



June/July 2020

ALL SAINTS

A Stewardship Parish

Volume 17, Issue 6

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Our Parish Newsletter:

Spreading the news of Christ at work in our community.

Building Connections: *Mary Widows for Christ Ministry*

The loss of a spouse can be a very isolating experience. Initially, there are many people around, there to offer condolences and support. But over time, they each return to their daily lives, while the grieving spouse is left alone in the life they once shared with another. Parishioner Mary Marchand has experienced this all firsthand, which is why she felt called to start and continue coordinating the parish's Mary Widows for Christ Ministry.

"I hear a lot of stories from the women, saying how they felt all alone and didn't want to do things like eat by themselves," Mary says. "So this fills a real need for them. It's all about bringing the widows of the parish together and creating a sense of community among them, reminding them that they aren't alone."

The ministry operates by inviting widows of the parish to participate in a monthly Sunday brunch. Typically, this occurs at Maguire's Restaurant the second Sunday of the month after the 11:30 a.m. Mass — approximately 1 p.m.

"Everyone orders food for themselves and we make a point of blessing the food when we get it," Mary says. "Otherwise, we just talk and spend time together and whoever wants to come, comes."



Mary Marchand surprises her fellow Mary Widows for Christ members with Valentine's flowers and cards during their February gathering.

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Don't Take a Vacation From Stewardship This Summer

Everyone deserves a vacation. After nine grueling months of school, kids get to enjoy the summer to relax and regroup before beginning a new grade. Employees, after diligently working long hours and dealing with stressful situations, deserve time away from the office to enjoy their favorite getaway.

No one would argue that we need to mentally refresh our minds and bodies from time to time so that we can come back rejuvenated and ready to do our best.

Taking a break from some things, however, is not a possibility.

Take stewardship, for example. Imagine saying to yourself, "Well, this month I think I will not pray, not share any of my talents with anyone in need, and I will hoard my treasure." What would doing this accomplish? You certainly wouldn't feel refreshed, rejuvenated and ready to be at your best. Instead, feelings of greed, selfishness and spiritual unrest may occur. Stepping back from being a good steward just doesn't make sense.

So, now that summer has arrived in full force and our leisure time each day has increased, how can we remain good stewards?

It is likely that the regimented opportunities available during the school year are no longer available. Youth ministry and parish religious education formation may also be on summer break.

So, where do you turn? How can you keep your faith alive?

First and foremost, don't stop praying. The slow-paced days of summer are a perfect time to quiet ourselves for a few moments and try to reconnect with God. Why not take a moment of your free time each day to read the Gospel or a spiritual reflection while lounging in a hammock?

Next, try to participate in an outreach program over the summer. Think of the life of Christ — everything He did on Earth was an act of service. Now, think of the gifts God has bestowed on you. He wants you to share them with others like He did, and summer gives us the time to do just that.

If you like working with kids, you can volunteer at the Vacation Bible School by helping to decorate, organize or being a team leader for the younger children.

If you are handy with tools, you may call Habitat for Humanity to see how you can help build a home for a family in need.

Or, if you are musically inclined, you might share your singing or instrumental gifts with a local nursing home. Maybe you are good in the kitchen — if so, you could offer your culinary skills to a local soup kitchen or food bank.

If you are a strong student, you could offer tutoring services to neighborhood kids to help prepare them for the next school year.

No matter what gift God has given you, there is a way to share it.

Getting paid for volunteering sometimes happens. And, if you have a summer job while on break, you'll get a paycheck for sure. Have you ever taken an opportunity to think about sharing the first fruits of your check?

As a young adult, returning a portion of your paycheck to God is an important thing to consider. Giving a portion back to Him is a way to say "thanks."

Whatever you do this summer, don't take a break from being a good steward. Remember that the time God gives you is a gift. What you do with it — whether on vacation or not — is meant to give Him glory.





A Letter from Our Pastoral Administrator

Welcome Back... Welcome Home

Dear Saints,

To those of you who have been actively participating in the life of our parish but have been forced to stay away due to the COVID-19 pandemic, welcome home!

To those of you who haven't been to church in years and decided to renew your faith, welcome back, and welcome home!

