

All Saints Parish

Saint Peters, Mo



2021 Guide Book and Directory

ALL SAINTS PARISH

7 McMenamy Road

St. Peters, MO 63376

636-397-1440/FAX 636-397-1421

www.allsaints-stpeters.org

January 2021

Greetings and best wishes to all who use this guide book:

I am Father Don Wester, the pastor of All Saints Church. Because of the site of our parish church, All Saints has been and will continue to be a beacon of hope, a respite for travelers, a place of welcome for all and a special place where the grace of God and the work of this community brings to life the promises of God. You are reading this very helpful document called our Guidebook. I know that most of you use this to find phone numbers or addresses. This is one of the ways that we stay in contact with each other. Also included is the history of our parish, some of the ways we celebrate the sacraments and worship together, and our current staff and the ways that we can assist you.

You are invited to peruse the information in this guidebook. If you are new to our community, you can use this to contact people who can help you with your needs. You might wish to take the first step to share your gifts and talents by becoming part of one of the many groups you see listed and described in the center of the booklet. If you have been here a while, you might think that you know all that is going on. If you take some time, you will discover something new and interesting to get involved in. We have ministries and groups developing all the time. These come from the needs of the community and the world and our attempt to have a positive and holy impact on those needs and conditions. What are your gifts and talents and how can you share them in a way that allows you to work with God in bringing about God's kingdom here on earth as it is in heaven?

What our community looks like has changed through the years but the reason for our existence has not. We are here to praise God and share the gifts and talents God has given us so that others may be drawn to the loving heart of Jesus. Each of us as family members, friends and Catholics has the privilege and responsibility to look beyond ourselves to the wider world. This community has done this since its inception. How can you help continue this grand and glorious tradition?

The welcoming spirit of All Saints is contagious. But it can only be contagious if you give it away to others. When you see a stranger, welcome them. When you see a need or hear of a project going on, lend a hand and make it happen. Be the carrier of God's Spirit to all those who so desperately need to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ. We are hungry and thirsty for the Living Word.

Use this guidebook to further the work that God has begun in each of us. I offer my sincere thanks to the people who do all the work to put this guidebook together.

With a grateful heart,

Father Don Wester
Pastor

I would especially encourage you to consciously make the effort to introduce yourself to other members you may not yet know.

If we are more personally and deeply "connected" with each other, we will more confidently be able to meet the challenges and opportunities of the years to come.

This is the promise of Jesus that he would remain with us always.

Fr. Don



Bell in All Saints Steeple



Parish Mission Statement

**Founded in 1823,
All Saints Catholic Church
is a welcoming community
rooted in the
gospel of Jesus the Christ.**

**Our journey of faith
brings Christ's presence
to our parish, our community,
and our world.**

In response to our mission, we:

**celebrate life-giving liturgy
in praise of God,**

**call each parish member
to ministry,**

**evangelize people
of every age and background,**

foster Catholic identity, and

**serve as stewards of our time,
talent, and treasure.**



PARISH HISTORY

Since 1815, there has been a group of Catholics in this area who have been praying and working together. Beginning in 1823 they met formally as a congregation in a 35' x 25' log house on the east side of Dardenne Creek, near what is now called Olde Towne.

Mostly French or French Canadian, they called their church St. Peters. But because the Dardenne Creek tended then, as now, to flood, it was often difficult for parishioners, most of whom lived on its west side, to get to church. For this reason a new church on the west side of the creek was finished in 1834 by the parishioners who donated their services.

During the years from 1840 on, many German immigrants came into the area. New parishes were started in Old Monroe, Josephville, O'Fallon, and Cottleville from the growing parish of St. Peters. To accommodate this growth a new (the third) church was built in 1855-56 on the hill where the parish is now located. In 1856, the name of the parish was changed to All Saints.

In 1865, the area itself began to be called St. Peters instead of Dardenne. Finally in 1874, the growing numbers – up to almost 125 families – brought on the construction of our present church where the first Mass was celebrated in 1876 and the early interior decorations were completed for the dedication on May 21, 1882. During these years the pastors were Frs. Nicholas Staudinger and Conrad Rotter, who were responsible for building and decorating the present church.

From the 1870's into the 1960's, this area remained fairly stable in population. The parish was an active one, boasting numerous organizations, and hosting an annual picnic at the Mexico Road grounds purchased in 1880. Pastors during this period included Fr. Nicholas Staudinger (1877-1894), who completed the building of the present church, Fr. John L. Gadell (1899-1919), J. H. Girse (1919-1956), and Elmer A. Koenen (1956-1975).

