



STEWARDSHIP OF TALENT 2025-2026



**Our Lady of
Guadalupe Parish**

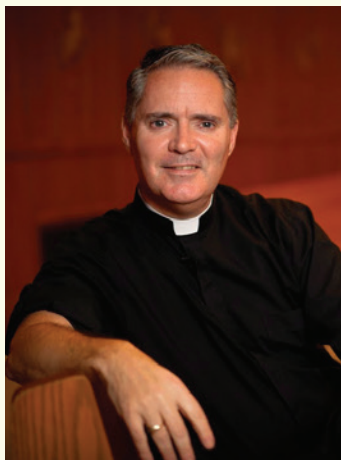
Dear Parishioners,

It is with great excitement that we publish this first Stewardship of Talent booklet. Jesus said, "The Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve." (Matthew 20:28)

This booklet is all about serving others and outlines the many ways you can share your God-given talents and passions to help build the Kingdom of God. One of our core convictions at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish is that every single parishioner has gifts and talents and is called to serve God with them. No one is excluded because no one should be excluded from experiencing the joy of serving others. You will find in this booklet many ways in which you can serve, categorized according to the pastoral priorities identified by Archbishop Dunn for our whole diocese. We want parishioners to begin with the gifts they have rather than the needs that the parish has. We ask all parishioners to make this their starting point when reading through the contents of this booklet.

Everything that we do on Sundays, and much of what we do through the week, exists to ultimately go out and proclaim the Good News by word and example. Serving others is a key component of this example as we serve Christ himself when we serve others. Our parish has a huge potential to make a tremendous impact in our community if everyone serves according to their gifts. If this happened, our parish would be well on its way to becoming The Heart of Dartmouth.

I pray that this booklet may capture your imagination, inspire you, and compel you as we seek to serve as He did.



Regards,

FATHER JAMES MALLON

Pastor, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish





Ministries of Liturgy

Liturgy Committee

Do you have a passion for liturgy? Would you like to assist in the preparations for Sunday Masses, Christmas, Easter and other celebrations, as well as manage the long-term planning of liturgies for the parish? These are detailed tasks performed by an experienced team that coordinates and works with other groups to provide high-quality liturgies at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish. If you love liturgy, if you love detail, if you love planning and managing a schedule, then this could be a home for you! It is recommended that you have lay liturgical ministry experience (Lector, Altar Server, etc.). Usually, the Liturgy Committee holds a one-hour meeting, one evening per month.

CONTACT: Brian MacInnis, macinnisbcj@gmail.com

Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Eucharistic

An Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Eucharistic is a parishioner who supports the Ordained Ministers by serving, distributing and administering the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ during Mass. Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharistic are committed to living in faith and conduct and growing in holiness and love. Special instruction and training are necessary to serve in this ministry. Team members can expect to serve at least once per month.

CONTACT: Brian MacInnis, macinnisbcj@gmail.com

TESTIMONY

My wife and I began serving in our church when we were preparing for our church wedding. During our marriage preparation, Deacon David mentioned to us to “always upgrade our relationship with God.” Those words really touched us and made us realize that growing closer to God should always be part of our relationship. That’s when we both decided to serve.



Louren – Altar Server

Standing at the altar, I feel closer to God and grateful to be part of something sacred. Serving has been a blessing for both my spiritual life and our relationship, keeping God at the center of all we do.

Rizza – Eucharistic Minister

Each time I distribute the Body and Blood of Christ, I am reminded of the deep love and humility of Jesus, who gave Himself for us. Serving in this ministry has deepened my faith and helped me see Christ not just in the Eucharist, but in the people around me. It’s a privilege and a blessing that strengthens my relationship with God.

These experiences has strengthened our faith, our marriage, and our sense of belonging in the OLG community.

LOUREN & RIZZA MADERAS



Mass Coordinator

Are you organized and like to work behind the scenes to make things happen? Mass Coordinators are responsible to: ensure all Lay Liturgical Ministries are covered, prepare the altar and credence table, and ensure that all is in place for Mass (light candles, manage the presentation of the gifts, and oversee the taking up of the collection). During Mass they may also have to assist hospitality with helping people locate a seat or manage other requests as they arise. Orientation and training are provided. There are usually two Mass Coordinators serving at each of the three weekend Masses. Coordinators should expect to serve at least every other week.

