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#### Dale and Jenny Hilgenbrinck Enjoy Opportunities to Grow in Faith Through Service

or Dale Hilgenbrinck, there is no greater joy and satisfaction than helping others.

"We use our time and talents," says Dale, a St. Anthony of Padua parishioner. "It's part of giving back to God for the things He's given us, using what we have to help others."

A cradle Catholic originally from Quincy, Dale's grandparents and greatgrandparents were also St. Anthony of Padua parishioners. However, Dale and his wife, Jenny, first lived on the north side of Quincy, and joined St. Anthony after moving to the area 12 years ago.

Although Jenny was born and raised in a Baptist family, in Nelsonville, Mo., and converted to the Catholic faith in 1983 — the same year she and Dale were married — service and involvement in the community were always part of her life.

"I grew up in an area where we all pulled together and worked together," Jenny says. "Everything was community."

Dale's experience was a bit different.

Dale and Jenny Hilgenbrinck love to serve their parish and community.

"My family is the opposite — we were very rural and we were very 'to ourselves,' so I had no opportunities to help with any kinds of ministries," Dale says. "I had a curiosity about our parish and wanted to be a little bit more involved."

It wasn't long after becoming a parishioner that Dale joined the Pastoral Council and began learning about the idea of stewardship, and after that, there was no looking back.

Dale and Jenny have found many ways to give back to the parish over the years, in everything from liturgical ministries, councils, and even food. Dale has served as a Co-Chairperson for the Stewardship Committee, on the Pastoral Council, Finance Council and Diocesan Pastoral Council. They are both also greeters, lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, and are involved serving at funeral dinners, fish fries, food stands at the picnic, and more.

### Stewardship's "Supreme Teacher" Following Christ's Example

ormer President and Five-Star General Dwight D. Eisenhower once said, "You don't lead by hitting people over the head — that's assault, not leadership." President Eisenhower's words are both blunt and humorous, but he makes a great point. Almost any successful endeavor in life requires the benefit of strong leadership. And a truly effective leader does not lead by simply telling others what to do, but by providing a strong example of how to carry oneself on a daily basis.

This is no different for us in our lives as Catholic Christians. As individuals who face numerous difficult choices every day, we require a leader who, through word *and* example, can show us the path to living according to God's will. For us, Jesus is the supreme teacher of every aspect of Christian life, and His life as documented in the Gospels is a model that we should strive to imitate in living as good Christians. And as we have learned, stewardship — the sharing of the gifts that God has given to us — is a big part of Christian life, and one for which Jesus left many examples of successful living.

Jesus' nature of selfless service, documented many times throughout the New Testament and culminating with His death for our sins, is an underlying aspect of living the stewardship way of life. As the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops points out in its pastoral document *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*, "In Jesus' teaching and life self-emptying is fundamental. Now, it might seem that selfemptying has little to do with stewardship, but in Jesus' case that is not so. His self-emptying is not sterile self-denial for its own sake; rather, in setting aside self, he is filled with the Father's will, and he is fulfilled in just this way" (19).

Jesus points out to Peter in Mark's Gospel that this "self-emptying" requires sacrifice, but ultimately leads to "eternal life in the age to come" (Mk 10:30). But the Christian steward's ultimate reward is not his or her only benefit from living the stewardship way of life. By sharing of our time, talent, and treasure, and living in imitation of Christ, we can relate more closely to Him in sharing, in a small way, in His sacrifice. "To be a Christian disciple is a rewarding way of life, a way of companionship with Jesus, and the practice of stewardship as a part of it is itself a source of deep joy. Those who live this way are happy people who have found the meaning and purpose of living" (*Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*, 21).

The next time you are frustrated or unsure of how to best respond to God's gifts in stewardship, take a moment to open up the Bible. Jesus may not "hit us over the head" in His leadership, but He does provide numerous examples through His actions and teachings of how to live as one of His disciples.

Christ's life as documented in the Gospels is a model that we should strive to imitate in living as good Christians. And as we have learned, stewardship the sharing of the gifts that God has given to us — is a big part of Christian life, and one for which Jesus left many examples of successful living.

#### A LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

## The Mass is a Gift, to God and Our Parish Community

Dear Parishioners,

t is hard to believe that August is upon us. It seems as if we were just looking forward to summer and all the pleasures associated with that time – and now, we are approaching the returns to school, the completion of summer vacations, and the time when things here at our parish get busier again.

