



# ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC PARISH

*Christ the King and Holy Spirit Churches*

## FACILITIES GENERAL MAINTENANCE MINISTRY

*Providing Care, Saving Money*

Not only does our Facilities General Maintenance Ministry save the parish money, but it also gives the members an opportunity to use their time and talents to make sure both campuses are in top shape.

Kirk Freeman and Frank Ehrensbeck work together to coordinate the ministry work. There are six teams, with each having six members, working on a rotating schedule over six weeks.

“The teams do spring clean-up as a large group on both campuses,” Kirk says. “Then we rotate and take care of mowing, weeds and general grounds work. For other projects beyond the regular maintenance, we’ll often reach out to the Men’s Ministry.”

The Facilities General Maintenance Ministry was organized when Christ the King and Holy Spirit parishes merged.

Members signed up when they understood that the work was something each could do.

Coordinating the teams is done through text messages that begin the week each team is slated to work. Everyone keeps a close eye on the weather, however, when the decision to work is due. Some of the teams work on Wednesdays or Thursdays, while others choose Saturday. The parish provides the



*Autumn means falling leaves, and members of the Facilities General Maintenance Ministry work to keep our campuses clean.*

mowers and some weed trimmers, but the members bring their own equipment.

Although the campus of Christ the King is compact, the Holy Spirit grounds are expansive, with the back lot covering nine acres.

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## GOOD *for the* GIVER

Here's a simple riddle: Name something you can't keep if you don't give it away, but if you give it away, it will increase.

The best answer to this riddle, if you haven't already guessed, is love. But the beauty of this paradox is that there can be a number of different answers. Another response might be artistic talent. Ask any artist, and they'll tell you that their skill for drawing or painting diminishes after a few weeks or months of inactivity. But the more they paint, the more their talent grows.

We also see this truth illustrated in nature. The Sea of Galilee, teeming with fish and other wildlife, is one example. All of the water in this beautiful reservoir is constantly being drained through the Jordan River, which stretches for about 60 miles, providing the only fresh water for all of Israel. It finally drains into the Dead Sea, which has no outlet. It is consequently stagnant and totally lifeless, continually evaporating into thin air.

The point, in a nutshell, is that the good steward takes care of his or her gifts by giving them away. As a result, you won't have less left over, but will instead have more!

There is a story about St. Teresa of Calcutta and her visit to one of the hundreds of convents she had founded. The Superior of the convent told her, "Mother,

we don't have enough time to do our work with the poor; there's just not enough hours in the day." St. Teresa responded, "Then you need to pray more." When the convent added another full hour of prayer each day, they somehow found that they had enough time to do even more for the poor in that city.

The difficulty with this idea – that by giving we receive – is that it is still a struggle to give. When we arrive at the moment of giving, it appears on the surface that we will have less left over. This is especially true regarding money. When writing a check to a charity or to the parish, you mathematically end up with less money to spend on other things. And yet, the immaterial value of our sacrifice is immeasurable. This is why Jesus speaks so frequently in the Gospels about the spiritual benefits of giving to others. We do have more after we give, but it is simply more of something else – and something better.

When we emphasize stewardship, it is not primarily to increase "volunteerism" or to swell our budget. Indeed, our first aim is always the "good of the giver." It is not because the parish has needs, but because we have a need to give. We recognize that the model Steward is Jesus, who gave all, even His very life, so that we may have everything.

### ***Stewardship in Nature***

*The Sea of Galilee stays fresh and healthy because it "gives away" all its water through the Jordan River. When all that water is finally drained into the Dead Sea, it stays there, becoming stagnant and lifeless. Human beings are the same way. Giving of ourselves is one of the main ways we stay spiritually healthy.*



## A LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

# Remembering America is a Gift from God

Dear Parishioners,

We're all familiar with the song "America the Beautiful." Many of us share the feelings that inspired Katharine Lee Bates when she composed it as a poem.

