



ALL SAINTS

A Stewardship Parish

Volume 17, Issue 3

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Our Parish Newsletter:

Spreading the news of Christ at work in our community.

Remaining Connected as a Faith Community during this Difficult Time

When Bishop Edward J. Burns first announced the suspension of public Masses in an effort to curb the spread of Coronavirus, priests and staff members began looking for creative ways to keep connected with their faith community.

All Saints Catholic Church has taken to social media to share its faith with parishioners. We livestream daily Masses, Rosary, reflections and readings (if no Mass was celebrated). The staff also records Sunday Masses to share both on

the website and social media. To help the community stay connected, an effort is made to include familiar faces (and voices) and parish images on postings, which include the daily staff reflections.

“The church is a second home for our parishioners and a lifeline for others. It is at the church where people gather, worship, celebrate, grieve, mourn, heal, recover and rise. It’s the place where we can come back to life.” said Fr. Alfonse, our Pastoral Administrator. “Without the church, we can easily imagine how difficult life, with

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ALL SAINTS

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As a School and Parish Community, Let Us Pray for **Healing and New Life**

By Shana Druffner, Principal, All Saints Catholic School

Dear ASCS Family,

"It is a time to choose what matters. It is a time to get our lives back on track." These were the words of Pope Francis in a special papal blessing. For those of you who were able to watch it live, it was amazing. If you were not able to watch it, the recorded version is available at www.vaticannews.va.

As I prayed with millions from around the world, it really hit me that we are all in this together. Regardless of who we are or where we live around the globe, we are collectively experiencing the effects of this worldwide pandemic. In the midst of our crisis, God is there. He is with us.

When I was speaking with families earlier this week, many parents echoed the words of the Holy Father. Being at home has enabled them to spend more time with their families, more time in prayer, more time counting their blessings, and more time reflecting on what matters most. In the pandemonium, there are blessings and there is hope.

At the end of each day, I take stock of my many blessings. The teachers continue to amaze me with their unwavering commitment to your children and their education. Parents continue to amaze me as they help their children navigate our new e-learning. Students continue to amaze me with their smiles, their hard work, and their positive attitude. These are just a few of the many blessings in my life.

As we move into week #5 of e-learning, please know that our community is as strong and vibrant as ever. While we cannot control the timing for resumption of classes on campus, we remain steadfast in our commitment to the successful completion of this Spring Semester. At this point, we are going to extend our campus closure to May 3.

On behalf of the faculty and staff of ASCS, thank you for all your support. Let us continue to pray for healing and new life as we approach the Easter Season. Let us ask God to continue to bless and protect our community.



"And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." — Matthew 28:20



A Letter from Our Pastoral Administrator

Easter: The Foundation of Christian Stewardship

Dear Saints,

How do you feel at the end of the Palm Sunday Mass each year? Have you ever noticed the abrupt shift of tone during the course of that liturgy? It begins with great joy as we celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem to the acclamation of the crowds. But, then, the mood swings to sorrow when the Passion Gospel is read, for we hear those same crowds shouting, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" a few days later.

Palm Sunday begins Holy Week, the most important week in the Christian year. The confusion of conflicting moods is spread through the week, especially during the Easter Triduum from sundown Holy Thursday to sundown Easter Sunday.

Holy Thursday offers us the glorious Mass of the Lord's Supper celebrating the institution of the Eucharist before we pass to the sadness of the betrayal and arrest of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. The next day brings us the Good Friday Liturgy of the Passion with our recognition of what our sins did to the Incarnate Son of God. Then, after a day of waiting as we mourn Jesus' burial and repose in the tomb, we celebrate His victory over sin, Satan and death at the Easter Vigil on Saturday night or at the Masses the next day. If we have participated in all the main services of the Triduum, we arrive at Sunday evening exhausted, but joyful.

This year Palm Sunday falls on the first Sunday in April, so we observe Holy Week and Easter Sunday early in the month. That means we will spend most of April in the Easter Season, a period filled with joy and thanksgiving. Our gladness comes not only because Christ rose from the dead, but also because we benefit from it. As the *Catechism of the*



Catholic Church puts it, "The Paschal mystery has two aspects: by his death, Christ liberates us from sin; by his Resurrection, he opens for us the way to a new life" (CCC, 654).

