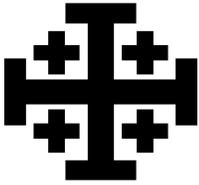


The Communique

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2002

**A NEWSLETTER FOR THE PARISHIONERS OF
ST. ANN CATHOLIC PARISH**



Prayer on the Go!

God of life and love,
You created us in Your
image. Instill in me a
respect for all life—
from conception to
natural death.
I pray I will always treat
the poor, the hungry,
the life of the unborn,
the ill and the aging
with respect and dignity.
I ask this through
Christ Our Lord,
Amen.

*“Gifts of life,
of love,
of forgiveness—
these gifts are
worth far more
than the gifts that
come in boxes with
bright ribbon.”*

A Brief History of St. Ann Parish

In 1984 two homemakers in Coppell started praying and talking about the possibility of getting together with other Catholics in town. Norma Gaffney and Sandy Jadlot were so anxious to find other Catholics in Coppell that they advertised in the local newspaper and on cable television to find them. An organization meeting was held and the 75 families that responded agreed to start a local religious education program and, someday, a parish.

In response to the group's petition for mission status, the diocese sent priests from nearby Mary Immaculate Parish in Farmers Branch to serve the small group, known then as St. Ann Mission in the rented church on Bethel Road.

One of those priests was Father Kilian Broderick, Director of



Original St. Ann sign on Bethel Road

the diocesan Catholic Charities. As the need for more services

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

A Season of Gifts

As you receive this issue of the parish newsletter, we will be approaching what, to my mind, is the most happy and joyful season of the entire year—the two bookends enclosing this wonderful time of the year—Thanksgiving and Christmas.

More than any other time of the year it is the season of celebrating families and the love that binds family members together. It is a time when bonds are renewed, distances are bridged, and relationships are celebrated.

One of the best aspects of this season is that it is also the season of gifts—gifts past, gifts present and gifts yet to come. Thanksgiving is the time to think of gifts past, especially the gifts that we have received through sharing our lives with family members, or the gift of a parent, a spouse or a child. So often we overlook the gifts we have received that have truly influenced and changed the course of our lives. We need to be especially thankful for these gifts—of life, of love, and of forgiveness.

These gifts are worth far more than the gifts that come in boxes with colorful wrapping paper and bright ribbon. Thanksgiving is the occasion to reflect thankfully on all the people great and small, who have entered our lives with the gift of themselves. All of us have become so much better because of their loving gifts.

The days before Christmas are the time many of us shop for gifts that we will give to others. The problem is that too

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Mass Times

Sat Anticipatory 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 am
10:00 am
12Noon
& 4:30 pm
(a Life Teen Mass)

Domingos-en Español 7:00 pm

Weekday Masses

Mon—Fri 7:00am, 12Noon
Sat 8:00 am

Reconciliation

Sat 4:00—4:45 pm
or by Appointment

When receiving Holy Communion, it is correct for the communicant to bow his or her head as a gesture of reverence.

THE COMMUNIQUE

Editor:
Regina Johnson

Publisher:
Andrea Gowans

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Marlene Yanelli

Our New Church—Did you know...?

The names of the main areas of our church are:

AMBO: The raised platform from which the Scriptures are proclaimed. It is constructed of Texas granite to match the altar.

APSE: The semi-circular portion behind the altar. Its function in early days was to bounce the sound back into the church.

BAPTISTRY: The part of the church containing the baptismal

font and used for baptismal services. It too is made of Texas granite.

NARTHEX: The vestibule to the church.

NAVE: The main body of the church flanked by the aisles, and leading to the Sanctuary.

SANCTUARY: The sacred space that holds the altar, ambo and altar apse area. This area is defined by the stairs.

TRANSEPT: The part of the church towards the front forming the two sides of the Sanctuary.

If you look at the floor plan of a church, you will often see the transept is perpendicular to the nave. This forms a design that looks like a cross and is called “cruciform”.

Contributed by Jerry Elizondo

Mass Etiquette

Bow before reception of Holy Communion

You may have noticed some people in the Communion line doing a slight bow from the waist right before receiving Holy Communion. It is liturgically correct for the communicant to bow his or her head as a gesture of reverence before receiving the Body of the Lord

from the minister. This sign of reverence is also made before receiving the Precious Blood.

Kneeling after Communion

After receiving Communion, it is appropriate to thank Jesus for coming to you in the Holy Eucharist. We return to our pews and sit or kneel in personal prayer, although some seem to

have a quick chat with God, and immediately look around as if it were intermission at the theater. Even though it is almost time to go home, it is appropriate to remain reflective and in prayer until the celebrating priest returns to his seat. At that time we may sit back in the pew.

Contributed by Andrea Gowans

A Season of Gifts

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
frequently we become lost in the selection and cost of a particular gift and forget that every gift we give is also a gift of ourselves.

