



ST. ANTHONY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

SAVORING AND SHARING THE GIFT OF MUSIC

When it comes to the phenomenal influence that music can have in our spiritual lives, Br. Fred Silbereis, S.M., has plenty to share.

“Music makes a person much more prayerful because it helps us pray from the heart, and not just the brain,” he says. “We tend to be too ‘brainy’ or we tend to just opt out and not pay attention as we pray. As St. Augustine said, ‘he who sings, prays twice.’ Music is a very important thing!”

Looking back over his life, Br. Fred sees times that it has helped him connect with God in a meaningful way.

“When I used to do artwork, I would have sacred music playing in the background to help me keep aware of God’s presence,” Br. Fred says. “Over the years, music has helped me in my faith life because it brings my heart, body and emotions into my worship. When we sing a joyful, loud song, it makes us joyful!”

Time and time again, Br. Fred has discovered how music helps one to enter into the meaning of the Mass, and draw nearer to the God they seek to worship.

“We are supposed to worship with our ‘whole person’ at Mass,” he says. “If we are just reciting the words, we are not involving our whole selves in



(From left) Br. Fred Silbereis, Lolita Eugenio, Raymond Andrade, Anna Sylva, and Blossom Vierra. Blossom was our organist (and earlier at other parishes) for roughly 70 years, beginning at age 11.

the liturgy. Participating in the music also helps us remember what we learned at Mass, and bring our worship experience home with us.”

And, as a faithful steward, he loves to share the powerful gift of music, along with the other six members of our 7 a.m. Mass Choir. Br. Fred is currently directing the choir in place of Blossom Vierra, who has served as a parish organist for about 70 years.

“We want to serve the parish community by

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PRAYER:

Come to Know the Lord

We make constant reference to the “three Ts” of stewardship, recognizing that to truly live as a stewardship people, we must give God the first fruits of our time, talent, and treasure. It is easy for us to see the concrete reality of the latter two. If we are to give God our talents, we must first recognize with what talents He has blessed us, and then use those talents for His greater glory. And as we continue our stewardship path, we know very well that our money is something concrete. When we recognize it as a gift from God, we know that we are to give a certain amount back to Him. It is easy for many of us to understand what it means to give God our talent and our treasure.

But what does it mean to give God a portion of our time? This idea is much harder to grasp, and yet giving to God the first fruits of our time is just as important as the other two. And if we understand this idea and implement it properly, our stewardship of time will serve as the very foundation from which our stewardship of talent and treasure bear fruit.

When we talk about stewardship of time, we are referring to prayer time. Prayer is of the utmost importance in a disciple’s life, and in the Diocese of Wichita’s *The Pillars of Parish Stewardship*, it is also one of the four pillars of stewardship.

Does this mean that in order to be true disciples, we should say the *Our Father* three times a day or pray a daily Rosary? Not particularly. Of course, we must not discount the merits of prayer, as the Church in her wondrous wisdom has given us certain prayers to help guide our lives. However, the disciple’s deep life of prayer involves even more.

St. John Chrysostom explains, “You should not think of prayer as being a matter of words. It is a desire for God, an indescribable devotion ... the gift of God’s grace” (*Hom 6*). That is, if we look at prayer as a mere regimen that we must follow every day, then we do not see to the heart of it. The reality is that prayer will take on different forms for every one of us. One person may have a deep devotion to the Rosary, and in praying it, he is closely united to the

Lord. Another person might feel deeply connected to Him through constant conversation – in the car on the way to work, before bed at night, or at other hours throughout the day. Meanwhile, for another person, a daily or weekly hour of silence before the Lord in Eucharistic Adoration is the best place for him to offer the Lord his heart. No matter how we choose to pray, we must get to the root of it all. If we are to truly give God our time, it must be a gift of ourselves. It must come from the heart and not take the form of mere word repetition. If we offer an *Our Father* without meditating on the words, it can simply become recitation.

The point of prayer is to get to know the Lord. If we are committed to living as His disciples, we must be on personal terms with Him. The first disciples didn’t know what it meant to pray the Rosary. And until the Lord taught them the *Our Father*, they couldn’t pray that either. But they were definitely true stewards of their time. They walked with Jesus, talked with Jesus, and ate meals with Him. He was their best friend, and the more they got to know Him, the more they longed to serve Him.

The same holds true for us today. We can walk with Him, talk with Him and sit with Him, just as they did. And He wants us to do this, too. St. John Chrysostom proclaims, there is nothing more worthwhile: “For prayer unites us to God as His companions” (*Hom 6*). How can we serve Him if we don’t know Him? If we truly desire to be a servant people, we must talk to Him whom we wish to serve. We must get to know Him. Then, most assuredly, we will fall in love with Him. We will undoubtedly desire nothing more than to serve Him.