*O beautiful for spacious skies,  
For amber waves of grain,  
For purple mountain majesties  
Above the fruited plain!  
America! America!  
God shed His grace on thee,  
And crown thy good with brotherhood  
From sea to shining sea.*



Katharine Bates drew her inspiration from her experiences during the summer of 1893. An English professor at Wellesley College in Massachusetts, she went to teach summer school at Colorado College, necessitating a journey across the country. The trip's highlight came when she reached the pinnacle of Pikes Peak and could gaze upon range after range of the Rocky Mountains on one side and the expanse of the Great Plains on the other.

Moved by the vistas around her and the varied features of America she had seen, an idea for a poem and some of its words formed in her mind atop the mountain. That night, back in her hotel room, she completed the poem.

I think the reason for the popularity of "America the Beautiful" is that it combines several themes into one coherent whole. The beauty and immensity of America's natural creation, the rich abundance of our harvests, and the recognition of God's generosity are woven together. The final product forms a hymn of thanksgiving for our land that goes beyond national pride to prayer, for God is the spiritual source for all the goodness we have.

I think it's a suitable theme for July, the month we celebrate Independence Day, our national holiday. Thankfulness, after all, is the basis of stewardship, the

recognition that we've been given all we have. We're then responsible to the Giver for the use we make of His gifts.

The gifts we celebrate are manifold. Some are of a spiritual nature — our salvation by Christ and the sacraments, for example. Others are in the natural order, such as the beauties of creation and abundant harvests. Still others relate to social relationships, like families, friends and national life. Whatever the class of these gifts, God is their ultimate source, and they are blessings.

Let us then receive these gifts — the time, talent, and treasure entrusted to us — with thanksgiving. Let us offer praise to the Father of mercies for them, and let us use them in His service.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Zenthoef".

Fr. Alex Zenthoef  
Pastor





## TAKING CARE OF DETAILS:



*Couples who get married at Annunciation are blessed by the assistance of our dedicated wedding planners, giving them the opportunity to fully enter into the celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.*

There are many details when it comes to planning a wedding. There is the menu, the DJ, the favors, the decorations – the list goes on and on. However, here at Annunciation, we hope to help couples fully enter into the most important part of their wedding day. With the help of our wedding planners, couples getting married at our parish are able to let go of concern for the details of the ceremony and fully enter into the liturgy, as they are joined together in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.

Michelle Weisman has served as the volunteer wedding planner at Christ the King for the past 12 years, and loves having the opportunity to take care of the ceremony details, so couples can be fully present to the graces they receive in the sacrament.

She helps in a number of ways, from assisting the couples in choosing decorations, to setting up and helping with the rehearsal, to managing all the details, the day of the wedding and cleaning up the church after the ceremony.

“I stay there all day to make sure the church is taken care of, to be the hostess and the sacristan, to do the behind-the-scenes stuff – being the ‘mom’ for everybody,” Michelle says with a smile.

“When you see the stress in someone’s face, I love to be that person who can be like, ‘Take a breath – you don’t have to worry, I’ll take care of it, I’ve got it covered,’” she adds. “I love that. I’m here to make sure the sacrament is carried out to its fulfillment and to make sure it’s as stress-free as possible for these couples. I enjoy it immensely.”

Elizabeth Casteel, our Director of Music, helps couples at Holy Spirit to create a beautiful environment – both in the church itself, and in the music they choose for their nuptial Mass.

“I always hope that the wedding couple has an entirely enjoyable day within our beautiful Holy Spirit sanctuary and that they look back on their photographs and realize how truly amazing everything looked and how smoothly the ceremony went,” Elizabeth says.

# Our Wedding Planners

"I love helping the couples select music because I can direct them in choosing music that will truly make their day special," she adds. "I love serving the wedding couples because it gives me great joy to help make their special day beautiful and holy."

The work that both women do helps to create a peaceful atmosphere where couples and their families are free to enter into the moment, being present to the graces that the couple is receiving.

"The families are so appreciative and it fills my heart knowing that I was able to help them," Michelle says.

"People will come back and say, 'It was so stress-free knowing that was taken care and we didn't have to deal with it. So many things on our list were taken care of.' I want them to come in and focus on the sacrament."

The women hope that couples will look back on their wedding day, grateful for a beautiful experience, beginning their life together.