Christmas, like Thanksgiving, is also a celebration of family—a celebration of our shared family life no matter how distant we may be from one another. It is a time of peace, of reconciliation, and of eternal hope.

Christmas is also the time to be thankful to the Father for the gift of his Son, Jesus. It was the greatest and best gift God could ever give to each of us. Jesus is the “gift that keeps giving.” In Jesus, God became and will always be Emmanuel. It is the love and forgiveness of the Father that we have received in Jesus that we are called on to give generously to others.

I hope this happy and holy season opens your eyes and heart to the many and wonderful ways that we have all been gifted. If it does so, then Thanksgiving becomes an every day feast and celebration, and all our life we realize that in Jesus God is always for us Emmanuel.

- Msgr. Broderick (Pastor)

Ministry Spotlight: Ushers

First found c.1280 and derived from the Anglo-Fr. "user," the American Heritage Dictionary defines *USHER* as being a person whose duty it is to greet people and show people to their seats or "an official whose duty is to make introductions between unacquainted persons or to precede persons of rank in a procession".

At St. Ann, Ushers do far more than find seats for people in the church. They are also responsible for keeping order and min-

istering to the body throughout the liturgy.

Led by Jorge Gomez, teams of well-coordinated Ushers get the church ready for the Mass by welcoming parishioners, assisting people to their seats, collecting the offering, helping with the presentation of the Gifts, facilitating the reception of Communion, and distributing bulletins. Ushers also coordinate emergency service, should a need arise.

With the completion of our new church, the number of worshippers has increased, so there is an increased need for ushers. If you have a friendly face and a willingness to help other people, why not share your gifts by serving as an Usher? Speak with any of the ushers at Mass, or contact Jorge Gomez at (972) 416-6148.

Contributed by Sean Burke



A Brief History of St. Ann Parish

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
from the clergy became evident, the diocese assigned Father Broderick as parish administrator in June 1986.

The community grew rapidly moving from the small Bethel Road Church to Sunday services in one of Coppell's schools. Soon a building committee, led by Joaquin Martinez, was formed and a capital campaign was established.

A few years later, in 1989, on the Feast of Pentecost, with 850 registered families, Bishop Thomas Tschoepe blessed and dedicated the 32,000 square foot complex which now sits to the east of the "new" Church building.

Today the parish consists of approximately 17,000 members. Few parishes in Texas can claim such dramatic growth and few parishes can boast such a beautiful place of worship.

Moreover, from Sister Ruth's highly praised Religious Education program to the numerous volunteer-sponsored organizations, most parishioners would agree that St. Ann is a thriving faith community.

Peter and Debbie Brausch, early pioneers and still active St. Ann members, note that "each phase of growth has been accompanied by a new wave of dedicated parishioners who have added a new sense of vitality to our parish's sense of mission and purpose."

As we assess where we are today, it would be easy for us to sit in our beautiful church each Sunday and think that our biggest success has been to erect this grandiose building. While we should all give thanks for our beautiful church, we must remember that Jesus cares very little for how splendid our place of worship is. Instead, He cares

very deeply about how we use our place of worship and our faith community to serve Him.

Hence, what we should be most proud of is the deep sense of piety and spirituality that continue to permeate our faith community. These are the attributes that will continue to make St. Ann a thriving faith community for the foreseeable future.

Therefore, we must be mindful that, despite our collective wealth, our work is far from complete. We still have much to do to grow and much to accomplish spiritually. We must continually strive to support each other in a selfless and Christ-like manner.



Easter '85 at the little white church

Let us also pray daily for our Pastor that he will carry on the great work that he has done at St. Ann. And let us ask God to continue to bless him and the entire St. Ann faith community.

*Contributed by Bernie Yanelli
and Regina Johnson*



Come to Las Posadas to sing carols, help the Holy Family and enjoy a traditional Spanish Christmas celebration!

Religious Education: Year-round Children's Programs

Religious Education at St. Ann Catholic Parish offers an abundance of year-round children's programs and activities! **Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW)** provides children ages 5-8 a chance to hear the readings and Gospel of the Mass in words they can understand. This liturgy is offered at the weekend Masses. Parents may volunteer as teachers and aides.

Las Posadas, held on the first Friday evening in December, is a traditional acting out of Mary and Joseph's search for shelter on the night that Jesus was born. The children and their parents walk through the neighborhood surrounding the church singing carols and helping the Holy Family look for lodging. Finding none, they return to the church where Monsignor wel-

comes everyone to a festive celebration orchestrated by the Spanish parishioners.

Children's Christmas Masses are presented on Christmas Eve at 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. Small children are invited to dress as shepherds and angels.

