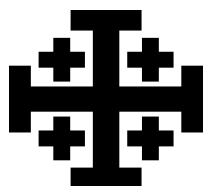


The Communique

VOLUME XVII, ISSUE I

FEBRUARY—MAY 2016

A newsletter for the parishioners of St. Ann Catholic Parish



Prayer on the Go!

Dear Lord,
Help us approach this new year as good stewards of your abundant gifts, with an awareness of your daily presence, and the obedient spirit we need to be your faithful servants. We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

Rejoice 2016!

St. Ann Parish is celebrating three momentous events in 2016! The year of 2016 is the 30th anniversary of St. Ann, as well as the 40th anniversary of Father Henry's ordination, and Father Henry's 70th birthday!

The "Rejoice 2016!" committee has planned multiple celebratory events. A kick-off celebration will take place April 30, 2016, at 4:00 pm, with the unveiling of the "Homeless Jesus" statue located on the west side of the main church on Samuel. Our guest list includes Bishop Kevin Farrell as well as many diocesan priests, Father Henry's extended family,

friends, local dignitaries, local church leaders, and of course St. Ann parishioners.

The Knights of Columbus Color Guard will escort the congregation into the main church after the unveiling. The presiding clergy will celebrate Holy Mass at 5:00. At the conclusion of Mass, the parish will host a picnic in the courtyard and Assembly Room. Food will be served along with a "Happy Birthday" dessert table of sweets. And we'll have entertainment for all ages. Extended family members of Father Henry will take the stage with him to delight the audience with musical selec-



tions and there will be additional entertainment celebration as well.

A special area will be set up for the younger members of the parish in the courtyard. There will also be a slide show presentation depicting Father Henry's achievements and lifetime of service to God and the Church, in the Assembly Room.

All parishioners are invited to attend and celebrate this special event.

Rejoice 2016! Committee

Jottings from Fr. Henry

Musings from the Pastor:

Dear Parishioners,

As this New Year begins, I thank God for His continued presence in this community and in my life. As most of you know, I fractured my ribs on August 10th in Breckenridge, Colorado and have been slowly healing these past months. On January 1, 2016, I began running a little and by the middle of January I was getting back to my running/walking exercise. I am sure that I will be ready to run the

Dallas Metro Marathon in December, 2016. Another reason for me to be filled with gratitude to God is that I will celebrate my 70th birthday on April 5th and my 40th Anniversary to the priesthood on May 1st. Also, our parish is celebrating its 30th Anniversary this year. So we have many reasons to rejoice. We have chosen two special dates when we will gather to celebrate and Rejoice in 2016. On April 30th we will have the unveiling of Timothy

Schmatz's "Homeless Jesus" and then after the 5pm Mass we will gather in the courtyard for food, music and fellowship.

The other special date is July 30th when we will celebrate St. Ann Feast Day and then gather again after Mass for food, fun and fellowship as we honor the pioneers of St. Ann. The details of these celebrations will be spelled out in other places but I hope you will all look forward to them.

(Continued on page 2)



Mass Times

Sat Anticipatory 5:00 pm
 Sunday 8:00 am
 10:00 am
 12 Noon
 & 4:30 pm
 (a High School Ministry Mass)

Spanish Mass (Main Church)
 2:00 pm
 Domingos-en Español 7:00 pm

Weekday Masses

Mon—Fri 7:00am, 12Noon
 Sat 8:00 am

Reconciliation

Directly after the Sat 8am Mass,
 Tuesday 7:00pm,
 or by Appointment

Homeless Jesus

This spring the St. Ann campus will be graced with a permanently installed Timothy P. Schmalz bronze sculpture of "Homeless Jesus." The sculpture was inspired by Matthew 25:40 "... *Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.*"

The Christ figure is covered in a blanket and the visible wounds on the feet are the only indication it is Jesus. Depicting the presence of Jesus with the marginalized in our society, the sculpture invites the viewer to sit with Christ and meditate or pray.

The purchase, transport, installation and landscape of the statue will cost approximately \$55,000. Parishioners and friends are invited to donate to the fund. All donations of \$250 or more, will receive a replica of the sculpture. Any monies collected over the cost will be donated to the Monsignor Henry V. Petter Endowment Fund for Peace and Social Justice. This interfaith fund supports life-sustaining support within the community.



St. Ann Parish will commemorate our celebrations during this Jubilee Year of Mercy, with the dedication of this "Homeless Jesus" sculpture unveiling on April 30, 2016, at 4:00 pm.

Contributed by Rejoice 2016!

Jottings from the Pastor

(Continued from page 1)

Another event that we look forward to this year will take place on May 21st at the Cathedral Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Dallas where two of our seminarians, Deacons Emmett Hall and Paul Bechter will be ordained to the priesthood. Emmett Hall will have his 1st Mass that same day at St. Ann at the 5pm Mass with a reception immediately after in the Assembly Room. Paul Bechter will have his 1st Mass on May 22nd at the 10am Mass with a reception in the Assembly Room immediately after the Mass. Paul will also celebrate the 4:30pm Mass on May 22nd.

Finally, one more reason to Rejoice in 2016 is that Pope Francis announced this year as a Jubilee Year of Mercy. It began on December 8, 2015 and it will

conclude on November 20th, the Feast of Christ the King. The Vatican website has a wealth of information about the Jubilee Year of Mercy. You can also find local information on our Diocesan website. You will find ways to obtain the Plenary Indulgence offered by Pope Francis. One special way of obtaining the Plenary Indulgence is to make a pilgrimage to the Cathedral and "Door of Mercy". The Diocese has set a schedule for the seven deaneries to make pilgrimages to the Cathedral during the Jubilee year. We belong to the North Central Deanery and the dates for our Pilgrimage will be June 2nd and June 16th from 7:30-8:30pm both nights. The Holy Hour at the Cathedral will consist of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, Litany of Mercy, Recon-

ciliation and Benediction. We will give you more details when we get closer to those dates.

