

The Beacon

September, 2023

St. Anthony of Padua Parish Commission Newsletter

*A community of Christ's Disciples
A beacon of hope to our world*



The seven 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, community and Jesus.

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 will support the Eucharistic Procession on October 15, by providing mini pretzels and water bottles for those participating.
- The Baking Committee will provide baked goods for the participants in the Wild Goose series.
- The commission has begun planning discussions for the Live Nativity.
- The commission continues to provide a delicious meal for the members of the Core Team. Thank you!

 Join us
for
Donuts!
after the 8:15 & 10:30 AM
Sunday Masses
October 8th

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.

A suggestion was made to change the name of the commission to more accurately reflect what they do. There are many projects around the parish in which parishioners could be involved depending on their gifts and talents. It was suggested to maintain a list of people who are able to provide various services and tools that they are handy with. We can always use people who can put things together, set up and take down tables and chairs for events, transport items etc. We will investigate this concept further.



Are you handy?

Can you fix stuff?

Do you like to garden?



Join our Building & Grounds Commission



Youth and Family Commission

Encourage participation of children and families in the Parish through spiritual, service, athletic and social programs.

- There are currently 25 girls from Saint Anthony participating on CYO volleyball teams this fall.
- Registration for basketball is opening soon. Saint Anthony has youth in kindergarten through eighth grade involved in the basketball program. Last year 152 athletes from the parish participated and we are expecting at least the same this year.
- Saint Anthony will be hosting middle school dances again this year. Planning is in process and more details will follow.
- Fundraisers are being planned to benefit StAY. Trivia Night is already scheduled for 2024 and will be held on February 10th. A November fundraiser and the annual Saint Patrick's Day fundraiser are also being planned.
- Our first trip back to Artman is scheduled for Saturday morning on October 14th. We will be making a Fall craft with the residents.
- A StAY Mass and pizza dinner are being planned for a Saturday in November. Details will follow.

Works of Mercy Commission

Our mission is to identify and coordinate projects that enable our parishioners to give practical help to individuals and families in need using the corporal works of mercy as our guideline.

- The commission is sponsoring a Peanut Butter & Jelly Drive. The donations will be picked up by the Nutritional Development Services of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia which provides support for the needy.
- We continue to maintain the St. John's Hospice Casseroles and the Caring for Friends programs. Please contact the parish office if you would like more information on these.
- There will be a Thanksgiving Food Collection and we are still working out the details. We will be partnering with our CFF families on this project.
- We will be investigating future participation in the St. Vincent DePaul Society which has a organized and developed process in aiding the needy. We see a change on the horizon to our current program of food gift card distribution.
- We discussed other initiatives for the year: clothing collection for Brother House, Souper Bowl Soup Collection, Winter Works of Mercy Food Gift Card Collection, November Remembrance tree.

Peanut Butter and Jelly
Collection

Please donate a jar of
peanut butter or a jar of jelly
"A little bit of mercy makes the
world less cold and more just"

Pope Francis



Liturgy & Worship Commission

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

WORDS OF LIFE: COMING TOGETHER AROUND THE WORD OF GOD

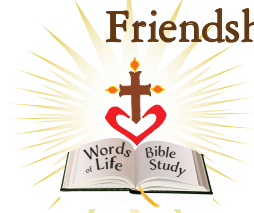
- Praying with Scripture, focused on the Gospel for the coming week
- Reading, teaching, discussion, and prayer
- Meeting twice a month on Thursday evenings in Friendship Hall

JOIN US AS WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD TO US,

Friendship Hall 7:00 PM

Please Join Us!

**10/5/23 11/2/23 12/7/23
10/19/23 11/16/23 12/24/23**



The commission would like to thank Eileen Groody, our retired Music Director for her many years of dedicated service. She will be missed. We would also like to thank Rob Bonner for his years of service on the Pastoral Council and the Commission. Lisa Campo will be our new chairperson taking over from Jane Longacre who along with George Moroney will be Pastoral Council reps.

We would like to collaborate with our new DRE Aileen O'Brien to resume the Children's Masses. We would like to meet with Fr. McGuinn to talk about the new direction of our Music Program and hope that he will talk with us at the next meeting. We would encourage people to consider joining our commission to make our liturgies the best they can be as they are the most public thing we do as a parish.

Little People's Sunday Worship Returns!

Little People's Worship starts October 8th during the 10:30 mass for ages 3 through Kindergarten.

Oct. 8 and at least 4 weeks after - Little People's Worship is offered during the 10:30 mass for ages 3 through Kindergarten. Your children may be dropped off in the meeting room downstairs before mass and picked up immediately at the conclusion of mass.



Stewardship & Advancement Commission

To help form gospel attitudes toward the stewardship of time, treasure and talent in the lives of our parishioners. As wise stewards of our resources, we intend to draw on the rich Catholic heritage of giving as well as to use contemporary means to spread the message of Jesus Christ.

- The commission members spoke at the Masses on the weekend of September 23 & 24 on the importance of Discipleship and Stewardship. As followers of Christ, we are called to be good stewards of all that we have been gifted by the Lord: our time, talent & treasure.
- The parish will be conducting an increased offertory program this November. We will all be asked to prayerfully consider our giving particularly of our financial treasure.
- We considered our current Parish Mission Statement which is in need of a revision. The Pastoral Council has also been tasked with this job. We would like to better reflect our role as Missionary Disciple.
- We will continue our current practice of advertising events such as the Live Nativity on the large digital display at Ambler Savings Bank.
- Please consider using E-Giving if you are not currently doing so. E-giving is safe and secure and has been very beneficial to the parish, particularly during Covid. As a result, we have been able to continue funding our parish program and ministries.

Parish Giving

—SIGN UP FOR ELECTRONIC GIVING—

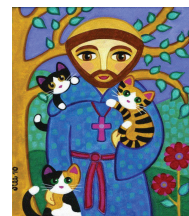
Evangelization & Adult Faith Formation Commission

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 mission is to find ways to lead people to Christ and help deepen the faith of those who already know Him. Currently we are working on these initiatives:

- The Wild Goose video series. The Irish call the Holy Spirit the "wild goose". Series invites us to a new or renewed encounter with the Holy Spirit. The presentations will take place each Sunday between the Masses and on Tuesdays after the 8:15 AM daily Mass. You can join at any time as each episode is independent.
- Eucharistic Procession: Taking God to the Streets of Ambler. Sunday October 15 @ 12:00 Noon. We will be carrying Our Lord on a route through our town making His powerful presence known to all the community. People unable to walk can stay in the Mary Chapel to pray. Please call the office for information on the route.
- Blessing of the Animals on October 7 at 9:00 AM.
- Blessing of Cars in advance of Holiday Travel: Sunday November 19th at 2:00 PM
- Live Nativity on Thursday December 7 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM.

Blessing of the Animals
For the Feast of St. Francis
Saturday, October 7, 2023
St. Anthony Parish
9:00 AM Church Parking Lot



Parish Priorities for Missionary Discipleship

Win Build Send

Win People to Christ:

Win more people to come and see who we are, and who Jesus is.

Build up existing relationships with Jesus:

We will work to build spaces where people can come to know Jesus better by fostering opportunities to accompany them as they grow in their relationship with Jesus.

Send people out as Missionary Disciples:

Help our people develop habits and skills to enable them to be sent to out into their families, community, and the world to intentionally tell the story of Jesus.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE INVOLVED?
PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR
NEXT COMMISSION MEETING
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 18 @ 7:00 PM
FRIENDSHIP HALL
ALL ARE WELCOME!