



St. Patrick-St. Anthony Parish

Newsletter

Fr. Chuck Schwartz

September 2020

Mission Statement

*We are a welcoming
Catholic Community,
alive in Christ,
making present the
kingdom of God!*

Parish Core Values

Compassion: We lift up one another in compassion—listening to, praying for and walking with those who are in need.

Justice: We promote equality and are called by God to protect human life, to promote human dignity, to advocate for the poor and to be a voice for the voiceless.

Respect: We experience and reveal the living Christ as we embrace the richness we all bring to God's kingdom.

Empowerment: We are empowered to use our God given gifts to serve others and share the good news of God's love.

Mass Schedule

Saturday - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday - 9:00 a.m. &
11:00 a.m.

www.stpatsgh.org

GREETINGS IN CHRIST!! Friends, the last few months have been {.....}, you may insert your own adjective! For me, the last few months have been both difficult and incredible to behold. This is true in my family's life and in the life of the parish. During the last few months, one of my sisters brought a beautiful baby boy into the world. And during the last few months, one of my sisters lost a beautifully baby boy at 19 weeks. As you can imagine things have been difficult and incredible to behold.

Back in March, when I made a video of The Litany to St. Joseph, the staff and I were experimenting. Little did any of us know how soon Masses would be suspended or how many ways we would need to find new ways to with connect one another online and in person. Not knowing how long the Shelter in Place would last, we began exploring and experimenting and searching for the parish to be connected in as many ways as possible, while keeping the word of Jesus Christ alive in our hearts and homes. We were at times uncertain and impatient to learn how to make videos, podcasts and prayers available to our parishioners. We called parishioners, mailed bulletins, added prayer requests to the website and created daily content online. Confessions continued. The doors of the Church were always open for prayer.

Fast forward to today and we've been doing a lot of cool things! Many of them are highlighted in the following pages. Everything may seem different. But we are still a community that is alive in Christ making present the kingdom of God, welcoming folks to worship the Lord and serving His people! During this pandemic we have celebrated First Communion, Confirmation, weddings, funerals and baptisms. The sick are anointed. Noah Thelen was ordained to the diaconate. The Feeding America truck & Food Pantry continue to distribute food. The Pastoral Council continues work on the Vision 2024 Pastoral Plan. The roofs of the Family Center and warehouse and Bernice House are repaired. Residents from our partnership with NOLA have moved into Bernice House. Our work continues. We hold one another in prayer as we always did. God's constancy has sustained us, present in all as He always is.

Times ahead remain uncertain, but we know more now than we did in March. We know our hearts remained united in Christ's love. We still experiment with new approaches to share the Good News and to reach out to one another, but we are heartened knowing we are eager to learn and master new skills. Faith makes up the space enforced by social distance. Community unites us in the worst of times as well as the best. Things have been difficult for all of us, but it has been incredible to behold the parish staff and volunteers and each of you during this time. God is truly present, and alive, and active in this parish! As we move forward together as family united by Jesus Christ, may we learn new ways to grow in holiness so we can bring Christ's light and mercy to our world.

Blessings,

Fr. Chuck



WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 8:00 am

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Daily Masses: 8:00 am (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday) & 7:00 pm (Tuesday)

CONFESSIONS

Tuesday: 5:00 - 6:45 pm

Saturday: 3:30 - 4:45 pm

All Confessions are in the Narthex (back of church) to accommodate social distancing

ADORATION: Weekdays in the Main Church

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: After 8:00 am Mass until 8:00 pm