Pope Francis has proclaimed a Jubilee Year of Mercy because, as he writes, "at times we are called to gaze even more attentively on mercy so that we may become a more effective sign of the Father's action in our lives." Our Heavenly Father is merciful! Therefore, we too are called to be merciful.

May God bless each of you as we Rejoice in His Mercy in 2016.

Yours in Christ,

Henry V. Petter
 Pastor

The Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy / UN AÑO JUBILAR DE LA MISERICORDIA



In the Bible, the book of Leviticus describes a special year called a “jubilee” that occurs every 50 years. During this year, God restores all creation to right relationship with one another and with Himself, their Creator, in whom they find rest. In the jubilee year, debts were cancelled, possessions returned to their rightful owners, slaves and prisoners freed to return to their families, and workers and crops rested. Just as a person today might take a sabbatical to rejuvenate themselves and grow in new ways, this “sabbath” year was a time for God’s people to trust in God’s care, receive God’s blessings in new ways, and share that newness of life with others.

Since the 14th century, the Church has declared a Jubilee Year every 25 or 50 years, dedicating that year as a special time to encounter God’s blessings, be forgiven of sin, and renew our love for God and one another. Once in a while, the Church will call a special, or extraordinary, Jubilee Year to coincide with a significant event or need in the world. Pope Francis sees a great need in the world today for all people to experience God’s love in real and tangible ways. That is why he has called for an extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy which began on Dec 8, 2015 and will end on November 20, 2016. As Pope Francis said “It is indeed my wish that the Jubilee be a living experience of the closeness of the Father, whose tenderness is almost tangible, so that the faith of every believer may be strengthened and thus testimony to it be ever more effective.”

To learn more about events and activities that focus on the Jubilee Year of Mercy at St. Ann, visit our website: www.stannparish.org/YOM.



En la Biblia, el libro del Levítico describe un año especial llamado “jubileo” este ocurría cada 50 años. Durante este año, Dios restauraba toda la creación e invitaba a las personas a una relación personal con otros y consigo mismo, es en su Creador, en donde se encuentra descanso. En el año del jubileo, las deudas eran canceladas, las posesiones devueltas a sus legítimos propietarios, los esclavos y prisioneros liberados para regresar a sus familias, y los trabajadores y las tierras de cultivos descansaban. Así como una persona hoy podría tomar un año sabático para rejuvenecer y crecer en forma nueva, este “año de reposo” era un tiempo para que el pueblo de Dios se detuviera y se confiara al cuidado de Dios, recibiendo las bendiciones de Dios de nuevas formas, y compartir esa novedad de vida con los demás.

Desde el siglo XIV, la Iglesia ha declarado el Año del Jubileo cada 25 o 50 años, dedicando ese año como un tiempo especial para encontrarse con las bendiciones de Dios, ser perdonados del pecado, y renovar nuestro amor a Dios y a los demás. De vez en cuando, la Iglesia va a llamar un Año Jubilar especial o extraordinario para coincidir con un evento o necesidad importante en el mundo. El Papa Francisco ve una gran necesidad en el mundo de hoy para todas las personas, de experimentar, el amor de Dios en formas reales y tangibles. Por eso ha pedido un Año Jubilar extraordinario de la Misericordia que empezó el 8 de diciembre de 2015.

“Es mi deseo, en efecto, que el Jubileo sea experiencia viva de la cercanía del Padre, como si se quisiese tocar con la mano su ternura, para que se fortalezca la fe de cada creyente y, así, el testimonio sea cada vez más eficaz.”

Contributed by Diana Macalintal

The Good News of Stephen Ministry!

Since Fr. Henry sowed the seeds for a new ministry of care, Stephen Ministry is firmly planted at St. Ann. In fact, it’s growing!

After five months of training last year, 21 potential Stephen Ministers at St. Ann became the first Stephen Ministry team when they were commissioned in June 2015. Since commissioning, every new Stephen Minister available for placement has been assigned to help a care receiver. The Holy Spirit has moved in remarkable ways, both for our new ministers and for those they serve.

Stephen Ministry is simply ‘walking’ with someone going through a difficult time—from the loss of a loved one or a marriage to joblessness or hopelessness. It’s one-to-one Christian care, encouragement and prayer for those who are struggling with any of the many life crises we encounter.

Last fall our efforts to recruit a new class of trainees resulted in an additional 19 potential Stephen Ministers. Here is the second class of Stephen Minister trainees:

Connie Anderson, Trudy Costa, Anita Crochet, Stephen Dodd, Maureen Emler, Cristina Fernandez, Pat Gruninger, Christina Kolassa, Wes Lewis, Millie Mont, Yari Perez, Zenaida Perez, Frank Robalino, Mary Robalino, Jani Rogers, Judi Sampson, JoAnn Schauf, Karen Shea and Rusty Umstead.

This group of 16 women and three men brings an incredible variety of life experience to our Stephen Ministry team. And the addition of six bilingual trainees is especially welcome as there are Spanish-speaking parishioners waiting for Stephen Ministers.

The support of parishioners, who suggest Stephen Ministry to friends and family who are hurting, is essential to the growth and strength of this ministry in our parish. It’s a blessing to see the seeds planted for Stephen Ministry take root at St. Ann!