We call them vacations, but the British call them "holidays." It does not take a genius to see that the words "holiday" and "holy day" share the same roots. You may anticipate where I am going with this train of thought. There was a time when the only "holidays" people experienced were indeed "holy days." That included Sunday, to be sure, but the reason people had these "holy

days" was to celebrate religious times and occasions.

An important facet of the concept of stewardship is our practice of the faith – our commitment to fulfill what the Church views as our duties related to our beliefs. Most of us, as Catholics, are very familiar with the term "Holy Day of Obligation." In fact, we already celebrated one this month – Friday, Aug. 15 was the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. A solemnity is a Feast Day of the highest rank in the Church. According to the Church's Code of Canon Law (1247), "On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are obliged to participate in the Mass."

Note that what this actually says is that Sunday – just like the Feast of the Assumption of Mary, Christmas, Immaculate Conception and other holy days – is in fact a Holy Day of Obligation. Do we really think of our weekly attendance at Mass in that way? Certainly, our parents and grandparents (and many of us as well) understood that we were supposed to go to Mass each Sunday, and there were other times during the Church year when we were expected to go to Mass — the Holy Days of Obligation.



Sometimes in our busy lives, we lose sight of how important this is. As I indicated earlier in this letter, these are holy days – these are days (yes, including every Sunday) when we need to make the effort and commitment to participate in the Mass. The Code of Canon Law that I quoted earlier continues as follows: "Moreover, they [that means you and me] are to abstain from those works and affairs which hinder the worship to be rendered to God, the joy proper to the Lord's Day, or the suitable relaxation of mind and body" (1247).

"Rendered to God" means that our Mass attendance is a gift to God. Stewardship, of course, is how we take

the gifts God has given us, use those gifts responsibly, and then return them and share them with the Lord and those around us. Although going to Mass is a gift to the Lord, it is also a gift to our community and to ourselves as well. We need that time to step back from our daily worries and concerns, and to look deeper into the meaning of living and of the importance of our relationship with God.

I would like each of us to consider just how important it is to attend Mass. If we are really going to be committed to this concept of stewardship, we need to realize the significance of setting aside time each week, and on those other designated holy days to be with the Lord and with our parish community at Mass. We must be committed to living out our Catholic faith properly and completely.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Tom Donovan Pastor

St. Dominic School

#### PREPARING TO WELCOME STUDENTS BACK AS NEW ACADEMIC YEAR BEGINS

As the new academic year approaches on Aug. 22 for St. Dominic School students, the children and their parents will be welcomed with Mass and a cookout at 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 19 - a first-time event to build community and fellowship.

Both the Mass and cookout will be held at the school as faculty, staff and students prepare for their first day Aug. 22, a half-day of classes. After Mass, students and parents can visit their classrooms. The students may drop off their school bags and school supplies at this time. The Men's Society will be cooking the supper and the Ladies' Society will serve drinks.

St. Dominic School will also be welcoming Mrs. Tera Smith as the new sixth-grade teacher. She also will be teaching seventh and eighth-grade history. Mrs. Cindy Barner is returning after a three-year absence to teach physical education.

Mrs. Donna Richmiller, eighth-grade teacher of math and science, is looking forward to welcoming her students for the year.

"I'm hoping to prepare them primarily for high school," she says. "They have 176 days to get ready for being a freshman, hopefully at Notre Dame High School."

As the senior class at St. Dominic School, the eighthgraders will find themselves as the *de facto* leaders for the other students.

"They will have more responsibility," Mrs. Richmiller says. "They will have to take a bigger leadership role. They will be seen as leaders." During the first day of school, the eighth-graders will be charged with making sure each classroom is a "no bully zone."

"It will be put on their shoulders," Mrs. Richmiller says. "They will be in charge of it. I think they always grow and mature over the summer between seventh and eighth grades."

The eighth-grade students will also be electing their four class officers.

"This is the first time they can run," Mrs. Richmiller says. "The class will look up to them. They will be the leaders."

And although eighth grade can be a bit rocky emotionally as students have begun to navigate the teen years, Mrs. Richmiller knows they will excel.

"They'll do fine," she says. "There's not a doubt in my mind." No matter the grade level for students at St. Dominic, they all receive a strong foundation in their Catholic faith.

"We spend a lot of time on values," Mrs. Richmiller says.

The faculty is always willing to spend the extra time to make sure the students are learning academically. Teachers often will offer tutoring during their lunch breaks.

"It's so easy for each one of us to go the extra mile for the kids," she says. "We are there to do it and we spend a lot of our own time out of the goodness of our hearts."

