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VOICE



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St. Anthony Church...Behind the Scenes

If you were to google "behind the scenes," this is what AI will generate for you: "Behind-the-scenes work in film and television involves the various processes and personnel that contribute to the creation of cinematic magic before it reaches the silver screen. It is the unseen part of the production that drives a movie's journey from concept to completion."

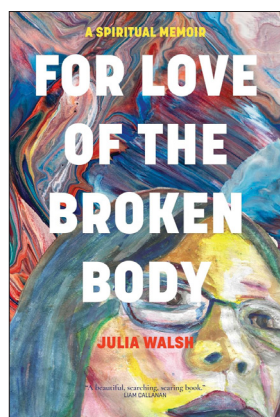
If you Google "behind the scenes at St. Anthony Church" you probably won't get an AI generated result, but after reading this issue of The Voice, you'll have a better appreciation of some of our parish's unsung heroes and the work they do. We take this opportunity to introduce them to you, and to thank them for their dedicated service.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

STA Book Club book: *For Love of the Broken Body*, by Julia Walsh
Meets EVERY THURSDAY from October 9–30 at 10 a.m.

OCTOBER.....

9-30 STA Book Club, every Thursday,
10 a.m. Faith Formation Office



19 Community Sunday, O'Malley
Hall, after 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.
Masses

26

Knights of Columbus Omelet
Breakfast, O'Malley Hall, 8
a.m.–12 p.m.

NOVEMBER.....

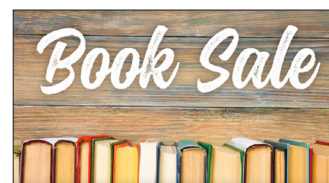
1 Rescue Mission Meal, St. Anthony
provides meal/servers

2 Prayer Service of Remembrance,
5:30 p.m.



7-9

Used Book Sale, O'Malley Hall



16 Community Sunday, O'Malley
Hall, after 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.
Masses

DECEMBER

4 STA Book Club, every Thursday
10 a.m., Advent Book TBA, Faith
Formation Office

4 Advent Prayer Service, 5:30 p.m.

10 1st Reconciliation for 2nd
Graders, 6:30 p.m. in Church

14 Community Sunday with Santa

Questions? Check the bulletin or website for more information, or call the Faith Formation Office.

Garden Maintenance

Being an active member of our parish doesn't always require a lot of time or money. When it comes to sharing our time and talent with the parish, "There is always something we can do to help," says Jane Rollins. About 18 years ago, Fr. Dan Knepper asked Jane and Ralph Rollins to help maintain the St. Anthony gardens. Jane thought it was the perfect way for her to contribute to the parish and still focus on her family. They first started taking care of the small garden to the right of the Rosedale entrance doors. Many other people took sections of the rest of the campus to divide up the work. They all helped each other. Jane remembers Tom McDermott and Vince Crimmins as being big helpers. Over the years, many people have had to quit for various reasons. Jane and Ralph are currently taking care of the garden maintenance on our campus with the help of our maintenance staff Tom Kluesner and Duey Meyer.

Helping with garden maintenance isn't hard but does require some muscle. That is Ralph's job, jokes Jane. Most of the gardens are well established and only need weeding. They check it every week or so and pull weeds when necessary. In cases where the garden gets torn up, as was the case recently when putting in the new steps at the church entrance, Jane and Ralph do put in new plants. Jane says she enjoys working outside and will often pray while she plants and weeds. She also wants the church campus to look nice. Jane and Ralph encourage others to get involved even just helping with a small task.

If you would like to join Jane and Ralph in keeping the gardens on our campus looking nice, please call the parish office for details. A heartfelt thank you to Jane and Ralph Rollins and the many past volunteers for their service to our parish.



Ralph and Jane Rollins, garden maintenance volunteers

Speaking of gardens: Pat works tirelessly in our food plot throughout the growing season, planting, weeding, watering, and harvesting. Most of the produce is shared with the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, and some is made available to parishioners "free for the taking" at tables in our church gathering space.



Money Counters

Have you ever wondered what happens to your donation once you leave it in the collection basket at Mass or at the parish office? We have many dedicated volunteers to help with this process. After Mass, the money is put in the safe where it is stored until Monday morning, when the counting begins. On Monday Alice Peterson, Joe Tollari, Lee Baumhover, and Theresa Gulyash come together to count the money brought in from the weekend Masses. Counting is never done by one individual. They always use dual control for accountability and accuracy. Any loose cash collected

goes to offertory and the checks/envelopes go to the budget. They double count everything that comes in. They count the money from the envelopes in batches and another person double-checks the count for accuracy. Deposit slips are made out and then Alice and one other counter will take it to the bank. Receipts from the bank deposit are given to the St. Anthony bookkeeper to record. The whole process takes about 1.5 hours. The busiest times are the first two weeks of the month and around holidays.