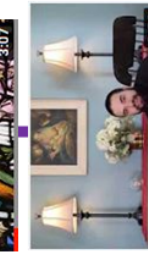
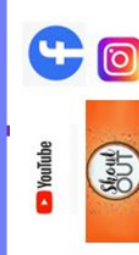
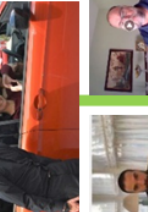
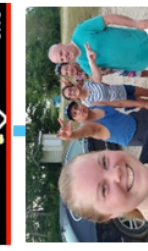
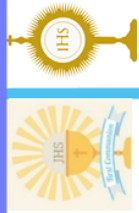
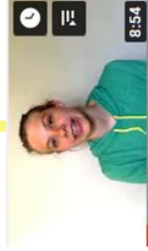
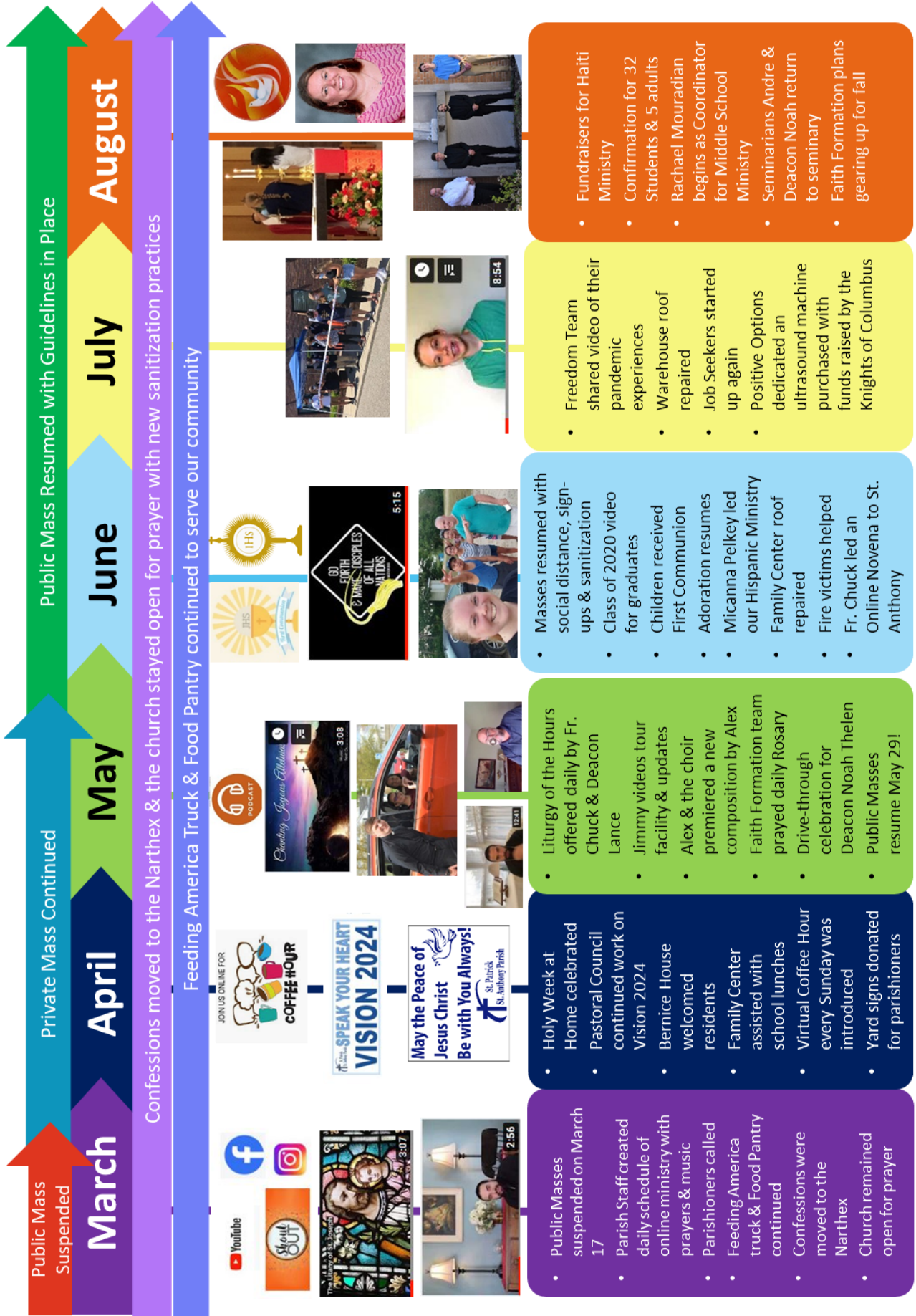
Tuesday: 8:00 am until 7:00 pm