Contributed by Maureen O’Malley and Diane Piper



A Reflection from Fr. Paolo

Very dear parishioners,

This past year has been a very rich and fruitful one for me with all of you at St Ann. I've enjoyed many occasions to learn a lot of good things, and especially many occasions to see how for you all the faith in Jesus Christ is the determining point for your life. I saw here a lot of good will to do something good for the glory of God and the salvation of souls.

The missionary impulse and spirit of which I was writing last year is a reality in St. Ann, joined with a great desire to be a welcoming community in the light of that mercy that inspired Pope Francis to indict a Year of Mercy starting from December 8, 2015. The announcement of the merciful love of God in Jesus Christ for all humanity, especially for the more suffering, poor and alone, is therefore my greater desire and goal, which I see very well shared in St Ann.

That's why I am also very happy to share with you something you already may know. It is the starting of a process of Evangelization in and through our parish: many wonderful initiatives and events are starting to take place, within the wave of that New Evangelization that was so urgent a call in Saint John Paul II, very much preannounced by the Second Vatican Council and all the following magisterium of the Church. For sure, the process is starting slowly, also because for many people the word "Evangelization" sounds a bit extraneous...! But it is not so for the Church: her very essence is to be an Evangelizing community.

For many years the Church provided very good education, sacraments and doctrine to help people to live a good life, and works of charity, which are very good, of course. But little by little the lives of Catholic people has become more and more separated from the main teachings of the Church; risking, then, to see the practice of Catholic faith as an external fulfillment of celebrations and some social activities. Somehow *secularism* (human and social life lived independently of God) is influencing greatly also our Catholic practice and life. This is very much confirmed by the USA statistics about the declining of Marriages and Baptisms, closing of churches, reducing of birthrate, increasing of family problems and youth problems, and so on and so forth. A real crisis is going on inside our Catholic Church, which may not be yet visible in St Ann, but not very far away either.

The answer to this was already present in the Second Vatican Council (1962-65), which after a difficult reception in the '60s and '70s has found in the New Evangelization an adequate interpretation. And this is what St. Ann is trying to do starting with the *Alpha program* and other initiatives intended to revive the spirit of the Early Church; Kerygma, Baptism, action of the Holy Spirit, charisms, small communities, etc.

I hope we all can enjoy and open our lives to this wave of grace that is coming to our parish, for our own good and the good of all people, especially the far away and suffering who are waiting for the Good News!

In Christ Risen

Fr. Paolo Capra

Muy queridos feligreses,

Este último año para mí ha sido muy rico y fructífero con todos ustedes aquí en Sta. Ana. He disfrutado de muchas ocasiones en donde he aprendido cosas buenas, y sobre todo he visto cómo para ustedes la fe en Jesucristo es el punto determinante para su vida. He visto aquí en Sta. Ana una gran voluntad de hacer algo bueno para la gloria de Dios y la salvación de las almas.

El impulso misionero y el espíritu de lo que yo estaba escribiendo el año pasado son una realidad en Sta. Ana, unidos con un gran deseo de ser una comunidad acogedora, a la luz de la misericordia que inspiró el Papa Francisco para encausar un Año de la Misericordia a partir del 8 de diciembre del 2015. El Anuncio del amor misericordioso de Dios en Jesucristo, para toda la humanidad, especialmente para los que sufren, pobres, solitarios y abandonados, es mi mayor deseo y objetivo, el cual veo muy bien compartido en Sta. Ana.

Es por eso que estoy muy feliz de compartir con ustedes algo que tal vez ya saben. Es el inicio de un proceso de evangelización en y a través de nuestra parroquia: muchas iniciativas y eventos maravillosos están empezando a tener lugar, dentro de la ola de la Nueva Evangelización, la cual era una llamada urgente en San Juan Pablo II, muy preanunciada por el Concilio Vaticano Segundo y por muchos documentos siguientes del Magisterio de la Iglesia. Por supuesto, el proceso está comenzando lentamente, tal vez porque para muchas personas la palabra "evangelización" suena un poco extraña... Pero no es así por la Iglesia: su esencia es ser una comunidad evangelizadora.

Durante muchos años la Iglesia proporciono' mucha buena educación, los sacramentos y la doctrina para ayudar a la gente a vivir una buena vida y obrar de caridad, que por supuesto es muy bueno. Pero, poco a poco la vida

de los católicos se ha separado de las principales enseñanzas de la Iglesia; así reduciendo la práctica de la fe católica a un cumplimiento externo de celebraciones, a devociones y ad algunas actividades caritativa. De alguna manera el secularismo (= la vida humana y social vivida independientemente de Dios y fuera de su voluntad) está influyendo en gran medida sobre nuestra vida de cristianos católicos. Esto se confirma por las estadísticas estadounidenses acerca de la disminución de los matrimonios y bautismos, cierre de iglesias, la reducción de la tasa de natalidad, el aumento de los problemas de la familia y los problemas de la juventud, y así sucesivamente. Una verdadera crisis está pasando dentro de nuestra Iglesia Católica, que puede no ser todavía visible en Sta. Ana, pero no es muy lejana tampoco.

La respuesta a todo esto ya estaba presente en el Concilio Vaticano Segundo (1962-1965), lo cual después de una recepción difícil en los años 60 y 70 ha encontrado en la Nueva Evangelización una Interpretación adecuada. Y esto es lo que Sta. Ana esta tratando de hacer comenzando por el *Programa Alfa* y otras iniciativas destinadas a revivir el espíritu de la Iglesia primitiva: Kerigma, el bautismo, la acción del Espíritu Santo, los carismas, una nueva iniciación cristiana, etc. Posiblemente, después de este pequeño comienzo esperamos que nuestra parroquia, unida a otras, se abra ad algunas realidades inspiradas por el Espíritu Santo desde varios años, y que están renovando la vida de la Iglesia y la fe de los católicos. Entre ellas están los movimientos apostólicos y nuevas comunidades, ya aprobadas por la Iglesia.

