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## Introduction and State of the Parish

### Very Reverend Anthony Ligato

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It is a pleasure for me to share with you in this letter, that I have been Pastor of St. Jude the Apostle Parish for ten years. During those ten years we have experienced many wonderful celebrations and events together, but those most important experiences have been, being able to be present with each of you in your moments of joy and celebration and in your times of pain and sorrow. A parish is defined by these moments because a parish is not a structure; it is the people that make a parish a home for all.

As I celebrate my Tenth Anniversary as your Pastor on November 2, 2019 and prepare to celebrate my Twenty Fifth Anniversary as a Priest on June 24, 2020, looking back at these years that I have shared with you, it has been an amazing decade. You have always been supportive and have made me feel welcomed. St. Jude the Apostle Church is truly a youthful and vibrant Parish. Did you know that we are one of the youngest parishes in the Diocese based on our parish registration? As we continue to reach out to young families in our community, we are assured that the future of our parish and it's mission is to proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord.

By proclaiming this truth, we profess our faith and recommit ourselves as a Parish Community that supports families and their children. We provide support through our catechetical education which St. Jude the Apostle School and the St. Jude the Apostle Faith Formation and Youth Ministry programs provide to all our families. The Christian Service Ministry will continue to fulfill the mission of Jesus Christ to give food to those who are hungry and drink to those who are thirsty by assisting the poor, marginalized and impoverished. The Mission of St. Jude the Apostle Church is the Mission of Jesus Christ and if we proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord and live it out in our lives, we will continue to be a vibrant and vital Faith Community. As we continue to fulfill our mission, let us use the gifts entrusted to us by God...time, talent and treasure... to live our Gospel calling to go and baptize all nations, by teaching our faith to all children, youth and adults, to feed the hungry, to care for the sick, to comfort the grieving, to bring justice to the oppressed and to shelter the homeless.

Attached to this letter is St. Jude the Apostle Church Vitality Report. This report covers a span of the last five years. I would like to thank our Trustees, Johanna Flanigan, Bill Dedrick and all those who worked so diligently and accurately on this report! The Vitality Report covers the Financial, Sacramental, and Faith Formation needs of the parish. I pray that you can take time to read it in order to appreciate more fully all that we have accomplished together over the past year. There is a twofold purpose for this report, the first is to accurately show the information regarding the life of the parish and the second is to humbly ask you to prayerfully consider volunteering your time and talent to the future vitality of our parish.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "The Very Rev. Anthony F. Ligato".



**The Very Reverend Anthony Ligato, Pastor**, is a life-long member of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany, New York, his home parish growing up was Our Lady of Victory Parish in Troy. Father Anthony is a graduate of Siena College, Loudonville, New York, the class of 1990, with a degree in Marketing and Management. He subsequently entered seminary for the Diocese of Albany in 1990 and graduated from St. Mary's Seminary and University in Baltimore Maryland in 1995. He has served in numerous parishes throughout the Albany Diocese, from city parishes to suburban and rural parishes. Father Anthony currently serves the diocese as the Vicar for Vocations, and is also the Pastor of two vibrant Catholic communities, St. Jude the Apostle Parish and School in Wynantskill, NY and St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Troy, NY.

**Rev. Zachariah Chichester** is a native of the Albany Diocese, and has lived all his life in Austerlitz in Columbia County. He received a B.A. from Magdalen College, a Masters of Politics from the University of Dallas, the M.Div. from Mundelein Seminary as well as a S.T.L from Mundelein. He was in the service for 2 years: ROTC and National Guard. He has many hobbies building and fixing things as well as diving and reading. He was ordained in June of 2018. His responsibility is to assist the Pastor in his governance and ministry of the parish.

**Deacon Warren Safford** has been a resident of Wynantskill and a member of St. Jude the Apostle for 21 years. He is retired from a 40 year career with General Electric in Engineering IT. He is married with 3 Daughters and 3 Grandchildren. His Ministry includes serving at mass, preaching, presiding at weddings, baptism marriages and Funerals. He prepares people for the Sacrament of Baptism and Marriage, and serves on the following committees: Finance, Evangelization, Liturgy, Vocations, Christian Service and Parish Council, as well as teaching in RCIA. Warren chairs the Diocesan Deacon Life and Ministry Council and serves on the Diocesan Vocation Awareness Council.