Guidelines for Mass Attendance

- To follow social distancing guidelines from the Diocese, we are only able to welcome 25% of our capacity. Please sign up online at our website, www.stpatsgh.org. If you are unable to sign up online, you can sign up by calling the Parish Office (616) 842-0001. To start we will only sign up for Friday, Saturday, & Sunday Masses this weekend.
- In order to allow space for those who can only attend Mass on Sundays, if you who are able to come to Mass during the week, please consider doing so.
- All attendees (from 2-years-old & older) must bring and wear their own appropriate face covering.
- Many children will be learning how to be at Mass again or may be uncomfortable seeing people in masks. Please encourage and be supportive of our parents at this time, and let Fr. Chuck direct the children as needed.
- Please bring your own hand sanitizer.
- Please maintain appropriate social distance in the parking lots and all public spaces.
- Please use the main West and East entrances to the Gathering Space to access the church. The North door and the Narthex doors will be locked.
- When you enter the church, an usher will greet you and help direct you.
- Seating is arranged to allow for proper social distancing. An usher will direct you to an appropriate seat and households will be seated together.
- Whenever there is a line, please keep 6-feet of social distance.
- Offertory baskets will not be passed. There will be an Offertory basket where you enter and exit the Church from the Gathering Space. You may also give online or use the drop box outside of the Adoration Chapel.
- We are not to hold hands during the Our Father, we will omit the Sign of Peace, and we will not distribute the Precious Blood during Communion.
- Ushers will dismiss rows for Communion; please follow marks on the floor and keep appropriate distance in the line.
- At the end of Mass, ushers will dismiss parishioners in an orderly manner to allow for proper distancing. If you have mobility concerns, please remain seated so that you may exit at your own pace.
- In order to stay safe, restrooms should be used only if a true need arises.
- Extra sanitation practices are in place including between Masses. If you are coming to 11:00 a.m. Mass, please do not arrive before 10:30 to allow us to properly sanitize the church after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

St. Patrick-St. Anthony Parish Copes with COVID



A SAFE SPACE FOR ALL WHO ENTER

Our facility staff and volunteers have been working hard to keep our parish building safe for both staff and parishioners. We are very grateful for all they do to provide a safe place for us to worship, serve, and pray.

- Regularly sanitizing pews and commonly touched surfaces throughout the building
- Placing sanitation stations in commonly used areas throughout the building.
- Setting a space for Fr. Chuck to safely celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation.
- Eucharistic adoration moved to the main body of the church
- Social distancing reminders placed in common areas
- Design and marking of pews to indicate where parishioners can sit safely for Mass
- Tracking sign ups provided for Mass attendance to avoid exceeding capacity
- Providing masks to those who do not have one
- Installing Plexi-glass at the front office reception desk
- Creating signage to clearly relay information



COMMUNITY COOPERATION COMBATS FOOD SHORTAGES

All through the year, our Food Pantry and the Feeding America truck have provided stability for families experiencing food shortages. In addition to the Food Pantry and Feeding America truck, the parish provided assistance for Grand Haven Area Public Schools' Coronavirus Food Program to provide breakfast and lunch programs for school age children sheltering in place who would normally access these meals at school. Our Parish also supports the Backpack Blessings program, which provides weekend food to elementary school children as well as the Soup for All event that funds these programs.

With new guidelines in March, volunteers and workers streamlined the distribution of food so that clients could stay in their cars; these guidelines are working well. The clients drive up for service and volunteers deliver pre-packed staples and freshly packed perishables to their cars. This process, along with prepacking before pantry distribution helps to keep people a safe distance from each other during the packing and distribution processes. We plan to maintain these procedures as long as necessary.

Shopping in the community is a challenge but we have provided a good quantity and selection of food through your generous donations, and the support of resources such as Love in Action and Feeding America West Michigan.

Parish Food Pantry

Date	# of Families	# of Individuals
January 20	55	140
February 20	49	145
March 20	73	206
April 20	45	105
May 20	48	125
June 20	62	159
July 20	102	283
Year to date	434	1163

(Source: Carla Deibel)



Financial Update

Due to the great faithfulness of all of you, we were able to end the year at a break even! Even though we were not able to have Mass for some time, offertory and donations were only 6% lower than budget. This gives great testimony to the faithfulness and generosity of the St. Patrick – St. Anthony parish family. In addition to your sacrificial giving, support from generous bequests, reduced expenses, and a waiver of interest from the diocese on our building loan helped us end the year \$268 to the good.

In such a rapidly changing environment it is hard to predict what our new fiscal year will look like. Income may be a challenge as there will likely be continued limited Mass attendance and things like missed fundraising opportunities. However, with the continued faithfulness of our parish and our work to reduce expenses and find opportunities to benefit from grants we could again end up without a loss.

May God bless all of you for your support of our valuable ministries and care of our church home.

Jimmy Beauchamp, Administrator

Congratulations, Deacon Noah!



On Saturday, May 15, after Mass at the Cathedral for his diaconate ordination, Noah Thelen and the Thelen Family enjoyed a drive-through celebration with parishioners and friends! More than 81 cars full of adults, children, dogs, bubble machines, balloons, signs & bells came through to greet our new deacon.

