofmary@hspalmyra.com.

MARRIAGE MENTORS

The Church requires marriage preparation to help couples: have a better understanding of marriage as both a sacrament and a vocation; discern and deepen their commitment to each other in marriage; and to learn more about one another and themselves before they get married. To this end, Holy Spirit offers the Marriage Mentoring program. During Marriage Mentorship, engaged couples meet with a married couple from the parish that has been trained by the Diocese in the Mentorship process. Through the use of online inventories, workbooks and heartfelt discussions the mentor couple will work with the engaged couple to help them prepare not only for a joyful wedding celebration but a lifetime of joy and a deeper connection to their faith throughout their marriage. Married couples in the Parish are always welcome to complete the Mentorship training and join in this ministry here at Holy Spirit. For more information, please contact marriagementors@hspalmyra.com.

MIGRANT JUSTICE

This ministry focuses on the needs of refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers and how we can all help advocate for and serve these families. The group assists in advocating for this often-forgotten group, educating others about the issues surrounding immigration, organizing service projects, partnering with other likeminded groups, and more.

Our mission is to serve and advocate for those forced to flee their homelands, whether termed "refugee," "immigrant," "migrant," or "asylum seeker" trying to make a safe, productive life in our country. As children of Christ and in line with our Catholic Social Teachings, we strive to …

- **Raise Awareness** in our parish and community and grow those committed to serving this population through parish social media, bulletin inserts, narthex information and more.
- **Provide Educational Resources** to learn more about the humanitarian crisis at our border by sharing pertinent websites, articles, event notifications, and hosting informative events.
- **Provide Service Opportunities** Organize service projects that address needs of both border and local immigrant families, raise funds to support ongoing supplies at the border such as water, food, & (baby) items distributed by identified groups.
- **Plant Seeds** of service and commitment especially in our parish youth by working with PREP to provide hygiene kits, letters to children, books, and Rosaries.
- **Be Grounded** in a spiritual journey and prayerful guidance in our work.
- **See Ourselves as migrants and refugees** – just as our Lord, Jesus and the Holy Family found themselves.

The Migrant Justice group at Holy Spirit can have a direct effect with concrete ways to help these families in need of safety and a new home. We look forward to helping those still making the hard decision to leave their homelands as well as those who have already made their way to our local communities. Contact us if interested in additional information: migrantjustice@hspalmyra.com.

MOTHER TERESA INSTITUTE – READING PARTNERSHIP

Holy Spirit Parish was given the honor of piloting a new ministry sourced out of the Mother Teresa Institute in Washington, D.C. From July - September 2025, the group met weekly for one hour to discuss a book study representative of Mother Teresa's teachings, life, writings, evangelization, and care for the poor. The new ministry, while new, has been greatly successful and is looking to continue this devotion to St. Teresa of Calcutta through future book studies. Times and dates of future book studies are TBD. For more information about the MTIRP, please email mteresa@hspalmyra.com.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Our parish office uses volunteer parishioners to assist with receptionist duties. Duties involve greeting visitors, answering the phone, preparing Mass cards, making copies, proofreading documents, and other light office tasks as needed. We also use volunteers to stuff inserts into the bulletins and process bulk mailings as needed. If you are interested in joining us, need more information, or have questions, please contact church@hspalmyra.com.

PARISH COUNCIL

A group of members either appointed or elected that represent the stable parish community. They meet 4-6 times a year to facilitate communication between the pastor, parishioners, and the Diocese in order to promote the mission. This facilitation includes helping the pastor to be aware of past traditions and anticipated needs or goals of the parish and to prioritize them.

For more information, please contact parishcouncil@hspalmyra.com.

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP)

Catholic Formation and preparation for receiving the sacraments for students who do not receive Religious Education at their school. First grade through sixth grade meet on Sunday mornings from 9:35-10:45am and seventh and eighth grade meet on Sunday mornings from 9:45am-10:45am. Catechists are volunteers and can start out as a classroom aide if interested.

If you are interested in religious education for grades 1-6, need more information or have any questions, please contact PREP@hspalmyra.com. For grades 7-8, please contact confirmation@hspalmyra.com.

Religious formation for children ages 3 to Kindergarten is called Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS). Founded in the 1950s by two Italian lay women, one a scriptural scholar and one an expert in Montessori education, CGS is a simple, attractive method for sharing the richness of the Faith with young children, who are uniquely capable of accepting the beauty of God's love. The program includes time in the "Atrium," a quiet environment where children learn through tactile engagement.