Recognize Jesus as your best friend and spend time with Him as such. He is the Lord, the Creator of the Universe, without whom we would cease to exist. Bring Him your cares and concerns, your excitement, your worry, your fears and your frustrations, and allow Him to comfort you. He is there, and He wants to speak with you.

A LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Summer Vacations Are Coming to an End... Now What?

Dear Parishioners,

The month of August really does seem to return us to reality, doesn't it? Summer is coming to an end – maybe not officially on the calendar, but in terms of our lives and the life of the Church, it does. The children may view it as the end of something appealing – the start of summer vacation seems like a long time ago – and their parents may be breathing sighs of relief. For those involved in parish ministries, it might be a time when we say, “Now, it's time to work.”

Perhaps this is a time when we get back into the routine of things. However, we all know the truth – that faith and the Church are not seasonal. For that matter, stewardship is not seasonal, and it's not something that is done a few times a year. Rather, stewardship is something we should be thinking about each and every day.

There are many definitions of stewardship, but at its very basis, it means using the gifts God has given us to do the things God asks – calls, expects – us to do. Stewardship is discipleship. We

may tend to think of stewardship as a question: “What is mine and what is God's?” The truth is that all that we have and all that we are belongs to and comes from God – absolutely everything!

We may hear that stewardship is using and sharing our time, our talent, and our treasure. In terms of time, the secret is not learning how to use it or how to get more of it – the secret is knowing how best to use it. Talent and treasure are given to each of us in different amounts. Nevertheless, the bottom line is that we have to trust God before we really share those things. Relying on God and living a God-centered life are fundamental to a relationship with Him – and, for that matter, with one another. Being contented is not the fulfillment of what you may want. Rather, it is the realization of what you already have.

So, we are back to the reality of this time of year. You may have heard the statement that stewardship people are grateful people. Perhaps this is a time to

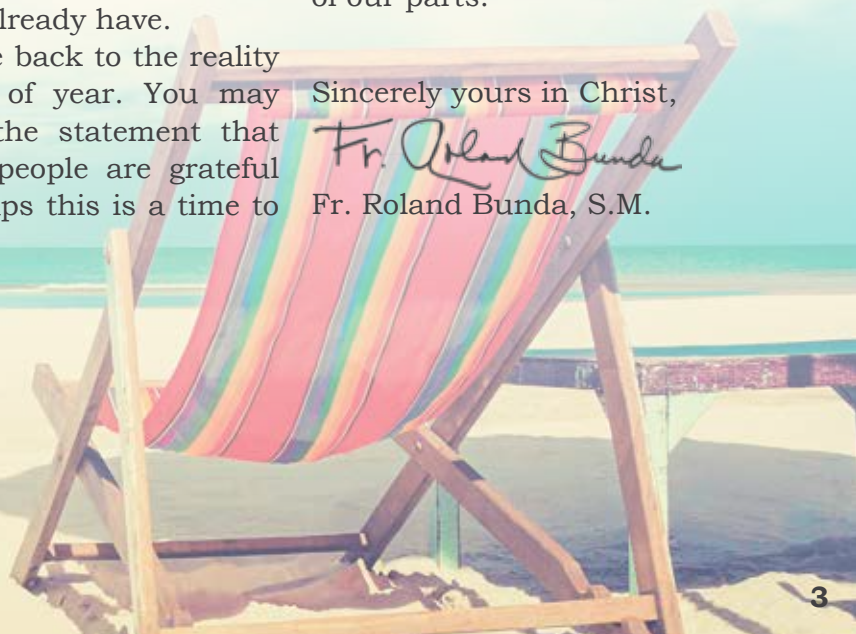


be grateful for the summer that has passed. But it is a time for us to recommit ourselves to doing better, especially as we enter a time of year that provides a return to routine. Importantly, it is also a time filled with celebrations, thanksgiving, hope, and maybe even better stewardship on each of our parts.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Roland Bunda

Fr. Roland Bunda, S.M.



INTRODUCING *Tim Cullen*, ST. ANTHONY

“The key to achievement in any area is developing and retaining relationships. I felt we began that when we visited, and we look forward to continuing as soon as we arrive full-time. Throughout my life, I have seen God’s Hand in everything I have done, and God’s call was very strong there in Maui.” – Mr. Tim Cullen, new Headmaster of St. Anthony School

Pope St. John Paul II had a great love and appreciation for Catholic education. Speaking to visiting bishops from the United States in 1998, he said, “A Catholic school is a place where students live a shared experience of faith in God and where they learn the riches of Catholic culture... Catholic schools must help students to deepen their relationship with God and to discover that all things human have their deepest meaning in the person and teaching of Jesus Christ.”