CONTACT: Jacques Cyr, jaccyr@gmail.com

TESTIMONY

A few years back, Deacon Jack MacNeil tapped me on the shoulder and let me know that the parish needed Eucharistic Ministers. He wondered if I would be interested in the ministry. At first, I thought "Me"? That's a job for someone holier than me...but if he was asking, he saw something in me that I didn't see. I accepted.

That invitation opened the door to many other opportunities. I realized that serving in ministry was not only a gift to me, but something that I could share with others. With that in mind, I attempt to do what I can to make others feel welcome, valued, cherished, and needed. I try not to twist anybody's arm, but I have tapped a fair number of people on the shoulder! I hope they feel the Holy Spirit among us and are encouraged to share their own gifts in ministry.



JACQUES CYR

Altar Servers

Altar servers play a key role in the celebration of Mass. Traditionally, this was a ministry for younger members of the parish, but people of all ages and experience are needed to serve in this ministry. As an Altar Server, there is a great opportunity to learn about the rituals of our liturgies and about the responsibilities of being a lay liturgical minister. At Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, we also have a need for adult Altar Servers who can be involved with our weekday liturgies as well as weddings and funerals. Training and orientation are provided. Regular altar servers attend on a rotational basis, typically once every 2-3 weeks.

CONTACT: Joe Beaton, beatonmj@yahoo.com

Lector

Do you have a love for Sacred Scripture? Would you enjoy seeing others come to Christ through the proclamation of the Word? Do you have a strong, clear voice, and good reading skills? If you feel called to proclaim God's Word perhaps this is the ministry where God can use your gifts. Training is provided. Most Lectors read once in a 4-6 week schedule.

CONTACT: Margaret Langley, olglector@gmail.com



TESTIMONY

I love being an altar server because it allows me to be more involved in the Mass and Church. I wanted to learn and understand about what Altar Servers do, and I also wanted to do something to help people. I enjoy it very much!

ARIA LESLIE



TESTIMONIES

My interest in altar service began by observing others participating during Mass. Sitting with my mom each Sunday, I often found myself feeling bored and restless, and altar service seemed like a meaningful way to be more engaged. Without initially

telling my mom, I asked around to find out how I could get involved. It was a big surprise to her when she learned I had joined!

I enjoy being active during Mass—especially helping with tasks like carrying candles and assisting on the altar. My favorite part is carrying a candle. I also appreciate the unique view from the altar, where I can see the entire church.

Overall, I'm really enjoying my time as an altar server. It's been a rewarding experience that has helped me feel more connected to the church community.

SYDNEY SAWYER-PATTERSON

I have always cherished being part of the church community in any way I could. One of my earliest inspirations came from a lector at my former parish whose voice reminded me of a radio host—rich, smooth, and deeply resonant. Whenever he read, I felt the words come alive and flow through me. His presence and delivery left a lasting impression, and I aspired to one day read with the same grace and impact.

That experience led me to become a lector myself. Being part of the Liturgical Ministry has been incredibly rewarding. It has deepened my understanding of the scriptures and helped me grow in my faith. Each time I read at Mass, I feel honored to share the Word of God and strive to convey it in a way that others can connect with and appreciate.

It is both a privilege and a joy to serve in this role, and I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the spiritual life of our community.

TIA SAWYER

A/V Production Team

At OLG, how we deliver the experience of Mass may seem different than at other parishes. We have a ministry team that operates our A/V (Audio, Visual) booth. At our 4pm Saturday and 9am Sunday liturgies they manage the sound board and slides which allows people to enter into the Mass more fully. Our 11am Sunday Mass is live-streamed and this team manages the broadcast over our OLG YouTube channel. They also connect, over the chat, with viewers (from all over the world!!). If you have the gift for understanding today's communication technology and can manage well in a (sometimes) busy environment, consider becoming involved with this unique ministry. Training is provided, and it won't take long to learn the A/V ropes!

CONTACT: Ian Young, ian@olgdartmouth.ca

Hospitality Ministry

This Ministry serves by welcoming parishioners, friends, and guests to our church, particularly at Mass. We want each person who comes to receive a warm welcome as they arrive. The hospitality team is there to help answer any questions, assist them to find a seat, and make them feel at home. This ministry is generally the first contact (and impression) that a guest to our parish will encounter. If you consider yourself "a people person", and love connecting with new people, this is definitely a ministry you should consider. Training and orientation are provided.