Contributed by Kim Cesario and Lorraine Shillinglaw

Staff Spotlight: Maintenance Staff



St. Ann Maintenance Staff—(L to R) Salvador Ortiz, Jr., Albelardo Castrillon, Ramon Santarosa, Salvador Ortiz, Sr. (not pictured, Jose and Maria Ramirez and Edwin Villages)

St. Ann parishioners continually marvel at our beautiful church, as well they should. What we all typically take for granted, however, is the monumental task it takes to keep our church and the rest of our facilities and grounds in such wonderful shape. With this thought in mind, we would like to highlight in this article the fine work done each week by the St. Ann Maintenance Staff. By its very nature, maintenance workers do their work behind the scenes, so they rarely get recognized or

noticed for their day-to-day contributions. Despite this "unsung hero" status, the St. Ann Maintenance Staff takes great pride in the work that it does.

There are, for example, many aspects of their work that we have come to expect, but that we generally take for granted, such as the cleanliness of the parking lots, courtyard, and restrooms.

They also do outstanding work when it comes to setting up and

cleaning up after the many events that occur each and every week at the various St. Ann facilities.

When you next see one of our St. Ann maintenance workers, please say "thank you" for his ongoing efforts...and do not forget to pitch in by picking up that occasional piece of trash or debris that may have escaped his notice!

Contributed by Bernie Yanelli

Stewardship is more than money. It is the living response to our faith.

Development News: True disciples don't bargain with the Lord

By now all registered parishioners have received Monsignor's letter asking you to make a commitment of financial stewardship for the coming year. You may also be thinking, "It's all about money, isn't it?"

Stewardship is more than money. It is the living response to our faith. It is not enough to say "I am a Christian." Discipleship requires something of us. It re-

quires a return of a *portion* of our time, talents and finances *in gratitude* for what God has *already given us*.

"I give my Time and Talent, therefore I don't need to give financial support," some may say. First and foremost, true disciples don't bargain their return to the Lord. Secondly, let's state the obvious: our parish needs money to staff the parish. It needs money to educate the young and

to pay the bills for everyday services, such as electricity, water and maintenance. To do the work of Christ, our parish needs money: just like our own homes, it cannot operate without it.

Where does this money come from? You and me—all of us who are disciples of the same Lord, Jesus Christ.

Contributed by Andrea Gowans

Santo Juan Diego

El Papa Juan Pablo II, el 1ro de agosto del 2002 canonizó a Juan Diego en la catedral de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en Ciudad México.

Santo Juan Diego nació en 1474 en Tlayácac, Cuautitlán. Se dedicó a tejer petates y productos elaborados con Tule. Con el permiso del Obispo, Juan Diego comulgaba tres veces por semana, cosa muy rara entonces,

y se ejercitaba en la mortificación y ayunos. Atendía con gran amabilidad a los peregrinos. Juan Diego llevaba sobre sí una manta con una copia de la Imagen original de la Virgen de Guadalupe.

Juan Diego murió el 12 de junio de 1548, a la edad de 74 años. Desde antes de las apariciones ya era tenido Juan Diego entre los que le conocían como un hombre bueno y justo.

Después de sus encuentros con la Virgen llevó una vida muy ejemplar y las gentes lo tenían como santo. A partir de su muerte y hasta nuestros días se ha extendido el culto y veneración. El día 9 de abril de 1990, se aprobó públicamente el Decreto de la Congregación de las Causas de los Santos “de culto immemorial” por el que se declaraba que Juan Diego había vivido las virtudes cristianas. El Santo Padre, Juan

Pablo II, en una solemne ceremonia en la Basílica de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en México, lo reconoció como Beato el 6 de mayo de 1990.

Contribuido por Rafael Cuéllar y Felix A. Lugo

Saint Juan Diego

Pope John Paul II canonized Saint Juan Diego on August 1, 2002, in Our Lady of Guadalupe cathedral in Mexico City.

Saint Juan Diego was born in 1474 in Tlayácac, Cuautitlán. He worked as a mat weaver and weaved articles made from “Tule”. With the Bishop’s permission, Juan Diego received communion three times a

week, very rare for those times, and exercised self-mortification and fasting. He was very loving toward pilgrims. Juan Diego would carry on his tunic a copy of the original image of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Juan Diego died June 12, 1548, at the age of 74. Even before the apparitions, he was seen, among those who knew him, as

a good and just man. After his meetings with the Virgin Mary, he led an exemplary life and people believed him to be a saint. Since his death and even today, his followers and veneration have grown.

On April 9, 1990, the Decree of the Congregation of Just Causes of the Saints was approved and Juan Diego was declared to

have lived a heroically, virtuous Christian life. The Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, in a solemn ceremony in the National Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in México, officially recognized him as Blessed on the 6th day of May of 1990.

