



PREPARING FOR OUR LENTEN JOURNEY AND PRIORITIZING THE GIFT OF TIME [PAGE 3](#)

GETTING TO KNOW OUR PARISH LEADERSHIP [PAGE 4](#)

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES [PAGE 6](#)

HOW TO BE A LEADER: FOLLOWING THE MODEL OF CHRIST IN OUR PARISH [PAGE 7](#)

ST. ANTHONY *of* PADUA

St. Dominic School **Growing Leaders, One Student at a Time**

We all want to see our children find success, having the tools they need to make a positive difference in the world around them. And while there are many things we can do to teach and help them grow, there are few things more important than empowering them with valuable habits and instilling in them the truth that they can be a leader.

This was the goal when St. Dominic School implemented the Leader in Me program, an initiative based off Dr. Stephen R. Covey's work, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*. In 2012, St. Dominic School was recognized by the Franklin Covey organization for integrating the 7 Habits into our curriculum and school culture, becoming a Leader in Me School.

"We always want to have character education in our schools, and this was one program that we were drawn to doing," says Mrs. Sue Kelley, Principal.

The first three habits of Covey's curriculum focus on teaching the child self-discipline, taking responsibility for their tasks and actions, both at school and outside of school — "be proactive," "begin with the end in mind," "put first things first."

"They learn that we're accountable for our own actions and our selves," Mrs. Kelley says. "By doing different



Fifth-grade leaders, along with their teacher Mrs. Ellerman, made and served hot chocolate to students and staff on Halloween.

activities and focusing on the habits, we're helping our students learn to set goals for themselves in different areas."

The second three habits emphasize the interpersonal dynamic, helping students learn to navigate relationships with their peers, teachers, their families and more —

continued on page 2

Growing Leaders, One Student at a Time

continued from front cover

“Through the habits, we’re learning to be compassionate to others — you walk a mile in someone else’s shoes. The goals you set help you in your academics, on the playground. Everything is not just about you, but the things you do affect others, too.” — Mrs. Sue Kelley, Principal

“think win-win,” “seek first to understand, then to be understood,” “synergize.”

“Through the habits, we’re learning to be compassionate to others — you walk a mile in someone else’s shoes,” Mrs. Kelley says. “The goals you set help you in your academics, on the playground. Everything is not just about you, but the things you do affect others, too.”

Finally, the seventh habit, “sharpen the saw,” reminds students to always seek continuing growth and knowledge, not becoming lazy or complacent in their pursuits.

Here at St. Dominic School, we believe that it’s never too early to help our students build habits that will help them take ownership in their own lives, as well as in the leadership roles they will attain. Beginning in kindergarten and continuing through eighth grade, all students have the opportunity to learn about the habits and find ways to integrate them into both their academic and personal lives.

The Leader in Me program allows common themes to be built upon and fostered over the years that students spend at St. Dominic School.

“We have a common language, learning about the habits and learning how to put them in our lives, and how it helps us ultimately to become leaders,” Mrs. Kelley says.

Each morning, the whole school gathers for morning assembly, with each grade being given the responsibility to lead a month. Students take initiative in leading prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance, a Scripture reading, announcements and more. This time is also used as an opportunity for the hosting class to find creative ways to emphasize on a particular habit.

“We provide opportunities and encourage our students to step up to lead,” Mrs. Kelley says, noting that assemblies are largely student-led.

Students also have the opportunity to serve as greeters for assemblies, and lectors and song leaders for school Masses.



Last year, the second-graders were assembly leaders, and included the Las Posadas Mexican Christmas custom in their morning assembly presentation.

Mrs. Kelley hopes that the Leader in Me program will not only impact the students’ experiences in high school and college, but also in their adult lives.

“Hopefully, this program will help them as they go on to high school, and college and become adults, to be able to step up and show what strong character skills they have,” she says.

Mrs. Kelley also believes that instilling these habits early will empower St. Dominic alumni to be faithful Catholics who take on roles of service and leadership in the Church as adults.

“As Catholics, we take roles in our church, as well,” she says. “We step up as leaders, roles that we take in helping to grow our faith. It’s about growing in our character and growing in our faith. If you’re learning at this age, it will help you to continue them, and go on to become leaders in our Church.”