Espero que todos podamos disfrutar y abrir nuestra vidas a esta ola de gracia que viene a nuestra parroquia, por nuestro propio bien y el bien de todas las personas, especialmente los que se encuentran alejados, por los que sufren y esperan la ¡Buena Nueva!

En Cristo Resucitado

P. Paolo Capra

St. Ann Staff News

The Adult Religious Education department is proud to announce that two new hires who have been long-standing St. Ann parishioners. Both ladies wanted to work part-time and they met the job qualifications to fulfil the role as the ARE Administrative Assistant.

Jackie Scofield joined us in July and assists with RCIA, bible studies, retreats, workshops and other adult formation classes. Jackie is married to Dan Scofield and they have five grown children. Jackie and Dan are actively involved in various ministries: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Alpha, CRHP, and the Evangelization Work Group. Jackie's favorite past-time is reading.

Chusi Gerhlein joined us in October and

assists with the Spanish speaking programs that are offered for RICA, CCF retreats, workshops and formation classes. Chusi was born and raised in Tapachula, Chiapas, Mexico and is fluent in Spanish. Chusi and her husband Tom Gerhlein, have two sons.

Chusi and Tom have been involved in various ministries: Teams of Our Lady, Christ Renew His Parish, EMHC, Magi Ministry, Good Samaritan and as volunteers for SAY. In her free time, Chusi likes to be outdoors and enjoys exercising and cooking.

Please join me in welcoming these two wonderful ladies to ARE. Both are an asset to St. Ann!

Contributed by Maria Zavala



Chusi Gerhlein



Jackie Scofield

Get the St. Ann App!!!

St. Ann has developed a mobile app to better engage parishioners, visitors, and those who may be looking to make the St. Ann community their spiritual home. This app provides a great way to find information on sacraments, daily Mass readings, schedule of events, ministry webpages, Mass announcements, weekly bul-

letins, and more.

Check it out and find links to each of the app stores at the link below ...or search the App store for St. Ann!

<http://www.stannparish.org/app> (Compatibility with iPhone, iPad, Android, Amazon, and Windows Phone)

Special Needs Advent Social

On December 5, 2015, St. Ann had the honor of hosting the Diocese of Dallas Advent Social for Special Needs Families. Families from across the Dallas Fort Worth area came to enjoy the evening. It was a wonderful event that included Mass, food, singing Christmas carols, craft activities, pictures with St. Nicholas, and even some dancing! Father Kevin attended and gave everyone a blessing before the meal, while also visiting with some of the families. Father Henry also mingled with the families, and gave them a special treat by playing his harmonica.

We would like to thank all of the wonderful St. Ann volunteers who helped with this event! We would especially like to thank the

Special Needs Work Group who did much of the planning, The Men's Club who did an awesome job helping with parking coordination, and Catholic Daughters and Calloway's who provided beautiful centerpieces for the tables.

If you are interested in the Special Needs ministry, or have ideas/concerns/opinions about Special Needs services at St. Ann, please take our survey on the St. Ann website at:

<http://stannparish.org/cre-special-needs>

Or contact Debbie Kaluza at 972-393-5544 ext. 1201 or:

crespecialneeds@stannparish.org

Contributed by Debbie Kaluza



Sisters in Christ

Happy New Year from Sisters in Christ! Last year's annual Women of St. Ann's Ready the Way Advent Brunch sponsored by Sisters in Christ on December 5 was another big success! The approximately 250 guests enjoyed a delicious brunch prepared by the Knights of Columbus, shopped the over 70 theme baskets and were inspired by Laney Sherburne's talk titled "What do you give to the One who has everything? The Gifts of the Magi". Fr. Henry treated the crowd to his special harmonica renditions of "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" and "Silent Night". Because of the generosity of the women attending, Sisters in Christ will be donating funds to several parish organizations, as well as sponsoring the annual Sisters in Christ Day of Reflection.

The 2016 Day of Reflection will be at Mount Carmel Center in Dallas on Saturday, April 16; Jani Rogers will be the featured speaker. She is a wife, mother and grandmother who has been an active St. Ann parishioner for 24 years. Jani is the founder of the St. Ann Youth Ministry and is an accomplished international speaker, trainer and author. Mark your calendars now for this

beautiful, spirit filled day; watch the bulletin around the beginning of Lent for further details. Please call Marianne Southwick at 214-763-3882 for more information.

Sisters in Christ has seven groups that are currently active at St. Ann. These groups meet regularly in individual homes to focus on strengthening our Catholic faith by providing spiritual support and growth through small group book study and personal sharing. Each group decides on its own study, along with when and where to meet. Sisters in Christ is open to all women who want to be more connected to our parish through friendship and fellowship because we are all Sisters in Christ. For anyone interested, plans are also underway for a Spring Get Acquainted Tea to introduce all potential new members to a group. Contact Marie Zavala in the St. Ann Adult Religious Education Office at 972-393-5544, ext. 1860 for more information.

Contributed by Linda Benzing



St. Ann Men's Club—Thanksgiving Basket Annual Drive

Starting in 1994, the St. Ann Men's Club began a tradition of organizing and distributing Thanksgiving Baskets to those in need on the Sunday before Thanksgiving Day.

What is involved with this annual event?