During this period, a two-story school was constructed (1919) to replace the one built in 1870. A convent was constructed in 1915 to provide housing for the sisters who had been living in the 1870 school. A rectory was built in 1903. The first additions to the school were completed in 1959/1962.

The parish continued as a small but vigorous farming community until the 1960's. Then the population and the economy of the area boomed. At one point the parish grew to 1500+ families, but was soon divided up among the new parishes founded in the area of St. Peters and St. Charles.

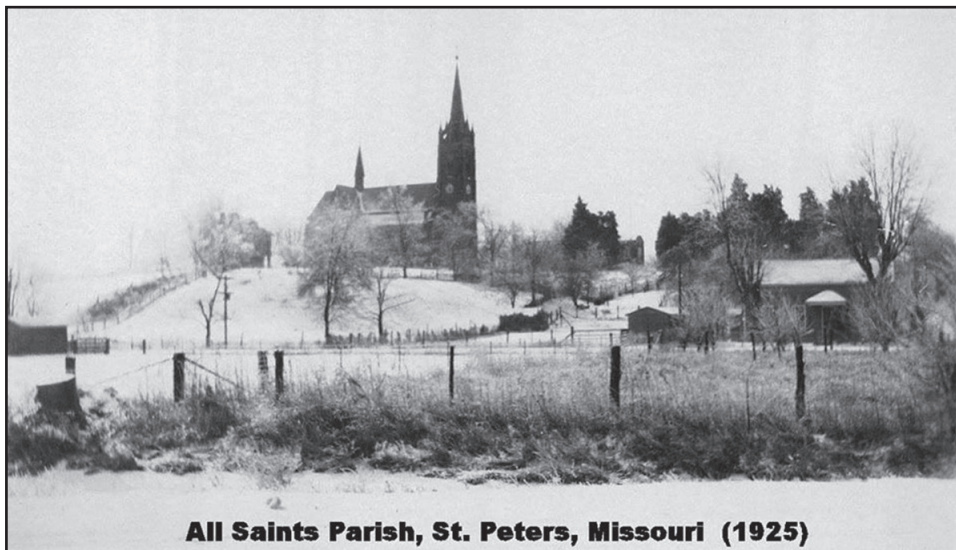
During these years, Fr. Louis Kertz (1975-1981), Fr. Robert Argent (1981-1986), Fr. Ron Chochol (1986-1991), Fr. Michael Henning (1991-2005) were pastors and Fr. Donald Wester (2005 – present).

In 1977, a six classroom addition to the school was built. In 1979 a rectory was built to replace the 1903 rectory, and is now the current Parish Office. A new rectory was completed in 2008 on the site of the former convent. In 1989 the Parish Center and Gymnasium were constructed as additions to the school providing much needed space for parish life and activity.

In 2016, the Annex Building, 310 Cardinal Place, (now known as Minsitry Center) was purchased from Word of Life to accommodate space needed for meeting rooms for parshioners and groups.

In 2017, The Sacristy was renovated to repair the celing, add a restroom, refurbish the wood on the cabinets and drawers, add another regular sink and refurbish the sacrarium.

The Pastoral Council began functioning in May 1983, and the School Board in May 1987.



All Saints Parish, St. Peters, Missouri (1925)

CELEBRATING THE EUCHARIST

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, 5:00 pm
Sunday, 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 a.m. Church,
9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Gym
“During COVID restrictions”

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

6:30 a.m. Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday

(During the school year the children plan and participate in some of these weekday celebrations.)

The Eucharist is the source of our Christian life and the goal to which all our activities lead! The liturgy touches every aspect of our parish life—our catechetical work, our sense of community, our service to the poor, and our prayer life. It is through belief in the True Presence of Christ in Word and Sacrament that we are fed and commissioned to serve others.

All Saints is steeped in a richness of history, culture, prayer and tradition. Our liturgical celebrations endeavor to foster a loving relationship with Jesus Christ and to offer reverent, meaningful, and joyful experiences of worship!

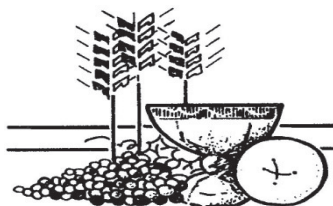
SUNDAY SERVICES FOR FAMILIES

Parents are the primary teachers of our faith to their children. Our young families are always encouraged to introduce their children to the Christian way of life in the larger Catholic community.