If you are interested in the CGS program, need more information or have any questions, please contact CGS@hspalmyra.com.

PRAYER LIGHT: A MEN'S MINISTRY

Please join our parish men as they develop a stronger relationship with God, rooted in prayer. It's a men's group, led by men wanting to grow in their faith for their families, their Church, and for themselves. Join us when you can on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm and/or the 3rd Saturday of each month at 8:00am. For more information feel free to contact mensministry@hspalmyra.com

PRISON MINISTRY

Holy Spirit Parish supports prison ministry through both spiritual and corporal works of mercy. A parishioner has been providing ecumenical pastoral care on the women's block for many years, by request of the Chaplains Office, and also providing pastoral care at Dauphin County Prison (DCP) as a volunteer block chaplain to women.

The parish has financially supported this ministry by assisting in supplying handouts to help the inmates heal and grow. Parishioners have supported this ministry through prayer, including prayer for

inmates considering an abortion and advocating for a fairer judicial system. Other parishioners have ministered to inmates through the Legion of Mary and Prison Christian Growth Group.

If you are interested in any aspect of prison ministry, including advocating for reform of the judicial system and/or rehabilitation of those addicted to opiate prescriptions or other drugs, mentoring inmates, need more information or have any questions, please contact prisonministry@hspalmyra.com.

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

The mission of the Respect Life Ministry of Holy Spirit Church is to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ on the respect and dignity of all human life, from conception to natural death. St. John Paul II's "Evangelium Vitae", translated as "The Gospel of Life", stated, "Choices once unanimously considered criminal and rejected by the common moral sense are gradually becoming socially acceptable." St. John Paul II condemned the "culture of death" in which moral "crimes" such as abortion and euthanasia are viewed as individual rights. We in the Respect Life Ministry work toward transforming the "culture of death" into a culture of life through prayer, education, and active support of organizations, activities, and other ministries which encourage and support human life at every stage and in every manner of its existence.

Meeting times are the first Thursday of the month at 6pm. If you are interested in joining us, need more information, or have any questions, please contact life@hspalmyra.com.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)

OCIA stands for the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults. It is a process of preparation for Adults seeking to enter the Catholic Church through the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. Who is this process for? 1. Those who have never been baptized, who wish to become Catholic; 2. Those who have been baptized in a different denomination or tradition who wish to become Catholic and receive the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist; 3. Those who have been baptized Catholic, but never received the sacraments of Holy Eucharist and/or Confirmation and are ready to complete their initiation.

If you are interested in joining us, need more information, or have any questions, please contact 717-838-3369 or email church@hspalmyra.com

SHINE FAITH AND FITNESS MINISTRY

We are a group that meets weekly for faith-infused exercise classes. Our mission is to improve health, reduce and manage stress and share some good times and laughter so we can all SHINE BRIGHTER to better serve God! Class formats offered include: Drum Fitness, Fresh Air Faith Walk; Chair Aerobics; Relaxation Stretch; Cardio & Strength Timed Circuits and more. Classes take place in the Agape Hall and are taught by a certified fitness instructor/accredited personal trainer.

Most sessions last 60-75 minutes. All workouts begin with an opening prayer and then continue to the scheduled class format. The last 15-20 minutes is reserved for a peaceful, prayer filled meditation period, which includes a scripture reading, reflection and stretches.

A SHINE schedule is issued monthly and is available in the narthex and on the church website. Participants (open to both parishioners and non-parishioners) are encouraged to obtain a doctor's permission before participating in classes. A good will offering is accepted and used to fund equipment for the program and to make donations to charity. Items you can bring to class are a towel and water bottle. Let your heart and soul SHINE in this exercise ministry.

If you are interested in joining us, need more information or have any questions, please contact shine@hspalmyra.com.

SOFTBALL TEAM

The Palmyra Area Church Softball League was created over 25 years ago so area churches from the Palmyra/Hershey area could enjoy fun and fellowship in competition of slow pitch softball. We meet in May, June, July (and sometimes August) on weeknights, usually one game per week. Every game is started with a prayer or devotion by the home team. If you are interested in joining us, need more information or have any questions, please contact softball@hspalmyra.com.