Each year we begin organizing the annual Thanksgiving Basket drive in September. We reach out to the communities that we delivered baskets the prior year and begin to gather the list of recipients. It is vital that recipient information is kept confidential and that the recipients are willing to accept the basket.

We also reach out to local grocery stores and schedule food drives in late October or early November. This past year we conducted two food drives at the Kroger store on MacArthur and the Market Street store on 121 and Denton Tap. We have coordinated our purchasing power with the Carnival to obtain better prices on turkeys, other perishable items, and canned goods that are not typically donated. Likewise, we reach out to companies to help with our drive.

This past year Fresh Point Produce donated 6,250 pounds of potatoes, US Foods donated the refrigerated truck and Cagney Logistics provided a box truck. We also received sign donations from MSigns, discounted prices from Walmart, and additional turkeys from Costco.

Our beautiful St. Ann community's generosity with cash donations, food donations and volunteers comprises the majority of the Thanksgiving Basket needs. Thank you to everyone for making each year such a wonderful success!

What does a Thanksgiving basket contain? A turkey, cooking pan, gallon of milk, 5 lb. bag of potatoes, stuffing, mac & cheese, pie crust, 12 rolls, pie filling, 2 cans of corn, 2 cans of green beans, cranberry, mixed vegetables, peas, gravy mix, pumpkin pie mix, and approximately four miscellaneous items....and lots of Love.

This last Thanksgiving, St. Ann community distributed 1,225 baskets on Sunday, November 22, 2015.

Contributed by Eddie Provencio



Celebraciones Marianas / Marian Celebrations

Maria Ejemplo Familiar

Como cada año, desde 1999, nuestra parroquia celebra con gran alegría la novena y fiesta a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. Este año, tuvimos la gran bendición de tener al Padre Rogelio Segundo del Templo de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en Tierras Negras, Celaya, México. Desde el 3 al 12 de diciembre 2015 el Padre Rogelio compartió su conocimiento de Nuestra Morenita como ejemplo de humildad y amor. Durante la novena, el Padre Rogelio ofreció confesiones diarias, oraciones especiales y su tiempo para los parroquianos. Hubo una asistencia de 450 personas diariamente y tuvimos la gran dicha de que nos acompañara nuestro Vicario Padre Paolo Capra y Monseñor Henry Petter.

Concluimos con la gran fiesta el día 12 de diciembre que comenzó con serenata y las tradicionales mañanitas a Nuestra Virgen. Estas, a las que asistieron 2,200 devotos, fueron dirigidas por los locutores de la radio "La Bonita" 106.7, Alex "El Capi" y Lucero Hernández en colaboración con los mariachis y matachines. Al final de la Santa Misa, concluimos con un convivio matutino.

Mary Family Example

Like every year, since 1999, our parish celebrates with great joy the novena and celebration to our Lady of Guadalupe. This year we had the great blessing of having Father Rogelio Segundo Escobedo from the Temple of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Tierras Negras, Celaya, Mexico. From December 3 through the 12th, Father Rogelio shared his knowledge of our Lady as an example of humility and love. During the novena, Farther Rogelio offered daily confessions, special prayers and his time for the parishioners. There was an attendance of 450 people daily and we had the privilege of having our Vicar Father Paolo and Monsignor Henry Petter with us.

We concluded with the great celebration on December 12th that started with the traditional serenade, in which 2,200 people attended. These were led by announcers Alex "El Capi" and Lucero Hernandez from the radio station "La Bonita" 106.7 FM and were accompanied by mariachis and matachines. At the end of the Holy Mass, we concluded with a morning gathering.

In the afternoon, we began with a procession accompanied by the Knights of Columbus, matachines, the Imperial Brass band, our priests and community. This was immediately followed by the Holy Mass in which 2,000 devotes attended. We finished the celebrations with a gathering in which 1,300 people were served food and enjoyed the various traditional Mexican folkdances which were directed by Silvia Parra.

En la tarde iniciamos una procesión acompañados por los Caballeros de Colón, matachines, la banda Imperial Brass, nuestros sacerdotes y el pueblo procedido con la Santa Misa en la cual asistieron 2,000 feligreses. Finalizamos el gran día con un convivio sirviendo a 1,300 personas que disfrutaron de bailes folclóricos mexicanos a cargo de Silvia Parra.

Les agradecemos por su participación con esa alegría y amor que siempre caracteriza las fiestas de nuestra querida Virgen de Guadalupe.

Asociación Guadalupana

Por más información:

Omar Montemayor- (972)653-0001

Perla Aguillón-(972)607-6099



We would like to thank you for your participation with that joy and love that always characterizes these celebrations of our Lady of Guadalupe.

Association of Our Lady of Guadalupe

For more information:

Omar Montemayor-(972)653-0001

Perla Aguillón-(972)607-6099

Contributed by Miguel Aguillon

American Heritage Girls

American Heritage Girls is a national character development organization for girls ages 5 to 18 that embraces Christian values and encourages family involvement. Girls can experience outdoor activities such as camping, and develop leadership, character, and social skills in the safe environment of an all-girl program. AHG also provides a platform for girls to know the Lord and to “put legs on their faith” through service opportunities. Girls are grouped into units based on their school grade: Pathfinder (P-K), Tenderheart (1st to 3rd), Explorer (4th to 6th), Pioneers (7th to 9th) and Patriots (10th to 12th). Older girls have the opportunity to earn their Stars and Stripes Award, which is AHG’s equivalent award to the Boy Scout’s Eagle Scout Award.