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When asked how they came to be money counters, the answer was the same: they were asked. Alice, a retired bank teller, has been volunteering the longest at 21 years. Joe (a retired teacher) and Theresa (a stay-at-home mother who worked at AY McDonald before children) have been volunteering for about 15 years and Lee (a retired Deere worker) for about 10+ years.

They really enjoy helping out St. Anthony's and we appreciate their service to our parish. They often times will stay after the counting is done to enjoy a cup of coffee and each other's company. A warm thank you to Alice, Joe, Lee, and Theresa for the wonderful work you all do!

Altar Linens

We've invited a guest to our house for dinner. It's someone we love deeply and for whom we have the highest respect. How do we prepare? We clean the house, plan the meal, and set a welcoming table. And when that guest is Jesus, we prepare ourselves, our church, and the altar table so that we can welcome Him as a faithful and loving community of believers.

We may take for granted that the altar is set at each Mass with a beautifully laundered and pressed altar cloth and a square linen cloth called a corporal to catch fragments of the consecrated host. Purificators are prepared for Fr. Steve to cover the chalice and for Eucharistic ministers to use after individuals receive the cup. It is a group of faith-filled and dedicated women who launder and press these important and symbolic Eucharistic cloths. Sharing her motivation for serving in this way, Jane Rollins says, "It is a blessing to me to know the linens are used at the holy Mass—the source and summit of our Catholic faith."

Bernie Giese credits Mary Tilp who taught her years ago how to perform this gift of service. "I rinse the linens in warm soapy water in case there are any particles of the consecrated host or consecrated wine on the linens. I pour the rinse water into the ground, not down the sink. Yes, even in the cold, snowy winter months, the water goes into the ground. Then I wash, dry, and iron them as normal." Bernie's source of inspiration for her work comes from 1 Corinthians



Altar Linen Volunteers from L-R: Jane Rollins, Bernie Giese, Carol Kalb, Pam Zimmer, Jenny Stork and Mary Jo Danner. Not pictured: Judy Dolter, Rose Maiers and Lynn Connolly

10:31, "So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God."

We offer prayers of gratitude for the many years of service provided by Linda Connolly, Judy Dolter, Bernie Giese, Rose Maiers, and Jane Rollins, and for more recent volunteers, Mary Jo Danner, Jenny Stork, and Pam Zimmer. Thanks as well to Carol Kalb who prepares and distributes schedules to all in this important ministry.

Bulletin Proofreaders

Many hands make light work. We are blessed to have many volunteers to take care of the needs here at St. Anthony. One of those needs is proofreading the bulletin draft before it is submitted to be printed. We have 12 volunteers and three subs who take care of the job. The proofreaders are Mary Kay Rhomberg, Judy Indihar, Larry and Lynn Pape, Carl and Pat Wubben, Rose and Roger Maiers, Marianne and James Imhoff, Ann Mulligan, and Mags Young. The subs are Mary Burbach, Valorie Woerdehoff, and Michele Anderson.

The parish secretary will have all the information that goes in the bulletin for that week, plus a bulletin draft ready to go when the proofreaders arrive Tuesday morning. Proofreaders usually are paired up and rotate weeks. They will read through all the information and double-check the bulletin draft to make sure it is correct and make edits when necessary. When finished, they will give everything back to the secretary to correct before it gets submitted to LPi for printing Tuesday afternoon. This proofreading process takes about an hour or so.

I asked Judy Indihar how she became a proofreader. She said when she retired in 1997, she wanted to do something useful so she decided to volunteer in the



Proofreading volunteers. Not pictured: Marianne and James Imhoff

rectory. She heard that volunteers were needed for proofreading the bulletin and serving funeral dinners. She said she was asked if she wanted to help and she said yes. She has been volunteering ever since. That is 28 years of dedicated service at St. Anthony parish! Judy has made great friends since volunteering and loves to meet new people. We thank all of our bulletin proofreading volunteers for their dedication to service here at St. Anthony. If you wish to become a bulletin proofreader, contact the parish office.

Generations of Faith: Radical Hospitality



Several years ago, St. Anthony parish launched a program called "Generations of Faith (GOF)". As the name suggests, it's a model of faith formation that involves the whole parish, from our youngest to our oldest

members. Integrating faith formation with community life and service, the goal of GOF is to welcome everyone to learn, grow, and live in faith together.

Last month our Generations of Faith event focused on "Radical Hospitality," the profound practice of opening our hearts with love, empathy, and generosity to others. Karen Hoeger and Deacon Bill Hickson informed their audience of middle and high school students and adults about the work of Catholic Charities in our community. Lisa McGrane, a teacher of English Language Learners, engaged our kindergarten through fifth grade children with stories and activities to help them act with particular kindness toward children whose culture is different than their own.

Regardless of age or experience, all who participated left with a greater awareness of who is in greatest need of hospitality and how to reach out with love and empathy.