Many parishioners cheered Noah on. Many volunteers (old & young) helped directed traffic & entertain the crowds. Sweet Temptations provided individual cups of ice cream ready to cool the crowds as they waited to see Noah.

May we thank God for this beautiful celebration as we continue praying for Noah as he serves as deacon and prepares for his ordination to the priesthood in June, 2021.

Job Seeker Program



The St Patrick – St Anthony Job Seeker Program continues to help parishioners and others in the Tri-Cities in their search for employment. Although we are unable to assist clients face-to-face due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we remain dedicated in helping those in need via phone or email, including resume creation or updating. I am in the office Tuesday –Thursday from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Feel free to contact at me with any needs or questions you may have.

Mark Bancuk - markbancuk@stpatshg.org
616-842-0001, ext. 132

Faith Formation

Adult Formation Update

August 10, 2020

What strange and trying times we are living in. The last five months have changed practically every worship and educational experience that we knew, loved and had grown accustomed to. I cannot think of any other time in my personal history where I have witnessed such life changing impositions such as we have dealt with during 2020.

Taking all that has happened into consideration, we are still called with living our discipleship and responding to Christ's invitation. I am sincerely grateful to Fr. Chuck and the dedicated staff at St. Patrick-St. Anthony for not wavering in the face of this crisis and continuing to provide the support and resources for ministry to continue in our parish.

In person adult formation programs and opportunities abruptly came to a halt in the middle of March. It did not take long for us to respond via electronic and "distance ministry" in reaching out to our parishioners. Through the remainder of the Lenten season and then into the heart of the Easter season adult formation refused to die. I was able to provide weekly email, You Tube and Facebook reflections on Lenten, Easter and Gospel themes. A big shout out to the Men's Bible Study group leader Mr. Mark Juodawlkis, who was able to continue the early Wednesday morning study group via Zoom and Formed.

Formation that usually happened in person now went virtual. From May to July much of our engaged couple preparation was implemented utilizing Formed. There were several occasions where in person, small group participation was able to take place for our engaged couples. I am not sure what inspired many of our young adults, but love is and was definitely in the air throughout this time period! Many newly engaged couples from Chicago to Grand Haven to Auburn Hills have begun their engaged formation at St. Patrick-St. Anthony Parish.

I want you to know that our parish has a wonderful, competent and dedicated faith formation team. Throughout the spring and summer months they have been planning multiple ways to minister this fall and provide the best faith formation possible. We still do not know what will be possible pertaining to in-person faith formation this Fall. Andrea, Grant, Teesie, Rachael and myself are planning multiple learning models that would take advantage of both virtual distance learning and in person learning. This September, our RCIA catechumen and candidates will be able to finally receive the Sacraments of Initiation.

Unfortunately, some of our big event plans had to be put on hold, not cancelled mind you, but postponed to a later date. Our May Conference on Marriage and Family as well as our August parish festival and September Women's Conference had to all be moved to later times next year. Our guest presenters Chris Padgett and Sarah Hart were disappointed, but are excited to reschedule and come to our faith community.

Look for all the Fall programming and learning opportunities in our next communication coming soon. It will be shared via our parish website, e-blast and direct mailing.

Peace,
Tony Allen

Children's Ministry

andreawilliamson@stpatsgh.org



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The children of St. Patrick-St. Anthony Parish celebrated First Holy Communion on June 9, 10 and 11! With the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Christ, we are blessed!

MINISTERING IN THE TANGLES AND TURNS OF COVID-19: Since the intense onset of COVID-19 and the “Stay Home, Stay Safe” initiative, St. Patrick-St. Anthony Elementary Faith Formation has been alive and active in many ways:

Outreach

- food packaging and distribution at food trucks
- making boxed dinners and monetarily supporting “Supper House” in Muskegon Heights
- providing groceries and supplies to families in need with home deliveries
- praying novenas for families and “rosary for Haiti”
- making calls and cards to parishioners
- making virtual birthday videos for children
- arranging opportunities to talk with families about the benefits of a Catholic education
- writing thank you letters to our wonderful catechists with a small gift

Faith Formation

- mailing curriculum to each program registered household
- writing hand-written letters to 127 children
- mailing a gift to each CREW child with a summer prayer and faith ideas
- sending regular formation materials to families including the Liturgy of the Light
- safely preparing families for Easter sacraments
- preparing children and their families for First Communion

