



ALL SAINTS

A Stewardship Parish

Volume 16, Issue 7

A Letter from Our Pastoral Administrator

Remembering America is a Gift from God

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*Our Parish Newsletter:
Spreading the news of Christ at work in our community.*

Dear Saints,

We're all familiar with the song "America the Beautiful." Many of us share the feelings that inspired Katharine Lee Bates when she composed it as a poem.

*O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.*



Katharine Bates drew her inspiration from her experiences during the summer of 1893. An English professor at Wellesley College in Massachusetts, she went to teach summer school at Colorado College, necessitating a journey across the country. The trip's highlight came when she reached the pinnacle of Pikes Peak and could gaze upon range after range of the Rocky Mountains on one side and the expanse of the Great Plains on the other.

Moved by the vistas around her and the varied features of America she had seen, an idea for a poem and some of its words formed in her mind atop the mountain. That night, back in her hotel room, she completed the poem.

I think the reason for the popularity of "America the Beautiful" is that it combines several themes into one coherent whole. The beauty and immensity of America's natural creation, the rich abundance of our harvests, and the recognition of God's generosity are woven together. The final product forms a hymn of thanksgiving for our land that goes beyond national pride to prayer, for God is the spiritual source for all the goodness we have.

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The Traits OF THE Christian Steward

Each day, we strive to live stewardship in our lives, recognizing our roles as “God’s co-workers” in His creative, redemptive and sanctifying work. But in our quest to live as disciples of Christ, many obstacles often arise.

One of the most prevalent roadblocks in living stewardship is understanding the traits that make up a good Christian steward. Surely, it would be much more convenient if we had some sort of “stewardship list” that could lay out the necessary steps to becoming a good steward. Unfortunately, it more often feels like living stewardship is a lifelong journey that we will never fully comprehend.

Fortunately, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ pastoral letter on stewardship, *Stewardship: A Disciple’s Response*, gives some insight into the characteristics that make up a good Christian steward.

The Christian steward should display some of the following traits:

INSIGHT — Before the disciples could live what we know as the stewardship way of life, they needed a flash of insight, or a certain way of viewing the world and their relationship to it in a fresh light. This “divine grandeur,” more than anything else, is often what sets people on the path to Christian stewardship (*Stewardship: A Disciple’s Response*, 39).

CONSCIENTIOUSNESS — Stewards are fully conscious of their accountability in sharing of their time, talent and treasure. As caretak-

ers of the gifts that God has given them, they have the opportunity and responsibility to use them to their fullest potential to spread God’s Kingdom on Earth (40).

GENEROSITY — Christian stewards are generous out of love as well as duty. They should display a desire to share with and care for others based on the sacramental graces they have received. And they are also cognizant of the many warnings that the New Testament presents to those who fail in charity and authentic love (40).

JOY — Christian stewards are often presented with difficult obstacles, but they should remain joyful in the face of challenges to their lives of stewardship. Like Paul, the good steward is able to say, “I am filled with encouragement, I am overflowing with joy all the more because of all our affliction” (2 Cor. 7:4). Only by serving with a joyful spirit will stewards fully reap the rewards of their service, both in this life and the next.

Indeed, living as a Christian steward is a lifelong journey with many ups and downs along the way. But if we strive to consciously incorporate each of these characteristics into our giving of time, talent and treasure, we will find that the responsibilities of a good Christian steward will become much clearer with each experience of service.



All Saints Catholic School is Gearing up for Next Year

ASCS is embarking on a STEAM Initiative, including the construction of a state-of-the-art Innovation Lab headed by Mr. Jordan Rayfield, the new Director of the Innovation Lab. We are implementing a focused curriculum for PreK3-eighth grade that will strengthen foundational skills, promote creative problem solving and out-of-the-box thinking, increase collaboration, and offer hands-on learning both in and out of the classroom. Additionally, all students will learn the proper use and ethics of technology, with an emphasis on the importance of digital citizenship.