CONTACT: Anne Marie Sime

annemariesime@ourladyofguadalupe.ca

Liturgy Environment Committee

Do you have a flair for decorating? Do you have a desire to enhance the physical environment in which our liturgies are held? This team is responsible for setting up the worship space (Altar and Sanctuary primarily) as we transition through each month, and celebrate liturgical seasons. The commitment level varies from month to month, but your valuable service is always welcome - regardless of the time of year. So, if making the church look amazing is where you can shine, please let us know!

CONTACT: Carol MacQueen, carol_macqueen@yahoo.ca

Prayer Ministry

There are 2 opportunities to be involved with prayer ministry at Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The first one is a group of people who pray and intercede on behalf of the renewal of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish and the fulfilment of its mission. We invite participants to commit to offer one hour of prayer per week. It can be whatever form of prayer you feel comfortable with such as rosary, adoration before the Tabernacle, scripture, worship music etc. It can be 10 or 15 minutes a day or all at once depending on the individual. This group is a quiet ministry, but an effective one. If you feel called to pray for the parish renewal, perhaps this is a ministry that is perfect for you.

CONTACT: Carmen Arsenault, carmendarsenault@gmail.com

The second way to be involved in prayer ministry is to pray with people after Mass. At the end of Mass, we'll have teams of two prayer members who will make themselves available for anyone who needs additional prayer, either for themselves, or for someone else. If you have the gift of prayer and love praying with and for other people, consider this ministry. Training will be provided to new team members.

CONTACT: Patty Viscount, pattyjweld@gmail.com



TESTIMONY

I serve in the 11am music ministry because I connect strongly to the Holy Spirit through song. Often, the lyrics and melodies help me to better understand the messages conveyed in the readings. As well, this ministry keeps me connected to my faith, not only while attending mass, but when I listen to the songs we sing, either on my playlists or on the radio. Finally, I serve because I love music, the community of faith, as well as the friendships I have developed over the past four years with the other members of our group.



Many blessings,
MALLORY SHEMSHADI

TESTIMONY



I love being part of the Music Ministry at OLG because I believe God calls me to be an instrument of His Love by reaching others through music. It has always been a way for me to connect more deeply with God. Since I was 10 years old music has been a source of joy in my life, helping me to grow more deeply in my faith. For me, singing is more than music - it's prayer, a way to praise

God! As we sing the presence of the Holy Spirit moves among us. I am grateful to serve God through this beautiful ministry.

DARYL

Music Ministry

It is said that those who sing, pray twice! The ability to sing or play an instrument is a gift. If you are blessed with this gift, consider joining one of our 4 music groups at OLG. Each offers something a little different. The ability to play an instrument or sing well is an asset. Each group practices on a weekly basis as they prepare for the weekend liturgies. Auditions are available for anyone interested in joining this life-giving ministry.

Saturday - 4pm

Music leadership at this mass is provided by a choir, pianist, guitar and on occasion other instruments. Music is often selected from the CBWIII as well as music from the Catholic Approved Music Resource List.

CONTACT: Therese MacDonald, the.macdonalds@ns.sympatico.ca

Saturday - 4pm (Spanish Mass)

The last Saturday of each month we celebrate the liturgy in the Spanish language, including music! This is a unique opportunity for Spanish speaking parishioners (and guests) to come and celebrate the Mass in their first language.

CONTACT: Isabelle Mara, maraisabele@hotmail.com

Sunday - 9am Mass

This is our most 'traditional' liturgy. The music is led by a piano/organ and a 4 part (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) choir.

CONTACT: Paulette Scheme, paulettescheme@bellaliant.net

Sunday - 11am Mass

This is our contemporary Mass. Music leads us in worship with a band, featuring piano, guitars, bass, and flute. If contemporary worship music is your thing and you have some talent you're willing to share, please let us know.

CONTACT: Ruth Seigel, ruth.a.seigel@gmail.com



Funeral Team

People with a compassionate and gentle approach, good listening skills, and patience may be suited for this ministry. If you think that this describes you, consider becoming part of this important ministry. The team assists grieving families as they make funeral arrangements for a loved one. They help guide families through the process of choosing readings, readers, and music for the liturgy. Team members also may connect with the funeral home, manage reception arrangements, or handle other issues as they arise. Having a good understanding of the funeral liturgy is an asset. Training is provided.