SPARKLING HEARTS CLEANING MINISTRY

We are the Holy Spirit Church Housekeepers! We work together to complete various cleaning duties like vacuuming the church and mopping floors. We clean smears off windows and pick up Cheerios and snacks left behind by God's little angels. We dust, tidy up and collect trash if needed. Our focus is the Main Church and Narthex. Grab your rubber gloves and join us!

We typically meet once a week, on Friday or Saturday mornings. A schedule is shared via a text message group. Attend whatever sessions you are available for, no need to RSVP.

If you are interested in joining us, need more information, or have any questions, please contact: sparklinghearts@hspalmyra.com.

THREADS OF HOPE

We are a group of knitters and crocheters who create prayer shawls, lap throws, baby items and specialty items as needed for the parish and any who would benefit. Anyone who enjoys crafting is encouraged to join. We will teach basic knitting and crocheting techniques to new members as needed.

We meet the 1st Monday of each month from 7:00-8:00pm. You may join us at any time.

If you are interested in joining us, need more information, or have any questions, please contact threads@hspalmyra.com.

USHERS

As ushers, we greet and welcome parishioners and visitors into the Church and assist worshippers in finding seats. We assist handicapped individuals in the sanctuary with seating, provide hearing enhancement aids to those in need, and provide medical assistance when necessary. We maintain the sanctity of the Mass for all. We record the attendance at each Mass for the office staff, coordinate a family to take up the gifts, and then place the collection in a secure location. We also assist with outside grounds maintenance during inclement weather. At the end of Mass, we distribute the bulletins to the congregation.

If you are interested in joining us, need more information, or have any questions, please contact: ushers@hspalmyra.com.

WELCOME COMMITTEE

We are the committee in charge of helping to welcome new members of Holy Spirit Catholic Church. Our duties involve personally meeting new members of the church, delivering a welcome packet to new members, and coordinating welcoming events. The welcome packet for new members contains information such as a welcome letter from Fr. Metzgar, a yearly and monthly calendar of church events, a current bulletin, and a book of all the ministries at the church. As always, whenever you see a new face at church, please introduce yourself with a warm smile.

If you are interested in joining us, need more information, or have any questions, please contact welcome@hspalmyra.com.

WOMEN AT THE WELL MINISTRY

In biblical times, women often gathered at the town well to draw water and to offer stories, support and friendship. We think "The Women at the Well" best describes our group and our purpose. We gather weekly to study the word of God, pray for each other, our families, friends and parish, and tell stories about our journeys in faith. We decide together what materials we want to use to enhance our lessons in faith. Catholic books, videos and podcasts have been part of our journey in the past. If you'd like some companionship on your spiritual journey, join us on Wednesday evenings in the multipurpose room. Come as you are able - every week, once in a while, or whenever you can make it!

If you are interested in joining us, need more information, or have any questions, please contact womenatthewell@hspalmyra.com.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY NETWORK

Women's Ministry Network (WMN) is a network of women who come together for spiritual growth, fellowship and prayer to grow in their Catholic faith and in their love and service to one another and to our Church. WMN evolved from a 2019 needs assessment survey of the women of Holy Spirit parish. When asked what they wanted for women of the parish, the majority of the respondents said they wanted to be connected with one another in order to socialize and grow spiritually. The primary focus of WMN is to develop and facilitate programs tailored to connect women of all ages in the parish with each other and highlight their feminine gifts and strengths through faith building and faith sharing activities. WMN offers an annual Women's Retreat, held in September. We also conduct baby showers twice a year for the women at Lourdeshouse Maternity Home. Other programs and activities are also offered throughout the year. If you are interested in joining the WMN or would like more information, please email WMN@hspalmyra.com.

YOUTH MINISTRY - JUNIOR

Open to all children in the parish who are in first through eighth grade who attends PREP or Catholic School. The purpose of the organization is to allow the children of the parish a chance to get together for fun (games, crafts, and activities), food, and fellowship. There is no fee to join, but a permission slip is required for each child in attendance. The permission slip needs to be filled out prior to the child attending their first event. We meet approximately once per month from September through April. Events are publicized through the church bulletin and handouts in PREP classes. We meet for approximately two hours either at church or at another location in the local area.

If you are interested in joining us, need more information, or have any questions, please contact: jryouthministry@hspalmyra.com.