"I know that in the years ahead, the couples will remember the elegant beauty and the reverence of the Holy Mass, and that memory will sustain them in their future lives," Elizabeth says.

**If you would like more information about getting married in our Annunciation Parish, or if you would like to volunteer to help our wedding planners with decorating, set-up, and clean-up, please contact the parish office at 812-476-3061.**

## Facilities General Maintenance Ministry

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"It's a huge amount of money that is saved," Kirk says. "There is a lot of time that has to go in at Holy Spirit."

The time is considered well-spent, however, when parishioners arrive at either campus.

"There definitely is a sense of pride when they come up to the church and see the grounds and the grass that has just been cut," Kirk says. "It looks like it's cared for. We take pride in our work, making sure it looks like it's always been maintained."

It can be hot, tiring work, but caring for our church lawns also offers care to the ministry members' faith lives.

"In my experience, you're taking time where your

heart is," Kirk says. "These are people who are willing to do it. We're there as a group, but you are also in solitude and you get into a kind of contemplative mind. It's a good reminder when you're around the church. You can't help but ponder the questions you have. For me, it's good, and I hope it is for everyone else."

Additional members are always welcome in the ministry.

"Life circumstances change," Kirk says. "Some sign up to help and for one year, it's great, but the next year, life happens. And if we have extra hands,

**Anyone who would like to join the ministry may call Kirk Freeman at 812-305-3837.**



## MASS REVERENCE AND ETIQUETTE

For many of us, when we are invited to a wedding, one of our first considerations is “what am I going to wear?” We wouldn’t think of showing up at a formal event in our workout clothes. How many of us search for just the right outfit to wear to our annual office party or on a date? Compare that to how much thought we put into what we wear to Mass on Sunday.

How we dress for an occasion indicates the importance that we place upon that particular celebration. At Mass, we encounter God through the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Dressing appropriately for Mass is one way that we show respect both for God and for our faith family. And this respect is important at all Masses – no matter what time of day or night.

Think about what you are teaching your children when you all wear your “Sunday clothes” to Mass. You are reminding them that Mass is a special celebration. After all, we are going to Jesus’ house.

Some people may quickly point out that Mass shouldn’t be a fashion show – a place to show off your finery – and they are right! We also know that some parishioners come to Mass on their way home from work, and they certainly should not feel embarrassed about arriving at Mass in their work clothes. And no one should ever stay away from Mass because of simplicity of clothing.

But one rule should apply in all instances – our attire at Mass should always be modest. Our clothing should never distract others from what we are gathered together to celebrate – the life, death and resurrection of our Lord.

The celebration of Mass is always a holy occasion and thus should be treated in the most holy manner – in body, mind and spirit.

### NEW WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

#### **Saturday**

*4:00 p.m. at Holy Spirit*

#### **Sunday**

*7:30 a.m. at Christ the King*

*9:00 a.m. at Holy Spirit*

*11:00 a.m. at Christ the King*

### NEW WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

**Monday:** *No Mass*

**Tuesday:** *7:45 a.m. at Christ the King*

**Wednesday:** *7:45 a.m. at Christ the King (Summer)*  
*8:30 a.m. at Holy Spirit (School year)*

**Thursday:** *7:45 a.m. at Christ the King (Summer)*  
*8:30 a.m. at Christ the King (School year)*

**Friday:** *7:45 a.m. at Christ the King*

### CHANGES TO ADORATION

Weekly adoration every Wednesday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Christ the King church. This will begin on the first Wednesday of August (Aug. 7). The Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be offered during this time.

*We will no longer have adoration on the Third Tuesday of the month at Holy Spirit.*

*First Friday adoration at Christ the King will continue.*

### CHANGES TO CONFESSION

**Tuesday:** *7:15-7:30 a.m. at Christ the King*

**Wednesday:** *7:15-7:30 a.m. at Christ the King (Summer);*  
*5:30-6:20 a.m. (during adoration once it begins on August 7)*

**Thursday:** *7:15-7:30 a.m. at Christ the King (Summer);*  
*8-8:15 a.m. at Christ the King (School year)*

**Friday:** *7:15-7:30 a.m. at Christ the King*

**Saturday:** *3-3:45 p.m. at Holy Spirit*

## PRIVILEGED TO SERVE:

### *Our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion*

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The moment a person receives the Eucharist is a deeply intimate and sacred one. In that instant God, the Creator of the entire universe, and His creature become one in a truly miraculous way. For, St. Cyril of Alexandria says, “as two pieces of wax fused together make one, so he who receives Holy Communion is so united with Christ that Christ is in him and he is in Christ.” This is why, says coordinator Diana Braun, becoming an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion is such an incredible privilege.

