

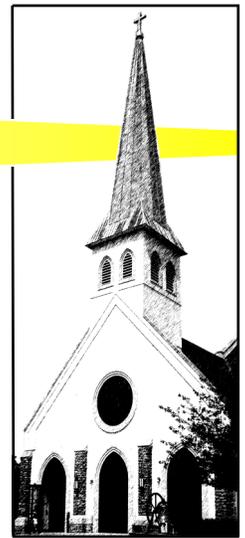
# The Beacon

January 2018

St. Anthony of Padua Parish

*A Community of Christ's Disciples*

*A Beacon of Hope to Our World*



## St. Anthony Parish Commissions

The six St. Anthony Parish Commissions are a most important aspect of parish life. The commissions are comprised of lay people, members of our parish who seek to better our faith community. They hope by their involvement to assure that St. Anthony's is now and will continue to be a place that people find support, acceptance and community.

### Evangelization & Adult Faith Formation Commission

**To provide occasions for adults, parents and extended family to gather, grow spiritually, and share their faith and deepen their bonds as part of the St. Anthony Parish Family.**

-Parish 40 Hours begins this Sunday January 28. There will be a series of presentations each night at 7:00 PM **Finding Your Way Jesus Christ, Road Map for Life.** We hope to provide tools and insights into how to navigate our secular culture and live a faithful Catholic life. Please join us.

-Soup & Stations will begin February 16 and take place on the Fridays of Lent through March 23. Soup at 6:00 PM, video series the Bible and the Virgin Mary at 6:30 and Stations of the Cross at 7:30 PM in church.

-**Passover Seder in the Light of Christ** Experience a Jewish Seder along with an explanation of its Christological significance by joining us when noted Jewish entrant into the Catholic Church Roy Schoeman leads a Passover in the light of Christ.

-Parish Family Outreach continues. 400 families have been contacted by letter, phone and visit. We will continue with another group of families with the aim of ultimately visiting all parish families.

-We are seeking ways to welcome new parishioners. Please share your ideas with us.



### Youth and Family Commission

**To invite children and families to grow in their love for Christ, and develop a commitment to Mass, prayer, service, and fellowship.**



- Family Masses are scheduled for the 9:15 mass on Donut Sundays in February, March and April. Families will be invited to sign up to be greeters, readers and gift bearers. Teen masses are scheduled on the third Saturday of the month at the 5:15 Vigil mass in February through May. The high school youth will meet after the masses for dinner and an activity.

- The Middle School youth will meet once a month and continue to follow the Summit program on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8 PM beginning on January 30th. All youth in grades 6 through 8 are invited to attend. The CFF Confirmation class that meets at the same time will join the Summit meetings which includes spiritual material and fun activities.

- The next Middle School dance is on Friday, January 26th. There were 164 middle schoolers at the November dance and 206 at the December dance. Money was raised at the November and December dances to donate \$370 in Giant gift cards to families in need and \$500 in McDonalds gift cards for the Covenant House service project.

- Basketball season is in full swing with 8 teams participating this year (grades 3-8). Registration for the spring sports teams will open in the next few days.

- Family Movie Night is tentatively rescheduled for Saturday March 3rd after the 5:15 mass. Additional details will be posted to the website and emailed in the next few weeks.

- StAY held two successful service projects in December. The first project included 30 middle and high school students visiting Artman and Springhouse Estates to sing Christmas carols and bring holiday cheer to the residents. Fun was had by all and the joy that the students brought to the residents was easy to see! The second project was the second annual Covenant House Stocking (actually drawstring bag) Stuffer Drive. Donations were collected from the entire parish and 100 bags full of warm socks, hats, mittens, scarves, toiletry items, small games and McDonalds gift cards were assembled and delivered to Covenant House in Philadelphia along with five large boxes of additional supplies. Many thanks go out to all who donated, stuffed bags and loaded up the cars.

**St. Anthony Youth - committed to service.**

## Buildings and Grounds Commission

To help us maintain a well-ordered, safe, clean and aesthetically pleasing campus through dedicated facility management and maintenance while being financially responsible.