In other words, Christ's Resurrection is the source of our own future resurrection. St. Paul wrote about it to the Romans in the following words: "For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection" (Rom 6:5).

Eternal life in union with Christ — a hope for a new life beginning now and extending on into heaven — is the result of Jesus' Resurrection. What greater grounds for thanksgiving can there be than this Easter hope?

How do we show our joy and gratitude to God for this amazing gift? We join in worship and we praise God by word and song. We share the Good News of Jesus' victory over death with our family, friends and neighbors. And we offer back to the Lord a portion of the time, talent and treasure He has entrusted to us. Yes, the Easter message that we share in the benefits of Christ's Resurrection is the ultimate foundation for all Christian stewardship.

The Lord is risen, alleluia.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Alfonse Nazzaro
Pastoral Administrator



MEET NEW JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTER ANDREW DARLING

Grateful to Serve



We welcome new Director of Junior High Youth Ministry Andrew Darling.

Youth ministry has the potential to completely transform a young person's life. Newly appointed Director of Junior High Youth Ministry Andrew Darling knows this firsthand, thanks to his own experience growing up here at All Saints.

"It helped me get to know peers my own age who truly cared about the faith," Andrew says. "That community aspect was a really big deal for me, especially in high school. Then, too, just having the mentorship of guys like Paul Bianchi was something that I really needed. It really taught me how to make my faith-life intentional."

Andrew says that his involvement in All Saints Youth Ministry was pivotal in his discernment process. It's what first helped him become open to the possibility of a priestly vocation — so much so that upon his high school graduation, Andrew entered seminary formation, where he continued to study and grow from 2016-2019.

"Those years at the seminary were just incredible," Andrew says. "While God made it very clear that I wasn't called to the priesthood, He also made it clear that He wanted me to have those pastoral experiences. I was a chaplain at Cristo Rey for a year, I was a summer seminarian intern at Immaculate Conception, and then also while we were in Guatemala for Spanish immersion, we helped plan and lead a retreat for young people. All of these experiences showed me that I really had a heart for teaching and youth ministry."

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Andrew Darling looks forward to reconnecting with old friends and meeting new ones as he continues to intentionally seek the Lord's will in his life. For more information, or to get involved with the Junior High School Youth Ministry Program, please visit <https://www.allsaintsdallas.org/ministries/faith-formation/> or contact Andrew Darling directly at adarling@allsaintsdallas.org or 972-778-0330.



Grateful to Serve *continued from page 4*

Now things have come full circle for Andrew as he begins his new chapter here at All Saints, this time as the youth minister. Officially beginning March 2020, Andrew says he already feels completely at home in his new role — not only because it's his childhood parish, but also because he knows he is where he is meant to be.

"It's just an overwhelming feeling that this is where I'm supposed to be," Andrew says. "Plus, of course, it's such a gift to be able to give back to my childhood parish and serve on this side of things. It's really a pretty awesome opportunity."

Andrew looks forward to working with and getting to know our parish's junior high youth over the next year through both the ministry's weekly Wednesday afternoon Bible study sessions and monthly IMPACT gatherings. His hope is to continue growing the current programs while also tailoring them to meet the needs of the current youth.

"I'm excited to see what ways we can serve the particular teens we have and to try some new things," Andrew says. "I really want to get to know these particular teens and find out how to help them individually. Middle school is such a unique stage in life, filled with changes and self-discovery. It's really the perfect time to encounter Christ and begin that personal relationship."



"Andrew Darling was thrust into the limelight right away during our COVID-19 shelter in place Order. He was instrumental in creating the social media content including staff reflections and Holy Week reflections."

This Month's Safe Environment Tip

Use Discretion When Posting on Social Media

"Conduct yourselves wisely toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity." — Colossians 4:5

When participating on social media, be sure to use sound judgment and common sense. Don't forget that anything published on a personal website is no different from making such information available in any public forum. Use discretion when posting about sensitive topics and events. (*Social Media Policy*, Catholic Diocese of Dallas).

