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# VOICE



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## K-8 Religious Education Finds New Time By Dave McDermott

One of COVID's silver-linings was a chance to pause and evaluate some of our long-running parish programs in a new light. The easy path is to keep doing what we always have, but sometimes programs need to be rethought and renewed.

The Faith Formation Staff decided that beginning this year, the religious education (R.E.) for our Kindergarten through 8th grade students would be better and more dynamic on Sunday mornings instead of Wednesday evenings. Sunday mornings, when our faith-community gathers, allow students more opportunity to witness and participate in liturgies and connect what they just learned in class to Mass. We will have a deeper pool of potential R.E. teachers on Sunday versus after a long

work day. Students will be less tired, not having been in school all day. It is our hope that it feels less like school this way. We contacted other parishes that moved R.E. to Sunday mornings and all have said they are pleased with the change and encouraged us to do the same.

Learning and living Catholicism is a process, that in part, involves book learning but just as important, being a part of a community. We want students to see and learn how that community operates and have models of what lived-faith looks like. We are confident that the best time for our students to learn the faith and how they can live and grow in that faith for the rest of their lives will happen on Sunday mornings.

## October: Respect Life Month By Sister Margaret Anne Kramer

Each year during the month of October, the Catholic Church in the United States, celebrates Respect Life Month, a time in which we are invited to reflect on the dignity of every person.

Often during the month, the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick (also referred to as the sacrament of the sick) is celebrated. In the past, it was called Extreme Unction. Unction means an anointing with oil which is part of the Sacrament- extreme- the Sacrament was usually administered in extreme cases- in other words when the person receiving it was in grave danger of dying. Anyone whose health is impaired by sickness or old age can receive the sacrament—it is not limited to one's end of life and can be received many times. The sacrament provides *grace, healing and strength*.

Through the ministry of the priest, the sick person's forehead and hands are anointed while saying:

“Through this holy anointing, may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up.”



# Golf Outing: a WINNER for the Parish

By Wayne Schumacher

We would like to thank families, friends and donors for their generosity in this event. The September 19th St. Anthony Golf Outing raised \$5,113 to assist St. Anthony Parish with the creation of a family space in the parish hall with soft seating and AV equipment. The space will allow parents to let their small children play while still watching and listening to the Mass taking place in the church. This is one piece of a larger plan to ensure all our families feel welcomed and cared for by our parish community.

Our golf outing also provided 88 St. Anthony parishioners and friends with the opportunity to enjoy an afternoon of golf at Bunker Hill, plus friendly fellowship for an added 34 participants (122 total) of a fine Kalmes dinner. In addition to golf and dinner, the event also hosted croquet, bean bag and putting competition!

Following the awarding of golf prizes, twelve items were auctioned. These items included a one week stay in Florida, a weekend Bed and Breakfast at the DeSoto

House in Galena, a pool party for 15, fine dining, and golf packages at area courses.

Thanks again to the Saint Anthony family, friends, and donors for helping raise money to assist our parish in its family space improvement project. St. Anthony Parish is especially thankful to the 26 businesses and individuals who sponsored holes and the 28 other businesses that donated prizes.

A special thanks goes out to the high school students who did a great job in helping with set-up, loading and unloading golf bags, and running the croquet and bean bag stations. They are:

John Maloney, Mia McDermott, Emilia Borelli, Nora Bruxvoort, and Jonah Bruxvoort.

Watch for the 2022 St. Anthony Golf Outing and Dinner next September.

## ST. ANTHONY FAMILY GOLF OUTING COMMITTEE

Pat O'Neill, Gary Gansemer, Dave McDermott, Jim Brimeyer, Dan Mulligan, Bob Kalb and Wayne Schumacher





# Emmaus Update

By Chuck Kutsch

Some of you may remember our last Emmaus weekend in March of 2020. Shortly after the weekend, Covid took control of our lives and prevented us from doing our usual reunion. Then, Emmaus 2021 did not happen as we were just coming out of a long year of fighting the pandemic.

This summer, the Emmaus core team met multiple times to discuss the possibilities of doing an Emmaus 2022. The core team consists of the rectors from the past three Emmaus weekends. After much discussion and lots of prayer, the team was concerned that Covid could prevent an Emmaus this winter. We realize many people may not feel comfortable gathering in large groups and that could affect the attendance. We know some people are probably ready for a weekend, but we want to make sure we can do it safely. With all this uncertainty some would not feel comfortable enough to commit to a weekend.

We discussed ways that we could keep the spirit of Emmaus alive if we did not do a weekend. The team has come up with the idea of doing a mini weekend. It will be an EMMAUS RECONNECTION. The details have not all been worked out, but it would consist of an afternoon program lasting three to four hours. It would probably take place after mass on a Sunday afternoon and would provide an opportunity for people to reconnect with those they have become close with through previous weekends.

We were planning our first reconnection when the Covid variant started gaining ground. We have decided to pause a little longer and see how things look in a few months. This is how we can keep the Emmaus community engaged until we feel it is safe to do a regular Emmaus weekend. Stay safe and pray that we may get together soon.

