



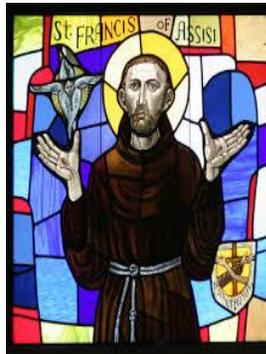
Involvement Possibilities

We welcome anyone interested in joining our ministry. A spirit of caring, compassion and a love of people are the God-given gifts you will use in this ministry. Meetings are held the second Monday evening of each month at 7:30pm in the St. Francis library/church basement. Please call the Rectory for exact dates.

*“Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
when there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.
Grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
to be understood, as to understand,
to be loved as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to
eternal life.”*
— St. Francis of Assisi

Our Prayer

Creator God, I pledge to truly celebrate the gift of each child conceived and born, and fully mourn each miscarriage, abortion, stillbirth, infant or child death. I will be a strong witness to my belief in the dignity and worth of all life, by treasuring the gift of fertility, by supporting those suffering infertility, by encouraging those in the adoption process, and by assisting families experiencing an infant or child crisis or need. I will be a strong and consistent voice for life in my home, my church, my community, and the world. Amen



Contact Us to Learn More

St. Francis of Assisi Parish
136 Saxer Ave, Springfield, PA 19064
(610) 543-0848
<http://www.sfaparish.org/elizabeth-ministry/>
or by contacting Mrs. Sharon Kistler
david.kistler@comcast.net

The Elizabeth Ministry



Following the example of Mary and Elizabeth, this parish ministry reaches out to women and their families during times of joy and sorrow in child bearing years. pregnancy, celebration of birth, grandparent support, miscarriage, infant/child crisis, infant/child death, infertility and adoption.

Our Mission

-  To support, encourage, affirm and comfort women during the joys and sorrows of their child bearing years.
-  To promote communication between the home and parish church, thus deepening an appreciation for both.
-  To assist women in recognizing and using their gifts and talents in a service of inclusiveness and sisterhood.
-  To offer support and healing at moments of complications, crisis, miscarriage, and infant or child death.
-  To demonstrate compassion and support for couples experiencing infertility and to treasure the gift of fertility.
-  To symbolize the special presence of God through prayer and ritual blessing.
-  To share the excitement and joy, as well as, the frustration and pain of the adoptive process.
-  To join with parents in celebrating the wonders of pregnancy and birth and the mystery of new life.

Ministry Outreach:

Baptism Hospitality

One of our members attends each Parish Baptism and provides Holy Cards, Medals and Baptismal Certificates to welcome our newest members to the Parish Community. We will host an annual Baptismal Hospitality Social, after Mass, open to all the families that had children Baptized, within the past year, to promote fellowship and parish community.



Remembrance Mass

In consultation with our Parish Pastor, the Remembrance Mass is coordinated on behalf of those who have lost a child of any age. This Mass is scheduled in the late spring of each year, usually around Mother's Day. Following the Remembrance Mass, all attendees are welcome to attend a luncheon in the spirit of fellowship and friendship.

Rosebud Program

The Rosebud Program helps St. Francis identify, pray for, and support those who are pregnant, celebrating birth, or adoption, grieving miscarriage, stillbirth, abortion, infant or child death or wanting

to become pregnant or adopt.

The Elizabeth Ministry provides a table, in the front of the church, where parishioners can select a colored rose, from a basket.

Prayer cards for the various situations are displayed next to the vase.

- Pink Rosebud – honors pregnancy and unborn babies
- Red Rosebud – honors births and adoptions
- White Rosebud – grieves with families suffering a miscarriage, abortion, stillbirth, infant or child death
- Yellow Rosebud – remembers those waiting to conceive or adopt

Participants are encouraged to take a prayer card, which are provided for personal meditation. The Elizabeth ministry and members of the St. Francis parish will pray for the families represented by each rosebud.

Mother's Home Dinner

We provide an annual Christmas Dinner and gifts for the babies and mothers in residence at the Mother's Home at the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, in Darby, PA. We plan this evening in conjunction with other Elizabeth ministries in neighboring parishes to encourage discipleship and strengthen the greater community.