Troop 1027 was formed in Fall 2012. Our troop number, “1027”, was selected from Luke 10:27 “Love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, mind, soul and strength and love your neighbor as yourself.” We meet the first Saturday of every month from 12 noon to 3 pm in the Life Lounge. Our girls work on learning life and leadership skills through a focus on Faith, Service and tons of Fun!

Among many activities we do, we participate annually in St. Ann’s Fall Carnival by helping out in Kiddie Land and providing the color guard for the opening flag ceremony of the Carnival. We are also super excited to bake and serve desserts for the Fish Fry on March 18, 2016.



AHG girls helping at the Carnival

We have an exciting 2016 program planned and would welcome visitors at any of our monthly Troop meetings. If you are interested in learning more about our program and/or visiting our troop, please reach out to our Troop Coordinator, Suzan Kearney, at suzankearney@gmail.com or our Scoutmaster, Rita Rossini, at casarossini@gmail.com.

Contributed by Suzan Kearney

Deaconate Ordination

On Thursday, October 1, 2015, 39 seminarians from the Pontifical North American College were ordained to the transitional diaconate during a celebration of the Eucharist. **Paul Stephen Bechter** and **Emmett Vivian Hall, IV** of the **Diocese of Dallas** were among those ordained.

His Eminence, Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York, was the ordaining prelate at the Ordination Mass, celebrated at the Altar of the Chair of St. Peter, in the Papal Basilica of St. Peter, in the Vatican.

During the ordination, the new deacons

promised to live a life of prayer, celibacy and obedience to their diocesan bishop. As part of the ordination rite, the Cardinal placed the Book of the Gospels in the hands of each candidate being ordained and said, “Receive the Gospel of Christ, whose herald you have become. Believe what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach.”

As part of the ceremony the new deacons are vested in a Dalmatic. Fr. Edwin Leonard had the privilege of vesting Deacon Emmett and Deacon Pete Markwald had the

privilege of vesting Deacon Paul.

The new deacons will have an additional year of theological studies and spiritual formation before being ordained to the priesthood on May 21, 2016 in the Cathedral in Dallas.

The following day both new deacons celebrated as new deacons at Masses.

In addition to their families there were others from St Ann that made the trip.

Contributed by Deacon Pete Markwald



Deacon Pete and Jackie Markwald and Deacon candidate Dave and Marie Dusse with Deacon Paul at his first Mass



The new deacons with the St Ann group that made the trip



Fr Edwin Leonard and Deacon Pete Markwald with the new Deacons

St. Paula's Patrons

IN THEIR WORDS

I joined SPP (St. Paula's Patrons) at the invitation of one of my friends. She kept telling me how much fun this group is having. Once I went to the first meeting, I knew I wanted to return. Although there are many things I would like to say to express how much I enjoy being with this group of ladies, I believe I can summarize it by repeating what I heard someone say some time ago: "if the eyes of the attendants light up when you enter a room, it is because they are happy to see you". I feel the love of this fellowship when in the company of these ladies.

Maria

A couple of years after my husband passed away I was told of a widow's group that was forming and they asked if I wanted to join them. All were very friendly and it sounded good but I had some reservations. I continued to attend and what a blessing. A group of widows, under the patronage of St. Paula, meets for social gatherings and service projects. Socially we gather for games and refreshments, go out for dinner or a movie. Some of the service projects are: *Threads of Hope*, packets for the homeless, setting up for Lenten dinners and other volunteering opportunities at St. Ann. Whatever we do there is always joy, laughter and friendship. Thank you Martha, Helen and Angela.

Rosemarie

Compassion and fun is seldom linked together, but with St Paula's widows, it is what makes our Ministry operate. It is truly a place where one can say to another, "I know how you feel" and mean it as each has lost a spouse. There is a wide range of ages yet as we gather each month we become one in spirit. A wonderful group of ladies who do so much good for others, and as the saying goes, "the more you give in the name of Jesus, the more you receive in His graces". I'm very happy I belong to such an outreach where there is much laughter, lots of joy and happy bonding with each other.

Nora

I have been a widow for 6 years and have been a member of the St Paula's Patrons for most of that time. Being able to help with our service projects like setting up for the Lenten Fish Dinners, helping with the Magi gifts, dresses for the orphans, bags for the homeless, etc. has been very satisfying. Along the way I have made many friends. Our social get-togethers have been a lifeline. Being with other ladies that have been widowed and know how you feel has been very helpful in the healing process. Thank you St Paula's for being there when I needed you.

Linda

The *Threads of Hope* portion of St. Paula's has been a life-saver for me as I attempt to adjust to widowhood. Sewing has always been my best talent, yet I no longer am motivated to sew for myself. Finding a ministry where I could fulfill a real need has given me a new purpose in life. It allows me to work at home, stay with my "special needs" dog, and enjoy a hobby that I really love. I can fill empty time with something worthwhile and can stay busy on the long weekends, especially when my kids and grandkids are out of town. Thank you for this valuable ministry. It is a blessing from the Lord.

Martha N

I have been a member of St. Paula's Patrons for the last four years and have enjoyed being a part of the group. All the ladies are so gracious and willing to share their time and talent with others. I especially enjoy making dresses for the children in third world countries. Knowing that we are helping these children in a small way is very heart-warming. Please consider joining us if you are a widow.