**Patricia Mugrane, Adminstrative Assistant to the Pastor and Director of Faith Formation**, was born and raised in Troy, New York with her mother and 2 siblings. She graduated from CCHS and immediately began her working career. At the age of 18 she became involved in her former parish, St. Mary's in Troy where she became a Catechist and taught all grade levels. In June 2006 she took on a position as Co-Coordinator of Faith formation at St. Jude the Apostle Church. She is currently the Director of Faith Formation and trains and oversees a very dedicated group of Catechists, supervisor of the Youth Minister and is involved in the planning sessions of the youth. Patti assists in the Family Liturgies throughout the Faith Formation year. She coordinates the Children's Liturgy of the Word during Masses. She currently records the meeting minutes of the Finance Committee.

**Paul Moore Youth Minister** Paul has been a member of St. Jude the Apostle for 13 years and started his Youth Ministry for grades 7-10 in 2016. Prior to St. Jude he belonged to St. John the Evangelist in Rensselaer. Paul attended grammar school St. John St. Joseph's Academy in Rensselaer. Paul is married to Amie Moore and they have two daughters. His family lives in Wynantskill and both daughters attend St. Jude the Apostle School. Paul also enjoys being a classroom parent at St. Jude the Apostle, coaching CYO basketball, and participating in Music Ministry. He is a member of the Marital Ministry and participates in various Parish and School events.

Education:

- 1993 LaSalle Institute, Troy
- 1996 Associates in Physical Education, Hudson Valley Community College
- 1999 Bachelors in Physical Education, SUNY Cortland
- 2002 U.S. Air Force Basic Training and Air Transportation Technical School
- 2005 Masters in Health Education, SUNY Cortland



**Allison Hartwich, Business Manager.**

Allison has been working at St. Jude the Apostle since 2009. She has worked in the Accounting field for over 35 years at various Churches within the Albany diocese. She is an independent Contractor at St. Jude the Apostle Church.

**Karla Jones, Office Manager**

Born and raised in Wynantskill. Karla and her family reside in Wynantskill. Karla has worked for the St. Jude the Apostle Church for over 20 years. Both of Karla's children are students at St. Jude the Apostle School.

**Nicholas Ascioti, Parish Music Director, and Director of Liturgy and RCIA**

Nicholas has been music director for over 11 years. He is also an associate campus minister at Siena College. Nicholas is a 3<sup>rd</sup> year Diaconate Candidate and hopes to be ordained as a Deacon of the Albany Diocese in May 2020. Nicholas anticipates completing his studies for a Master of Divinity in 2021. Nicholas lives in West Sand Lake with his wife Emily and his 2 daughters Melody and Noelle.

**Stephanie Safford, Ministry Coordinator**

Stephanie was born and raised in Leominster, MA and received her AA degree in Accounting from Mount Wachusett Community College. She raised her family in Hampden ME and Wynantskill, New York. She is blessed with 3 grandchildren. She is married to Deacon Warren Safford and together they have been members of the parish for over 20 years, during which she has enjoyed membership in the parish's Chancel Choir and Rosary Altar Society. Stephanie currently maintains the liturgical ministry schedule for masses, liturgical documents for special seasons, assists with RCIA and marriage preparation, and has served in various staff positions in the past. She covers for staff personal when necessary.

**Charles Ligato, Director of Maintenance**

Chuck's responsibilities for all Maintenance, Repairs, Cleaning and Landscaping of St. Jude the Apostle Church and Parish Center.

**Johanna Flanigan, Parish Nurse, Pastoral Care Coordinator and Trustee**

Johanna has been a registered professional nurse for 50 years working in different practice areas. She has been Parish Nurse for St. Jude for over 10 years, completing her Parish Nurse Certification in 2008. She has had over 35 years' experience in Emergency Medical Services and is a CPR Instructor through the American Heart Association for over 20 years. Johanna has been a parishioner at St. Jude the Apostle for over 50 years. All 4 of her daughters have received their Sacraments at St. Jude the Apostle Church. All of her daughters and their families are registered parishioners at St. Jude the Apostle Church. Her Husband Vincent, a life-long parishioner, passed in 2016.

