

What Is Helping Hands?

Helping Hands is a volunteer ministry of St. Peter Celestine Parish, established in the spring of 1996. It is Helping Hands' mission to assist the sick, elderly, disabled and those in need of spiritual, emotional or physical support.

Helping Hands provides services to both parishioners and non-parishioners alike. Our volunteers share their time and their talents and provide corporal works of mercy by assisting:

- single parent families
- traditional families
- widows and widowers
- persons caring for the chronically ill
- other primary caregivers
- young families that are struggling
- persons experiencing temporary difficulties
- the sick and the homebound

Helping Hands volunteers come from a variety of backgrounds and age groups. What we all have in common is a willingness to share the gifts of our hearts, minds and talents to assist those who are troubled and in need.

Helping Hands volunteers truly understand that "it is in giving that we receive."

What Services Does Helping Hands Offer?

Helping Hands has been described as providing the "personal touch" in today's high-tech world, offering everything from a "smile to a pot of soup." Our volunteers provide a wide range of much-needed services to those who require help. These include:

- providing respite for caregivers
- shopping for food and other essentials
- providing food to the poor and the hungry
- visiting and phoning the sick and homebound
- corresponding through notes and cards
- providing transportation to Mass, church activities, doctor's visits and general errands

Note: Helping Hands volunteers organize and maintain the parish's Food Pantry, which supplies food and other essentials, on a short-term basis, to members of our own and neighboring parishes. Helping Hands also supports the efforts of the Cherry Hill Food Bank and refers to them those with more long-term needs.

Who Can Become a Helping Hands Volunteer?

You can! It takes many helping hands to meet the needs of our large parish and the neighboring community. There is a role for anyone who would like to help.

Helping Hands members give as many or as few hours a month as their time permits. The group meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the church's Ministry Center. If you would like to give of yourself in a special way, please join the Helping Hands Ministry. For additional information, or to join us, contact Linda Barba at (856-486-7477) or Carla Donegan (856-216-0558).

If you or someone you know needs help then, "our hands are your hands."

###