If you would like more information about St. Dominic School, please visit www.stdominicquincy.org or call 217-224-0041.

ST. ANTHONY *of* PADUA



A LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Preparing for Our Lenten Journey and Prioritizing the Gift of Time

Dear Parishioners,

Lent begins on Wednesday, Feb. 14, Ash Wednesday. Most of us are aware that Lent is a time of prayer, penance and giving alms. So, it would seem that Lent is a perfect time for stewardship. As we examine our lives and try to find ways to deepen our relationship with God, it is good to remember that whenever we give our time, talent, or treasure, we are living as better stewards.

For each of us, our relationship with God should be the first priority. God has given us the precious gift of time, so we need to thank Him for this gift by using it wisely. Stewardship of time is about how we spend every minute of every day. Most of us probably feel that we do not have enough time for all the things we hope to accomplish or achieve. However, each of us is given the same amount of time — 24 hours in a day, seven days in a week. So, how do we choose to use our time? We need to prioritize this gift of time, which means putting the most important things first.

If deepening our relationship with God is our first priority, then time spent in prayer, at Mass, in our personal lives through reading Holy Scriptures, and meditating on God's Holy Word should be paramount. Our second priority might be our relationship to our family. We need to spend time building a strong family unit filled with respect and love for life. And perhaps our third priority should be our relationship with our parish and our community of faith. Finally, we must spend time

supporting others in their faith journeys and ministering to those in need.

We must remember that first requirement for our Lenten journey — prayer. Our Catholic faith is full of prayer forms and traditions that are available to us all. Find a prayer form that works for you, and truly cultivate your prayer life in order to connect and build a real, personal relationship with the Lord. We all need to carve out time during Lent by dedicating time to prayer. Perhaps it is only 10 minutes each day for quiet reflection on Holy Scripture. Or it may be something more substantial — perhaps a reflective weekend retreat.

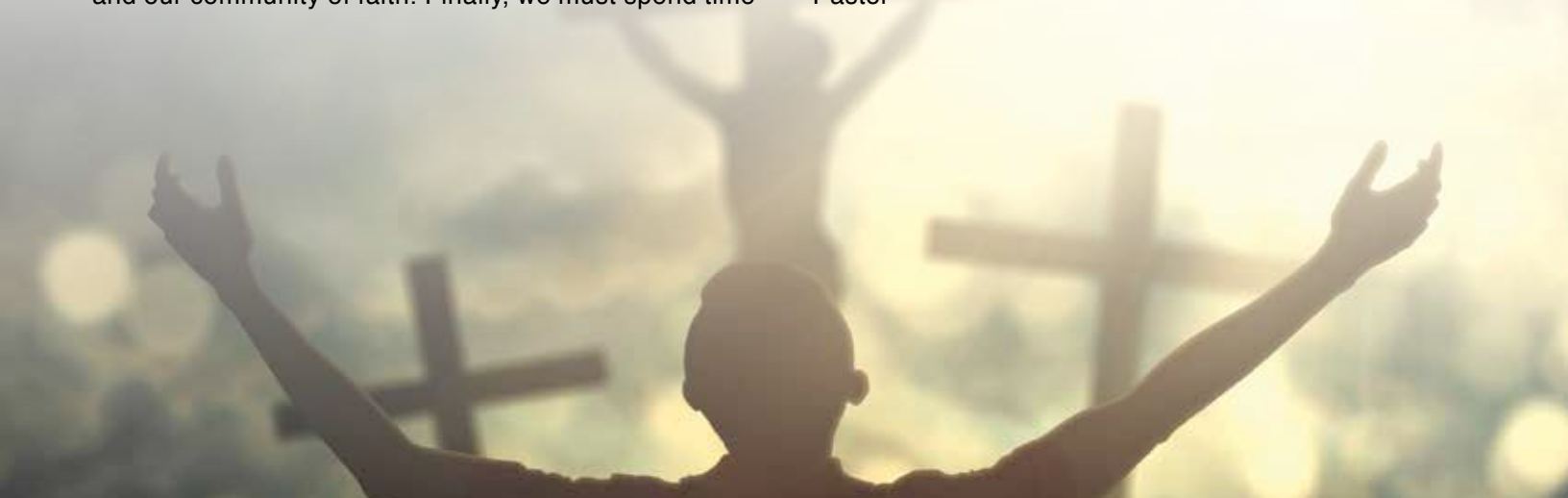
We might consider Lent our own personal Stewardship Renewal season. Fasting, prayer and almsgiving should be what we try to do the entire year. But we must make an intentional effort to practice these during the 40 days of Lent. After all, 40 days comprises just over 10 percent of the year — and that is remarkably close to our stewardship tithe of 10 percent, isn't it?