**William L. Dedrick, Trustee**

Bill and his wife Carol are life-long parishioners of St. Jude the Apostle. They were married at St. Jude and all three of their children received their Sacraments at St. Jude. Carol was a member of the first graduating class of St. Jude the Apostle School and all 3 children are graduates of the School. Bill was a member of the Knights of St. Jude and presently serves on the St. Jude Veterans' Committee, Welcoming Committees and the St. Jude History Committee. Bill is currently employed as an insurance broker with Amsure Associates in Albany.



**Barbara Harris, Pastoral Council Chair**

Barbara, her husband Chris and their 3 sons have been parishioners at St. Jude the Apostle since they moved here from Cleveland in 2006. She has served on the Pastoral Council for 6 years. She also serves as a catechist, a Eucharistic Minister, a Vacation Bible School volunteer (crafts) and on the Fall Festival Committee (Haunted Tent and Chinese Raffle). She has been a Registered Nurse for over 30 years, working in a variety of settings. She currently works at Albany Medical Center in the Bariatrics & Nutrition practice. She has also served on the Board of Twin Town Little League, Bell Top PTO as President, and was a Peace Corp Volunteer in Paraguay.

**Ellen Hartnagle, Co-Chairman of Pastoral Council Vice Chair**

Ellen has been a parishioner for over 60 years, graduating from St. Jude School. She has served the St. Jude Community in the following capacities: Eucharistic Ministers, Office of the Rosary Altar Society, Secretary at the St. Jude the Apostle School and Parish Office. Ellen has worked as a beautician and Administrative Assistant at RPI and Regal Cinemas before retiring in 2012. Ellen was married to her husband Frank for 42 years until his passing in 2011. She has 2 daughters who attended St. Jude the Apostle School. Ellen also has 3 grandson.

**Danielle Cox, School Principal at St. Jude the Apostle School**

Danielle began working for the Diocese of Albany in 1998. Danielle holds a B.A. degree in Elementary Education, a M.S. degree in Literacy and a Certificate of Advanced Study as a School Building Leader. Prior to joining the St. Jude Community in August 2006, Danielle worked for St. Pius X School as a 5th grade teacher, remedial reading teacher and Assistant Principal for 10 years. Danielle resides in Colonie, NY with her husband and two boys.

**Kristine Hoffay, Assistant School Principal**

Kristine has been a life-long resident of Wynantskill. She was baptized at St. Jude the Apostle church and her family still attends Church at St. Jude the Apostle Church.

Mrs. Hoffay earned her Bachelors degree in Elementary Education at SUNY Oneonta. After graduating she spent 1 year substitute teaching in local public school districts before being hired at St. Jude School as the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher. Mrs. Hoffay is a certified reading specialist for grades K-12. After spending 10 years as the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher Mrs. Hoffay moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade for the 2009-2010 school year. In the 2019-2020 Mrs. Hoffay has moved out of the classroom and is now the Assistant Principal of St. Jude the Apostle School.



### Sacraments and Mass Attendance by Year

Sharing, participating and receiving the Sacraments are the essential privileges of our Catholic Faith.

The Sacraments of Initiation are most joyful events, recognized and celebrated by the whole faith community. Most baptisms are performed during weekend Masses, as the faithful join in with the new parents, god parents, and family to welcome their children and renew our own faith commitments. Similarly, First Communions are also celebrated at weekend Masses, enabling the faithful to also share in the joy of our children's first experience of the Eucharist.

Confirmations usually take place during the evening, together with neighboring parishes, as one of our two Bishops welcome our older children as fully committed members of the Catholic Community. During their preparation year, parishioners actively pray for our confirmation candidates for a successful, joyful reception of this important sacrament.

While Mass attendance has declined some over the past five years, our weekend services are robust. Parishioners actively participate in liturgical ministries (acolytes, choir, readers, eucharistic ministers, greeters, ushers). We are blessed to hear from three excellent homilists, and experience music provided by excellent cantors and our choirs.

Our local community is growing with new, young families, and this presents a wonderful opportunity for all of us to welcome and evangelize, "talk up" our church and invite friends, neighbors, and family members to witness and experience this vibrant faith community.