Parish Life

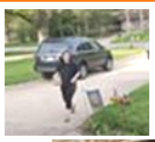
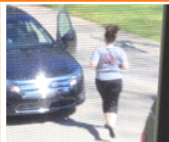
- organizing three celebrations for First Holy Communion with safety, prayer, practice, and peace
- collaborating with staff to make several videos to be shared with parishioners through social media
- collaborating with staff and volunteers to host Deacon Noah’s celebration reception
- participating in the parish virtual coffee hour
- education and Preparation
- creating and collecting materials for the atrium and programming, reviews and orders
- participating in 13 webinars for preparing to minister during a pandemic
- participating in Microsoft Teams and Zoom meetings with the diocese and staff

MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY

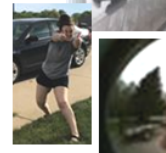
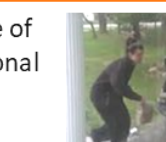
Continuing Middle School Ministry through this pandemic took some creativity... Here are some of the ways we connected with Middle School families without being able to meet in person.

- Middle School families were invited to Middle School Facebook group & Instagram
- **5th & 6th graders** met via Zoom April—June.
- **7th graders** met via Zoom on Wednesday evenings via Zoom for socialization and fun. They were also given Confirmation assignments to complete with their parents.
- **8th graders** were invited to participate in the High School virtual Life Nights.
- **Freedom Team (8th-12th graders** who assist with Middle School Ministry) met via Zoom on Friday mornings for prayer, faith sharing, checking in, and catching up. Freedom Team also continued to help with the middle school Zoom calls.
- **Zoom Hangout with Teesie** - an outlet for middle schoolers to laugh and chat about life.

CATCH ME IF YOU CAN!



The middle schoolers were given the challenge of catching Teesie in the act of dropping off personal deliveries to each of their houses. They had to catch her outside of her car, take a picture, and post it in the Middle School FB Group. Out of the 96 houses that were visited, she was caught on camera 8 times. Good job Middle Schoolers!



CONFIRMATION

We were finally able to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation on August 9, 11, & 12! Please pray for the 37 newly confirmed - that they may continue to grow in faith and strive for holiness!



Please Welcome the New Middle School Ministry Coordinator!



Hello! I would like to introduce myself as your new coordinator of middle school youth ministry. I grew up and now live right here in Grand Haven. I worshipped, celebrated Sacraments, and participated in youth ministry at St. Patrick-St. Anthony Parish. I graduated from Aquinas College with a degree in Education and have been teaching in Catholic schools for the past ten years. I look forward to going back to AQ for Theological Studies! My husband, son, and I are parishioners of St. Francis DeSales Parish in Holland, MI, although we can often be found at 9:00 a.m. Mass here worshipping with my grandparents. I am excited to educate, encourage, and build up the future of the church, our youth. I cannot wait to meet and learn more about you! You can contact me at rachaelm@stpatsgh.org or (616) 842-0001 ext. 122. Prayerfully, Rachael Mouradian (More-Ah-DEE-un)

Job Shift for Teesie Fritsch

Teesie Fritsch will remain on parish staff on a part-time basis as Communication Coordinator. Although she will miss being a part of Middle School Ministry, she is very excited to use her gifts to continuing serving the people of St. Patrick - St. Anthony parish as Communication Coordinator! Her e-mail address and phone extension will remain the same. tfritsch@stpatsgh.org ext. 124



LIFE TEEN

Leading Teens Closer to Christ



Global Life Nights

Throughout the lockdown Life Teen offered global life nights where teens were able to hear a talk from various speakers followed by worship. After each night we meet on zoom for a small group session to discuss each topic more in depth.

Small Group Training

In preparation for our new small group ministry we have trained and equipped 5 adults to lead small groups this year.

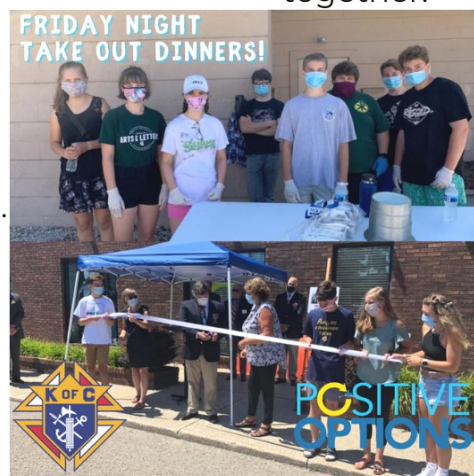


Virtual Game Nights

In addition to the Global Life Nights we also held virtual games nights through zoom where we were able to play Jackbox games together.

Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Initiative

As continuation of the Ultrasound Initiative the youth from both St. Patrick-St. Anthony and St. Mary's have been helping at the Knights of Columbus Drive through dinner on Friday nights. As a testimony to all their hard work the new ultrasound for Positive Options has been delivered to their Holland location, where all of the ultrasounds are being held during the pandemic, and was dedicated on Wednesday July 29 at the Grand Haven Positive Options.



Director of Music & Liturgy

There is no doubt that this pandemic has greatly impacted the way we look at, and do ministry. Almost every aspect of our experience of Church and Community looks a little bit different right now. I want to start by thanking all of you for being so patient throughout all of the changes. It has not been easy to learn a new process of coming to Mass but thanks to your willingness and flexibility, the changes have been relatively smooth.

When Masses were first suspended there was a sudden rush of creativity among the staff and ministry leaders that was a joy to be a part of. It was an exciting new challenge to find ways to keep us all connected while we couldn't be together. Throughout the early months, recording worship songs to share through YouTube, and playing small "concerts" on Sundays were one way for me to keep music a part of our weekly prayer lives. I can say though, that I am very happy to be able to share music in person at weekend Masses again. Even though I cannot see all of your faces, I find joy in being able to lead you in prayer from the piano. The music ministry has been meeting sporadically through zoom in an attempt to keep the team together, but I can share that they are very much ready to be a part of the sung prayer of the Parish. I want to extend my thank you to the members of this ministry for their patience while we make sure it is safe for all of us to sing together again.



A special thank you to all of our Liturgical Ministers, for whom flexibility has become a virtue. Since the roles needed for weekend Masses have been temporarily reduced, and not everyone is comfortable serving yet, there have been many people ready to step up and do extra to make sure that the community is served.

As we monitor scientific updates on the pandemic, and await further guidance from the Diocese on updated guidelines, please know that I am enthusiastically awaiting a slow and safe ramp up to more normal liturgical ministry operations. When the guidelines do change, I look forward to serving in Ministry with each of you.

Blessings, Alex Navas

Pastoral Care Ministry

Since March, I have been blessed to be able to continue working from home. I received a list of parishioners to call and I was grateful to have the opportunity to connect with most of them. Even though the pandemic has been challenging, at least I can be a supportive ear. I've tried to connect with those Catholic residents in assisted living and nursing homes with cards and phone calls. I miss visiting them and they miss the Eucharistic Visitors bringing Communion!

The "stay at home" also brought other opportunities. I experienced my first podcast! I was interviewed by John MacKay about mental health during the pandemic. Check out the podcast on the website. Many interesting educational webinars have been available that I listened to on mental illness, physical effects of COVID 19, social justice, and the "Walking with Mothers", a new program from the USCCB. I have been able to connect with other professionals via Zoom meetings, with staff, Love in Action and local churches, Parish Nurses (local, other states) and even the Dominican Center. There really are many opportunities to connect with others by technology. In fact, Mosaic Counseling will be offering a Suicide Prevention educational program to teach myths, behavioral/situational clues, how to ask questions and respond. This will take place on September 16, 6:30-8:00pm via zoom. Just sign up and watch it from the comforts of your home! As ministers in Christ, He wants us to help our neighbors. This training is an opportunity to learn about those that are hopeless and how we can help. This parish has proven God counts on us. We are a visible, inclusive, welcoming parish known for our generosity per Jane Anderson, Crisis Interventionist from Mosaic Counseling. So please join us, you never know who God will put in your path.

Thanks everyone for your support during this time. If you would like to sign up for the Suicide Prevention or just talk please feel free to call me at 616-842-0001, ext. 119, or 616-414-0156 or email me at parishnurse@stpatshg.org. Regular business days are Monday-Thursday, 8:00-4:00pm. Blessings to you all! Nancy Megley, Parish Nurse.

Migrant Ministry



This ministry provides spiritual and corporal support to the many migrant families in our area. Thank you to all of the volunteers for making this summer such a success! A special thank you to Micanna Pelkey, our volunteer Migrant Ministry coordinator, Mike and Diane Schulhoff for accompanying many camp visits, and the food pantry volunteers for assembling so many boxes of food. Please keep the migrants in your prayers as they begin traveling to their next destination. If you're interested in getting involved in the Migrant Ministry, please contact the parish office.

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**St. Patrick
St. Anthony Parish**
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