One way to bring a deeper sense of belonging to the Catholic community is sharing in parish life. It is an opportunity to know God better and build relationships. Weekly participation at Mass and being involved with other Christian families and programs here at All Saints supports growth in our faith.

If there is any way we can assist people in their spiritual growth in family life, we want to hear how we might do that. Many of our programs have begun because a need was voiced.

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN provides age appropriate celebration of the Sunday Scriptures for children ages 3 – 7.



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WORSHIP AND SACRAMENTS

BECOMING A CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN

NORMS FOR INFANT BAPTISM

As a community of faith, All Saints Parish has the responsibility of ensuring that infants and children younger than 7 years old be baptized into the Catholic Church and will be raised in the faith. Parents are encouraged to review the requirements for requesting baptism and to have their child baptized within a reasonable time after birth. The following norms for infant baptism have been adopted after consultation with the Pastoral Council.



Stained Glass Window in the Sacristy

PARENTAL REQUIREMENTS

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

For a child to be baptized in the Catholic Church, his/her Catholic parent(s) must be registered and practicing member(s) of All Saints Parish, regularly participating in Sunday worship in our parish, and supporting the parish through gifts of time, talent, and treasure. Such a commitment provides reasonable assurance that the child to be baptized will be raised in the faith.

PREPARATION SESSION

To ensure that parents are aware of the meaning of baptism in Christian life and the commitments they are making, they are expected to participate in a program of instruction and preparation. This session is held on the 1st Monday of every month at 7:00 pm in the Annex. This is also an important opportunity to meet and get to know other new parents and parish members.

Godparents, while not required to participate, are welcome. To ensure a productive session for all in the space available, the number of participants is limited to 10 couples per session.

Pre-registration is required. Please call the Parish Office to register.

GODPARENTS

In choosing a Godparent or sponsor for your child, parents are asked to seriously consider the following: The sponsor's role is to assist parents in passing on the faith in which the child is baptized. Therefore, parents should choose someone who will take the role seriously and who will be a good role-model for the child. Parents should speak personally with the sponsor about the meaning of this role and their expectations.

Church law sets minimum requirements: A sponsor must be at least sixteen years old. He/she must be a fully initiated, practicing Catholic who has been baptized, received first communion, and been confirmed. If parents choose two people to be sponsors, both may not be of the same sex. Although non-Catholics may not serve as sponsors, they may be witnesses in addition to a sponsor, and must be themselves practicing the Christian faith.

ADULT INITIATION

If an adult wants to join the Catholic Church, he or she is invited to participate in the Catechumenate during which the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is celebrated. In general, this process focuses on the individual's faith formation through Scripture, catechesis, prayer, worship, and community life.

Various stages in the process are marked by liturgical celebrations in church at the Sunday Eucharist. As the All Saints Community witnesses these rites, it gives support and strength to those seeking conversion as well as renewing its own spiritual being. The process of initiation culminates at the Easter Vigil when an individual is baptized or makes a profession of faith, is confirmed and receives communion for the first time in the Catholic Church. Occasionally, previously baptized Christians may make their profession of faith at other times during the year, such as on the feast of All Saints.

To register for the Catechumenate process or for any questions, please contact any of the parish priests or call the Parish Office.

INITIATION TO THE EUCHARIST

Children are generally admitted to Communion during 2nd Grade. Children must be enrolled in the religious education program for at least one year before the year in which they are admitted to Holy Communion. If a child is older than 2nd Grade and has not received Communion, the parents should contact Mary Grace Villmer, Coordinator of Religious Education, 636-397-1440, ext. 235, to make the appropriate arrangements.

CONFIRMATION for youth

Confirmation for youth generally takes place during 8th Grade. In order to be confirmed an individual must participate in the religious education program for at least one year prior to the year in which he or she will be confirmed. In addition to reflecting on their faith in classes, candidates are asked to participate in service projects, a day of prayer, and an evening of reflection on service with other parishioners. The Sacrament of Confirmation is celebrated as a parish at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, usually sometime shortly after Easter.