God bless you in all you do, and especially during this holy time of Lent.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fr. Tom Donovan'.

Fr. Tom Donovan
Pastor



Getting to Know

OUR PARISH LEADERSHIP

*We thank these wonderful men and women for giving their gifts to serve our parish!
Please keep them in your prayers as they continue to discern where God is leading us!*

OUR PARISH COUNCIL



Anna Benz Bonnie Nytes Carol Vogel Deacon Harry Cramer Elmer Maas Fr. Tom Donovan Gail Grawe Jackie Dreyer



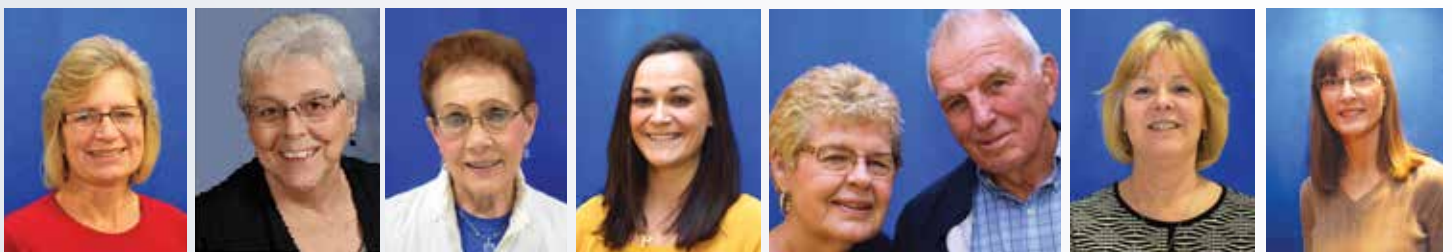
Janice Zanger Jim Obert Jim Thompson Jo Ann Witte Kim Peters Ron Kasparie Sue Kelley Todd Klauser

**Not pictured: Katie Klauser, William Schaffer*

OUR PARISH MINISTRIES



Alice and Rich Rakers Anna Benz Bill Anderson Bonnie Nytes Carmel Akins Deacon Harry Cramer Elmer Maas Frank Arnold



Jackie Dreyer Jan Barnard Joan Dietrich Katie Ludwig Rita and Gene Goerlich Sue Kelley Vicki Wittland

**Not pictured: Katie Klauser, Sharon Mas*

ST. ANTHONY of PADUA



OUR PSR



Bonnie Nytes



Kim Peters



Mary Florea



Michelle Girardin



Paula Thoele

OUR SCHOOL BOARD



Amy Carper



David Hochgraber



Jon Stepens



Kate Hatempritch



Kelly Bonness

**Not pictured: JoAnn Wolkitt, Sheila Biggs, Jessica Blivens*

OUR SCHOOL TEACHERS



Donna Richmiller



Jamie Parrott



Joan Kroeter



Joann Ellerman



Katie O'Neal



Leah Waters



Meg Benner



Mollie Ozment



Nan Wood



Sharon Phillips



Sue Kelley



Sueanne Spencer

OUR STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE



Dale Hilgenbrinck



Deacon Harry Cramer



Fr. Tom Donovan



Gail Grawe



Kim Peters

Upcoming Activities

St. Dominic Activities – March

- 2 – Fish Fry
- 16 – Fish Fry

St. Anthony Parish Activities – March

- 9 – Fish Fry
- 23 – Fish Fry



..... *Save The Date:*

Please join us for the Msgr. McGread Stewardship Conference!