Enhanced curriculum will include:

- Coding
- Graphic Design
- Engineering
- Robotics
- Video Production
- Rapid Prototyping

A New Home for the Library

Developing a love of reading is an essential component of our educational program. Our new library will foster our children's love of reading. The library is located across from our Innovation Lab and will feature

a space dedicated to our youngest readers to explore the magic of children's books. New furniture will offer readers of all ages inviting spaces to get lost in a book.

Cafetorium Stage Extension

During the past school year, our cafeteria received a minor facelift with spirited paint, our ASCS crest, and pictures of our students. Next year, the cafeteria will once again be renovated with the extension of the current stage. The extension will add 120 sq. ft. to the stage which will provide our Band, Orchestra, Choir, Music, and Theater programs sufficient space to entertain audiences for years to come.

Classroom Upgrades

In addition to the new Innovation Lab, Library and Cafeteria, classrooms will also receive a makeover. All homeroom classrooms will be painted and outfitted with Newline TruTouch LCD panels so that all teachers are fully equipped with the latest technology for our students' educational needs. Additionally, all fourth through eighth-grade homerooms will receive new modular desks to allow students to engage in collaborative learning, a hallmark of great instruction.





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Hands-On Faith Formation:

Though our parish youth are blessed with many rich faith formation opportunities here at All Saints, there is something special, says ministry coordinator Mary Davis, about the active learning that takes place within the Altar Server Ministry. There upon the altar, servers have a powerful opportunity to witness up close the sacred mystery of the Mass and to learn about the richness of our Catholic faith in a uniquely hands-on way.

“It’s such an important part of their faith journey because they are able to experience and actually understand what is going on during the Mass — to really see and think about what is taking place during the Eucharistic prayer when the Holy Spirit is called down and the wine and bread is actually transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ,” Mary says. “They are there, right up close to the altar, seeing what is going on in a truly unique way.”

Open to any parish youth, male or female, who is at least 11 years old and has received their First Holy Communion, altar servers are tasked with helping the priests and deacons throughout the sacred liturgy. This requires an initial formation period which includes eight, two-hour sessions designed to help instruct the altar servers on the liturgy and their role within it.

“During these sessions we discuss things like attendance and how important it is for them to make all of their Mass assignments,” Mary says. “We talk about appropriate dress and measure them for their cassocks and surplices. And then we go over every single part of the Mass so that they know what is expected of them in each of the server roles and parts of the Mass.”

This ensures that the altar servers are prepared for their first scheduled Mass and that they truly understand



the acts they are performing, such as the washing of the priest’s hands or the procession into church with the crucifix.

“I always tell the young people that this is a special part of their faith journey and that they will learn so much about their faith, religion and the traditions of the Church through this ministry,” Mary says. “I don’t think they could get better training in any other capacity.”

Once their formation is complete, altar servers are typically scheduled once every five to six weeks. During an assigned Mass, each server takes on a particular role or responsibility, such as

bearing the cross for the processional and recessional entrances, bearing the candles, carrying the necessary books to the celebrant, and occasionally preparing and bringing incense. Older altar servers may also take on a mentorship role, helping younger servers both during actual training sessions as well within the liturgy itself.

“If the kids have any questions, we always encourage them to ask the older, more experienced servers,” Mary says. “I’ve seen older servers help young altar servers out if they forget when they are supposed to do something or need help preparing their candles. They also help in the formation of the new servers by assisting us with the actual formation classes. They’ll lead by example, showing new servers the correct way to do things. This really helps the new servers because they are able to learn from watching.”

In turn, many of our parish servers remain actively involved in the ministry throughout high school. Over the years, many have expressed their deep appreciation for the foundation they received through this liturgical ministry.



Our Altar Server Ministry

“It’s so wonderful to see these children go through the process — the things they learn, the things they take away from them,” Mary says. “Even after they graduate, they’ll come to me and express how grateful they are for everything myself and my fellow coordinators have taught them. I just pray they’ll keep everything we teach them in their hearts, carrying their faith with them always.”