Faye

Contributed by members of St. Paula's Patrons



St. Ann Community Carnival

The Carnival started as a fund-raiser for the Youth program and expanded into a three-day event that provides fun and funds for the entire Metroplex. Carnival preparation is a year-round activity organized by a dedicated core group of volunteers. During the weekend of the Carnival we'll need more than 1800 volunteers to help everything run smoothly. The event attracts more than 20,000 visitors and proceeds help to support not only St. Ann Parish, but also the surrounding community. Organizations that have benefited from previous Carnival proceeds are the St. Ann Building Fund, Coppell Civic Departments, Christian Community Center in Lewisville, Met-

rocrest Service Center in Carrollton, various Scouting programs, Kid Country in Coppell, and The North Texas Food Bank. The Community Carnival is held in the fall each year, the weekend after Labor Day.

The St Ann Community Carnival was voted best community event in Coppell in 2015!

The Carnival mission is to build fellowship among the surrounding communities and to provide the City of Coppell with a well-organized, fun and affordable family weekend.

Submitted by Tim Barr



Adult Religious Education Lenten Activities

This Lent, we will begin a new series - Doors of Mercy: Exploring God's Covenant with You. This 8-week journey through salvation history, from God's merciful promises to Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David, to the prophets' call to renewal, to the fulfillment of God's promises in Christ. **This is not a bible study, there is no written homework, just 8 sessions that will allow you to experience God's hope, healing and loving mercy. Even if you've never participated before, we invite each and every one of you to join us – you'll be so glad you did.** This series will be held on Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m. beginning February 23rd through April 26. Registration is required to ensure your book is ordered on time.

What are you giving up for Lent? Why not add something during Lent that will make a difference! As you begin your Lenten journey, consider attending the Parish Lenten Retreat which will be led by Fr. Kevin Wilwert. The retreat will be held on Saturday, March 5th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Room 311-314. The topic will be on *The Sacred Triduum: Bringing Liturgy to Life.* This retreat will be filled with inspiring insights, music, and time for reflection and prayer. Come learn how this beautiful season and its liturgies can bring meaning to your life.

To learn more about these and other classes available, visit our website: www.stannparish.org/ccf

Contributed by Tena Allain

St. Ann Youth (SAY)



Annual SAY Christmas Break Service Day. Close to 100 people (inc. parents & family members) gave their time to serve at the North Texas Food Bank. *Submitted by Mike Leminger*

Cub Scouts — Pack 820

Cub Scout Pack 820 is off to a great start to the '15-'16 program year! We are in year one of a brand new curriculum from the BSA for Cub Scouting that focuses on character development, participatory citizenship, personal fitness, outdoor skills and awareness, and leadership and life skills. Our Scouts are really enjoying all the new adventures in the curriculum along with our Pack 820 program traditions.

Highlights from the first half of the year include welcoming 23 new scouts to the Pack 820 family, a very successful popcorn fundraiser (thank you to all the popcorn loving patrons reading this!), a down-pour free campout to Bonham State Park, providing community service to the Coppell Biodiversity Education Center in planting a new rain garden, building our "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" float for the Coppell Christmas Parade, and racing custom Scout built cars at

our Pinewood Derby in January.

This February will be busy for us as we recognize our Scouts having achieved the requirements for religious emblems at Scout Sunday, collect canned goods for Scouting for Food, and hold our annual Blue & Gold ceremony to celebrate Scouting's "birthday", provide volunteer recognition, award the Arrow of Light achievement to our 5th grade Webelos Scouts, and officially transition them to Boy Scouts. More to come on this and spring fun in the next Communique! If you know someone interested in joining Cub Scouts and Pack 820, please email membership@pack820.com or call Cubmaster Daniel Gieselman at 469-360-0067.

Submitted by Dan Gieselman

Fr. Ben Cieply
celebrating Mass @ Fall
Campout



PAGE 10



Pack 820 elves @ Coppell Christmas Parade



Pinewood Derby
Winners

St. Ann Parish Stewardship Council



The year of 2015 was a busy and productive year for the St. Ann Parish Stewardship Council (PSC). The council dedicated this past year to creating a vision that fosters a culture of welcoming, hospitality and belonging at St. Ann. We are very excited about the welcoming plan that was developed and shared with Fr. Henry and parish leadership. The PSC is working in coordination with the Office of Evangelization to begin first initiatives. A core welcoming & hospitality committee is being selected that will champion the first stages of recommended welcoming strategies. We anticipate that in the coming months there will be a Welcoming Ministry developed as well. We look to the warm and talented St. Ann community to consider participating in some way in this ministry of welcoming. Stay tuned...you will see opportunities for this in the coming months.

This welcoming vision would not have been possible without the dedication of our PSC members who really rolled up their sleeves and produced a great plan. We are especially thankful to our coun-

cil members who just completed their third and final year on the council where they freely shared their talents: Po Chen, Jim Doyle, Tom Drinkwater, Rafael Hernandez, Jason Hess, Michael Maley, Phillip Mongeau, Kristine Ollom, Mary Sprong, Liz Tobias and Mark Valnes. We ask for your continued prayers for the PSC as we welcome new council members who are currently in the discernment process.

As the new year continues to take shape, we look to new beginnings and resolutions. The Parish Stewardship Council remains committed to challenging our faith community to live a life of gratitude by giving back to those around them.



Thank you for the many ways that you live a life of stewardship.

*Contributed by JL Radford-Williard & Fernie Fuentes
PSC Co-Chairs*

Lenten Fish Dinners

St. Ann Parish will once again be featuring **Lenten Fish Dinners** on Fridays during Lent in the Assembly Room. The cost for one time through the line stays the same as last year, and is \$7/adult, \$5 for children (ages 4 to 12) and Free for children 3 and under. We will have different seafood each week. Pasta will also be served with i'Fratelli marinara sauce and other various sides.