During these past few months, we have experienced some of the most challenging and unnerving times in the history of our nation and Church. As we start to emerge from the darkness of this crisis and return to Mass and parish activities and ministries, I feel blessed and excited.

Excited to see familiar faces.

Excited to see new faces.

Excited to see faces of those we haven't seen in a while but decided to come back!

In times like these, when nothing seems to make sense, I am so very glad you are here. The timing of your return is perfect, because the truth is we need Christ now more than ever.

Whether you have simply been forced to stay away while public Masses were canceled, or if you have been away from the Church for many years, this crisis has changed us.

All of us.

We have had some extra time lately for introspection. For personal reflection. And for prayer. And perhaps during this era of isolation and social distancing, you have found yourself yearning for Christ more than ever before in the hopes of finding some meaning to all of this.



You have come to the right place.

As you walk through our doors for the first time in months — or perhaps even years — I hope you see the face of Christ in myself and in all those around you. I hope you find a welcoming parish family there to greet you, overjoyed by your return.

As Christ tells us, from Matthew's Gospel, "For I was a stranger, you welcomed me" (Mt. 25:35).

Truth is, there are no strangers at our parish. So, as you come back home to our parish, I hope you experience that same spirit of kindness and hospitality from all your fellow parishioners.

Whether you're a longtime parishioner, or someone who fell away from the Catholic Church and are now ready to become renewed in the faith, let us all remember to welcome all who enter our parish doors with open arms, smiling faces and a servant's heart.

By living out our calling as Christian stewards, we will all emerge from this dark time as a community of faith that is stronger than ever — together.

Welcome back. And welcome home.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Alfonse Nazzaro
Pastoral Administrator



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WISHING YOU A

Safe AND Blessed Summer

A Word From Principal Shana Druffner

It is hard to believe we have come to the end of another year. And what a year it has been! Every member of the Class of 2020 was accepted at every high school they applied to, many with merit-based scholarships. The Class of 2020 will be attending Bishop Lynch High School, Jesuit Preparatory High School, John Paul II High School, and Ursuline Academy of Dallas, among others. Our students consistently placed into Honors classes and many placed out of one full year of high school foreign language. Congratulations to our outstanding young men and women! We wish them the best.

Our high school graduates continue to excel. This year, our ASCS Class of 2016 had three valedictorians at Cistercian Preparatory Academy, Jesuit Preparatory High School, and John Paul II High School. Alex Banul, Will Nickols and Delinah Hailey will be attending Emory University, Harvard University and Yale University, respectively. We are so proud of these members and all our members of the Class of 2016.

As we navigate the new waters of 2020-21, we will be adding a few new faces and saying goodbye to others.

Mrs. Jenny Murphy, of St. Paul Catholic School, will be joining her former colleague, Ms. Jordan Abide, in PreK4. We bid a fond farewell to Mrs. Mary Nell Doyle. Mrs. Doyle was a special blessing to our school. She will forever be in our hearts.

Ms. Maureen Kelly will be joining Mrs. Susan Jones in first grade. Ms. Kelly is a veteran first-grade teacher from St. Rita and St. Joseph Catholic Schools. Mrs. Nicole Ramirez will join Mrs. Jennifer Gamboa in second grade.

Ms. Kathryn Blase will be joining the Intermediate Team. Ms. Blase has been teaching fourth-grade social studies and fourth-grade ELAR in Richardson Independent School District. She will be teaching fourth/fifth grade social studies and fourth-grade ELAR next year.

Due to the guidelines imposed by the state, physical education will be held outside next year with the teachers. We wish to thank Coach Andy for his 20 years of service to All Saints. We will all miss him tremendously.

We are looking forward to resuming in-person instruction on campus five days per week in August. Please know that the tentative plans for next year are not self-generated. We are relying on the guidance and expertise of

Congratulations to the Class of 2020!



Proven excellence
in faith, academics, character, and service.



All Saints Catholic School
Act Honorably. Live Virtuously. Seek Truth.