Wichita, Kan. | April 18-19

All parishioners are invited to attend! Come immerse yourself in an atmosphere of total stewardship as we discern how God is calling our parish to grow and leading us to be better caretakers of all He has given us! For more information, please contact Kim Peters at 217-257-9921 or peters2002@comcast.net.

ATTENTION!

We are developing a Tech Group at St. Anthony, and need your help! This group will work together to support and develop technology for the parish and school. Join others in our quest to be a parish of the future! For more information or to express your interest in getting involved, please call the parish office.

ST. ANTHONY of PADUA



How to Be a Leader: Following the Model of Christ in Our Parish

As Catholics, we recognize Jesus as the greatest leader of all time. Jesus showed us that true leadership is servanthood. Servanthood is an attitude exemplified by the Lord, “who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant” (Philippians 2:6-7).

The Bible has a great deal to say about servanthood. You might say the central theme of the Bible is the Servant of all — Jesus Christ. When we give Jesus Christ His rightful place as Lord of our lives, His lordship will be expressed in the way we serve others. How can we demonstrate love for God? Our love for God will be expressed in our love for others. St. Paul wrote, “For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus’ sake” (2 Corinthians 4:5).

We are speaking of how to be a leader. Christ provides us with the best model, but there are others all around us right here at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church. We see them

every day as they serve our community and parish in many ways — as parts of one of our many ministries at liturgies, in our organizations, and in our efforts to reach out to those in need. They may not all be leaders according to our normal perspective of those things, but they are providing a kind of leadership that is Christ-like through service.

In the Bible, the words most often translated as “ministry” also mean servanthood or service given in love. Christ has called us to pursue many things as part of our lives, including service, discipleship and our personal vocations. Over and over, He tells us that it all boils down to one thing — “love one another.”

Not only do we have people in our own community who demonstrate to us how to lead by serving, but the Church also provides us with many other models. From the beginning, Pope Francis has demonstrated how to lead by serving. You may recall when he first became pope, much was written about him carrying his own luggage onto a plane, or opening his own



“The call of the faithful to live and practice their faith is more important today than ever. Lord, send workers into your vineyard that they may reap a bountiful harvest.” — Fr. Tom Donovan

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ST. ANTHONY *of* PADUA

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SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M. & 6:30 P.M.

SUNDAY: 8:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.

CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY 5:15 - 6:15 P.M.

How to Be a Leader *continued from page 7*

car door — and that door was attached to a Ford Focus! We all are aware of these simple gestures. Serving others is the very essence of ministry. If we are called to ministry, we are also called to be servants for the glory of God. Living is giving after all.

Each of us can provide leadership in our own way. That does not mean we have to run meetings, organize things or recruit people. It does mean, however, that we need to be ready and willing to serve, and that we actively pursue ways we can do that. That is how to be a leader.

“The call of the faithful to live and practice their faith is more important today than ever,” Fr. Tom Donovan says. “Lord, send workers into your vineyard that they may reap a bountiful harvest.”

To “live for Christ” requires action on our part, a willingness to step forward and commit ourselves to being part of a ministry, part of our missionary work. That, too, is how to be a leader — by example. And we need to be Catholic in more than name only. While we are not all called to be the one standing in front

of the crowd giving a rousing sermon, we all still have a place. It takes a team to win the game, and it takes the whole Church to glorify God. No matter how we participate, we are helping to win the game, we are helping to strengthen the Church, and we are providing leadership.

We encourage all to get involved and to stay involved. The late Msgr. Thomas McGread was the pastor of St. Francis of Assisi for several years. He and his parish transformed the Church in the U.S. Msgr. McGread and his people were examples of what it means to lead by serving. Twice each year, a conference is hosted at the Diocesan Retreat Center in Wichita, Kan., the purpose of which is to help people find their own gifts and to experience what stewardship has meant to parishes all over the country. The next conference is scheduled Tuesday, April 18, and Wednesday, April 19 in Wichita. Fr. Donovan strongly encourages members of St. Anthony to attend this conference to learn more about stewardship and how it is practiced around the country.

For more information, please contact Fr. Tom Donovan at the parish office, 217-222-5996.

To learn more about stewardship at St. Anthony of Padua, please contact the Stewardship Committee at stanthonystewardship2015@gmail.com.