

THE GOOD NEWS

July 2019

A LETTER FROM FATHER BRIAN



Dear Ignatians ~

Hoping you all had a great Fourth of July “week” and are enjoying each of the 91 days of summer, this is an opportunity for me to up-date you about two things:

First: My goal, while still getting to know you, is to increase our spiritual, fellowship, and life-long formation programming. A work in progress, things are beginning to gel:

- On first Sundays we offer Vespers (Evening Prayer) at 6pm.
- On first Monday evenings our Worship Planners meet with me.
- On first Saturdays the Men of St. Ignatius meet over breakfast at 9am at Johnny’s Chophouse on Main St.
- On second Wednesdays our Adult Study/Discussion Group meets at 6:30pm. Currently we are learning about St. Ignatius, and

why he willingly gave his life as a martyr in witness to his faith in Christ.

- On third Wednesdays our Moms’ Group is offering Story Time (with a craft and a snack) from 6-7pm. Spread the word about this fine effort!
- On fourth Wednesdays we are offering informal “Patio Masses” in parishioners’ homes at 6:30pm. Hopefully they will continue beyond the “patio” season and become monthly opportunities.
- Seasonal Saturday Mornings of Reflection as announced.
- Currently we have no regularly scheduled activity on first or fifth Wednesdays. I’m open to ideas: A Game Night? A Couples’ Group? A Rotating Dinner Club, parties of 6-8 in homes or at restaurants? Crafting? Is there something you might like us to do? It’s your church! Talk it up. Let me know.

While I’m continuing to “get to know you,” we can all get to know one another through our spiritual, social, and formation programs. Please join us as you are able!

Second: The Diocese afforded me – and ultimately *us* – a wonderful opportunity. Clergy coming into the Chicago Diocese are required to attend the College of Congregational Development taking place one summer week for two summers. It’s an intense program of seven very long days, packed with information we were never exposed to in seminary, information geared toward growing

congregations in spiritual depth – and possibly, as a result, growing in membership numbers.

I mention *us* because *we* now have two projects to work on *together* – one is due in mid-October, and the other in mid-May.

Our first project has to do with how we gather as a congregation, and *our* winter project has to do with *our* transformation in Christ. Yes, church growth could result, but more importantly this will offer me the opportunity to become a better priest for you and all of us the opportunity to grow deeper in our faith. Project number one, due this fall, will focus on “the primary elements related to *gathering*.” (*CCD p 30-31:*)

- “How we *invite*: That is, drawing attention to Christ and the Church, motivating people to explore Christ and the Church further, and inviting people to this particular congregation.”
- “How we *greet*: That is, recognizing, welcoming, and extending appropriate and helpful hospitality to those who are our guests.”
- “How we *orient*: That is, helping people participate and understand who we are, where things are, and how to do things in this particular place.”
- “And how we *incorporate*: That is, the process of being knit into the congregation and its people as a local expression of the body of Christ.”

So how do I suggest we approach *our* project?

- Asking for the vestry’s blessing on conducting this project at their Sun., July 21st meeting . . . then:
- On Sun., Sep. 8th I would preach a sermon on the importance of how we invite, greet, orient, and incorporate friends and neighbors into the life of St. Ignatius as a way of leading others to Christ with a view to the future of our congregation.
- On Wed., Sep. 11th I would invite all interested folks to come and brainstorm with me about what we are currently doing well in these areas, what we could do better, what we may not be doing at all – and set goals.

- I would present *our* goals and feedback to the vestry at their Sun., Sep. 15 meeting, asking the vestry to include the goals we set into its long-term vision for the congregation, to be implemented by a task force appointed by & responsible to the vestry, and led by me.
- I would then report to the College in October—and to you in our October newsletter – on the reception this project received and its likelihood to influence and guide St. Ignatius’ gathering ministry in the future.

