



June 2019

ALL SAINTS

A Stewardship Parish

Volume 16, Issue 6

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Our Parish Newsletter:

Spreading the news of Christ at work in our community.

A Letter from Our Pastoral Administrator

Take Vacations from Work or School, Not From God

Dear Saints,

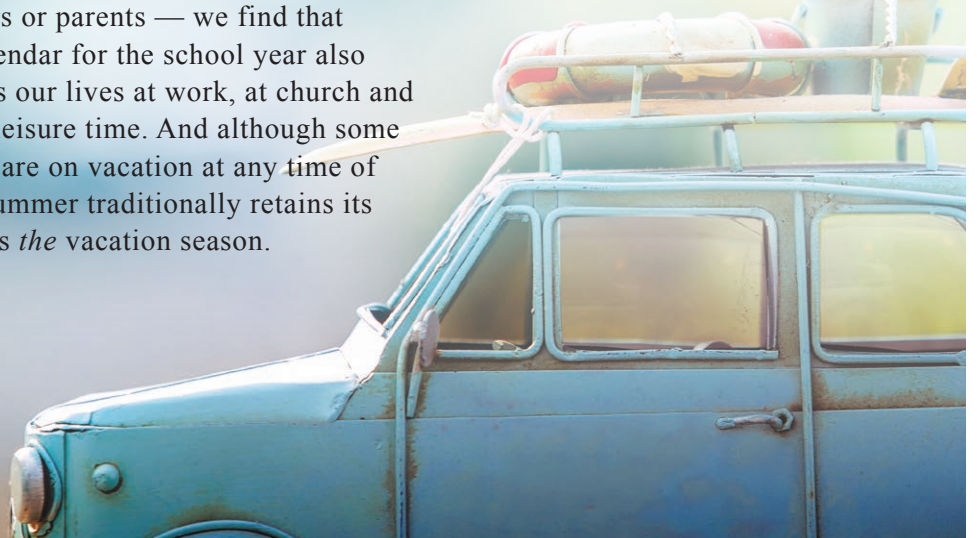
By now, many schools across America have let out for the summer. In almost no time, camp programs for younger students will be underway. Meanwhile, many older students are ready to trade their homework and notebooks for seasonal jobs until it's time to return to class in a few months.

Whether or not we're directly involved with schools — as students, teachers or parents — we find that the calendar for the school year also impacts our lives at work, at church and in our leisure time. And although some people are on vacation at any time of year, summer traditionally retains its place as *the* vacation season.



Vacations, no matter when or where we take them, provide us with a wonderful opportunity to refresh our lives by following a totally different daily pattern. Whether it's a day trip to the beach or hiking in the mountains, an excursion to the big city or a road trip out to the country, a visit to relatives or friends, or even a quiet and relaxing week spent at home, a vacation

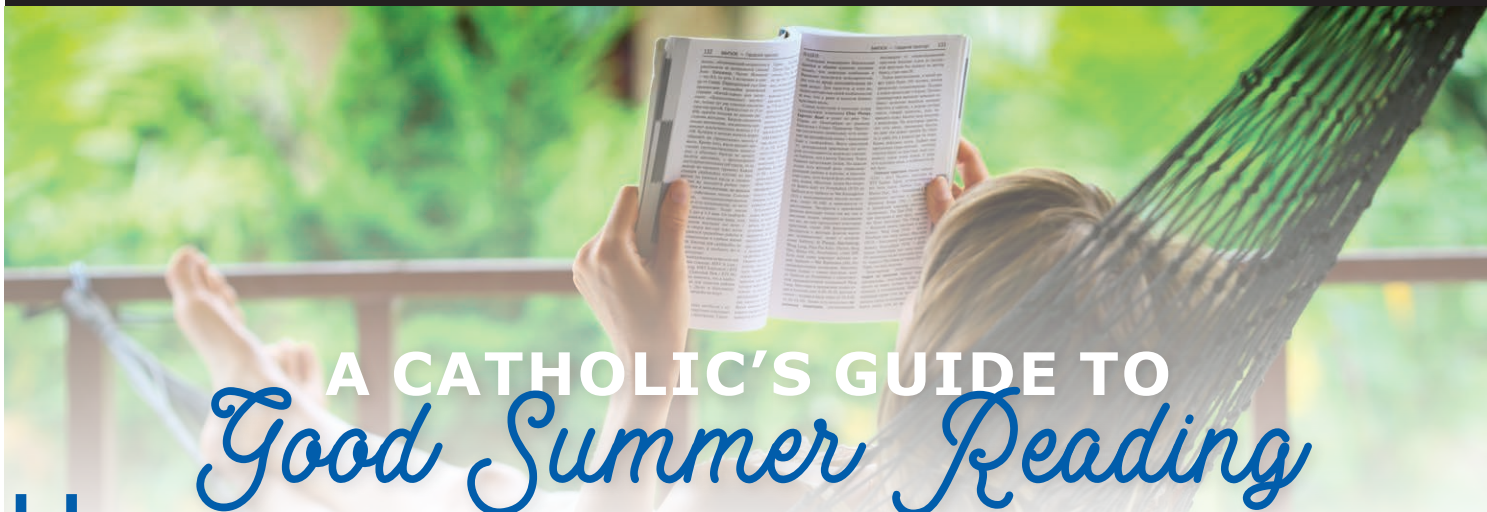
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ALL SAINTS