If an individual is beyond 8th Grade and has not received the sacrament, he or she should contact Deacon Gary Meyerkord to make proper arrangements.

for adults

Occasionally, for various reasons, an individual has not been confirmed while in his/her childhood or youth. Adults who are not yet confirmed are invited to call the Parish Office to make arrangements to celebrate this sacrament. After a brief preparation program held in the spring of the year, these adults and young adults will be confirmed at the St. Louis Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis on Pentecost Sunday.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is the sacrament of spiritual healing, where the loving Father receives us back as his prodigal sons and daughters whenever we turn to him. The penitent confesses his/her sins to the priest, who offers forgiveness as the minister of Christ's mercy.

Weekly and by Appointment at Your Convenience

Tuesday: 7:00 to 8:10 pm

Saturday: 4:00 to 4:45 pm

If it is not possible to come at these times, feel free to call one of the priests to arrange an appointment at your convenience. The priests are more than happy to do this.

Services of Reconciliation

During Advent and Lent the priests of the parish lead the community in communal prayer services followed by individual confessions.

Initiation to the Sacrament of Reconciliation

The normal time for the first celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation with children in our parish shall be in the first semester of their second grade year followed by their first reception of the Eucharist during the second semester. The parents of children enrolled in All Saints School or All Saints Parish School of Religion or Home School Programs shall be expected to complete a program of catechesis concerning the Sacrament of Reconciliation within the context of their own adult spiritual life prior to their requesting this sacrament for their children.

Pastoral Care Of The Sick

HOSPITAL VISITATION

The priests and lay ministers of the parish are interested in visiting parishioners when they are in the hospital. However, hospitals no longer automatically inform parishes when a parishioner is admitted. We will be able to visit only if we know you are in a hospital. It is most helpful to us when you or a family member notifies the Parish Office.

COMMUNION FOR THE SICK

Holy Communion is brought once a week to those who are sick or unable to go to church on a regular basis. If you or a family member wants to receive communion at home on a regular or temporary basis, please call the parish office.

INDIVIDUAL ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If you are planning to go to the hospital for surgery or extended care, contact the parish office before you go in order to arrange for the celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick.

This sacrament is for the sick or the chronically ill as well as for those who are near death. Individuals in hospitals should ask the chaplain there for the sacrament. Those who are in Barnes St. Peters Hospital should call All Saints to arrange for anointing.

COMMUNAL ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Periodically during the year the Sacrament of the Sick is celebrated at Mass for all of those who need the grace of healing and hope provided in this sacrament.

WHY SHOULD YOU BE ANOINTED BEFORE GOING TO THE HOSPITAL

While patients and hospital staff can, very fortunately, call for the sacramental and pastoral services of a Catholic priest while in the hospital, a new fact of hospital life today is that patients are often very swiftly in and out of treatment. It is possible that the priest will not be able to see you as soon as you wish. Therefore, it is better for you to talk to a priest here in our parish before you go to the hospital and receive those sacraments that are available for those facing surgery, serious illness or old age: Penance, the Anointing of the Sick, and the Eucharist.

In addition, the priests as well as the members of our parish who are involved in our hospital care-giving ministry and home visitation will know about your illness and will be able to visit and support you through your recovery.

Many people tend to deny that they are sick and in need of prayers. This is a very human response. However, it keeps sufferers from receiving what they need and deserve – and what the Church is ready to offer. If you or a loved one is ill, you may need to confront and replace the old idea that people should only be anointed with the Oil of the Sick at the hour of death. People once called these prayers and the sacramental anointing the “Last Rites,” as if these prayers were only for those who were already or very near to dying. This understanding and image is wrong.

There is a special communion rite, called *Viaticum*, and special prayers reserved for people close to death, but the other rites of pastoral care for the sick are intended for those who are seriously ill, facing surgery, or struggling with the frailties of old age.

Finally, your attitude during sickness or suffering will be helped by your stronger identification with Christ. Sickness is not a total disaster. If we turn to God with our complaints and fears, letting God answer us in His own way, and if we cooperate with those who can help us, then any sickness can end in God's glory and prepare us for greater happiness.

Devotions

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration is a time of quiet prayer in the presence of the exposed Eucharist, when we are called, as Psalm 46 says, to “be still, and know that I am God.” It is a time when we as human beings can put time aside to spend with God, who gives himself completely to us. Visits are most welcome, from hours at a time to a few short minutes between other activities.

Eucharistic Adoration is offered on Tuesday evenings of every week, beginning with Exposition at 7:00 pm, and concluding with Night Prayer and Benediction at 8:15 pm. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is also offered from 7:00 to 8:10. All are most welcome!