Everyone is invited to join us for dinner starting at 6:00 pm and serving until 7:30 pm starting Feb. 12 through Mar. 18. Tickets can be purchased at the door or on-line at our Parish website where you can also view the menu each week: www.stannparish.org. Our Chefs this year are John Bueno and Kathryn Coe, who have developed a menu each week around a different theme: Tex-Mex (featuring items from Ole's Restaurant), Italian, Cajun, French,

Asian and Traditional.

All proceeds from the **Lenten Fish Dinners** to help fund the High School Ministry Mission Trip to Laredo each summer. Last year, with the money raised by the teens, 180 teens were able to help restore 15 houses and run 3 Vacation Bible Schools for the children, with the donations of \$15,000 they received.



St. Ann will also have a weekly *Stations of the Cross* starting at 5:30pm and Mass at 6:00 each Friday evening during Lent in the main church. **Come join us for Friday's during Lent.**

Submitted by Tena Allain

Magi



HSM helping load Magi gifts



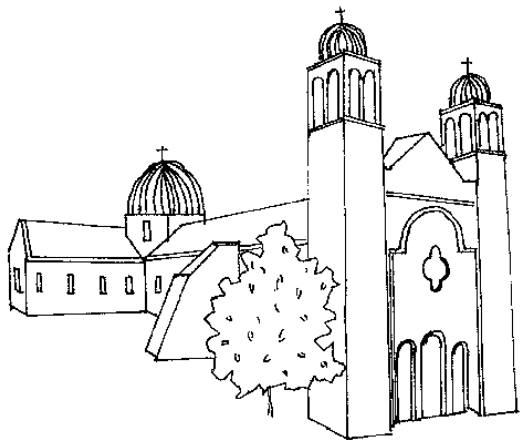
Parishioners helping with Magi gifts

THE COMMUNIQUE

A newsletter for the parishioners of St. Ann Catholic Parish

St. Ann Catholic Parish
180 Samuel Blvd.
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Henry V. Petter, Pastor
Phone: (972) 393-5544
Fax: (972) 462-1617
Email: parishoffice3@stannparish.org
www.stannparish.org

Upcoming Events

February

- 3—First Reconciliation Service in English
- 8-11—No C.R.E. classes
- 9—Volunteer Lenten In-Service (No C.R.E. Classes)
- 10—Ash Wednesday, day of fast & abstinence
- 10—2nd Collection: Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe
- 12—Stations of the Cross; 5:30pm (English) in main church & 7:00pm (Spanish) in main church
- 12—Lenten Fish Dinner, 6:00pm
- 14—2nd Collection: Black and Indian Missions
- 14—St. Valentine's Day
- 15—Presidents' Day/office open/meetings allowed
- 15,16,17—Parish Lenten Mission
- 15,16,17—No C.R.E. classes (Mission week)
- 18—Parish Lenten Reconciliation / Reconciliation. Service in main church
- 19—Stations of the Cross; 5:30pm (English) in main church & 7:00pm (Spanish) in main church
- 19—Lenten Fish Dinner, 6:00pm
- 21—KofC Pancake Breakfast
- 21—Bishop's Annual Appeal Pledge Weekend
- 22—First Reconciliation Service in Spanish
- 22—Sing Praise
- 26-28—SAY 6th grade Retreat
- 26—Stations of the Cross; 5:30pm (English) in main church & 7:00pm (Spanish) in main church
- 26—Lenten Fish Dinner, 6:00pm

March

- 4—Stations of the Cross; 5:30pm (English) in main church & 7:00pm (Spanish) in main church
- 4—Lenten Fish Dinner, 6:00pm
- 6—2nd Collection: Catholic Relief Services
- 6&13—No Sunday School
- 7-10 & 14-17—Spring Break, no C.R.E. classes
- 11—Stations of the Cross; 5:30pm (English) in main church & 7:00pm (Spanish) in main church
- 11—Lenten Fish Dinner, 6:00pm
- 13—KofC Pancake Breakfast
- 16—Diocesan Reconciliation / Reconciliation
- 17—St. Patrick's Day
- 18—Stations of the Cross; 5:30pm (English) in main church & 7:00pm (Spanish) in main church
- 18—Lenten Fish Dinner, 6:00pm
- 20—Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
- 21-24—No Religious Education Classes
- 23—Diocesan Reconciliation / Reconciliation
- 24—Holy Thursday / Jueves Santo, 7pm Mass only, English (main church) & Spanish (assembly room)
- 25—Good Friday / Viernes Santo, offices closed
- 25—2nd Collection: The Holy Land
- 25—Children's Journey to the Cross (11a.m.)
- 26—8pm Easter Vigil / Vigilia Pascual, English (main church) & Spanish (assembly room)
- 27—Easter Sunday / Pascua de la Resurreccion: The Resurrection of the Lord
- 28—Sing Praise

April

- 1-3—SAY 8th grade Retreat
- 4—The Annunciation of the Lord
- 9—First Communion Retreat in English
- 16—First Communion Retreat Spanish
- 23—St. Ann Men's Club Golf Tournament
- 24—2nd Collection: The Catholic Home Missions Appeal
- 24—Last Session for SAY Sunday Night groups
- 24—KofC Pancake Breakfast
- 27—Last Session for SAY Wed. Night groups

May

- 5—The Ascension of the Lord
- 7—First Communion Masses in English
- 8—Mother's Day
- 8—2nd Collection: The Catholic Communications Campaign
- 14—First Communion Masses in Spanish
- 15—Pentecost Sunday
- 29—KofC Pancake Breakfast
- 30—Memorial Day / Viernes Santo, offices closed

See the bulletin for all event details or the parish web calendar at www.stannparish.org.