For more information on safe Social Media use, please refer to the Diocese of Dallas Social Media Policy — https://www.cathdal.org/Social_Media_Policy.pdf.



Keeping the Faith During a Crisis

Adversity is a part of life. We may face family strife or financial issues. We may experience a personal or family medical crisis. We may suffer the loss of a loved one.

The thought of not being able to attend Mass to receive the Precious Body and Blood of our Lord as a result of a crisis — such as the one we are experiencing today with the COVID-19 pandemic — is devastating.

Right now, it may seem challenging to remain a faithful steward. We may even question our faith and wonder how to find God during these turbulent times.

Where do we turn?

First and foremost, we must pray without ceasing. During a difficult time, you can always turn to the Church's treasury of prayer. Take time each day to read the daily Scripture readings — they can be found at USCCB.org, and then by selecting the date on the calendar on the home page. You can also use the many rich resources of our faith to engage in spiritual reflections each day as an individual and with your family. This can include simple prayers like an *Our Father* and *Hail Mary* a few times a day, as well as praying the Rosary, the Liturgy of the Hours, and Stations of the Cross, among others. Many resources for these are easily found online.

It is also important to remember that at times when you cannot physically attend Mass, Sunday remains a holy day, and you are encouraged to pray. You can participate in prayer by way of televised or live-streamed Mass — one option for viewing daily Mass online can be found at www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass.

During times of crisis, we must also find ways to use our talents to serve God. If you are unable to participate in ministries and serve your parish community, you can still use your talents to serve your family and those closest to you. Something as simple as calling to check on family and friends — or even doing a video call — can go a long way.

Finally, we must try to remain good stewards of our treasure. You may have lost your job or have seen a reduction in work hours and pay. But despite your hardships, a faithful steward must faithfully try his or her best to return a portion of your treasure to God however He is calling you to do so. Check the parish website for online giving opportunities and do what you can to return a portion of your treasure to God.

No matter the situation, God always remains faithful to us. Don't forget that everything God gives us is a gift, and the way in which we share our gifts with God and our neighbor is ultimately how we give Him glory.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

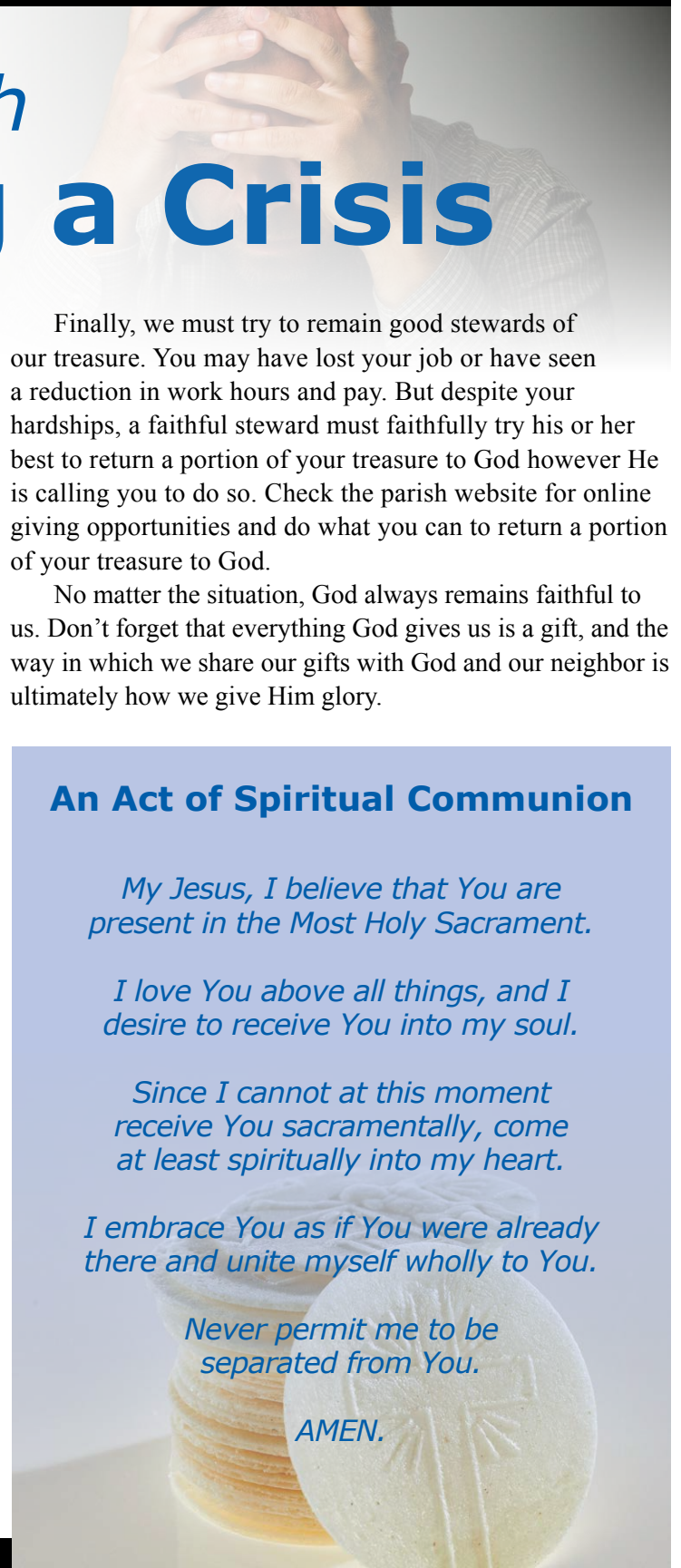
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