The church is also open during the day throughout the week, and, although the Eucharist is not exposed, all are most welcome for personal prayer.

DEVOTIONS OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

Celebrated after the 8:00 am Mass on Tuesday of every week.

ROSARY

There is a public recitation of the Rosary in the church before 7:30 am Mass on Sunday, and at 4:30 pm Saturday. Every Friday the Rosary is prayed at 2:15 pm at the Grotto or in church.

Life Commitments

By the grace of God, and with the inspiration and encouragement of family and friends, men and women of our parish are called by God to make life commitments, marriage, single life, priesthood, diaconate, and vowed religious communities. These vocational choices are strengthened by our example of living faith, our prayer for them, and our commitment to their preparation for the future.

MARRIAGE

Engaged couples planning to be married at All Saints should make contact with one of the priests or deacons of the parish at least six months before they plan to marry, but should know that many couples do so at least a year prior to their preferred date. Definite plans for a wedding date should not be decided until such contact has been made and the couples’ readiness for a sacramental marriage has been determined.

Preparation for marriage involves the couple completing the FOCCUS pre-marital inventory process, participating in any one of several Marriage Preparation Programs, planning the wedding ceremony with the presiding priest or deacon. The couples are responsible for arranging/booking music ministers, selecting hymns and music, and arranging lectors and extraordinary ministers of Communion, if applicable. (The Director of Liturgy & Music is available to assist with this process if necessary.)

SINGLE LIFE

Single adults, young and old, are valued members of our parish and society. Their perspectives on life, their talents and experiences, and their faith are an invaluable resource within our Church and our world. As a parish, we commit ourselves to affirming and supporting them in living a Catholic Christian life-style and to including them in the activities and organizations of our community.

PRIESTHOOD AND DIACONATE

The Church calls some of its members to ordination and service within the faith community as priests and deacons. Most often this call is first recognized and encouraged by the family and the parish. It is a life-choice further strengthened through programs of education and formation provided by our archdiocese. As a parish, we pray for and support those who are making these life-commitments of service and leadership within the Church.

VOWED RELIGIOUS LIFE

In the tradition of our faith, adult men and women continue to choose to serve others as brothers and sisters living in community. Their lifestyles are shaped by the Gospel values of poverty, obedience, and chastity, serving the Church and the world in a variety of ways. As a parish, we provide information and encouragement concerning the vowed religious life and offer support for those who are seeking to make such a commitment.

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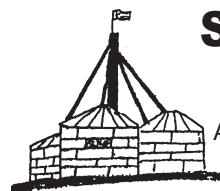


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Remembering Church

Our parish community is not whole – it is incomplete. We have brothers and sisters in Christ who are not celebrating Eucharist as a part of our community. Some are not participating in Church or sacramental life at all. All active members of the parish are encouraged to reach out to such persons and let them know we care about them.

There are many factors which may cause alienation from the Body of Christ:

disagreement with the institutional Church, hurts caused by clergy or other members of the community, boredom, or many other reasons. Regardless of the reason, all of us are called to facilitate the healing process for those who are alienated.

Many of our parishioners probably know of one or more Catholics in our parish who are inactive or alienated from the Church. Your help is needed to begin the healing process. Simply let any member of our Pastoral Leadership Team, or Deacon Gary Meyerkord (397-1440) know of anyone who may be hurting or searching for a way to be reunited with our Church once again. You can be assured that all information will be treated confidentially. In addition, please pray for those members of our community who are temporarily separated from us.

Ecumenical Parishioners

Christians who are not members of the Catholic Church will attend All Saints and become active in our parish organizations and programs. Most often these “ecumenical parishioners” are spouses of our members or interested individuals who live in our area. Commonly they will maintain an identity and at least partial commitment to their original community.

Ecumenical parishioners constitute an excellent opportunity for our parish to broaden our sense of Church, to engage in real ecumenism, and to practice the Christian ministry of hospitality.

Current guidelines for worship in the Catholic Church generally limit the practice of intercommunion. However, we encourage Christians of other communities, who have chosen to associate themselves with our parish, to know that they are welcome among us, and to speak with any member of our Pastoral Leadership Team about how they might become more involved in the faith life of our parish.

PASTORAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Good leaders are always thinking beyond today and asking “What’s next?” The Pastoral Leadership Council serves in that capacity, sharing its wisdom, experience and gifts with the Pastor.