Mr. Tim Cullen, the new Headmaster for our consolidated St. Anthony Catholic School, shares John Paul II’s perspective completely.

“My total philosophy as the Headmaster of a Catholic School is to follow three precepts, in this order: 1. Listen – listen to parents, students, parish leadership, faculty and staff, alumni, and parishioners; 2. Learn – learn from what you hear and be prepared to respond appropriately; 3. Lead – you must provide leadership to the community and especially the school community, leadership which is founded in faith and commitment,” Mr. Cullen says.

Effective Monday, July 10, Mr. Cullen became responsible for all the schools in our system. With more than 30 years in education, he comes to us well prepared for this role. For the past six years, he has served as the Superintendent of Bishop Hoffman Catholic School, a consolidated pre-K-12th grade Catholic school system in Fremont, Ohio. He and his wife, Paula, moved to Maui this summer.



Mr. Tim Cullen, our new Headmaster of St. Anthony School

The couple has three daughters – Sophia, Gabriella and Gianna – and one granddaughter, Francesca.

Mr. Cullen is a native of Fremont, where he attended Catholic schools from first grade through 12th grade. He attended Bowling Green State University, where he received a dual major bachelor’s degree in elementary education and special education. He later received a master’s degree in Educational Administration from Azusa Pacific University in California.

Describing how he came to be at St. Anthony, Mr. Cullen notes that he and Paula had discussed that it might be time for a change and a new challenge.

SCHOOL'S NEW HEADMASTER

“Our youngest daughter graduated from high school this year, and it seemed an opportune time to perhaps make a variation in our lives,” he says. “As a result, I was on the alert for a new and challenging opportunity. I noted an ad from Partners in Mission that St. Anthony was seeking a Headmaster. There is no question that Maui is an attractive and desirable place, and this seemed to be the kind of venture for which we might be looking. I applied and after the initial process, was named a finalist for the position.

“We had the pleasure of coming to Maui – both my wife and I – to meet people and have them meet us,” Mr. Cullen continues. “In a few intense days, I think I met every student, every staff member, every faculty

member, as well as alumni and key people from the parish. We were impressed with the school, but even more so with the great Catholic community there. The key to achievement in any area is developing and retaining relationships. I felt we began that when we visited, and we look forward to continuing as soon as we arrive full-time. Throughout my life, I have seen God’s Hand in everything I have done, and God’s call was very strong there in Maui.”

We welcome the Cullens to our St. Anthony community, and look forward to a long and fruitful relationship. Please take the time to meet them and get to know them better – we are blessed by their presence!

For more information on our St. Anthony School, please contact the office at 808-244-4190.

Savoring and Sharing the Gift of Music continued from front cover

helping to keep the Mass music strong,” Br. Fred says. “It is a ministry – a way of giving and a form of stewardship.”

The 7 a.m. Mass Choir is the only choir at our parish that uses organ music, which gives a deeply rich sound to the liturgy. Most of the songs the choir sings come from our parish hymnal, or from local Hawaiian musicians. In May, the choir members honor the Blessed Mother in a meaningful way by singing traditional Marian hymns.

More members are needed to savor and share the magnificent gift of music with the rest of our parish family and give our Mass music a fuller

“Music is the exaltation of the mind derived from things eternal, bursting forth in sound.”
– St. Thomas Aquinas

and stronger sound. Volunteers do not need to be trained musicians – they can be trained by participating in the choir itself.

“As our pastor Fr. Roland says, ‘If God gave you a good voice, sing out and praise God, but if He did not, sing out anyhow and get even!’” Br. Fred says.

If you would like more information about our 7 a.m. Mass Choir, please contact Br. Fred at 808-633-6338.

THE FAITH JOURNEY OF ST. GENESIUS

Being a performer and a comedian may sound like a fun way to make a living.

St. Genesius, an outstanding actor, playwright and comedian in late Imperial Rome, certainly did have some fun for a while. But his career and life came to an abrupt end when his work ultimately led him to Christ.

Genesius was a comedian of some renown, but in the fourth century, Christians were often discouraged from becoming actors because ancient Roman comedy was highly sexual, crude and offensive.

In the year 303, Emperor Diocletian launched what would be the last great Roman persecution against the Christian Church. So, Genesius used the persecution as an opportunity to write a comedy about Christianity. He thought it might attract the attention of the Emperor, increase his fame, and make him some money in the process.

Genesius approached leaders of the Christian community in Rome and presented himself as a catechumen seeking Baptism. He was then invited into a period of instruction in the faith, in order to learn the beliefs of the Christians. He was particularly taken by the idea of Baptism. But at the time, he had no plans to convert to the faith – it was all just a part of his plan to research new material to use for his comedy.