**Sacramental Records Past 6 Years at St. Jude the Apostle Church, Wynantskill**

Year	Baptism	First Eucharist	Confirmation	Marriages	Funerals	Week Mass Attendance
2014	52	55	29	7	35	604
2015	48	55	45	8	50	574
2016	55	50	30	9	47	565
2017	46	46	35	6	30	569
2018	49	42	26	4	39	550
2019	23	41	39	1	21	N/A



### Life Long Faith Formation

We are a Catholic community comprised of people of all ages, inspired by Jesus Christ and the love of God, to share our gifts and talents. Through acts of faith, hope and love we teach others about our religion, provide assistance to those in need, build community with one another. We are Catholics first by birth, then by choice, and still, by love.

Faith Formation at St. Jude the Apostle has evolved under the leadership of Pastoral Associate Patti Mugrane, Faith Formation Director, from a more traditional classroom approach, to include a whole family, life long process of learning, embracing and evangelizing our Catholic faith and values. All aspects of faith formation provide opportunities for our children to learn the catechism, to practice faith values in outreach and service, and to become leaders in sharing, teaching and evangelization. Our children are encouraged and motivated to actively participate in the whole life of the parish, as catechists, peer leaders, lectors and acolytes, camp counselors; and also, by joining parish ministries, volunteering in the community, reaching out to the needy, and advocating for peace and justice.

The Catechesis program:

- Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) Instruction for young children during Mass.
- Grades 1-5; weekly classes on Sundays
- Junior/Senior High School; weekly during Faith Formation Sessions
- RCIA Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
- Preparation for First Eucharist, First Reconciliation, and Confirmation.
- Bible Study, Thursday morning
- Vacation Bible School
- Retreats

#### Enrollment in Faith Formation Programs

	Children	Adults	Peer Leaders
CLOW	30	5	1
Pre K & Kindergarten	15	1	1
Grades 1 to 5	110	10	4
Jr. & Sr. High School	95	2	
VBS	60	4	15
Bible Study	Varies	Varies	1

**ST. JUDE**  **THE APOSTLE**  
**CHURCH**  
 42 DANA AVENUE · WYNANTSkill, NY 12198

St. Jude the Apostle Church  
 2019 Annual Parish Vitality Report

**Parish Financial Information**

12 Months Current Year vs Budget and Prior Two Years

	Jun-Jul 2018-2019 Actual	Jun-Jul 2018-2019 Budget	Jun-Jul 2017-2018 Actual	Jun-Jul 2016-2017 Actual
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**Income:**

Offertory Collections	\$281,649	\$285,000	279,067	283,792
Special Collections	50,815	52,450	50,690	51,262
Maintenance/ Cap Campaign Collection	53,468	78,000	64,801	216,223
Donations, Grants & Gifts	139,988	145,800	905,851	139,761
Fundraising	54,136	43,350	46,885	35,476
Faith Formation	6,931	9,000	8,790	8,760
Other Income	84,379	70,516	63,468	53,460
Total Income:	\$671,365	\$684,116	\$1,419,553	\$788,733

**Expenses:**

Salary & Benefits	\$282,045	\$279,380	272,185	244,653
Church Office/Altar Supplies/H'Hold Exp	79,111	82,514	73,459	101,990
Maintenance/Repairs/Utilities/Insurance	44,988	56,602	56,845	38,079
Programs & Support Services	99,047	87,375	96,998	107,105
School/Parish Hall	223,302	137,419	193,307	209,644
Equipment & Fixed Assets	40,834	0	942,309	31,176
Total Expenses:	\$769,327	\$643,290	\$1,635,103	\$732,647
<b>Net Income/Loss:</b>	<b><u>-\$97,962</u></b>	<b><u>\$40,826</u></b>	<b><u>-\$215,550</u></b>	<b><u>\$56,087</u></b>

The parish had a net loss in 2018-2019 and was due to an increase in school support.  
 Offertory collections were up from prior year by \$2,582.00.