The next formation opportunity for prospective servers will begin Monday, July 22, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Church. Any youth interested in participating should contact the liturgy office at 972-778-0310.

SAFER SLEEPOVERS

Sleepovers are one of the exciting joys of childhood and can lead to many positive growth opportunities for children. However, with the stark reality that 90 percent of children who are sexually abused are abused by someone they know and trust, you might be wondering how you can keep your child safe while allowing them to make sleepover memories.

- What does your gut say? Usually your gut reaction is correct. Pay attention to it.
- Is your kid “ready”? How old are they? Have they been away from home overnight before? How did that experience go?
- How well do you know this family? What have previous interactions been like? Can you talk with the parent(s) about any concerns or needs? If not, consider this a negative on the gut-check meter.
- What kind of adult supervision will there be and who else will be present? Will other adults be around? Older youth?
- What is the household like? Does the house itself seem safe? What are the sleeping arrangements?
- How does the family monitor internet usage? Where are the computers and video game systems located

and what rules are in place? For older children and teens, consider asking about rules around cell phone usage (Are they allowed to use them at all times, in all areas of the home?). Have your own digital safety conversation with your child beforehand and include a conversation about public and permanent.

- What are your hard and fast rules? This can include everything from what video games you allow your child to play, to how you feel about adults consuming alcohol while your child is in the home. Spoiler: “No uninterruptible one-one-one situations with adults or other children” should be one of your hard and fast rules!
- What safety and comfort contingencies can you put in place? Talk to your kids about different scenarios to help them feel comfortable with facing the unforeseen.
- What check-in points can you put into the mix? Maybe a call or text before bedtime? Are drop-ins okay?

This information comes from Darkness to Light, a non-profit committed to empowering adults to prevent child sexual abuse. More information can be found at www.d2l.org.



Chosen to Do His Will *The Feast of St. Anne — July 26*



The Feast of St. Anne is celebrated on July 26.

Did you know that St. Anne is the patron saint of miners? In medieval times, the Virgin Mary and Jesus were often compared to precious metals of silver and gold. Hence, the lives that came from the womb of St. Anne made her the source of precious riches.

Unlike Mary, St. Anne was not conceived without sin — but nevertheless, she would one day raise the Mother of God. That’s a pretty big deal! What was it about St. Anne that prompted God to give her such a significant role in the history of salvation? There’s no way to know for sure, but there is one thing we can definitely say about St. Anne — God uses those who put themselves at His service, and that is precisely what St. Anne did.

Not much is mentioned about St. Anne in the Bible, but her name derives from the longer name “Hannah,” or the Hebrew word for “grace.” We understand that, having believed herself to be barren for 20 years, an angel appeared to Anne and told her that she would soon have a daughter that she should name Mary.

When Mary was finally born, after many years of frustration and infertility on her parents’ part, Anne did

just as she promised — she dedicated Mary to the Lord, and raised a holy woman who would mother Christ Himself!

Early Christians are said to have been very intrigued by the story of Jesus’ grandmother and, around the year 550, erected a church in Jerusalem where St. Anne, her husband, Joachim, and Mary are said to have lived.

Although we do not know much more about St. Anne, we can assume that she was a very holy woman based upon the woman her daughter, Mary, grew to be. Anne was the one from whom Mary learned to be a mother. She was the one from whom Mary learned to serve God. She was the one who instilled in Mary the confidence and faith to say “yes” to God — “May it be done to me according to your word” (Luke 1:38).

There is no doubt that St. Anne was a humble, holy woman. She was given a great gift — a child — who she readily gave back to God. And, thanks to her faith-filled gratitude to God for His gift, Mary opened her heart to the will of God, and became the mother of Christ.

Talk about stewardship in action!



RIMO: Careful Management and Stewardship of Our Parish's Resources

Who or what is a RIMO? Short for “Resource Information Management & Organization,” RIMO is the way All Saints supports over 72 ministries made up of some of our 5,800 All Saints parishioners. The RIMO team schedules meeting and event space and other resources so that each ministry can pursue their goals, which are also part of the mission of our church community.