Fr. Brian



BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS CAMPAIGN

As many of you have noticed there have been some major improvements made in and around St. Ignatius. The most obvious is the resurfacing of the parking lot. This work was required as the asphalt had separated creating a sizable gap. The parking lot will also require seal coating by the fall of this year. Another improvement made, which is less noticeable, was the repair to the roof behind the bell tower. The roof in that area has been leaking for the past few years and addressing this problem became critical as rain was seeping into the entryway. The costs for these repairs are beyond the current budget. Therefore, we are reaching out to our congregation. We are asking our Parishioners to make donations earmarked specifically for Building Improvements. It has been many years since a request for donations beyond the annual pledge has been made. Our beloved St. Ignatius building is approaching 20 years old and is in need of repairs. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Jo Anne Kriens or Kathy Kraak with any questions.



WHAT IS IMPORTANT?

This month in scripture, we again heard Jesus' words "Love one another as I have loved you."

These simple words have such deep meaning. The words are easy to say but not as easy to do. To love is a verb, an action that demonstrates, to those who notice, I sacrifice "me" for you. And following Jesus' example will be noticed, by God and by whomever is around.

The Holy Spirit moves in and around us while we do God's will, as a confirmation we can feel. Here are 2 specific ways I believe our church will be known for our love.

1. How we love our neighbors - God's Will Resale: As Jack Fields mentioned at the 10:30 service recently, our resale shop demonstrates Godly love week in and week out! Two different families came to our shop recently in great need. We were able to give of our "riches" to those who truly need it. Not 2 people, 2 families were loved by us. They and many people who hear of it through them will know we are Christians by our demonstration of love.

The shop also consistently provides the money we need to keep St. Ignatius running. I want to personally thank all of you who quietly give your time and talents to keep our shop open. It is your love that models for me Godly love. Your willingness to work without personal benefit for "our" benefit brings honor to God and St. Ignatius and is noticed by your sisters and brothers here and in our community at large.

2. How we love our children: We have had huge successes in our children's ministries through

summer VBS, weekly Sunday formation, special events (Easter egg hunts, Fall festivals, etc.) and especially The Live Nativity. This was during the time I was raising my two children. *I suggest that our success was due to the love actively flowing through our families.* It's true we had a few more families with children then. But we were all willing to do the work together to teach our children about the love we knew. We also had the support of our brothers and sisters who had finished raising their children; providing the supplies and manning signs for all our ideas.

There is nothing different about St. Ignatius now! Our children are still filled with wonder and eager to experience the love we know will carry them throughout their lives. Our parents of young children are also filled with love and a desire to show their kids the way. They have ideas and we need to be ready to support them in any way they need! It does take work, but we found in the past that this kind of work turns out to be fun and spiritually rewarding!

St. Ignatius also has established formation programs for young children that invite kids into the stories of our faith. Bill McElligot takes 3rd - 8th graders on journeys of faith with Paul. Linda Mizwicki and I use the Godly Play curriculum, which is the gold standard for the very young (up to 2nd grade at St. Ignatius). It presents "worship" in a way kids can understand. We are blessed to have multiple carpenters in our congregation who have handmade wooden figures and story pieces for dozens of stories. We have had multiple teachers over the years who have organized the stories and used their creativity to create the non-wooden things needed to make these stories come to life. We should all be proud of this, I know I am. But it is the love that moves in, around and through these programs that makes them work. I have seen the Holy Spirit touch children during a lesson, and parents have told me of spiritual moments they have experienced with their kids because of what the kids heard at St. Ignatius.

I'm writing tonight to stir up all of us to love each other MORE!

I admit I need support in continuing our Godly Play curriculum. There should be a group of "helpers" in order to run this program properly. One additional

adult is needed each week to work with the “teacher” who is telling the story. We have had such a group in the past and it is my fault it faded away. Please contact me at 847-977-8609 if you could be available to help at least 1 week per month with this. You will have the training you need. You will find the rewards amazing! And Bill needs others to help with his program! In accordance with the principles of Keeping God’s Children Safe, all adults will also need to take training in child protection safeguards.