## Book Sale: It's BACK!

By Ronnie Larkin

As with many activities in our parish community, the Take Away Hunger Book Sale was omitted from the parish calendar in 2020. As we slowly attempt to return to some sense of normalcy, we are excited to bring back the Book Sale to O'Malley Hall on the first weekend in November, with Friday as an added day.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

**Friday, November 5, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, November 6, 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, November 7, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

Covid is still with us, so this will be a mask required event. Masks will be available at the door if needed. Hand sanitizer will be set throughout the room and we encourage social distancing as much as possible.

For the past two years, books have been donated on a fairly regular basis and the storage area has been filled to the brim with many quality books. There's something for everyone. The sorting crew will be busy during October to be ready to display their work. Topics are wide and varied. Main areas of interest are:

- **Fiction:** many organized by popular author, some in westerns, science fiction, mystery, action, romance, and a special table just for titles that have been read by many book clubs.
- **Biographies:** popular with our dedicated patrons and we have a good number of biographies.
- **History:** broad but lots under this topic.
- **Spiritual:** they are abound at our sale! If you need

a new Bible, there is sure to be one for you.

- **Children's:** always loaded with books for toddlers through middle school.
- **Young Adult:** in their own space as well.
- Also available: **self-help, hobbies, travel, cookbooks, animals, humor, finance, sports, poetry, Christmas, etc.**

In addition, there is a good selection of **CD's** and **DVD's** for music and movies. AND **sheet music** if you play piano or instrument.

**NEW THIS YEAR:** Donations will be received for all purchases. Whatever amount the buyer wishes to give will be accepted.

Proceeds will again fund a Take Away Hunger packaging event, which were also put on hold through the height of the pandemic. The Take Away Hunger core group is anxious to be back packaging and sending food to areas within our country or foreign nations who have food crises. We will hold a packaging event at St. Anthony's when it is a safe activity.

As we've witnessed over the years, the sale has a very positive impact of building our community. Those bonds forged over books can be life-changing. Please visit our sale to build some community and find great books to read! Thanks for all the support given to this project by so many!

# Status of our School Buildings

By Scott G. Leibfried

In light of the fact that Holy Family Catholic Schools will discontinue occupying our facilities at St Anthony Parish, Fr. Steve gathered a group of parishioners to investigate the situation as it relates to the parish. The goal of this task force is to propose a plan to the parish council and the parish at-large that is purposeful to the St Anthony Parish Mission for this and future generations.

Early in 2020, the Holy Family Schools Facilities committee and administration came to the conclusion that cost versus benefit of repairing the two school buildings on the St Anthony Campus was not a viable long-term option. Upon receiving this information, St. Anthony Parish reached-out to all parishioners to gain feedback around the ability and the will of the parish to build a new school. Using the cost of the current building project at Resurrection Parish as a benchmark, the St Anthony parishioner feedback was overwhelmingly not in favor of investing in a new school.

Upon this result, Holy Family Schools proceeded with transitioning the Our Lady of Guadalupe Elementary School that was located at St Anthony to the central campus where Wahlert High School and Mazzucchelli Middle School is located. Since the buildings at St. Anthony are still adequate, Holy Family Schools is currently utilizing this campus as a temporary site for the Resurrection Elementary School students during the 2021-2022 school year while that new school is being built. This is serving to be a blessing for St. Anthony Parish because this provides more time to formulate a plan and a path forward. There has been discussion that the students from St. Columbkille Elementary School may do the same during the 2022-2023 school year during a proposed school renovation at that site. This is not certain at this time, but could be a blessing for the same reasons.

Ultimately however, there will no longer be two school buildings at the St Anthony Campus being used as schools. We refer to these buildings as the Steinmetz Building (the one across the street) and the Stemm Building (the one connected to the church). Each of these buildings provide unique opportunities and challenges. Even though the Steinmetz Building is newer, it is in far worse shape. This task force cannot recommend rehabilitating or repurposing this building.

At this time, we are exploring options for this site such as green space, parking, selling, and etc. The better solution for this site should become clearer as we explore what we can do about the Stemm Building. The case regarding this building that is connected to the church is more challenging.

The Stemm Building is much older but in better shape. It once was a stand-alone building separate from the church. Over the years there have been additions which eventually connected it to the church. Beyond its main purpose for being a school, it houses critical infrastructure for the church. The (very old and inefficient) heating system for the church building is in the basement of the Stemm building. The recently updated air conditioning unit for the church building is located on the roof of the Stemm Building. The Sacristy behind the altar and conference room is also in this building. The task force is currently evaluating these and other considerations for the future of this building. The parish has needs that must be met and desires to further our parish mission. Whatever solution the parish ultimately arrives upon, a substantial financial investment will be required.

The people of St. Anthony have always stepped-up throughout our history and by God's grace we have great reason to believe this community will continue to thrive.

As we deliberate on the complexities we face with facilities, we are thankful for the blessings God has bestowed upon our parish community. St Anthony parish life is alive and vibrant. We have very strong faith formation programs, participation, services, and faith building. We continue to work towards solutions of good stewardship and pray for our faith community.

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## WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

We always welcome additional assistance. If you are interested in contributing to our quarterly newsletter, from writing articles to donating photos, please contact John and Jenny Stork at [jcstork@ibisci.com](mailto:jcstork@ibisci.com)