AMEN.





Good Stewardship of Our *Social Media*

When we are talking about the idea of stewardship and how we care for the tools and gifts we have been given, it is not often that we stop to have a conversation about how we are caring for and using the gift of social media to positively spread Gospel values. However, this is an appropriate topic for us to consider when we are talking about the many young people, as well as adults, who gather online on a frequent basis. Therefore, it is important for us to think about how we are using the amazing gifts of technology.

If you are frequently online — especially on Pinterest — there is a popular acronym that you may have already come across. While it is used in many different contexts, it seems very appropriate to follow as we find ourselves posting statuses and pictures on various social media sites. The acronym is T.H.I.N.K., and it invites us to consider what we are saying and sharing, and whether or not it should be said!

Is what we are posting:

True? Are we sharing factual information or a rumor that we heard, and if we think our information is factual, what is our source? Is it trustworthy?

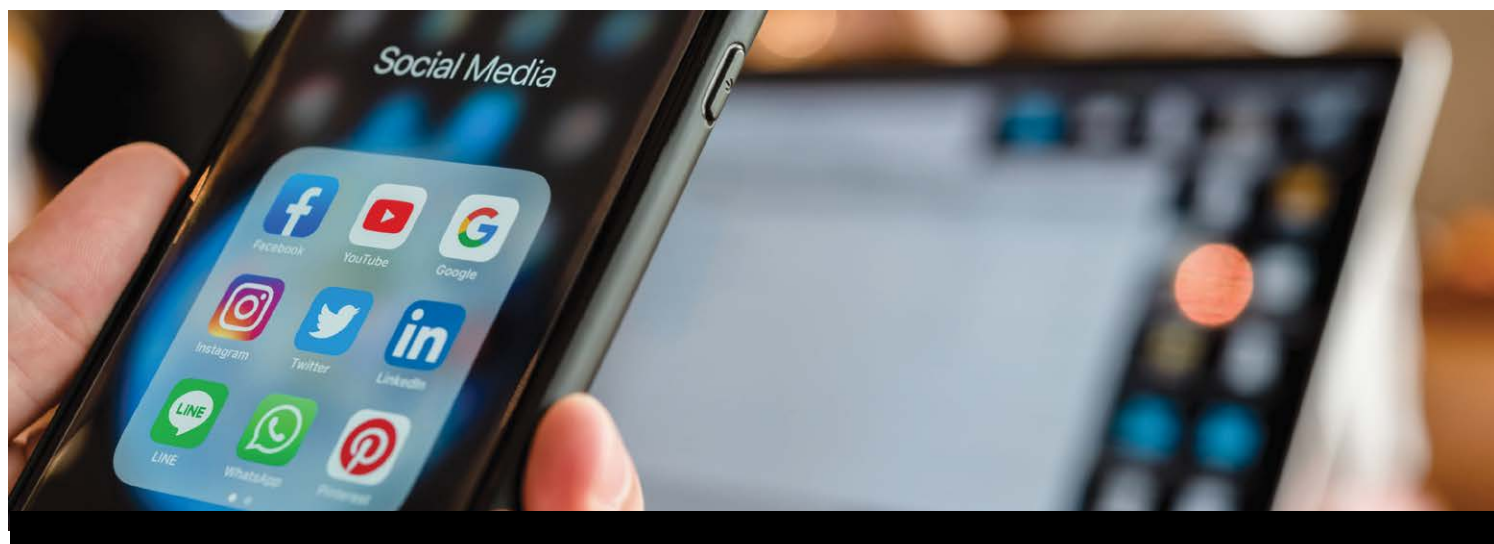
Helpful? Is the information we are sharing something that can be useful to another person? We don't need to over-examine all of our content to consider its "educational factor," but is the content we are posting going to help someone learn about us, learn about a place or an activity, think about the world, reflect on life, engage us in laughter, and so forth?

