

HOST Ministry Is...

1. Presence

This is an active neighborhood outreach presence in the community. Often people on the same street do not know their neighbors. With a HOST Visitor in each neighborhood, registered parishioners are only one person removed from the HOST or parish staff.

HOST Ministry announces the Lord through presence. It is a responsive type of presence. It reaches out to help whenever possible. It does not intrude. It does not organize.

2. Communication

The HOST has a sense of what the HOST/parish staffs needs to know with regard to the registered parishioners in their neighborhood. It may involve sickness, bereavement, etc. Often these significant events in family life provide opportunities for much needed and appreciated ministry. The HOST Visitor also brings parish information to the neighborhood in regards to the church or school activities. Often good communications entails confidentiality which is explained and stressed in HOST training.

3. Service

There will be opportunities for the HOST Visitor to minister directly to a neighborhood parishioner. For example, when a HOST finds a shut-in or a person convalescing from illness, they may function as a Special Minister of the Eucharist and bring Communion from the Mass on weekends. They can make a daily phone call to an elderly person who lives alone to check that everything is alright. They need not limit their home visits only to the planned annual visit. Various other circumstances may call for personal ministry whenever it is possible.

4. Growth

The HOST Visitor grows spiritually by means of HOST Ministry. The parish support system unites the HOST with other HOSTS as well as with the HOST/parish staffs. The HOST has a resource person available to them to assist and counsel them in their work and to receive their reports on situations that call for the response of the HOST/parish staffs.