

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS:

The Parish of Saint Joseph/St. Lawrence O'Toole South Suburban PADS Initiative 2018/19

For a second straight year, a dedicated team from Saint Joseph's Parish will manage the needs of the South Suburban PADS Homeless Shelter on the last Wednesday of each month, starting on Wednesday 24 October 2018 through April of 2019. Like last year, the team will be responsible for providing three meals: evening dinner, next morning breakfast and bag lunch (when the clients leave.) Members of the team also handle the shelter needs through the night and into Thursday morning. I want to take this opportunity to recognize the team for their dedication and encourage anyone who is interested to speak to them directly about this opportunity:

- Theresa and Chuck Funke
- Emmet Cassidy
- Ron Schmitt
- Rose Ann Rooney
- Rosemary and Dave Carlson
- Julie, Greg and Nick Orbik
- Peg Boivin
- Peggy Adducci
- Bill Nason (friend of Chuck)
- Eric Griffiths (friend of Chuck)
- Jim Bova

Recognizing that not everyone can find the time or energy to actually volunteer on site, there are other ways to be of service with this monthly (October thru April) parish commitment: 1) helping parish volunteers to prepare the evening meals in advance or (2) making a monetary donation for the cost of the supplies for the three meals.

If you would be interested in either of those options—or if you hadn't volunteered before to help on-site—please contact me at rkyfes@posjhomewood.org and I'll forward your contact information to the team members coordinating our participation at the shelter.

We will provide regular communications throughout the year to articulate our mission, seek financial, and/or material support and resources for the variety of campaigns we will engage to support the PADS clients. A great example was the Personal Hygiene Bags you most generously provided last year.

We are joining many other church communities in the Southland in helping to staff this Family Shelter. It's a great opportunity to add to the many ways St. Joseph's reaches out

beyond the church walls to serve our sisters and brothers who are in need. This outreach also ties into the *Renew My Church* initiative which is currently taking place throughout the Archdiocese and will continue through 2022. Even though our “grouping” of St. Joseph, St. Lawrence O’Toole, St. Anne, St. Emeric and IJP has yet to be “activated”, this is one of many ways we’ll be considering down the road for increased collaboration among our parishes—as well as with other church communities in the area. I’ll be writing much more about *Renew My Church* in the weeks to come, so please watch for those articles and remain open to all that we’re being asked to consider as this initiative moves forward.

Finally, a disclaimer: I’m grateful to Jim Bova for writing 95% of this for me, with my addition being the *Renew My Church* part. Jim has been amazing in taking the lead with our participation in the PADS shelter and I’m truly grateful to him for his leadership.

Fr. Bob