Why would you want to visit the RIMO desk? We help with many things, including getting new parishioners registered, scheduling rooms for meetings and events, helping with audio-video needs, handing out Safe Environment badges, and monitoring the activities in the building. We are also there to troubleshoot problems, alert those in the building of dangerous storms and direct them to safe areas, assist with lost or found items, greet newcomers, answer questions, and provide first aid as needed.

We also manage the Kamel Life Center fitness facilities. We have an indoor track above the gym that is a nice way to get in a long air-conditioned walk, a weight room and, of course, the gym. To use these, memberships can be purchased at the RIMO desk. There are also fitness classes available with no membership required.

Another important resource for our community is the All Saints kitchen. Fellowship is a vital part of our community, and food is often a part of fellowship. When a group reserves the kitchen, we walk through the kitchen with them beforehand to make sure it is ready to use, and again when they are done, to make sure they have left it clean and ready for the next group.

Sheila Dolmas is the coordinator of the RIMO team. The team members include Jacob Abernathy, Charlotte Begnaud, Dawn Holmes, John Leach, Logan McLean and Zeke Taylor.



We share the desk as well as the various requests for help that come our way. In order to do this efficiently, we follow certain procedures so that the next person can easily pick up where the last person left off.

One important job that relies heavily on following procedures is scheduling rooms. Each person or group is asked to fill out a form to request a room. Then all the RIMO team members have the information we need to complete reservations. We can then follow up with the requester to help make sure that all the requirements are fulfilled in plenty of time, such as visiting speaker approval, Safe Environment-cleared leaders, and insurance coverage.

In addition, with such an active community, we sometimes need to juggle rooms and events to get everyone a spot on the church calendar. In order to make this process go more smoothly for everyone, we ask those who are in leadership roles for the All Saints ministries to come to one of our biannual “Policies and Procedures” meetings to learn more about the ins and outs of getting on the calendar and making use of the facilities.

To find the RIMO desk, just head toward the gym and Fellowship Hall in the Kamel Life Center and look for us in the atrium outside the gym. We always have a RIMO team member working the desk when the building is open. We do, however, frequently leave the desk to help parishioners, check on the building and do other things that need to be done to keep things humming. So we might not be at the desk when you arrive, but we try to get back there frequently or post a note if we expect to be delayed. To contact us, you can also give us a call at 972-778-0350, or email us at RIMO@allsaintsdallas.org.



ALL SAINTS

MEET YOUR RIMO TEAM



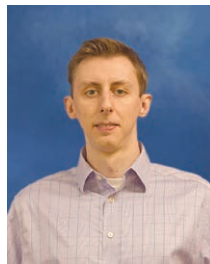
Sheila Dolmas



Jacob Abernathy



Charlotte Begnaud



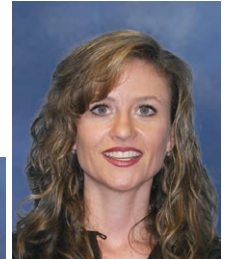
John McLean



Logan Leach



Zeke Taylor



Dawn Holmes

Remembering America is a Gift from God

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I think it's a suitable theme for July, the month we celebrate Independence Day, our national holiday. Thankfulness, after all, is the basis of stewardship, the recognition that we've been given all we have. We're then responsible to the Giver for the use we make of His gifts.

The gifts we celebrate are manifold. Some are of a spiritual nature — our salvation by Christ and the sacraments, for example. Others are in the natural order, such as the beauties of creation and abundant harvests. Still others relate to social relationships, like families, friends and national life. Whatever the class of these gifts, God is their ultimate source, and they are blessings.

Let us then receive these gifts — the time, talent, and treasure entrusted to us — with thanksgiving. Let us offer praise to the Father of mercies for them, and let us use them in His service.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Alfonse Nazzaro
Pastoral Administrator



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Weekend Liturgy: Saturday, 5:00 p.m. | Sunday, 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 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.