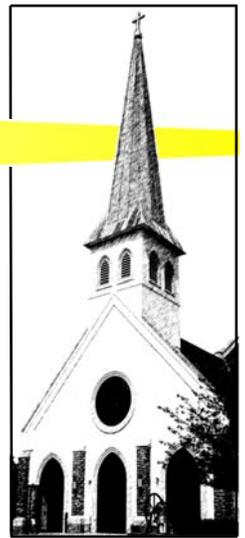


# The Beacon

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.**

Our Commission continues the outreach to members of our parish community. We have contacted hundreds of families thus far by mail with a follow up phone call from a member of the Evangelization Commission. We ask the question "How can we serve you better?" It has been a wonderful experience and we are learning a lot about our parishioners. We will prepare a detailed report on our efforts. Hopefully this will guide us in future decision making for parish life.

We are planning a series in the fall "Meeting Christ in Prayer". This series is a unique eight-week, guided-prayer experience for small groups and is modeled after the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. The series will be offered on Monday evenings beginning in October.

### 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.**

The commission has had a successful year in providing hospitality and support for the parish. Hundreds of people have been fed and made welcome. A number of events are in the planning/discussion stages.

- A parish swim night and BYOB dinner for a summer night of fun.
- A bus trip to New York City to see a show.
- A pancake breakfast or a spaghetti dinner in Friendship Hall.
- A Kentucky Derby Party next May. Get you hats and fascinators ready!

The commission will continue to provide the dinners for the commission meetings and support for the other commissions and the parish events.



### 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.**

- A small group visited The Artman Home and treated some of the residents to manicures as a Mother's Day weekend treat. A summer visit to Artman is planned.

- April and May's middle school dances were well attended. Money was raised at the May dance to purchase \$420 worth of grocery store gift cards for those in need. The final dance of the season will be held on Friday, June 1st. Fifth grade students are invited to attend and there will be Rita's water ice and a photo booth.

- Family and Youth Commission is working with the Works of Mercy Commission to initiate a program in the fall to assist those in the parish with odd jobs around their homes that they are no longer able to get done themselves. The idea is to have the StAY participants provide help to parishioners in need.

- The Saint Anthony Life Teen Program is being planned for high school and middle school aged students for a September kick-off.

*Thanks a Bunch!*



**For participating in our parish commissions.**

**Your gift of your time and talent have done so much this year to build up the Body of Christ!**

## 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.

Our building project is proceeding well. The new clergy residence should be completed in early June and the Parish Center several weeks there after. We have already begun to use some parts of the parish center including a new meeting space on the second floor. The elevator is currently being installed. These new facilities will be a great asset to our parish.

Jonathan DeMent has been working hard keeping on top of the new projects as well as attending to the other day to day facilities issues. Of primary concern is the cemetery wall which is crumbling to pieces littering the sidewalk. The floors in Friendship Hall will be stripped and waxed the first week of June. The hall will be closed at that time.

Additionally there is some work needed in the Education center. The lower level has been waterproofed, repainted, floors stripped and polished, lights and cove base replaced. There is a porch which will be removed and the stucco in that area repaired. Signage has been placed on the play yards indicating that they are for parish use only. This had to be done to protect the parish from liability from injury during unauthorized use.

We are always looking for people with skills and talents who would like to volunteer to keep up our facility. Please give us a call if you can help.

## 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.

Our newest commission is bubbling with ideas. We have met the first of our goals in providing a spiritual element to the gift cards that are distributed. Those in receipt of the cards will receive a small book of common prayers, some local resources and the sentiment that we are all called to make a return to the Lord even if we are sometimes on the receiving end.

We are working on a project proscribed by the Works of Mercy to bury the dead. There are many unclaimed remains at the Montgomery county coroner's and we would like to provide a final resting place for those souls. We are researching now how that would be possible. We will also be reaching out to the parish and wider community for the financial resources to make that happen. We hope that this could be something that many members of the Ambler community could support.

We are planning a project to extend some care to our parish cemetery. We would like to gather individuals with a heart for service to spend a morning weeding and cleaning. We will be putting a call out to our young adults to join in this effort.

We discussed a group loosely based on the idea of the Community Service Corps that operate in many of our local school. This could be a Parish Service Corps open to people of all ages to address needs as surfaced by the commission.

Due to the construction, the freezers for St. John's Hospice and Aid for Friends have been relocated to the Narthex near the Cry Room. Please drop off and pick up your items there.

## 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.

The live stream Project is now operational. We are in need of people to be part of the "Tech Team" to run the system for the masses and parish events. Please contact the rectory if you would like to help.

## A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE JUBILEE FUND!

Thanks to all of you who have made a donation. We have received over \$50,000 towards our goal of \$85,000. These funds are very much needed for the upkeep of our facility. Please prayerfully consider a donation if you have not already done so.



**THE JUBILEE FUND**  
St. Anthony's Jubilee Fund is an annual collection to provide operating funds for necessary parish projects including infrastructure and maintenance.  
Your gift helps to sustain the heritage of faith that has animated is since 1886; from the beginning our parishoners have answered the call for support with generosity.  
**CELEBRATING OVER 132 OF FAITH**  
**OUR HERITAGE OF FAITH IS YOU!**

## Liturgy & Worship Commission

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

Sunday June 10th the parish will celebrate the Feast Day of St. Anthony our Patron. As we did last year we will distribute St. Anthony Bread inviting us all to share this bread in memory of St. Anthony and in turn help the poor as he did.

On June 17th we will celebrate Father's Day with several dads giving witness to their experience of Catholic Fatherhood. We are still in need of 2 dads so give a call if you would like to give a 2-3 minute talk about being a Catholic dad.

We are looking to survey the parish about the liturgical experience here at the parish in the fall.

We are still looking at the prospect of banners for the church and research is ongoing.