- Construction in both the rectory and the new residence continues. The current rectory will become the parish center and the new meeting rooms and offices are starting to take shape. The new residence will perhaps see a roof next week and windows soon after. Once it is buttoned up interior work can commence.
- We have hired a new Facilities Manager- Jonathan DeMent. Jonathan has made a great start getting us back on track after several months with out a facilities manager.
- We will be making a change to our cleaning service. The new company is employed by a number of parishes to good effect.
- We will look at the electric bills with a mind to see how we could save money on our energy costs.
- We will take a tour of the property and conduct a facilities review. We will meet with Jonathan as a group and continue our discussions.

## Stewardship & Advancement Commission

To come to an appropriate understanding of the present and future financial, operational and capital needs of the parish. To communicate the good news of St. Anthony Parish using all means possible particularly technological.

- We continue to work on the live streaming project. We are looking for people who would be interested in becoming part of our tech team that will manage the project. We would welcome the participation of young people who are interested in media. There are many high schools that require service hours and we would be happy to have these students on board.
- We have begun looking at projects for this year's Jubilee Fund . These ongoing efforts keep our parish facilities up to date so as to better serve you our parishioners.
- We continue to encourage the remembering of our parish in your will. These gifts have made a huge difference over the years. Without such a gift we would not have had the resources to purchase the land that ultimately became the site of our new church.

## Liturgy & Worship Commission

To strengthen commitment to Sunday worship and deepen the understanding and level of participation in the Eucharist.

- Church environment: Can we make a more appropriate Marian Shrine in the church? The small statue of Mary by the crying room was never meant to be a permanent installation. How can we honor the Blessed Mother better?
- The commission has been given the mandate to institute a monthly Family Mass. Questions as to what constitutes a family mass have been discussed. For the past few months families have been invited to sing together as a start. The hope is to ask families to participate in a more involved way by taking up the ministerial roles of Lector, Greeter, Usher as well as take up the gifts. Parish staff are also working on this initiative. More to come.
- Banners in the sanctuary are one way to create a more prayerful environment. We will look at options for creating new banners. What should the subject matter be? Where would they be placed?
- The parish has a large collection of Relics. We have displayed them during the month of the Holy Souls. How can we make them more accessible throughout the year?

## Parish Events and Hospitality

Suggest, plan and implement social activities that will foster community and participation in St. Anthony parish. Provide hospitality for parish events and the other commissions.

- We continue to provide the Core Team meals each month. This month we ordered from Costa's Deli and everyone was very pleased with the delicious hoagies and sides.
- We will be assisting at the Parish Seder event on February 12.
- We would like to plan some social events for sometime in the next few months. Suggestions included outing to the Phillies or the Iron Pigs, spaghetti dinner or perhaps a day trip to NYC.



# Donut Sunday!

February 11 9:15 & 11:15 Masses

Have an idea or thought that could help others in our parish? Looking for a way to make a real difference? Want to get together with others who share your vision of what's important?



## Let Us Know!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

My Idea: \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form to the rectory or email to [ideas@saintanthonyparish.org](mailto:ideas@saintanthonyparish.org)  
We will be in touch!

## Corporal Works of Mercy Commission

The Corporal Works of Mercy are found in the teachings of Jesus and give us a model for how we should treat all others, as if they were Christ in disguise. They "are charitable actions by which we help our neighbors in their bodily needs". They respond to the basic needs of humanity as we journey together through this life.

The commission has made a good start. We began by reviewing the corporal Works of Mercy and discussing what we are currently doing in these areas. The new team has a breath of knowledge and experience as well as a heart for mercy.

We will continue to discuss in more detail our parish offerings next month and begin formulating some initiatives. We will also be seeking the aid of the other commissions as well as other parish constituencies in carrying out the works of mercy once a plan has been put into place. We are just getting started so please join us next month.

Next Commission Meeting  
February 21 @ 7:00 PM  
Friendship Hall  
Please join us!