Besides academic support, the faculty and staff at St. Dominic School also offer opportunities for prayerful support when a member of the school family either has been lost, or has suffered a loss.

"I'm not sure a public school would be able to do that," Mrs. Richmiller says. "We pray a lot."

If you would like more information on enrolling a child at St. Dominic School, or to arrange a school tour, please call 217-224-0041.





#### St. Dominic School 2018-2019 School Calendar

Wednesday, August 22	First Day of School for K-8 with 11:30 a.m. dismissal. NO BUS SERVICE
Thursday, August 23	Grades 1-8 dismiss at 2:30 p.m. Buses will be running.
	Kindergarten has <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> day only with 11:30 a.m. dismissal and no dismissal busing.
	3 Year Old Preschool Begins
Friday, August 24	Kindergarten has <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> day only with 11:30 a.m. dismissal and no dismissal busing.
	Grades 1-8 dismiss at 2:30 p.m. Buses will be running.
Monday, August 27	First Full Day for Kindergarten
	4 Year Old Preschool Begins
Monday, September 3	NO SCHOOL - Labor Day
Tuesday, September 25	City-Wide Catholic Schools Mass at QND, 9:30 a.m.
ruesday, september 25	eny-white Catholie Benoois Mass at QND, 7.50 a.m.
Monday, October 1	NO SCHOOL - Faculty attends the DAEC (Diocesan Adult Education Conference)
Tuesday, October 2	School Pictures Taken
Thursday, October 4	School in Session. No bus service as Quincy Public Schools not in session.
Friday, October 5	NO SCHOOL – Faculty attends the Quincy Conference
Monday, October 8	Columbus Day – School in Session (No bus service due to public schools not in session.)
Wednesday, October 24	Grandparents Day
Thursday, November 8	<sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> Day School with 11:30 dismissal and full bus service Parent-Teacher Conferences
Friday, November 9	NO SCHOOL – Parent-Teacher Conferences
Wednesday, Nov. 21	NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break
Thursday, Nov. 22	NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Day
Friday, Nov. 23	NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break continues
Mon., Dec. 24-Jan. 6	Christmas Break
Monday, January 7	School Resumes – FULL BUS SERVICE
Monday, January 21	No School - Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday
Jan. 27 – Feb. 2	Catholic Schools Week
Feb. 4 – Feb. 15	ACRE Religion Assessment for grades 5 and 8
Friday, Feb. 15	<sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> Day School – 11:30 dismissal with full bus service. Teacher inservice
Monday, Feb. 18	NO SCHOOL – Presidents' Day
NA 1 4 17	
March 4-15	IOWA ASSESSMENTS Standardized Testing, Grades 2-8
Thurs., Apr. 18-Mon., Apr. 22	Easter Break
Sunday, May 5	First Communion – 12:00 p.m. Mass
Wednesday, May 22	Graduation
Thursday, May 24	Last Day for K-7 if NO snow/emergency days are used
Monday, May 27	NO SCHOOL – Memorial Day
Monday, June 3	Last Day if 5 snow/emergency days are used.

(5 Emergency Days are built in this calendar. If no emergency days are used, the last day could be Thursday, May 24.) 185 Total Days = 176 days, 4 teacher inservice days, 5 snow/emergency days

#### **MIDTERM/QUARTER/REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTION DATES**

Midterm Date September 21, 2018 November 30, 2018 February 22, 2019 April 26, 2019 Midterms Distributed September 28, 2018 December 7, 2018 March 1, 2019 May 3, 2019

 Quarter Ends
 Rej

 First - October 26, 2018
 No

 Second – January 18, 2019
 Janu

 Third - March 22 2019
 Mar

 Fourth – Last day of School
 Last

Report Cards Distributed November 1, 2018 January 25, 2019 March 29, 2019 Last day of School

NOTE: We will dismiss 30 minutes early (2:30 p.m.) every Wednesday in order to use the Quincy Public Schools bus service.

# IT'S SHOWTIME!.... St. Anthony of Padua PICTORIA

Do you know the names of the people sitting around you at Mass? Sign up to be in our new parish picture directory to help us connect our parish families!

SEPT. 4-8, 11-15, 18-22 Weekdays lpm-8pm Saturdays 9am-3:30pm

Call the parish office to schedule an appointment @ (217) 222-5996.

ALSO DURING THE EVENT: - Parish Ministry Fair -- Annual Stewardship Renewal -- Parish Census -

We need YOU to make our album complete!



