

Feb, 2013

We know, mostly anecdotally, that there is a great deal of social ministry going on in the parishes of our diocese. A great deal of that activity is concerned with the direct delivery of social services such as collecting food and clothing, volunteering at soup kitchens, mentoring at-risk youth. Increasingly there is activity aimed at creating a more just society advocating for legislation and funding in support of our principles of Catholic Social Teaching on such matters as living wage, affordable housing, right to life, death penalty, immigration, and more.

Some parishes have a designated person and or a committee that coordinates social ministry efforts. The extent and mix of social ministry efforts is quite varied. I believe there would be a benefit to knowing the extent of such activities across the Diocese. It is my desire to gather such information and in so doing create a snap-shot of this vital work in our Diocese and to then share that information in a summary report with you. It will also establish a baseline of information for future updating.

Gathering this information will also help us to identify needs and interests within our parishes that could lead to the offering of resources, and perhaps training where desired to improve your capacity.

It would be wonderful if you would take five to ten minutes to fill out the questionnaire on the reverse side of this message and return it to us over the next two weeks in the enclosed envelope.

If you have any questions please contact either of us jduffy@patersondiocese.org 973-777-8818 ext 278 or Phil Russo prusso@patersondiocese.org 973-777-8818 ext 270

Joe Duffy

Phil Russo

**SURVEY OF
SOCIAL MINISTRY (SOCIAL SERVICE AND OR SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTIVITIES)**

1. Is there a designated person, group or committee in your parish that oversees, directs or coordinates social ministry efforts? (Check one answer) _____yes _____no

2. If you answered yes, please provide the following contact information for the responsible person:

Name: _____

Title: (e.g. –chair of social concerns, social justice, etc) _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Phone : _____ Email: _____

3. Please circle from the list below the types of social ministry your parish does.

Direct Services

Advocacy

Empowerment

Parish Pantry

Food drives

Volunteer at Soup Kitchen

Clothes drives

Transport (e.g. to doctor)

Helping other local parishes

Twinning – in Diocese, US, or abroad

Shelter volunteer

Blood drives

Tutoring

Mentoring

Parish Nursing

Environment

Abortion

Euthanasia

Death Penalty

Immigration

Health Care

Poverty

Elder care

Mental illness

Persons with Disabilities

Drugs

Safe neighborhoods

Violence

ESL Classes

Cultural Affairs

Voter Registration

Job skills workshops

Support Groups

Workers' Rights

Parenting Training

Catholic Social Teaching

Legislative Advocacy Training

4. If you are involved in any social ministry work not listed in item #3 above please list them below e.g. mission or service trips domestically or internationally, disaster assistance etc.

5. If there are social ministries not listed in item #3 above which you might be interested in, please list them here.