St. Jude the Apostle School  
2019 Annual Parish Vitality Report

**School Financial Information**

12 Months Current Year vs Budget

	Jun-Jul 2018-2019 Actual	Jun-Jul 2018-2019 Budget
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**Income:**

Tuition	\$683,034	\$698,919
Registration/Misc Income	68,688	52,850
Fundraising	74,658	99,000
Grants & Subsidies	142,932	116,929
Total Income:	<u>\$969,312</u>	<u>\$967,698</u>

**Expenses:**

Salaries & Benefits	\$992,734	\$988,084
Classroom & Maint Supplies	\$61,813	\$64,470
Utilities & Repairs	\$26,799	\$28,584
Fundraising	22,944	30,400
Other Support Services	18,949	19,748
Capital Furnishing/Equipment	8,315	0
Total Expenses:	<u>\$1,131,555</u>	<u>\$1,131,286</u>

<b>Net Income/Loss:</b>	<u><u>-\$162,243</u></u>	<u><u>-\$163,588</u></u>
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\* Net Loss was projected based on enrollment. Parish increased its subsidy support to cover tuition assistance and operating expenses.



## 2019 Annual Parish Vitality Report

### Parish Contacts

Parish Phone: 518-283-1162    Fax: 518-286-2808    Email: [SJA\\_Wynan@rcda.org](mailto:SJA_Wynan@rcda.org)

### Staff

Staff	E-Mail
Very Reverend Anthony F. Ligato	<a href="mailto:Anthony.Ligato@rcda.org">Anthony.Ligato@rcda.org</a>
Rev. Zachariah Chichester	<a href="mailto:Zach.Chichester@rcda.org">Zach.Chichester@rcda.org</a>
Deacon Warren Safford	<a href="mailto:Warren.Safford@gmail.com">Warren.Safford@gmail.com</a>
William Dedrick	<a href="mailto:B.dedrick@verizon.net">B.dedrick@verizon.net</a>
Johanna Flanigan	<a href="mailto:JMFEMS1@aol.com">JMFEMS1@aol.com</a>
Patti Mugrace	Faith Formation Director <a href="mailto:mugrap@gmail.com">mugrap@gmail.com</a>
Paul Moore	Youth Minister <a href="mailto:moorep285@gmail.com">moorep285@gmail.com</a>
Nicholas Ascioti	Music Director <a href="mailto:naamusic@nycap.rr.com">naamusic@nycap.rr.com</a>
Allison Hartwich	Business Manager <a href="mailto:BKST.JudetheApostle.Wynantskill@rcda.org">BKST.JudetheApostle.Wynantskill@rcda.org</a>
Patti Mugrace	Administrative Assistant <a href="mailto:mugrap@gmail.com">mugrap@gmail.com</a>
Karla Jones	Office Manager <a href="mailto:SJA_Wynan@rcda.org">SJA_Wynan@rcda.org</a>
Stephanie Safford	Ministry Coordinator <a href="mailto:ssafford17@gmail.com">ssafford17@gmail.com</a>



### **St. Jude the Apostle School**

School Phone: 518-283-0333

Fax: 518-283-0475

Staff

E-Mail

Mrs. Danielle Cox

Principal

[principal@sjalbany.org](mailto:principal@sjalbany.org)

Mrs. Kristine Hoffay

Assistant Principal

[KHoffay@SJSalbany.org](mailto:KHoffay@SJSalbany.org)

Mrs. Mary Diehl

Secretary

[Mdiehl@sjalbany.org](mailto:Mdiehl@sjalbany.org)

Since 1953, the St. Jude the Apostle School has provided countless children without standing academic experiences with one thing in common: our past and present students share the magnificent benefits of an education that is always grounded in faith and focused on preparedness for the future. Our school is a special place to learn, work, and worship.

**St. Jude the Apostle School serves students from early childhood through sixth grade from all surrounding school districts and counties.** Children of all faiths are welcome to join our school community and receive an education that prepares them for the modern world and its many opportunities and exciting challenges. Because of our traditionally proved high academic standards and strong moral character, our graduates are well-prepared for the rigors of middle School and beyond.