Season of Creation

In 2015, Pope Francis established the time from September 1 to October 4 as the liturgical Season of Creation, a time of deep prayer, action, and advocacy to care for our common home. In his reflection on the season, Pope Leo stated that this year's theme, "peace with creation," is an appropriate one as we are called during this Jubilee year to be Pilgrims of Hope. He concludes: I pray that Almighty God will send us in abundance his "Spirit from on high" (Isaiah 32:15), so that these seeds and others like them, may bring forth an abundant harvest of peace and hope.

St. Anthony parishioners celebrated the Season of Creation with a September 2 prayer service.





Totus Tuus Update

By Maci Helle

The city-wide Totus Tuus was a great success! The students had an amazing time during the week learning about Christ, the sacraments, and the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary. They also had fun with the missionaries

as they played games, watched skits, and ran around splashing each other with water on the final day.

St. Anthony Grade School Reunion: A Time-honored Annual Event

By Shirley Lanners

The annual St. Anthony Grade School Reunion was held on September 3, and attended by over 100 alumni of St. Anthony grade school (and a few spouses). The attendees were from 8th grade graduating classes ranging from 1948 to 1991. Many have attended this all-school reunion annually since it began in 2011!

The reunion is held on the first Wednesday of September. It includes a catered buffet meal served at noon. The event also includes time for reuniting with old friends and a short program.

The average age of alums attending this year was 77 (class of 1962). They are officially "middle-aged." Individual graduating classes work to stay in touch over the years. It is widely agreed that friendship bonds formed in grade school hold special meaning vs. those of high school. Modern social media has made it easier for classmates to keep up with each other. They use online school apps, Facebook groups, and email.

In the past, the event was held at different locations. It started at Breitbach's in Balltown in 2011, and was moved to a banquet room at the Diamond Jo Casino in 2017. It was not held in 2020 due to COVID, but resumed at the



Reunion volunteer organizers: Mags and Lenny Young, Lynn and Larry Pape, and Shirley Lanners



Kitchen Volunteers

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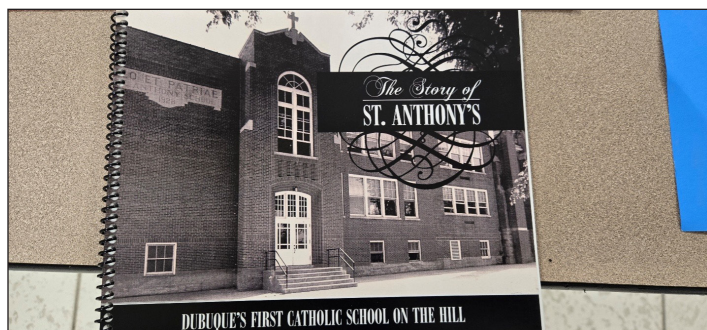


Diamond Jo in 2021-2022. Finally, it moved to O'Malley Hall in 2023, and has been there since.

The 2025 reunion committee for the annual St. Anthony Grade School Reunion includes: Shirley Lanners ('66), Larry Pape ('57), and Lenny Young ('62), all current parishioners.

This spring, we updated the alumni "roster," lovingly maintained over the years by previous alums. Then we sent out emails and mailed invitations to the previous reunion attendees and others on that roster.

Each year, the reunion committee tries to reach out to alums from one or two "younger classes" and hopes for word of mouth to attract new alumni faces. The committee is grateful to St. Anthony Parish for placing announcements in the bulletin, and for the use of O'Malley Hall for the event. It is like a true home-coming for many.



National Catholic Youth Conference

The National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) is right around the corner. St. Anthony will be sending a group of 13 to Indianapolis in November. We will be joined by thousands of other teens and adults from across the country. While at NCYC we will have the chance to listen to witness talks, celebrate the sacraments, meet new people, and enjoy the fun that surrounds the conference.

As the group prepares and the event date draws closer, prayers would be greatly appreciated.





Used Book Sale

Mark your calendars for this year's St. Anthony Used Book Sale which will be held Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, November 7-9, in O'Malley Hall.

Thanks to the spring collection, we're off to a great start for the book sale—thank you! We still need more children's books and novels. Please drop off gently used books in the white donation bins which will be at the church beginning the weekend of October 4th.

We are looking for volunteers to sort and box books throughout the month of October. During the weekend of the book sale, there are many ways in which you can lend a hand. Contact Becca Brosius at the Faith Formation Office for information on volunteering.



The proceeds from the Book Sale will support a food packaging event (meals packaged are donated to those in need) which will be held at St. Anthony in the new year. Thank you for your continued support!

WANT TO HELP? CONTACT:

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WANT TO GET INVOLVED? We welcome additional assistance. If you are interested in contributing to our quarterly newsletter, from writing articles to donating photos, please contact Valorie Woerdehoff at: vawoerdehoff@gmail.com