CONTACT: Corinne Dixon, corinne@ourladyofguadalupe.ca

After Mass Coffee Social

Do you feel like you are in a grind? The coffee social is a ministry which provides parishioners an opportunity to meet and share a coffee or tea after both the 9am and 11am Sunday Masses. The team makes the coffee and prepares the treats for the guests that attend. If you know how to make a good cup of coffee and want to help build parish community, perhaps this is your new ministry! The commitment is typically once a month for either of the coffee socials.

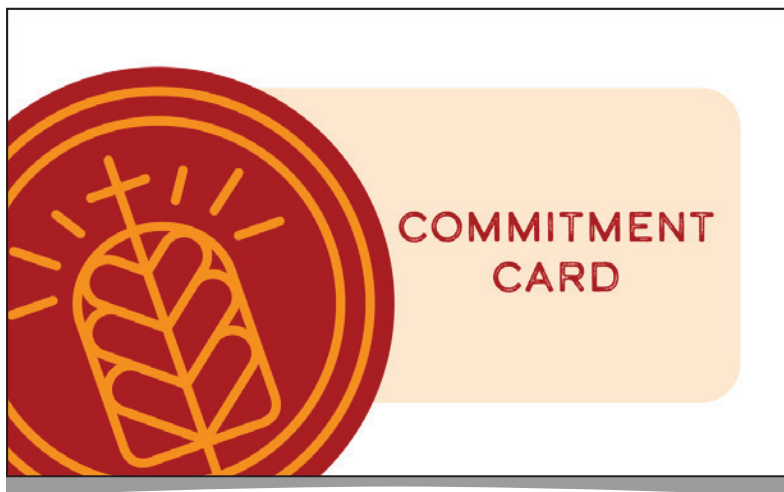
CONTACT: Theresa Manderson (9am), theresa@olgdartmouth.ca
Jessica Leslie (11am), jessica.leslie@hotmail.com





Commitment Sunday is November 15-16, 2025.

During mass, you will receive a commitment card to fill out, like the one below. Please prayerfully consider how you can share your time and talents with your parish community.



NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

MINISTRIES I WOULD LIKE TO EXPLORE:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



Ministries at OLG



Ministries of Liturgy

- Liturgy Committee
- Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Eucharistic
- Mass Coordinator
- Altar Servers
- Lector
- A/V Production Team
- Hospitality Ministry
- Liturgy Environment Committee
- Prayer Ministry
- Music Ministry
- Funeral Team
- After Mass Coffee Social
- Eucharistic Adoration
- Spanish Ministry

Ministries of Catechesis

- Monday Night More
- Baptismal Preparation
- Children's Catechetics
- Children's Liturgy of the Word
- OCIA/Youth Confirmation
- Pray & Play
- Grace Ministries for Women
- Jesus & Men (JAM)

Ministries of Social Justice

- Mental Health/Grief Support
- Our Lady's Pantry
- Crisis Shelter Support
- Knights of Columbus
- Feeding Others of Dartmouth
- Dartmouth North Christian Food Bank
- Souls Harbour
- Eucharist to the Sick

Ministries of Administration & Parish Life

- Building & Grounds
- Building Renewal Committee
- Finance Council
- Money Counters
- Parish Office Support
- Pastoral Council

Ministries of Evangelization

- Alpha
- Vacation Bible School
- OLG Youth Group
- Small Groups





Eucharistic Adoration

Jesus replied, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her". (Luke 10:38-42). Time spent with Jesus during Eucharistic Adoration is the "better part", where we experience an interior peace, a better awareness of God's love for us, less anxiety and stress. Consider becoming involved with this valuable ministry. The team organizes and manages Eucharistic Adoration every Friday at our St. Peter's location, immediately following 9am Mass. Come and spend an hour with Jesus on Friday mornings, or maybe an evening. You can also serve in this ministry by offering your Adoration prayer time towards the service and intentions of the parish.

CONTACT: Clare Yurchesyn, clare.yurchesyn@bellaliant.net

Spanish Ministry

Our Parish has discerned that, under the patronage of Our Lady of Guadalupe, we, above all parishes, have the call to reach out to Hispanic Catholics in our community, many of whom are not only displaced but are not connected to a church. The Spanish Ministry works to connect the Hispanic community with the loving community at OLG. We host a monthly Mass in Spanish, Spanish small groups in Alpha, and have a variety of faith formation opportunities. Whether you are Spanish speaking or not, we would love to have you join us in this worthwhile ministry.