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A CATHOLIC'S GUIDE TO *Good Summer Reading*

Have you been wondering what to read during vacation this year? Why not give spiritual reading a try?

There are thousands of titles out there – too many for any one person – just waiting to make a positive impact on your faith life. Reading is a fantastic opportunity for general spiritual direction and good practice for every searching soul.

Choose a title from “you can’t go wrong” authors such as Louis de Wohl, G.K. Chesterton, Peter Kreeft, Francis de Sales, C.S. Lewis, and Scott Hahn. Their works alone should take you well into the summer, and possibly through to the next decade.

Or, choose from this list of great Christian books, in no particular order:

The Story of a Soul by St. Therese of Lisieux

In this autobiography and all-time favorite Catholic book, St. Therese teaches her “little way” of spiritual childhood. Millions of copies have been sold worldwide.

Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis

One of the most popular introductions to the Christian faith ever published, this series of broadcast talks has been collected into book fashion. *Mere Christianity* sets out to “explain and defend the belief that has been common to nearly all Christians at all times.”

Rome Sweet Home: Our Journey to Catholicism by Scott and Kimberly Hahn

This offers a conversion story of a brilliant, anti-Catholic Scripture scholar and his wife to the Catholic

faith. Now well-known speakers and Catholic apologists, Scott and Kimberly recount their story with simplicity and love.

The Good News about Sex & Marriage by Christopher West

This down-to-earth application of Pope John Paul II’s *Theology of the Body* is an easy to read yet insightful account of the Church’s teaching on sex and marriage.

What Catholics Really Believe by Karl Keating

Addressing 52 of the greatest misconceptions of the Catholic faith, Keating draws upon Scripture and Tradition to dispel errors and explain the rationale behind Church teaching.

No Greater Love by Mother Teresa

This anthology collects the teachings and sayings of St. Teresa of Calcutta. Founder of the Missionaries of Charity and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, Mother Teresa speaks joyfully about her work with the poor and God’s call in our lives.

Surprised by Truth edited by Patrick Madrid

Eleven converts give their Biblical and historical reasons for becoming Catholic. These unique personal testimonies continue to transform hearts throughout the world in an insightful read for Catholics and non-Catholics alike.

Happy summer! Happy reading!



Congratulating All Saints Catholic School Graduating Class of 2019

Congratulations to the All Saints Catholic School Graduating Class of 2019. These students worked extremely hard and have earned scholarships totaling \$80,000 over four years of study. Congratulations to each of the students (listed below with the high school he or she will attend), and their families.



Sofia Angoboldo	Ursuline Academy	Katie Beth LeBlanc	Bishop Lynch
Lili Bannister	Theater Arts Magnet	Collin Lenhoff	Jesuit College Prep
Kate Bannister	Visual Arts Magnet	Eva Sofia Lobo	Ursuline Academy
Brogan Barbieri	John Paul II	Alex Manchec	Lebanon Trail
Kamil Bowari	Jesuit College Prep	Isabella Manchec	Lebanon Trail
Jeanette Byrne	Wylie East High School	Giana Marino	John Paul II
Sebastian Campo	John Paul II	Patrick McGuigan	John Paul II
O'Brein Carr	John Paul II	Tim McKenna	John Paul II
Jude Cobler	Jesuit College Prep	Alyssa Mae Miranda	John Paul II
Mallory Collins	Shepton High School	Kate North	Shepton High School
Keegan Conaway	John Paul II	Nathan Powers	John Paul II
Olivia Dominguez	Ursuline Academy	Grayson Pretrovski	John Paul II
Kyle Fisher	John Paul II	Ella Schmitt	John Paul II
Manalle Ghreichi	John Paul II	Olivia Simmons	Richardson High School
Hagazzi Hailey	John Paul II	Ethan Stone	Jesuit College Prep
Leelai Hailey	John Paul II	Eva Talkington	John Paul II
Kailee Helms	John Paul II	Ella Walker	John Paul II
Elizabeth Hogan	John Paul II	Becca Whitehead	Shepton High School
Megan Jamail	Jasper High School	Jay Windisch	Charlotte Catholic High School
Amanda Kinser	John Paul II	Charlotte Wright	John Paul II