Inspirational? There is certainly no requirement to be a poet or an artist, but social media has become a wonderful outlet for positive self-expression. "Positive" is the key word — are we posting to inspire others about the good in our world, or are we posting to cut someone down or to simply rant?

Nice? Have we considered the feelings of others when we include them in a status or post a picture of them? Will they be embarrassed? Are we using social media to humiliate and intimidate others, or are we using it to try to better the world and the lives of others?

Kind? What a great tool to compliment, show gratitude, and build the self-esteem of those you care about!

People often speak of social media in a negative way because of the content they see posted. T.H.I.N.K. is a great way for us to remind ourselves that we can be good stewards of our own social media use. A major part of living out the Gospel has to do with the positive way we approach this life and bring God's light and love to others — and we can do just that by sharing an uplifting status on Facebook, a Tweet of gratitude to a friend, or a beautiful image of God's inspiring creation on Instagram. What a great way to build the Kingdom of God!





ALL SAINTS

The operations and maintenance of our facilities continue at All Saints. We are tightening our belts as you are at home. We prayerfully ask that you continue your faithful offertory giving.

Please Text-To-Give at 972-694-6910

Please mail your check donation to
All Saints Catholic Church
5231 Meadowcreek Drive
Dallas, TX 75248

Please donate online at
www.allsaintsdallas.org/give/

Remaining Connected *continued from front cover*

all the recent events, would be. That's why it is important for us to reach out and make ourselves present to others. It is not just important for them, it's also very important for us because we heal, recover and rise together."

Chris Diaz, Director of Communications, added that the response has been tremendous, noting that the number of followers on our social media platforms has increased dramatically. Shifting the parish online created "many challenges" for clergy and staff, noted Philip Muscat, Business Manager. "Moving outside our comfort zone has been challenging. Communicating what we are doing is not as simple as putting it in the bulletin anymore. I recognize that God puts us where He needs us to be. I am putting my trust in God that we will get through all of this with His grace."

Please stay updated and engaged with All Saints Catholic Church via our website and social media.

<https://www.allsaintsdallas.org/church/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgVjHH05zrLoLDxnl3ySBbQ>

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/6969712>

<https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsCatholicChurchDallasTX/>

<https://twitter.com/allsaintsdallas>

<https://www.instagram.com/asccdallas>

<https://www.allsaintsdallas.org/school/>

5231 MEADOWCREEK DRIVE • DALLAS, TX 75248 • (972) 661-9282

Weekend Liturgy: Saturday, 5:00 p.m. | Sunday, 7:15 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m. | Teen Mass, 5:00 p.m.

Weekday Liturgy: Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. | Saturday, 9:00 a.m.