

## Welcome Deacon Jason and Susie Myres!

Hello to everyone at St. Anthony of Padua Parish! My wife Susie and I are thrilled to join your parish family and want to thank you for the warm welcome we have already received.

A little about us: I grew up on the north side of Kenosha, attended Kenosha schools, and have lived in the area most of my life, except for time spent in Germany with my dad and in Texas and Florida during my military service. I am an Air Force veteran, having served as an airplane mechanic for several years. After the military, I built and managed several local businesses and auto dealerships.

I am a convert to Catholicism from my family's Evangelical Christian roots. With a deep interest in theology, I jumped right into the deep end—teaching first graders! I have taught multiple grades over the last 12 years as a catechist and have been very involved with confirmation programs. With my love of music and singing, I was an active member of the choir at St. Mary's in Kenosha from 2012 to 2020. I entered the Diaconate formation program with Susie in 2018 and was ordained to the Permanent Diaconate in 2022 in one of the largest classes in recent Archdiocesan history. I enjoy golf, long walks, and deep conversations about theology and philosophy.



Susie's family is originally from the Chicago suburbs, where she attended Catholic schools and graduated from Dominican University's PR & Communications program in River Forest, IL. She had her own "conversion" when she crossed the Cheddar Curtain to Wisconsin in 1997! Her professional background is in marketing and communications, serving as Marketing Director for many years in various corporations. In 2015, she opened a retail home décor store called The Rusty Gate in Lake Geneva, then Burlington, which she operated for 10 years. She not only built farm tables and custom décor pieces but also taught arts and crafts classes to the community and leads ladies' art and prayer retreats in Door County. Today, Susie and I work together publishing LAKE Magazine of Lake Geneva.

We married in 2014 at St. John the Baptist Parish in Paris and in 2020 joined their congregation, which was part of a cluster of four parishes including St. Francis in Brighton, St. Mary in Dover, and St. Robert Bellarmine in Union Grove. We were both leaders on the festival committees—I focused mainly on catechesis and gathering lost sheep, while Susie served as the Art & Environment (church décor) chairperson and was very active in organizing fundraising events, hospitality, Lenten mission speaker series, and other special events. If there is an opportunity to bring people together or raise funds over food—especially baking cookies—Susie is all about it!

Susie is especially excited to work on a renewed focus with the Women's Group and looks forward to gathering with the ladies and building bonds within the parish community through prayer, fellowship, creative fun, and exciting adventures!

We are very much looking forward to getting to know everyone and working with Fr. Todd and all of you to serve Our Lord Jesus at St. Anthony's Parish according to His mission.