

Dear Parishioners,

*We, at St. Joseph's, have been blessed with many gifts. Our greatest treasure comes through the Sacramental life of the church and the lives of our people.*

*Once again, we have the privilege to be called to express our gratitude to God for all He has given us by loving one another, especially those in need and weakest among us, in particular our homebound.*

*I am certain, that many of us don't think of Our Lord as "homebound"; however, within the Tabernacles of our churches and our hearts, he too waits patiently, day after day, for us to visit with Him. Many of the homebound are a very special reflection of Christ in today's world.*

*Nourished through the sacramental life of the church and the word of God to His church, it is my hope, that through this work those who are frail and/or are homebound will know the very special place they have within the heart of the church and realize the very powerful gifts and graces God has given them and their families at this time in their life.*

*It is my prayer, that through this work, all of you will grow close to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus for the strength, courage and joy of heart needed to persevere in this special work,*

*May Our Lord bless each of you with His most choice blessings and grant you the grace to see Him and serve Him, in a very special way, through love for one another.*

*Fr. Jim Angert, T.O.R.*

## VOLUNTEER PROTECTION

*(Summary of Public Law No 105-119)*

Our volunteer work will remain within the guidelines of the Volunteer Protection Act of 1997- It States that this Act preempts inconsistent State law except when such law provides additional protection from liability relating to volunteers in the performance of services for a nonprofit organization or governmental entity. Makes this Act inapplicable to any civil action in a State court against a volunteer in which all parties are citizens of the State if such State enacts a statute declaring its election that this Act not apply. Exempts a volunteer of a nonprofit organization or governmental entity from liability for harm caused by an act or omission of the volunteer on behalf of such organization or entity if: (1) the volunteer was acting within the scope of his or her responsibilities at the time; (2) the volunteer was properly licensed or otherwise authorized for the activities or practice in the State in which the harm occurred; (3) the harm was not caused by willful or criminal misconduct, gross negligence, reckless misconduct, or a conscious, flagrant indifference to the rights or safety of the individual harmed; (4) and the harm was not caused by the volunteer operating a motor vehicle, vessel, aircraft, or other vehicle for which the State requires the operator or owner to possess an operator's license or maintain insurance. Specifies conditions of State laws limiting volunteer liability, which shall not be construed as inconsistent with this Act.

Prohibits the award of punitive damages against a volunteer unless the claimant establishes by clear and convincing evidence that the harm was proximately caused by an action of such volunteer which constitute willful or criminal misconduct or a conscious, flagrant indifference to the rights or safety of the individual harmed. Provides that the volunteer liability limitations of this Act shall not apply to any misconduct:

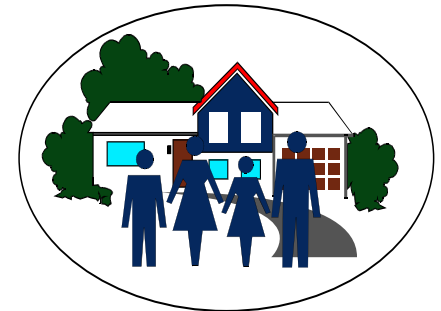
- (1) That constitutes a crime of violence, an act of international terrorism, or a hate crime;
- (2) That involves a sexual offense or a violation of civil rights law; or
- (3) where the defendant was under the influence of intoxicating alcohol or any drug.

Makes each volunteer liable for non-economic loss only in the amount allocated to such defendant in direct proportion to the percentage of responsibility for the harm for which that defendant is liable. Requires the trier of fact to determine such percentage of responsibility.

*(For a copy of the Entire Law*

*..ftp://ftp.loc.gov/pub/thomas/c105/s543.enr.txt)*

# St. Joseph's Homebound Outreach



*"That all May Be One"*

*St. Joseph's Church  
750 Peachtree Street  
Herndon, Virginia 20170  
(703) 880-4343*

***The St. Joseph's Homebound Outreach is an effort by our St. Joseph's Parishioners to express in some small way, our concern for those among us who are heavily burdened.***

## *Welcome!*

**The Purpose** of the Outreach is to assist, with every spiritual and temporal resource available, those within our parish who are:

- In need of short term help due to unexpected acute illness;
- Caring for family members in their homes who have long-term illness;
- Homebound.

### Volunteer Opportunities:

The "Outreach" is not meant to replace any of the professional services needed for an individual or what family, friends and ministries normally provide. We work in teams of two or more to meet the needs of each situation as a group effort.

### Advocate Team

This team is an advocate for the homebound when they run into difficulties with HMO's, medical insurance and sorting or interpretation of bills.

### Assessment Team

These volunteers visit with the homebound to assess the type of volunteer assistance and/or resources that are available within the "Outreach" which best meet their need.

### Community Resource Team

These volunteers gather information and brochures regarding services that can be obtained from the Diocese, the Community, and the County. These often provide a helpful resource for those that are homebound.

### Prayer Team

These volunteers receive prayer requests from the church and community. Requests are brought before the Blessed Sacrament, through the prayer chain, to rosary groups, prayer groups, adoration, and private prayer groups within the Outreach.

### Emergency Child Care

Periodically, there are medical emergencies where a parent is rushed to the hospital and there is an urgent need for a few hours of assistance with small children until a family member or friend can get there. This team volunteers consists of a list of women who are willing to be called to assist in childcare for situations such as this.

### Eucharistic Minister Team

This team brings the Holy Eucharist into the homes/hospitals of Outreach homebound who are unable to get to church during the week.

### Home Visit Team

These volunteers visit homebound parishioners in pairs to share fellowship, prayer and/or a sense of community with them. These are "Outreach" visits where **no respite** is provided.

### Internet Search Team

Individuals on this team are assigned specific topics and search the Internet for pertinent and useful information that may be used to help resolve issues.

### Meal Team

These volunteers provide dinners for families when there is a special need. Preparation and delivery is on a limited basis and depends upon the need.

### Phone Visit Team

These volunteers visit our homebound by phone and relay specific needs or requests homebound may have to the other teams.

### Respite Visit Team

These volunteers provide non-skilled care respite visits. Family members may leave the homebound in their care for a 4-5 hour period depending upon volunteer availability and clearance for non-skilled respite.

### Spiritual Resource Team

This team brings Spiritual Resources to the home of the homebound. They are responsible for the loaning of visiting statues, rosaries, spiritual tapes, etc., which are taken into the home.

### Sunrise Rosary Team

This group prays the Rosary with the Catholic residents for one hour on Saturday mornings. The residents not only enjoy praying the rosary together, but also the time spent with the volunteers.

### Transportation Team

These volunteers provide transportation for local doctor visits, prescription or grocery pickup, and/or weekend Mass if the volunteer resource is available at that time. A valid driver's license, inspection, registration, car insurance, appropriate seat belts and car seats are required.

## St. Joseph's Outreach

If you are interested in becoming a "St. Joseph's Outreach Volunteer", please fill out the information below, and return your response to the Church Rectory. **For additional information or if you need the assistance of the Outreach, please contact St. Joseph's Homebound Outreach at (703) 880-4343.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (H): \_\_\_\_\_

(W): \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*"Come and be part of this special work!"*