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Alex Banul

Valedictorian of the Class of 2020
at Cistercian Preparatory School
Attending Emory University



Will Nickols

Valedictorian of the Class of 2020
at Jesuit College Preparatory School
Attending Harvard University



Delinah Hailey

Valedictorian of the Class of 2020
at John Paul II High School
Attending Yale University

Congratulations to these former All Saints Eagles



AS WE PREPARE FOR THE 2020-21 School Year

the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops Education Department, and the Catholic Schools Office. We will continue to respond to guidance from the bishop, the governor, and state and local governments. Please know that our policies are under continuous review and are subject to change as we monitor conditions and receive guidance from health and government authorities. A full list of these protocols can be found at www.allsaintsdallas.org/covid19-response-faqs/. Our plans to meet these guidelines are based on four foundations — monitoring and responding to student and faculty health; limiting and eliminating unnecessary or risky activities; revising cleaning and disinfection protocols; and finally, having additional blended learning and virtual learning options available for planned and unplanned shutdowns. Throughout the summer, I will

keep you posted as our plans evolve. We are confident that through a close partnership with our families, we will be able to provide the best possible learning environment for your children. We remain steadfast in our commitment to excellence in faith, academics, service and character. We know that together, with Christ as our foundation, we can face the future together and with firm resolve. On behalf of the faculty and staff of All Saints Catholic School, we wish you a blessed, safe and healthy summer. We will continue to hold you in our prayers and ask you to do the same.

We look forward to seeing you on Aug. 11, the first day of school.

Yours in Christ,
Shana Druffner
Principal, All Saints Catholic School

How to Be a Safe Adult

Cultivating a healthy, trusting relationship with kids is one of the best protections against abuse. Children will be less vulnerable to people who would violate their boundaries and more likely to tell you if they are uncomfortable or if abuse occurs. The Monique Burr Foundation for Children teaches kids that a safe adult is someone who:

- is an adult that can get them help if they're ever hurt or unsafe.
- doesn't break safety rules or try to get the child to break them.
- the child feels comfortable with and can easily talk to about things that may be difficult to talk about.
- the child can trust to keep them safe.

You don't need to be a parent to be a safe adult. You might be a teacher, coach, mentor, aunt/uncle or anything else. The principles of safety are the same, even if the execution looks different. You are still the person the child can come to when they need protection.

— From www.d2l.org/how-to-be-a-safe-adult/



Keeping in Touch With the Holy Father: *There's an App for That!*



“Let the Church always be a place of mercy and hope, where everyone is welcomed, loved and forgiven.”

These words from Pope Francis weren't delivered during a homily in St. Peter's or in a speech from St. Peter's Square — nor were they written in a papal bull or apostolic letter. Rather, they were delivered in an instant to millions of Catholics around the world through the pope's very own Twitter account.

The technology of communication has perhaps changed more in the past century than in the previous 20 combined. And with these developments, the Catholic Church — led by our Holy Fathers, from Pope St. John Paul II through Pope Francis — strongly encourages that the faithful adopt and adapt these resources for the all-important task of spreading the Gospel throughout the whole world.

Just as St. Paul used every convenience at his disposal to spread the Gospel throughout the far reaches of the Roman empire, today's evangelists are using every resource available to them. Examples of Catholic figures using the new media with great success abound.

Only a few months into his pontificate, Pope Francis took the Vatican's social media efforts to a whole new level. In spring 2013, the Vatican released *The Pope App*, which features quotes, news, images and videos of all the Holy Father's latest doings.

Following the pope's lead, bishops, priests and apologists are taking the technological gifts at their fingertips and utilizing them to spread the Gospel throughout the world in a variety of ways.

One great example is Bishop Robert Barron of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, whose Word On Fire Ministry has produced wildly popular YouTube videos discussing everything from controversial Church teachings to movie reviews from a Catholic perspective. Word On Fire also released the critically acclaimed *Catholicism* DVD documentary series.

Independent Catholic bloggers and Web-based media are also widely established and provide their audiences and readership with Catholic news and cultural commentary.

Throughout America, parishes, Catholic schools, dioceses, and even the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops are utilizing these tools as well, creating first-rate websites, maintaining Twitter and Facebook accounts, and more.

All of these resources are geared toward a wide variety of audiences, from the un-churched and fallen-away Catholics to active parishioners.

Being knowledgeable of the new media tools available to us as Catholics is a great way to be more effective in our universal call to evangelization. Take some time to see what media resources our parish and diocese are using, and be sure to pass them along to those in your sphere of influence!