### **School Board Members**

Carol Ryan School Board President

George Ceresia School Board Vice President

Kara Schneible School Board Secretary

Michelle Wyanski Member

John Dalamata Member

John Mazzariello Member

Scott Tygett Member



## Ministry Summaries

St. Jude the Apostle Catholic Community answers its call to the practice of the teachings of Jesus Christ, and to love and care for the less fortunate through the following ministries:

### Spiritual Life & Worship

Prayer is the essential core value of our parish, and this group of ministries support Father Ligato, Fr. Chichester and Deacon Warren Safford in planning and carrying out the liturgies, including all daily, weekend, and Feast Day Masses, Reconciliation Services, Baptisms, Funerals and Special Liturgies. Many parishioners participate in making all of our liturgies meaningful, beautiful and memorable. Liturgy Committee plans all Sacramental preparations for the Liturgical Year.

**Ushers and Greeters:** welcome all parishioners to Mass and provide assistance when needed. Eucharistic Ministers, Acolytes and Lectors serve at all Masses, while the Choir and Cantors lead us in song and music at the 9AM Mass.

**The Rosary Altar Society:** supplies the Altar Linens.

**The Sacristan Ministry:** ensures the organization and proper care of vestments and Sacred Vessels. Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers participate in all Masses.

**Chancel Choir:** joins us Sunday Morning at 9AM and at special liturgies.

**Altar Decorations/Flower Ministry:** ensures the beautification of the Altar and Church.

**The Bereavement Ministry:** meets with families to arrange the planning of the Funeral Mass. Lazarus Society participates in every Funeral Mass held at St. Jude the Apostle as Greeters, Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers.

**Family Liturgy Masses:** are held throughout the School calendar year where children of all ages participate as Lectors, Ushers and Greeters.

**The Hospitality Committee** provides refreshments as per Father's request.

**The Welcoming Committee** which is part of the Evangelization Ministry participates in various activities throughout the year to welcome and educate new parishioners on the activities and Ministries of St. Jude the Apostle.

### Life Long Faith Formation

These ministries encompass all the ways we learn about our faith and learn to practice these teachings, from early childhood to with adulthood.

The core is Youth Faith Formation. Catechists are trained to teach our children our core beliefs, and to impart a deep love and appreciation for our faith. Beginning with the Children's Liturgy of the Word, Pre-school children through high school, our children receive the sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation.

The Youth Ministry provides many wonderful opportunities for young people to practice their faith by serving at Church functions, i.e. Knights of Columbus Breakfast, Annual Fall Festival etc, implementing special donation drives such as the Thanksgiving Baskets. They also participate in the Giving Tree Program.



**The Baptism Ministry** members support families in this first, wonderful Sacrament of Initiation, educating and guiding families through the Sacramental Liturgy.

**The Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) Ministry** supports people who wish to become Catholic, or continue on the journey to fulfill all the Sacraments. The RCIA members consists of an Initiation Core Team (planners), persons who will assist in individual phases of the process (e.g. Inquiry, Catechumenate, Mystagogia, etc.), and individuals (sponsors) who personally journey with a candidate or catechumen.

**Weekly Bible Study** is yet another opportunity to engage in deep study and discussion. The lay leaders of this program offer multi-week sessions.

**The Vocations Ministry** promotes awareness of all vocations, the priesthood, consecrated lives, marriage and lay opportunities. Prayer and activities are some of the tools used to focus on the need for all vocations, and especially the need for priests. Members support and encourage our seminarians with prayers, gift cards, birthday and other special occasion remembrances.

**Evangelization Ministry** spreads the teachings of our faith, as asked of us by Jesus. The members provide opportunities for parishioners to bring friends, families, neighbors to church either at services or through social events. They actively use social media to spread the word about liturgy, retreats, and events to draw people to our parish community. Donut Sunday is an opportunity for parishioners to meet each other.

### Pastoral Care

Several parishioners serve in Pastoral Care, bringing Holy Communion to people in Nursing Homes, Hospitals, and to those who are unable to leave home. The needs here are significant to care for our elder population, and for those parishioners suffering serious health issues. Our Parish Nurse coordinates with our pastor, Father Anthony, and our Associate Pastor Zachariah Chichester to administer the Sacrament of the Sick.