SEEKING ANSWERS AND BUILDING

Though young adults are more connected technologically and socially than ever before, the sad truth is that many struggle desperately with feelings of loneliness and disconnect. Immersed in the process of building careers and starting new families, young people are often still trying to figure out their identity and beliefs. This is why, says ministry coordinator Robert Olson, Alpha plays such a crucial role here at the parish by providing young adults with a safe and welcoming environment where they can form community and seek out answers to the tough questions of life.

“Young adults are constantly being told what and how to think and what to believe,” Robert says. “With so much information available, it is difficult to discern what is true. Alpha provides a safe environment in a loving community that is respectful of others’ thoughts

and opinions. We allow hard questions and we promote open discussion. We invite everyone — those who don’t believe in God, who are questioning, who are struggling, who are just starting — to honestly share with the hope that in doing so, we can ultimately introduce them to the Person of Jesus Christ.”

“It helps them know that they aren’t alone,” adds Alpha leader Julia Pinto. “There are so many other young people who are also struggling with doubt or navigating through this process with them. This allows them to truly experience and help build a sense of community.”

Designed specifically as an evangelization tool, Alpha at All Saints consists of a shared meal, video and small-group gatherings occurring weekly over a 12-week period. Taking place here at the parish Sunday evenings at 6:15 p.m. in the St. Theresa Room, these gatherings



The members who collectively attended Easter Vigil and the reception following



COMMUNITY THROUGH ALPHA

are meant to create a warm and hospitable environment where the “big questions” of life can be discussed. This is done by partaking in food together — generously provided by parishioners Kathy McDermott and Ann Cohn — enjoying fellowship with one another, and then finally participating in some form of discussion based upon a video presentation.

“This is really a great way to invite people that we know to learn about Christianity or to welcome them in a bit deeper — a way for young adults to find community, ask their questions, and begin the process of seeking out answers,” Julia says.

“We break into small groups during this time and discuss the video’s topic, which includes things like *Why did Jesus Die?* And *How Can I have Faith?*” Robert adds. “The discussion uses the Socratic method of asking questions, helping to foster critical thinking and an open discussion. It’s an opportunity to hear and to share perspectives in a free and open environment with other young adults.”

Though initially skeptical about the program, Robert has been blown away by the lasting fruits that have been born by this ministry since its beginning in fall 2017. It’s been incredible to see the men and women from each new session open themselves up as they tackle these difficult topics, and to see conversations and relationships blossom as the young adults come to know each other, Christ and His Church. Julia, too, has been amazed by how deeply this ministry has blessed her life, particularly through the lasting friendships she has been able to form.

“Many of my closest friends have come through Alpha,” Julia says. “My current small group consists of a bunch of really wonderful people who want to share their lives with me and are just really enthusiastic about allowing me to serve them and loving me for who I am. Every time we go through Alpha, I kind of make this assumption that I’m a leader — I’m the one here to serve other people. But every single time, I end up receiving and learning so much. God just manages to bless me more and I learn so much more about His love and mercy — both through the videos themselves, but also through the way this community embraces me and encourages me to use my gifts and talents for Him.”



The members who attended the ALPHA Retreat

Alpha is open to any interested young adult, no matter their current beliefs or faith standing. For more information, please contact either Paul Bianchi, Youth and Young Adult Director, at pbianchi@allsaintsdallas.org, or Robert Olson at rcolson7910@gmail.com.



The All Saints Stewardship Committee Invites Parishioners to

The introduction to *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response* — the 1992 U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishop's pastoral letter on stewardship — serves as a wonderful description of why stewardship is such an important part of living as an intentional disciple of Jesus:

“Stewardship is an expression of discipleship, with the power to change how we understand and live out our lives. Disciples who practice stewardship recognize God as the origin of life, the giver of freedom, the source of all they have and are and will be.”

In order to reinforce our dedication to stewardship here at All Saints, our parish has a Stewardship Committee. This group of parishioners seeks to help members of our faith community make active stewardship a part of their everyday lives.

The Stewardship Committee primarily focuses on managing the annual renewal process in which parishioners are asked to make or renew a commitment to participating more actively in their faith. During this time, members of All Saints may decide to serve one or more of our parish ministries, strive to improve their prayer life or increase their tithe, among other things.