The Legion of Mary: *Evangelizing Through Apostolic Works*

When parishioner Lydia Longoria moved to Dallas and began attending All Saints in 2012, she was anxious to find a way to get more involved and meet people from the parish. Since she already had a special devotion to Our Lady, Lydia began looking for someone kind of Marian group, such as a weekly Rosary prayer group or an opportunity to renew her consecration to the Sacred and Immaculate Hearts. So when she saw an advertisement in the parish bulletin for a ministry called the Legion of Mary, Lydia knew instantly that this was something she would like to explore.

"I called the Legion of Mary contact person, then-president Thecla Tybor, who invited me to join them at their next meeting," Lydia says. "I went and, well, I haven't stopped attending ever since."

Lydia soon learned that the Legion of Mary is an apostolic lay group originally founded in Dublin, Ireland, in 1921. Now consisting of more than 10 million members worldwide, the Legion continues its mission of giving glory and honor to God through His Mother. To that end, members commit themselves to both personal and group prayer, as well as active cooperation in the Church's corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

"We are literally and figuratively Mary's army," Lydia says. "In fact, our founder, Frank Duff, organized the Legion of Mary using many of the Latin terms from the Roman Legion, the army of ancient Rome."

Members meet weekly in small groups called *praesidia* — another Latin term meaning "garrison" — and are charged to go out and evangelize through regular apostolic works. And at the heart of all this is a



Legion of Mary members ready to share information about this Marian lay movement

deep devotion to Mother Mary, our Church's powerful intercessor.

"We not only meet and pray together weekly, but we also do spiritual works of mercy with the unique purpose of letting Jesus, once again, be seen and served by Mary, His Mother," Lydia says. "We Catholics have such a special devotion to Mary because Jesus gave her to us from the cross when He said, 'Behold your mother,' to St. John. Secondly, it is just in our nature. Humans bond to their mothers in a special way in the womb. Similarly, as Catholics, I think it's very natural for us to bond with Mary, our spiritual Mother."

All Saints' Legion of Mary Group, known as the Queen of All Grace *praesidium*, meets every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. in the Kamel Life Center, Room 220 (when we are allowed open meetings again). Meetings are open to any parishioners interested in exploring or joining the ministry. Anyone desiring more information about the Legion of Mary may visit www.legionofmarydallas.org, or contact Lydia Longoria, current president, at 210-439-7555 or Longoria.Lydia@gmail.com.



ALL SAINTS

All Saints Catholic Community Pastoral Advisory Council

The Pastoral Advisory Council is a small group of parishioners who work directly with Father Alfonse to determine how the parish can be most effective in carrying out its total mission of serving as Christ's hands in the world, spreading God's love, healing, and forgiveness.

The Members of the Pastoral Advisory Council serve rotating three-year terms. There will be five openings in the new term beginning September 2020. Candidates for selection to the Council must:

- Be enthusiastic and willing to actively serve on various strategic projects
- Have been a member of All Saints Catholic Community for at least one year
- Be Safe Environment cleared
- Be available to meet on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m.
- Be willing to collaborate with a servant's heart and mind
- Those with good skills in strategic planning, project planning, and communications are especially needed



If you are interested in serving, please complete the application at www.allsaintsdallas.org/PACApp by July 7. If you have questions or for more information, contact Rod Anderson at rodandertx@gmail.com or 214-458-4544.

Mary Widows for Christ Ministry

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Mary says that she tries to make each gathering special, doing things like giving the ladies Valentine's cards in February.

"I gave each of the ladies a little bud vase with a card that said something like 'even though your spouse isn't here with you physically, he's still in your heart,'" Mary says. "Well, we had one lady who was new that month and she just started crying, saying she never thought she would get something on that day."

In this way, the Mary Widows for Christ form a special bond with one another. Ladies will get together for movies, concerts and other parish events — things they might not want to go to by themselves.

"I've personally been blessed because of the other widows, and the other ladies always seem excited to attend and see one another," Mary says. "It helps us build connections with one another. And then the ladies will get together to go see movies or go out to eat at other times."

The Mary Widows for Christ welcome any and all new members. If you would like more information, or to RSVP for an upcoming brunch, please contact Mary Marchand at 972-778-0308 or 972-979-9838.

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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.