

St. Anthony Catholic Church

February Newsletter, 2021

I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and peace.

I want to thank you for your prayers while I was in the hospital last month. Your prayers made all the difference and played a big part in my recovery. Please continue to pray for all our sick at home and those in the hospital. The covid-19 virus has caused a lot of changes in our lives and in our church. The Vatican has modified the distribution of Ashes for Ash Wednesday. The traditional form of distributing ashes by tracing a cross on the forehead will not be used this year. The ashes are to be "sprinkled" on the heads of all the faithful. The use of cotton balls or Q-tips is not authorized in the Archdiocese of San Antonio. This year Ash Wednesday will be on February 17th. We will have a mass this day at 6:30 am and another one at 9 am.

Congratulations to Wes and Brenda Hollis, the recipients of the Lumen Gentium award for the year 2020. This award is given out annually to a person or couple who have demonstrated outstanding service to our church community. This award will be given out on February 14th, during mass. This date is also their wedding anniversary.

Special thanks to Jenny Millican and Paul Urban who were nominated and have accepted a position on our Parish Finance Council. The council is consultative to the Pastor and meets monthly to analyze and discuss parish finances. To keep you informed, a quarterly income and expense statement of the operating account is given out in the bulletin. This is one way the Council is accountable to you. If you have any questions about what is on the form, please contact any of the Council members, they are Mary Arheiger, Larry Jung, Jenny Millican, Paul Urban, and Fr. Rudy. The council is here to serve you.

I know from firsthand experience our parishioners are a very holy group. But for those who, like me, have their moments there will be an opportunity to receive the sacrament of reconciliation on Wednesday, March 3rd starting at 6 pm in the hall. Priest from parishes in our deanery will be present so please make plans to avail yourself of this important sacrament. This will be the only parish penance we will be having during Lent.

Do not forget our next Emergency Response meeting. It will be held on Thursday, February 25th, at 6 pm in the hall. In closing I want to thank all of you for your goodness to me. I am very happy to be in Harper and your friendship means a lot to me. Ours is a great parish and it is our people who make it that way. Let us continue to treat each other as family and server one another as our Lord has commanded us to. Remember, God loves you and so do I. May the holy family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph protect us and keep us in their care.

Fr. Rudy T. Carrola, Jr.