*Contributed by Rafael Cuéllar
Translated by Felix A. Lugo*

Magi Tree—An Annual Event

Each year Christmas trees in the Narthex are decorated with paper ornaments indicating an individual’s desired Christmas gift. St. Ann parishioners take the ornaments, purchase the gifts, and bring them to Mass to place them on the altar during the offertory.

Over 2,000 gifts are collected and distributed by Dallas Catholic Charities to the Brady Center, Marillac Center, Wel-

lington Place apartments in Coppell, and to St. Ann parishioners in need.

There are many opportunities for St. Ann parishioners to participate in this amazing program. Volunteers are needed to decorate the trees, collect and sort the gifts after Mass, and shop for gifts still needed the last weekend. Everyone can participate. The program has a “color-coded” system so

children as young as 4 or 5 sort the gifts while parents check them in and older children/teens place them into bags.

Each year a number of ornaments are not returned, so cash donations are greatly appreciated and are used to buy the missing gifts.

Thanks to all who make this program a huge success every year!

Contributed by Judy Humphreyson

*Engage yourself or
the whole family
in the spirit of
giving to others
this Christmas.*

“Faces of St. Ann Parish”



April 27—Sister Ruth Ellen takes a moment to model an outfit at the Women’s Fellowship Blooming Fashion Show and Luncheon



April 27—The St. Ann Respect Life group, along with approximately 100 other walkers, participated in the 11th Annual Walk For Life held this year at St. Ann. Proceeds benefited The Monsignor Broderick Maternal Assistance Fund and Texans for Life Coalition.



*May 30—Monsignor Broderick celebrates 35 years of ordination to the priesthood
May 30, 1967—2002*



June 27 thru July 10—One hundred and seven Life Teen Missionaries traveled to Linares, Mexico and are pictured here in front of the two churches they helped to build on the annual Life Teen mission trip

July 8 thru 12—Kids caught the BUZZ about God's love during the Vacation Bible School Bug Safari Adventure



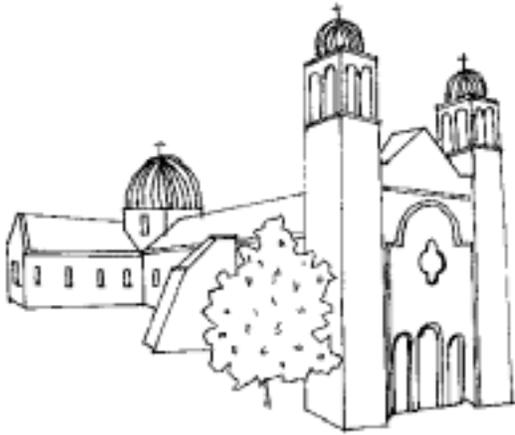
July—Many hands make light work for the volunteers that pitched in this summer to support the Kids Eat Free program. The program feeds children in our community who are not participating in school lunch programs during summer months.

THE COMMUNIQUE

A newsletter for the parishioners of St. Ann Catholic Parish

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Thank you to the following parishioners for sponsoring this issue of The Communique:

*Jerry Elizondo
Searcy and Regina Johnson*

Upcoming Events

October

- 5 & 6—Women's CRHP Retreat
- 6—Stewardship Commitment Sunday
- 8—1st Reconciliation Workshop
- 12—World Rosary Day
- 19 & 20—Brothers in Christ Retreat
- 21—Pre-School (E.C.D.C.) Open House
- 22—1st Communion Workshop
- 26—Fine Arts Event (TBD)
- 28—St. Ann Dedication Anniversary
- 29—SS, RE, SAY Teacher In-service

November

- 1—All Saints Day (Holy Day of Obligation)
- 3—Feast Day of St. Martin de Porres
- 3—Catholic Community Appeal
- 9—Conferencia Violencia Familiar

November

- 13—Feast Day of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini
- 16 & 17—Spanish Women's CRSP Retreat
- 17—Blood Drive
- 23—Magi Tree Gift Collection Begins
- 24—"Discover St. Ann" New Parishioner Welcome Event
- 28—Thanksgiving Day
- 29—*Parish offices will be closed. No scheduled Masses.*
- 30 & Dec 1—Spanish Men's CRSP Retreat

December

- 1—First Sunday of Advent
- 5—Feast Day of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
- 9—Immaculate Conception
- 12—Feast of the Guadalupe Celebration
- 25—Christmas Day (Holy Day of Obligation)

See the bulletin for all event details.

Tell us what you think

The Communique is being evaluated for continued publication next year.

We think that our parishioners are enjoying the newsletter, and it is making a positive difference at St. Ann Parish.

WE NEED YOUR HELP by telling us what you think:

1. Do you enjoy The Communique?
2. What do you like?
3. What do you dislike?
4. What would you change?

Submit your thoughts to:

development@stannparish.org

All responses and identities will be kept confidential.