The resale shop also needs support. People are needed to unpack donations and deliver them to the area behind the scenes where it will be priced. People are needed to help with picking up donations from people’s houses. All help is appreciated! You can volunteer for whatever time you have during shop hours. Contact Jack for more information. The rewards of working with the people running the shop and those we serve are also amazing!

So in conclusion, I offer this familiar prayer from our worship: *... grant us strength and courage to love...* and I know that as we practice loving, our love grows, people will notice and the Holy Spirit will be able to do his/her work in and around and through us. Then the things that are important will shine through.

Peace - your sister in Christ - Chris Brown



STORY TIME

On **Wednesday, July 17, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.**, our own Dr. Jennifer Nelson will be reading *Daisy the Doctor*. Story time is open to all children in the community and includes a craft and snack. Please pass the word!

BIRD TECHS NEEDED



The WISILL Hunting Retriever Club, of which Bill McElligott and Bill Malinow are members, is looking for help this year at its 2019 Fall International Grand Hunt Test at Richard Bong State Recreation Area in Kansasville, WI from **9/9 – 9/13/19**. A bird tech operates a “bird winger” which is a big slingshot that launches a duck into the air which the dogs will retrieve. A fun day outdoors watching the best retrievers in the world.

Mark your calendars now – more info to come as the event gets closer.

For more information contact Bill McElligott

CARE – COMPASSION - COMMUNITY



Antioch Community Counseling Services (ACCS) is a not-for-profit program committed to providing professional, ethical and evidence-based therapy to all member of the community, with a strong focus on reaching the underserved population. The mission is to meet the growing psychological, emotional and social service needs of those who are underserved in our community.

Fees: \$30/individual
\$40/couples & family sessions

Sliding Scale Policy: If an ACCS patient cannot afford the session price, the sliding scale can be used. Patients may qualify for this option by talking to their Counselor and providing income and dependent

verification. Patients and Counselors will determine the acceptable rate. The sliding scale option for patients can only continue with the financial support of our generous donors.

By appointment only. Please call ACCS at 847-454-3111

GOLDEN GEMS

A reminder that Golden Gems will meet on July 18 for its Beach Party Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. here at St. Ignatius.

Upcoming dates: October 31 – Halloween Party
December 5 – Christmas Party

If you have just turned 80, or know someone in the community who has, contact the office with that contact information and we can ensure an invitation will go out.

4TH ANNUAL CHUCK LARSON MEMORIAL GOLF FORE THE HUNGRY

Sunday, August 25th at 2:00 p.m.
9-hole scramble and BBQ at Spring Valley Country Club
Cost: \$55 per golfer or \$200 per foursome
Includes golf, cart, and dinner
Meal only: \$15/person
All proceeds will be donated to The Sharing Center & Open Arms Mission
More info to come as the date gets closer.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST

Since I am the one who gathers the articles and puts them together for the Newsletter, I would like to take this opportunity to invite anyone who feels so moved to submit an article for the Newsletter. Something you feel passionate about, something you would like to promote, news you would like to share --- we would like to hear from you.

I'm going to be the first to jump in and share – a monthly recipe that is. Each month I'll share a recipe

that I have made for social hour or brought to some function, or one that I have gathered along the way from my family or friends.

My first recipe is Country Apple Dumplings. I don't even remember where I got this recipe – so I'm not taking complete credit here. I've made it many times and have been asked for the recipe, so I consider it a keeper. Quick, easy, and yummy. So, without further ado:

COUNTRY APPLE DUMPLINGS

2 large Granny Smith apples, peeled and cored
2 (10 oz) cans refrigerated crescent roll dough
1 cup butter
1-1/2 cups white sugar
1 tsp. cinnamon
12 oz can Mountain Dew

Preheat oven to 350 degrees
Cut apples into 8 wedges and set aside.
Separate dough into triangles.
Roll each apple wedge in dough triangle, starting at small end. Pinch to seal and place in 9x13 baking dish.
Melt butter and stir in sugar and cinnamon. Pour over apples. Pour Mountain Dew over all.
Bake 40 minutes or until golden brown.

ENJOY! *Faye Nash*