CONTACT: Elizabeth Villanueva, villanueva_elizabeth@hotmail.com



Ministries of Catechesis:

Monday Night More

Is helping other people grow in their faith a passion of yours? Is growing in your own faith something you love to do? Team members of MNM journey with participants as they explore and discuss the Bible, Catholicism and the Church through engaging videos followed by small group discussion. If learning and growing in intimacy with the Lord while assisting others do the same, is of interest to you, give this ministry some prayerful consideration. Monday Night More meets every Monday. We have online and in-person groups.

CONTACT: Liz Galsworthy, adulterdu@ourladyofguadalupe.ca

Baptismal Preparation

Baptism is the entry into the Christian Life. For some new parishioners this is their introduction to the parish, and maybe even a reintroduction into their faith! Team members ought to be sincere and welcoming to new people. Team members conduct "meet and greet" phone calls with parents to help ascertain their needs, and may assist in preparing parents and the soon-to-be-baptized for the sacrament. This is achieved through an in person class held every two months. The involvement of team members varies but typically it is a few hours per month.

CONTACT: Theresa Manderson, theresa@olgdartmouth.ca

Children's Catechetics

Team members assist parents and children prepare for 1st communion and 1st reconciliation. Become involved with welcoming families, building community, and supporting parents as primary catechists in the formation of the sacraments of initiation in the Catholic Church. Similar to baptismal preparation, it's important that team members are friendly, open and enjoy meeting new people, while having a good formation themselves on the sacraments of our church.

CONTACT: Theresa Manderson, theresa@olgdartmouth.ca

Children's Liturgy of the Word

As a parish we want to make the message of the Gospel understandable and relevant to young children who may not yet grasp the context of the Mass. At the 9am and 11am Sunday morning liturgies we seek to welcome children as members in the church and enhance their participation in the Mass through age appropriate teaching and hands on learning. Members of this team should enjoy being with children, helping them learn how to love and follow Jesus. Opportunities could range from assisting with crafts, reading the Gospel stories, or even helping with teaching!

CONTACT: (9am) Mallory Brisson, malloyebriison@hotmail.com
(11am) Jessie Rabideau, jessielrabideau@gmail.com





OCIA/Youth Confirmation

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is a ministry that helps people prepare to be fully received into the Catholic Church. The process provides candidates with the opportunity to learn Church teaching and prepare them for the sacrament. Typically classes run from late fall to Easter. We also have a ministry team which assists young people to receive the sacrament of confirmation.

If spreading the love of Jesus through sacramental preparation is a ministry you can get behind, please consider either of these amazing opportunities to serve.

CONTACT: (OCIA) Fr. Gregory Nduka, fr.gregory@olgdartmouth.ca
(Youth Confirmation) Jims Thomas Alackel, jims@olgdartmouth.ca

Pray & Play

Pray and Play exists to nurture faith, friendship, and community among mothers. Each week moms and tots experience a welcoming space to gather and grow in faith with playtime, a Bible story, prayer, and snacks. It is a chance for moms to connect and support one another in their vocation, while children enjoy play and early encounters with the beauty of the Catholic faith. Pray and Play happens every Wednesday from 9:30-11:00 and all are welcome. If you want to serve in a ministry that will bring you both joy and meaning by welcoming moms (usually with kids in tow) to a time of rest and reflection...this is it! Responsibilities include preparing the spaces for moms & children, managing snacks, and cleaning up after each gathering.

CONTACT: Theresa Manderson, theresa@olgdartmouth.ca



TESTIMONY

It's an honour and a blessing to be part of Grace Ministries for Women. God has given me a spiritual family where I grow, learn and serve with women who inspire, build and reflect His love. I am grateful for every moment, every word and every opportunity to share this calling. To Him All The Glory!

ANNA ALBA

Grace Ministries for Women

A few times a year the Women of Grace team comes together for a day (or two) of enriching and empowering prayer, discernment and spiritual growth. As sisters-in-Christ participants love one another, calling on the power of the Holy Spirit and under the mantle and care of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Have you always wanted to help other women grow in their own faith life? Are you good at event planning? Would you love working with a vibrant team of other faith-filled women? If so, this ministry should be on your list to explore.

