

Funeral Luncheon Ministry Reboot!

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted... (Matthew 5:4)

Before covid, St. Irenaeus was able to host beautiful funeral luncheons for our parish family members during their time of bereavement. *We offer our heart-felt thanks to Jewel Messina who beautifully coordinated this ministry for years, but has relocated a little too far away to continue her involvement.*

We hope to put our funeral luncheon ministry back in place once again this fall! In order to make that happen, we will need to rebuild our team of volunteers. There are a variety of ways you can help—whether you only have a little time in the evening, like to work quietly behind the scenes, love to openly shower hospitality on others, or have a gift of leadership you want to share. Whether you have been a part of this ministry in the past, or want to try something new... please prayerfully consider how the Lord might be calling you to get involved in this meaningful ministry!

There's a place for everyone! Where do you fit?

In the background...

We need help setting tables (this can often be done the evening before a funeral, or early the morning of). We need grocery shoppers (we will call you with a specific list of items and quantities—mainly consisting of fresh fruit, and veggies, dressings, and rolls). We need someone to pick up our order of baked chicken (usually from Busch's or Kroger). We might be looking for a phone caller or two who will call volunteers who prefer not to check email for a Sign up Genius link.

In the kitchen...

We need help preparing side dishes (ingredients, simple recipes, and Team Leaders will join you in the kitchen). We need help making coffee and lemonade, plating desserts, and replenishing food when chafing dishes run low.

Clean-up...

We need help with dishes in the kitchen, packing up leftovers, and clearing tables (put away salt and pepper, etc.). We need ironing angels to wash and iron our table linens (in the comfort of your own home) in the days after a luncheon.

Up front...

We need friendly faces to greet guests as they enter the hall, pour coffee and lemonade, serve from the buffet line, and keep an eye on those who may need help getting a refill or clearing their plate.

Leadership...

We need Team Leaders to guide volunteers onsite, assigning tasks, making sure everything runs smoothly.

Weekdays, Saturdays, evenings... What works in your schedule?

We will be looking for helpers for **weekday** and **Saturday** funerals. Some set-up and shopping can be done in the **evenings**, and of course table linen washing and ironing can be done any day/time in the comfort of your own home! Saturday funeral luncheons, and larger week-day funerals will be catered, but we will still provide on-site support with set-up, clean-up, beverages, and serving.

Our hope is to recruit a couple of strong 'Team Leaders,' and use Sign up Genius as much as possible when funeral luncheons arise. We'll send out a link to a sign up genius for each funeral luncheon, and if it works in your schedule, you can sign up... if not—no pressure! If you would prefer to be contacted by phone, we will call you!

The more people we can get involved in this ministry, the easier it will run without burning out just a handful of regular volunteers. Thank you for your support!

Interested? Questions?

Contact Cindy! 248-656-8720, cmonaghan@stirenaeus.org