The Council members represent various areas within the community and serve at the invitation of the Pastor. The meetings are held quarterly.

MISSION STATEMENT

All Saints Leadership Council exists to encourage growth and strategic thinking for All Saints community of faith.

PASTORAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

This team of 11 members includes the Pastor, Associate Pastors, Deacons, Director of Administration, Accountant/Bookkeeper, Director of Liturgy and Music, School Principal, Coordinator of Religious Education and Coordinator of Youth Ministries. As pastoral leaders we are committed to manifesting “one community rooted in Christ.” If you want to contact anyone on the Parish Leadership Team, please refer to the listing in the General Parish Information section in the following pages. The team’s goal is to serve you.



EDUCATION

ALL SAINTS SCHOOL

FULL TIME ELEMENTARY PROGRAM (K-8)

Our elementary school is one of the major ministries of our parish. A significant portion of our resources are committed to support the educational and religious values that we believe are important for the future of our parish, our Church, and our nation.

We are committed to providing quality, integrated education for the children enrolled in our school, to working cooperatively with teachers and parents, and to forming the younger members of our parish in the faith that was handed down to us. For further information, contact the Principal, Deborah Hake at 636-397-1440 ext. 234.



PRIORITIES FOR SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

The continuing growth of our area has created an increasing demand for Catholic education in All Saints Parish and the schools of our neighboring parishes. To meet this demand, the All Saints Parish Board of Education has adopted GUIDELINES for determining priority in student enrollment. Priority will be determined by

- the date of registration for school,
- the length of registration in the parish, and
- the history of parish support

If you are considering a full time Catholic elementary school education for your child/children in the future, it is very important that you register in the parish as soon as possible and become involved in parish life (participating in parish life and activities as well as financial support).



PRESCHOOL

Where the fundamentals begin and the possibilities are endless.

Come grow and learn through God's love! Our Preschool is committed to being a program which is permeated by our Catholic faith, developing the whole child by sharing our faith and providing opportunities for spiritual growth. We embrace a child centered, hands-on curriculum with individual attention given to each child. Our children are respected as individual persons and as unique learners. We find it ideal to implement a variety of curriculums using the Archdiocesan and Missouri State Standards for Early Childhood as our guide. We offer both a full day or half day program, or a five day or three day program. We can be flexible to your needs!



For complete information and/or registration materials, please call All Saints School, 636-397-1440, ext 2.

ALL SAINTS SCHOOL

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (K-8)

For families with children attending public schools, All Saints School provides a program for religious education and sacramental preparation through our Parish School of Religion. Classes meet according to the following schedule: All grades meet on Wednesday, 6:00 pm to 7:20 pm.

Parents are encouraged to support the religious education of their children by their personal practice of our faith, by their encouragement of their children to participate actively in class, and by assisting teachers upon request. For further information, contact Mary Grace Villmer, Coordinator of Religious Education who serves as leader of the Parish School of Religion.

Parents who Home School their children in religion are asked to contact Mary Grace Villmer, Coordinator of Religious Education at 636-397-1440 ext 235 during the summer to register as Home School families. It is our hope to support these families as needed or requested and to keep them informed of parish activities that may be helpful to them. We also value incorporating these Home Schoolers into parish celebrations of the sacraments and events such as retreats, community days, and parent evenings of spiritual formation.

PARISH SUPPORT

The members of our parish are the primary source of support for our parish life and our parish facilities. Through gifts of talent and treasure we are able to sustain the operation of our parish as well as provide for the programs and activities so important to our community.

It is always easier to invest in what is personally important to you. Therefore, you are encouraged to get involved in our parish life, to experience what is being offered here, and to make your commitment. Our challenge is to continue the work of the past, to attend to the needs of the present, and to build for the future.

The Pastor, Director of Administration, Accountant/Bookkeeper, and Parish Finance Council share responsibility for developing and managing the revenue and expenses of the parish, and report to the parish concerning our financial situation on a regular basis.

STEWARDSHIP: An Attitude of Gratitude

With the encouragement of our Pastoral Council and Finance Council, in the Fall of 1993, our parish began an on-going effort to educate ourselves about stewardship in the Catholic Church. This effort promises to be an important means of spiritual growth for our parish members, and should help us plan for the future more effectively. A Stewardship Committee meets regularly with a mission to inspire our parish community to live out their faith and to achieve a closer relationship with God through prayer, service and commitment.