CONTACT: Karen Williams, women@ourladyofguadalupe.ca



Jesus & Men (JAM)

Every Saturday morning at 8:45am men of the parish and neighbourhood gather together for a time of prayer, music, fellowship and coffee. It's a time set aside to grow as men in faith and community. We are looking for those early Saturday morning risers who want to get involved in a ministry that is life-giving and soul lifting. Team members open up the gathering space, plan events and activities, put on coffee, and welcome guests as they arrive. And that is just the beginning of your new ministry! Get involved today, you won't be disappointed!

CONTACT: Keith Williams, jam@ourladyofgaudalupe.ca





Ministries of Social Justice

Mental Health/Grief Support

Each and every one of us has experienced grief and loneliness at one time or another. Involvement in this ministry is a wonderful opportunity to help those who are currently experiencing difficult times due to stress, anxiety, grief or loss. If you are compassionate, have experience with loss, and are able to journey with others, consider this ministry.

CONTACT: Leslie Cameron, w0227935@gmail.com

Our Lady's Pantry

A reality in our city is that from time to time our neighbours reach out to us for food assistance. If you are able to become involved with this worthwhile, and much needed ministry in our city, let us know. The parish looks for regular donations of food each week as we serve the poor in Dartmouth.

CONTACT: Donna Myers Keating, dmyerskeating@gmail.com

Crisis Shelter Support

For some people in our community securing suitable housing is the first step toward healing and hope. Our parish provides crisis shelters that provide safe, single-occupancy housing for people experiencing homelessness. Volunteers support individuals as they transition toward permanent, or supportive housing, accompanying them as they move forward with confidence. Volunteers in this ministry provide peer support, encouragement, and interaction. Become involved by sharing your gifts, skills, or presence with our guests.

CONTACT: Clare Yurchesyn, clare.yurchesyn@bellaliant.net

Knights of Columbus

Calling all men in the parish 18 and older! Since 1948, KofC Council 3133 serves the parish and community, including supporting the aged, youth, and needy. The Knights meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7pm, online and in person at our Council Chambers (in the Parish Centre). We help each other grow spiritually through giving to others. Founded by Blessed Fr. Michael J McGivney and dedicated to the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism, living out a life of faith and service is a big part of who we are. Consider joining this worthwhile group who serve in our parish and city.

CONTACT: Shayne Jewers, Grand Knight, gk3133nskofc@gmail.com

Feeding Others of Dartmouth

Matthew 31:35 says, "For I was hungry, and you gave me food." Several times a month parishioners gather in the parish centre kitchen and prepare meals for Margaret's House. Currently we have two FOOD groups and together we feed over 300 vulnerable people each month. There are various ways to serve in this ministry, and if you'd like more information on how to become involved, please let us know.

CONTACT: Margaret Langley, mlangley81@gmail.com



Dartmouth North Christian Food Bank

Come be the hands and feet of Christ in action! Help provide critical food support at the Dartmouth North Christian Food Bank at Saint Anthony Hall. People involved in this ministry help distribute food, offer a warm smile, and share God's love with those in need.

CONTACT: Trish Moriarty, pmmoriarty57@gmail.com

Souls Harbour

Souls Harbour drop-in serves hundreds of nutritious meals every day to provide comfort and hope to our neighbours. The Drop-In at our Saint Anthony Site is a safe, warm place to rest, eat a nourishing meal prepared and served with love, and receive emotional and spiritual support. If you want to give back to your community, this is a ministry that encourages and uplifts the homeless in our city.

CONTACT: hello@shrm.ca

Eucharist to the Sick

At times some of our parishioners experience sickness or isolation. These are opportunities for the parish to show our care and compassion for our faith family. This ministry is faith in action as we send out Eucharistic Ministers to visit homebound sisters and brothers. If you have a heart for the sick and elderly, consider this valued ministry. Visits are usually weekly, immediately following the weekend Masses. Training is provided, experience as a Eucharistic Minister an asset.

CONTACT: Leslie Cameron, w0227935@gmail.com

Ministries of Administration & Parish Life

Building & Grounds

Help maintain the beauty and safety of our amazing places of worship! Adults will be assigned responsibilities to match talents such as carpentry, painting, electrical, plumbing, mechanical/civil engineering, or gardening.