But a strange thing happened to Genesius as he began to work on his play, which was to be a comedy on Baptism. As Genesius began teaching the other actors about Baptism, he began to believe, and a desire to be baptized grew within his heart.

The opening night of the play was a great success, with Emperor Diocletian in attendance. But at some point during the play, the Holy Spirit touched Genesius. He was no longer acting.

“You fools, I wish to die a Christian,” Genesius said. When the other actors asked him why, he said, “All my life I have been a fugitive, and only today have I found God.”

Everyone, especially Emperor Diocletian, laughed as Genesius spoke. Genesius, standing in a pulpit designed to look like the goddess Venus, began to preach to the audience. He told the crowd how he once hated Christians and enjoyed insulting them. He told the crowd how he deserted his own family as a child because they were Christians.

From there, Genesius addressed Diocletian, stating that he wrote the play to mock Christians, but had been converted on the spot during the course of the play, by the power of Holy Spirit. “I now know that the Lord Jesus Christ is the true God, the Light, the Truth and the

Mercy of all who have received His gift of Baptism,” Genesius said. “O great Emperor, believe in these mysteries! I will teach you, and you will know the Lord Jesus Christ is the true God.”

Diocletian was furious and stopped the play, having the troupe arrested and beaten, while Genesius was condemned to torture. Through all of his sufferings, he continued to confess that Jesus was God. When this failed to break his spirit, Diocletian ordered Genesius be beheaded. His final words were, “Our Lord Jesus Christ is God and we shall have life in His name.”

St. Genesius is the patron of comedians and actors. His feast day is Aug. 25.



OUR PARISH LEADS THE WAY WITH FAMILY LIFE RETREAT

“We believe the way to Christ is through the Blessed Mother. Our Lay Marianist Community is very devoted to her. Mary knew the importance of a solid family unit – that is how our Lord grew up. Following the Holy Family seems to be the best way to kick off our first Family Life Retreat! We hope to assist our parish families with their daily journey.” – Martha Haleakala

St. Anthony Parish is proud and honored to be the first parish on Maui to offer a Family Life Retreat in response to Pope Francis’ Apostolic Exhortation on the family.

Last year, our Holy Father wrote in *Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love)* that “no family drops down from heaven perfectly formed; families need constantly to grow and mature in the ability to love... The joy of love experienced by families is also the joy of the church” (325, 1)

And with this opportunity for growth and joy very much in mind, we can follow our Holy Father’s guidance during our Family Life Retreat set for Saturday, Sept. 9.

Martha Haleakala of our Wailuku Marianist Lay community is leading the arrangements for the retreat.

“We believe the way to Christ is through the Blessed Mother,” Martha says. “Our Lay Marianist Community is very devoted to her. Mary knew the importance of a solid family unit - that is how our Lord grew up. Following the Holy Family seems to be the best way to kick off our first Family Life Retreat! We hope to assist our parish families with their daily journey.”

The retreat begins at 8:30 a.m. at church and concludes at 6 p.m., including 5 p.m. Mass and dinner. The fee per family is \$40, covering a light lunch and the dinner.

“The retreat will help a family develop more family harmony,” Martha says. “We’re trying to address living as a Catholic family, rather than just dropping the kids off at CCD and attending Mass just once a week. We want the families to feel there



is more for them in church, on all age levels.”

The day will include a puppet show and family activities. Sessions will deal with learning new communication skills to support and encourage each other; discovering improved forgiveness and reconciliation techniques; getting a better understanding of how to love, respect and relate to each other.

There will be group activities in both family units and according to age groups, which will include adults, middle schoolers, teens, and youngsters.

The retreat was organized when members of our Lay Marianists met at Chaminade University in Oahu last year with Jayne Mondoy, director of the Office of Religious Education for the Diocese of Honolulu, and with Br. Dennis Schmitz from the Marianist Center on Oahu. The Maui Vicariate was invited to attend.

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“We were asked if we could bring the retreat to St. Anthony,” Martha says. “The diocese wants to put it on in all the islands, following the pope’s directive. Jayne Mondoy is a Lay Marianist, and St. Anthony is a Marianist parish, so they thought we’d be a good place.”

There will be a call for volunteers to help with the retreat. Several of our parish groups already have committed to helping.

“We plan to serve meals and we’ll need help with food and registration,” Martha says. “There’ll be plenty of things to do, if you want to volunteer.”

Beginning this month, families can sign up for the retreat at the tables set up outside the church. Families may also call the parish office at 808-244-4148. To volunteer, call Martha Haleakala at 808-269-5208.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

CHURCH CENTER :: **Saturday** 5:00 p.m. | **Sunday** 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

SAINT DAMIEN CHAPEL :: **Monday - Friday** 6:30 a.m. | **Saturday** 7:00 a.m.