#### St. Anthony's Parish School of Religion Nurturing the Faith Journey of Our Youth

Paula Thoele loves children and her Catholic faith. When she was asked to consider sharing the faith through St. Anthony's Parish School of Religion, Paula soon agreed with the suggestion of her daughter-in-law, Hannah Thoele, that they teach together.

"It is a commitment, but it is very rewarding," says Paula, a first and second grade PSR teacher. "I pray that as these children grow and learn, receiving perspectives from teachers, Mass and home, that someday it all clicks, and they realize what a gift God has given us in our faith."

St. Anthony's Parish School of Religion (PSR) serves our young people by offering them the opportunity to learn and grow in the faith.

"It is extremely important to form young people in their faith," says Paula. "Attending PSR class is a choice to stop and give time, thought and thanks to God."

Each grade level of PSR is adjusted to their maturity level and offers them the opportunity to grow alongside Catholic peers.

"Children usually have an eagerness to learn, so now is the time to introduce them to and help them find an understanding of God's great love," says Paula. "I realize that they don't fully understand what is happening, but it is their innocence and excitement that gets me emotional."

PSR classes for first through eighth grade students will begin this fall on Sept. 9, and adults who would like to volunteer in some capacity are always welcome. It is a wonderful opportunity for parents to make an intentional choice to model stewardship for their children.

"Many of our parents made choices that have affected us today, especially in our faith and morals," says Paula. "Parents are examples for children to look to for their own choices. We don't just wake up one day Catholic. It is a growing process that needs nurtured."



St. Anthony's Paula and Scott Thoele

Classes are conveniently scheduled from 9 a.m. until 10:15 a.m. between the 8 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. Masses. Parish families then have the opportunity to attend Mass with their children.

"I encourage all parents of St. Anthony's children to attend weekly Mass with their family, planting the seed that attending Mass is as important of a weekly activity as the others," says Paula. "Doing so nurtures their faith journey to be Catholic adults."

Our faith is a blessing, and one that was instilled in many of us at a young age. Help the young members of our community deepen their relationship with Christ and their sense of belonging to our faith community through PSR.

"As adults, we have all made the choice for our family to be parishioners of St. Anthony's Church, thus choosing to be identified as Catholic," says Paula. "There is wonderful feeling of having a parish family, a feeling of belonging."

For more information about St. Anthony's Parish School of Religion, reach out to Director of Religious Education Bonnie Nytes at 217-222-5996.

2223 St. Anthony Rd. Quincy, IL 62305 217-222-5996

WWW.STANTHONYPADUA.ORG

Daily Mass: Mon, Tue, & Thu - 7:30 A.m. 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. Return Service Requested

#### Dale and Jenny Hilgenbrinck continued from front cover

Both Dale and Jenny also find ways to serve others outside of the church. Jenny has helped care for a number of elderly women over the years, and Dale regularly volunteers at the veterans center in Quincy.

"[I love] to bring a smile and some happiness to people," Dale says. "I think the older I get, I see that's an enjoyable part of living, helping others and making their lives a little bit better."

Hoping to inspire others, especially young people, the couple strives to lead by example and be a witness of generous service.

"I believe in leading by example, I think it's one of the most useful things a person can do," Dale says. "I believe that just by the way you live your life, people will see that. I'd like to see more involvement so we can guarantee our young people will be part of the stewardship lifestyle down the road."

Being part of parish Bible studies has also helped Dale and Jenny feel more connected to their faith.

"One of the biggest things that has brought me closer to God is our Bible studies," Jenny says. "You learn the stories

when you're younger, but when you go to those Bible studies, it really pulls it all together. The light goes on and it makes you want to learn more and more."

"I enjoyed the Bible study immensely," Dale adds.

According to the Hilgenbrincks, there are few things more fulfilling than giving back to one's community.

"Those are the most rewarding times, when you can actually make a difference in other people's lives," Dale says. "It's not something you can measure in dollars, but it makes your soul feel good."

Dale hopes that more parishioners will find ways to use their time and talents to serve the Church.

"If you have any questions, contact us and we can steer you in the right direction!" he says. "If there's something you think you would like to see that we're not doing, feel free to mention that! There are always opportunities to do more.

"Stewardship is a lifestyle, it's not just a short-term program," he adds. "It's a commitment to live that kind of life."

Dale Hilgenbrinck encourages anyone who would like to learn more about stewardship, or would like to find a way to become involved to contact him at 217-885-3543.

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