“It allows a lay person to uniquely give assistance in the liturgical celebration,” she says. “Through it, you are no longer you, but instead an instrument for God’s purpose.”

Diana Braun first became involved in the ministry after learning there was a need for additional volunteers several years ago. So she submitted her name and underwent the necessary training to begin assisting the priests and deacons at Mass. Little did she know that she would later become the parish secretary, at which point she began coordinating the ministry along with fellow parishioner Diana Dewig.

Working together, these ladies are responsible for scheduling ministers for each liturgical celebration, as well as individuals who can bring Communion to the sick and homebound when the priests or deacon are unavailable. Tasked with literally bringing Christ to His people, these liturgical ministers must be in good standing with the Church and have been both commissioned and approved by the bishop.

“Interested parishioners contact one of us, and then Diana Braun sends their name to the diocese where they are commissioned,” Diana Dewig says. “This commissioning is important because it is such a tremendous privilege to help share the Body and Blood of Christ with the congregation. It’s also a beautiful way for parishioners to more fully participate in the Mass.”

“Afterward, we schedule a training meeting where all the new volunteers’ questions are answered,” Diana Braun says.



Though volunteers are welcome to assist with any of the weekend liturgies, there is currently a need specifically for the Saturday 4 p.m. Mass at Holy Spirit and the Saturday 5:30 p.m. Mass at Christ the King. Ministers are able to serve as frequently as they wish and substitutes are available any time a minister unexpectedly cannot serve.

“We understand when life changes,” Diana Braun says. “We schedule Eucharistic Ministers through Ministry Scheduler Pro and the program automatically takes in any ‘can’t serve’ dates when

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# ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC PARISH

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submitted before it plans the schedule. It also sends emails as reminders and sub requests when one is needed. Most of the time, we have to use ministers two to three weeks in a row because of people's schedules. We are grateful for those ministers who are willing to serve often. We would like, however, to have so many people that ministers would only have to serve once a month."

***"It is such a tremendous privilege to help share the Body and Blood of Christ with the congregation. It's also a beautiful way for parishioners to more fully participate in the Mass."*** — Diana Dewig

The ministry is available to any Catholic adult willing and able to serve, whether they are in their early 20s or their 90s. Interested parishioners may contact the parish office at 812-476-3061, or email either Diana Braun at [dbraun@evdio.org](mailto:dbraun@evdio.org) or Diana Dewig at [ddewig@evdio.org](mailto:ddewig@evdio.org).

### WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday:** 4:00 p.m. at Holy Spirit  
**Sunday:** 7:30 a.m. at Christ the King | 9:00 a.m. at Holy Spirit | 11:00 a.m. at Christ the King

### WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

**Monday:** No Mass | **Tuesday:** 7:45 a.m. at Christ the King | **Wednesday:** 7:45 a.m. at Christ the King (Summer), 8:30 a.m. at Holy Spirit (School year) | **Thursday:** 7:45 a.m. at Christ the King (Summer), 8:30 a.m. at Christ the King (School year) | **Friday:** 7:45 a.m. at Christ the King

#### Confessions:

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Wednesday: 7:15-7:30 a.m. at Christ the King (Summer); 5:30-6:20 a.m. (during adoration once it begins on August 7) | Thursday: 7:15-7:30 a.m. at Christ the King (Summer); 8-8:15 a.m. at Christ the King (School year) | Friday: 7:15-7:30 a.m. at Christ the King | Saturday: 3-3:45 p.m. at Holy Spirit

#### Adoration:

Wednesdays: 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Christ the King. This will begin on the first Wednesday of August (Aug. 7).  
First Fridays: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at Christ the King