Though new for many Catholics, stewardship is based on a biblical view of God as Creator and ourselves as servants. From this perspective we are encouraged to develop or renew the practice of regularly reflecting on God's love for us and the goodness of our lives. With a sure sense of our blessings in mind we are encouraged to make gratitude the fundamental motive for our giving. The Bible also reminds us that as servants we are accountable to God for the use (stewardship) of our gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

While our parish has many particular needs for which funds must be raised, we must continue to reflect on the fact that stewardship is much different than fund-raising. Stewardship is rooted in one indisputable need – the need to give. Our gratitude can so easily become a matter of words only, unless we are returning to the Lord, the giver of all gifts, a truly grateful share of our time, talent, and treasure.

With such an attitude, your family's needs and the needs of our parish will be met – with a surplus for the future. Such an attitude is a faith decision rooted in trust that what is left over after we have first given to God will be enough. Over time few practices deepen faith more effectively than this decision to really put God first in our lives.

All parish members are encouraged to pray for each other that we might receive the grace of understanding to know how God is calling each of us to be stewards, the grace of wisdom to know what we have to give, and the grace of courage to trust that we will be blessed in our giving.

Living a Stewardship Lifestyle and Trusting God

Prayer – invest in your prayer life

Participation – help and serve others

Generosity – return a portion of your finances

A GUIDE FOR MAKING YOUR STEWARDSHIP INTENTION

While your commitment to giving is important for a vital parish life, **FIRST** spend time in prayer and share in our Sunday worship.

SECONDLY, think about what you expect from your parish, and about the gift of your talent as an investment in All Saints. Review our **Talent Directory**, and talk with other members.

FINALLY, think about what's really possible, listen to your heart, and challenge yourself to grow.

Many find little or no time left at the end of the day. That is why it is so important for you to plan when and how you can share your talent with your parish and those in need.

Your gift of treasure should also fully express your gratitude to God for all you have received.

PLANNED GIVING

Planned giving combines personal, financial, and estate planning concepts with a donor's desire to support a charitable cause or organization – offering specific advantages to the donor, including tax and income benefits.

In particular, planned gifts provide a way for individuals and families to make a significant gift to All Saints Parish. Such gifts may be for unrestricted use or may be designated for some specific purpose. In addition, planned giving supports the donor's belief in the value and importance of our parish's ministries and programs – now and for years to come. Planned gifts include:

- Will Bequests
- Charitable Remainder Trusts
- Real Estate/Residence Gift
- Charitable Gift Annuities
- Life Insurance Policy Gifts
- Gifts of Stocks and Securities

We pray that God will always help us to be wise and generous stewards of the gifts that have been entrusted to our care. May the generosity of all who give of themselves for the good of others always be life-giving for each person and family of our parish.

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PARISH ENDOWMENT FUNDS

The money in our endowment funds (the principal) is never spent. Only the interest gained on these funds is used for the needs of our parish.

In January 2001 our Parish Finance Council recommended the establishment of two endowment funds for the benefit of our parish. These funds are intended to support the future needs and ministries of our parish.

ALL SAINTS PARISH CEMETERY ENDOWMENT

This endowment will help to ensure the perpetual care and maintenance of our parish cemetery. Every gift to the endowment will help to guarantee that our cemetery will remain a sacred place of beauty and respect for our loved ones.

ALL SAINTS PARISH ENDOWMENT

This endowment will generate significant future support for the historic preservation of our parish church. We have also valued highly our place of worship and been quite responsible in maintaining its beauty and dignity. Your generous support for this endowment will help to ensure that in the years ahead the cost of Catholic education and the expense of maintaining our church will never be too great of a burden for our members to bear.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND

Throughout the history of All Saints Parish, the ninth oldest parish in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, the faith of our members has been centered in the celebration of the Mass. Gathering first in homes and small log cabin structures, our community's spiritual life was nurtured by worshiping together regularly.

Our sense of responsibility for what we have inherited from others, and our great desire to preserve the treasure of our parish church for future generations have led the Finance Council to recommend the establishment of an Historic Preservation Fund for the present and future needs of our church.

All funds received as gifts, memorials, or tributes to others through the coming years will be set aside for the on-going historic preservation of our parish church. The 1994 Steeple Restoration Project marked the establishment of this fund and was its first major undertaking. In 2012 the original roof on the sacristy (1909) was replaced using these monies.

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