The Health Care Ministry, directed by Parish Nurse Johanna Flanigan, is a health referral resource used by our Parishioners in many aspects of Health Care. Weekly bulletin articles on Health related issues are provided. Specific programs throughout the year such as the Annual Blood Drive and the Flu Clinic are services offered to parishioners. The Parish Nurse also coordinates the Homebound Ministry to provide communion and friendly visits to those who are unable to attend mass.

The Bereavement Ministry assists families in planning all aspects of the funeral rites for their loved ones who passed away, including prayers or services at the Wake, and the music, readings, and assignments for the Mass of Christian Burial. This compassionate group ensures each service is meaningful and memorable during very difficult times for families. This ministry also offers parishioners a service to pre-plan the liturgies they want at their own funeral rites.



### Christian Service and Social Concerns

Care for the poor, marginalized and vulnerable are deeply held values of our parish. Christian Service values are evident in all our ministries. Faith Formation, recognizing the capacity and enthusiasm of youth for peace and justice, offer many ways for them to learn, practice and advocate for Christian service and justice in our society.

St. Jude the Apostle participates 5 times a year at the Damien Dinner, parishioners cook a hot supper to clients at Damien Center. The weekly food collection is distributed by our food delivery team to Doors of Hope

These members also help deliver the gifts from out Christmas Giving tree to the local agencies. The Prayer Shawl Ministry knits and crochets beautiful Shawls for Babies and the Homebound.

The Respect for Life Committee addresses all aspects of life, dedicated to living out the belief that all human life is sacred.

All these Christian Service ministries welcome new members, ideas, projects and opportunities to be of service to those who need them.

### Administration

This group of ministries serves the parish through assisting with the many administrative duties, obligations and needs. These valuable volunteer services are so essential to the continuing and growing vitality of our parish community.

**Pastoral Council**- members assist and advise the Pastor in administering the business end of the parish, and develop the annual goals, projects and activities for the community.

**Knights of Columbus** is a Catholic fraternal organization dedicated to promoting and conducting educational, charitable, religious and social welfare works, giving mutual aid and assistance to sick and needy members, their families and the community in addition to insurance products and annuities for their families. Based on the founding principles of: Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism, the Knights of Columbus in Wynantskill provide sponsorship in the following: charitable events and programs, supporting St. Jude the Apostle School and Parish in Wynantskill and the efforts of our Bishop in the Greater Albany Diocese. For more information go to the parish website: <http://parishes.rcda.org/stjude/koc.php>



**Rosary Altar Society** plans and carries out many projects and activities that enhance the spirit of the parish. The main purpose of RAS is to supply the altar of all necessary items as directed by Father Ligato. Other activities include

- Hospitality: provides setup and refreshments for parish activities.
- Sick & Vigil: sends cards to members of the RAS who have been sick, lost a loved one, etc.
- Junior Rosarians
- E-mail Prayer Chain
- Christmas Collection for Vanderheyden Hall
- Mittens, Hats & Gloves to St. Joseph's Center
- Shower for St. Paul Center
- Other activities as needed

**Building and Grounds** This Ministry identifies, plans, prioritizes and implements the numerous requirements to maintain a safe, economical, environmentally sound, as well as a warm and inviting facility. Parishioners who are contractors and engineers staff this ministry and provide invaluable volunteer services to our community.

**Finance Committee** is staffed by the parish trustees, pastor, finance and parish administrators and several parishioners with professional financial expertise. This ministry guides the pastor in all financial and investments decisions, approves the annual budget and spending plan.

**Social Media Ministry** develops and implements the parish web site, mobile phone app, and Facebook pages. Members also respond to inquiries electronically posted to the various media. Social Media is essential to growing parish vitality, ensuring outreach particularly to young families.

**Welcome Ministry**- members focus on being a welcoming parish community, reaching out to newly registered members of the parish. They answer questions, invite participation in parish ministries and personally invite new parishioners to parish events.

**Stewardship Ministry** is led by our two parish trustees, William Dedrick and Johanna Flanigan. As baptized Catholics it is our obligation to share these gifts willingly in order to support our parish and communities. This ministry advises the pastor as needed in managing the business requirements of the parish, ensuring financial stability, and promoting the ministries of the parish.

## Ministries

Committee	Contact	Phone Number	E-Mail Address
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