CONTACT: Denise Trim, denise@olgdartmouth.ca

Building Renewal Committee

The Building Renewal Committee has as its objective the renewal of parish buildings and properties to serve the mission of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Experience in real property projects, leading, managing or designing is an asset for adult participation in the committee.

CONTACT: Denise Trim, denise@olgdartmouth.ca

Finance Council

Adults with a background in finance/business are invited to join this team to help steer the financial direction of our parish. The team meets 6 times a year, typically for 90 minutes. Responsibilities include advising on preparation of the annual budget, reviewing internal financial statements, approving major expenditures, and safeguarding parish resources.

CONTACT: Hilda LaPierre, hcl@eastlink.ca

Money Counters

Looking for a wonderful way to reflect on and celebrate the generosity of our parishioners? Each week team members gather to count the weekend Mass collection. A finance or banking background is an asset, but not essential. Teams are scheduled on a rotating basis.

CONTACT: Joanne Nelson, joannenelson.jn@gmail.com

Parish Office Support

This ministry offers you flexibility in your commitment to the parish. If you consider yourself an organized person who can manage tasks simply and effectively, in a work-like setting, this ministry may be a great fit! The parish office needs help with filing, data entry, answering and returning phone calls, photocopying, and greeting visitors to the office.

CONTACT: Ian Young, ian@olgdartmouth.ca

Pastoral Council

This group is a collaborative consultative body which assists the Pastor and the parish leadership team in carrying out the parish's mission and vision. Their main focus is to determine the priorities and strategic direction of parish plans and projects that support the pastoral life and work of the parish. They meet at least 4 times a year. If you are interested in the present and future growth of our parish this may be the ministry for you.

CONTACT: Bob MacKay, mackaybob42@gmail.com



TESTIMONY

I began serving in ministry at the age of 10 as an altar server. In the 30 years since, I have served in various ministries including as a Eucharistic Minister and as a member of the Pastoral Council.

When serving as a Eucharistic Minister I see the many different people who make up our parish, all united in a desire to receive Jesus in the Eucharist.

Each time I serve my faith is reaffirmed by witnessing:

- how many hearts are touched by God's unconditional love,
- how meaningful Jesus is to so many, and
- how so many people are brought into communion with God and each other by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Every Sunday I serve in this ministry is a gift!

TARA NIEKAMP



Ministries of Evangelization



Alpha

Alpha is our primary evangelization tool here at Our Lady of Guadalupe. Getting involved in this ministry provides opportunities for parishioners to serve in many different ways, from facilities set up, preparing meals, making coffee, being a leader or host during the Alpha sessions; the list is long...! If you like meeting new people, or playing host is a love of yours, consider getting involved with Alpha. We typically plan

a morning and evening Alpha in the Fall and Winter seasons. Sessions run for 10 weeks in duration.

CONTACT: Jims Thomas Alackel, jims@olgdartmouth.ca

Vacation Bible School

Every summer we offer Vacation Bible School (VBS) to help children grow in faith and fellowship with Jesus and their peers, in a fun environment. VBS runs for one week, usually in July, but the preparations begin in the early Spring months. There are tons of roles to make up the team - group leaders, program development, crafts, administration, teachers, junior-helpers, and of course, the all important Snack Team! If you enjoy being with children and want to help them develop a relationship with Jesus, this is the ministry for you!

CONTACT: Theresa Manderson, theresa@olgdartmouth.ca

OLG Youth Group

Do you have the unique ability of working with youth? The OLG Youth Group gathers once per week, on a weeknight. They come together for the 3 f's: food, fellowship, and fun. They discuss various topics and are challenged to love God and embrace the life of the Church. If you feel called to help the youth of our parish and community grow in their own faith, consider becoming part of the OLG Youth Group team.

CONTACT: Jims Thomas Alackel, jims@olgdartmouth.ca

Small Groups

We're building a parish where everyone belongs. Small groups are where faith grows, friendships form, and people find home. If you have the gift of hospitality or enjoy guiding conversations, we'd love you on our team! Help us make our parish a place of connection and belonging.

CONTACT: Jims Thomas Alackel, jims@olgdartmouth.ca



ourladyofguadalupe.ca



**Our Lady of
Guadalupe Parish**