With each renewal process, it is encouraging to see the growing dedication to active discipleship and stewardship here at All Saints.

“Each year during the renewal process, we ask our parishioners to come forth on Commitment Sunday and place their commitment cards in a basket at the foot of the altar,” says Carolyn Bisulca, current Stewardship Committee Chair. “It is an amazing and heartwarming



The Stewardship Committee — (clockwise from upper right) Barbara Hammond, Mary Marchand, Carolyn Bisulca and Gina Rauker

sight as hundreds of parishioners leave their seats to offer to God their gifts of time, talent and treasure. It is a testament to the power of the stewardship message.”

As Carolyn emphasizes, while sharing of one's treasure with the Church is certainly part of the equation, good stewardship is first and foremost a sharing of one's time and talent in service to God's people.

“Stewardship is not about fundraising — it is an ongoing expression of our faith,” she says. “Stewardship is about gratitude — we are grateful for the gifts God has given to each of us, and grateful to those who happily offer their gifts in service to our parish community.”

As the parishioners of All Saints serve together, the experience of belonging to a vibrant faith community is enriched. Carolyn finds this increased sodality to be one of the greatest rewards of a stewardship lifestyle.



Live their Faith Daily

"I strongly believe that being a stewardship parish fosters community," she says. "Stewardship teaches that each of us can make a vital contribution to the life of our parish, in worship, education in faith, spiritual growth and fellowship. Practicing stewardship enables us to understand the needs of our parish, discern our own role in accomplishing the mission of the parish, and appreciate the generous work of fellow parishioners."

Looking ahead, the All Saints Stewardship Committee plans to expand their focus beyond the annual renewal process to further help the parish spread the message

about the beautiful rewards found in the commitment to share of our time, talent and treasure in thanks for God's abundant blessings.

"We are working on new ideas that will grow the sense of community, and ensure we are a welcoming and friendly parish," Carolyn says. "Also, we are looking at ways to enhance awareness of our organizations and ministries. Both are critical to helping parishioners deepen their sense of stewardship as a way of life. And when we integrate stewardship into the life of our parish, we help our parish make present the kingdom of God."

If you are interested in learning more about our parish stewardship committee, please contact Carolyn Bisulca at cbisulca@verizon.net.

All Saints Volunteers Stand Strong Against Abuse

According to the Dallas County Children's Advocacy Center, one important step in protecting your child from abuse is to familiarize yourself with the policies and practices of organizations where your child spends time. Here are some of the steps we follow at All Saints to keep our children and vulnerable adults safe:

- Criminal background checks are conducted on all employees — including clergy — and volunteers who work with minors or vulnerable adults, and liturgical volunteers. Background checks are reviewed every two years.
- Volunteers and staff are required to follow the "2 Adult Rule" where at least two Safe Environment-cleared adults are required to be present at all times when a minor or vulnerable adult is present.
- Volunteers and staff must complete annual update training on a topic of safety in order to maintain their Safe Environment clearance.

More information can be found at <http://www.dcac.org/resources>. If you have any concerns regarding our Safe Environment policies please contact the All Saints Safe Environment Director, Elizabeth Horsley, at 972-778-0311 or ehorsley@allsaintsdallas.org, or contact the Diocesan Office for Safe Environment at 214-379-2812 or blandregan@cathdal.org.

To become a Safe Environment-cleared adult and help protect the vulnerable in our community, go to <http://www.allsaintsdallas.org/about-us/safe-environment/new-volunteers/>.



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Weekend Liturgy:

Saturday, 5:00 p.m.

*Sunday, 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m.,
11:00 a.m.*

Teen Mass, 5:00 p.m.

Weekday Liturgy:

Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, 9:00 a.m.

Address Service Requested

Take Vacations from Work or School, Not From God *continued from front cover*

offers a break from our daily routines. We get to spend our time the way *we* choose.

A vacation also provides a good opportunity for us to make some permanent changes in our use of time. When we're free from the demands of everyday life, this is a perfect chance to try something that is not part of our regular routine, such as spending a few minutes a day in prayer or meditation. "Try it — you'll like it!" as the old commercial said. It may have some lasting, positive results in fostering a stronger spiritual life.

Importantly, we must also remember that this is a time of year when our parish will be welcoming visitors who are on vacation themselves — whether they are visiting

family, spending time in the area, or just happen to be passing through on the way to their next destination. So, let us all uphold the Stewardship Pillar of Hospitality and provide a warm welcome to those visiting our parish.

Be sure to worship at Mass, wherever you happen to be each Sunday. You'll come back from vacation refreshed both emotionally and spiritually.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Alfonse Nazzaro
Pastoral Administrator