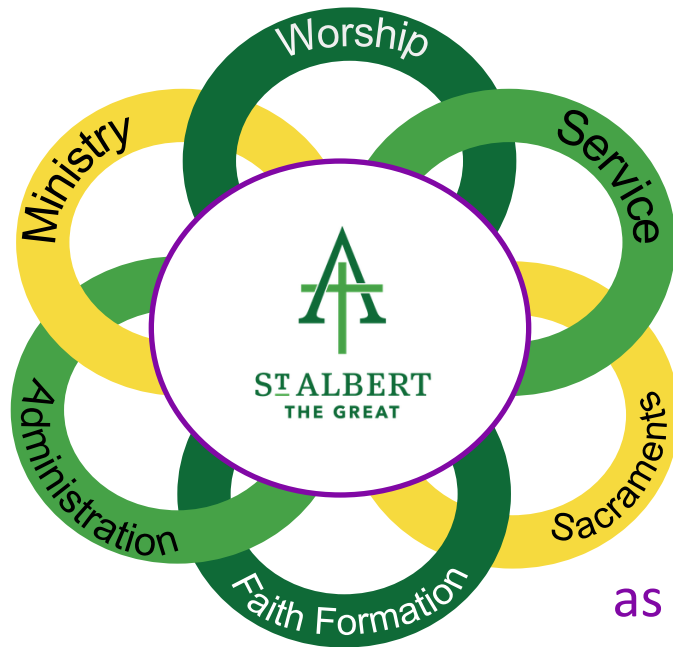




THE GREAT GAZETTE

Stewardship Issue April 2019

STEWARDSHIP



as a Way of Life

Dear St. Albert the Great Parish Family

We present to you **Six Ways You Can Make Your Parish Better.**

Today, parishioners can feel a true sense of ownership in their parish.
That means looking at your parish as more than just a place where you go to Mass.

A parish can be

- † A sacred place where the human and the divine meet; where young and old follow Christ.
- † A place where people receive spiritual nourishment, guidance, inspiration, and strength, not from only the priests, but from other members of the parish.
- † A spiritual home where people share in each other's joys, support each other in times of sorrow, offer support to those who are struggling, and help to heal anyone who feels battered or broken by life's trials and tragedies.
- † A social place where people make friends, reach out to those less fortunate, and invite others to become part of a community of believers who try their best to live the Gospel message.

My hope is that St. Albert the Great is already all of this to you and more.

However, even the best parishes can become even better when parishioners take an active interest in making the parish grow and prosper. Here are six ways to do just that!

Fr. Chris Worland, and the Pastoral Staff of St. Albert the Great Parish

WE WORSHIP

WE LEARN

WE SHARE

#1

Think of yourself as part of a parish family.

*"By this all men will know that you are my disciples,
if you have love for one another."* John 13:35



*Above: The Parish gathered in 2014 to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Parish;
We gathered at the Parish Picnic for friendship, support, and to share a meal.*

Family members share a common heritage and history.

They are grounded in the same beliefs, values, and traditions.

They embrace new members of the family with a spirit of love and acceptance.

Family members don't always agree, but they do feel a strong commitment to one another and to the family as a whole.

*Below: We provide communion to our parish family members who are homebound; We celebrate the
Sacrament of Marriage at our Anniversary Brunch; We unite for Bible studies as a Parish family and community.*



#2

Be Welcoming.

“Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing.” **Mother Teresa of Calcutta**



Above: During Coffee, Donuts & Fellowship, we strive to welcome new parishioners.

When you come together on the weekend for Mass, **think of it as a large family reunion— with people you know well, know slightly and don't know at all.**

Introduce yourself to people you don't know, especially if they are sitting alone in church or standing by themselves during Coffee & Donuts. If they are new to the parish, offer to give them a tour or introduce them around. Or simply tell them why you love St. Albert the Great.

Did you know?

New parishioners who joined our Parish:

2017: 73

2018: 61

2019: 11 thus far

We send a Welcome Packet to every newly registered Parishioner / Family that contains useful information about the Parish and Ministries.

Our annual Ministries and Resource Guide for volunteering contains all the Commissions, Groups, Councils, and Ministries to get involved and **Be Active!**

Below: We welcome the Catholic community for different speakers and retreats, such as the Distinguished Speaker Series; Our RCIA welcomes new candidates into the Church; Our ushers do a great job welcoming parishioners to Mass.



#3

Use your gifts & talents for the good of the parish.

"What shall I render to the Lord for all His bounty to me? Ps. 116:12

God has given each person unique gifts and talents are intended to be shared.

Do you like public speaking? You could be a Lector. If you are an outgoing person, you could be an usher or greeter. You can share your deep devotion to the Eucharist by becoming an Eucharistic Distributer or take Communion to the homebound.

If you play an instrument or sing, join the Music Ministry.

Maybe you are a teacher and can help with Religious Education.

Any expertise like business, finance, grant writing, photography, or gardening can find a place in the parish. You might even have an idea for a new ministry, support group or event, and your energy can help other people get excited and involved.

Bottom, Going Clockwise:

Our Liturgies would not be complete without the Lay People who serve as Coordinators, Readers, Ushers, Servers, Eucharistic Distributors, and Musicians; We provide assistance to St. Vincent de Paul and Catholic Social Services with our Meals for the Homeless and Monthly Food Collection; We host two Blood Drives per year; Our Garden Guild grows and sells produce with all the proceeds going to St. Vincent de Paul and to feed local hungry; Parishioners assist with building a house for a local family in Catch the Building Spirit.



#4

Attend parish events.

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds... encouraging one another all the more as you see the day approaching." Heb 10:24



Fun at Run with the STAGS event

Although Mass is our central focus, other parish ministries, activities and events help to increase spirituality and build community as well.

Whether it's a mission, a lecture, a social function, or a spaghetti dinner, take advantage of opportunities to meet new people, feel more connected, and affirm your fellow parishioners who work hard to plan and execute these events.

Invite family members, neighbors, and co workers to join you-especially those who are not Catholic or may have stopped practicing their Faith.

These folks may not be ready to attend Mass, but they might enjoy coming to a parish event, meeting new people, and seeing some of the good things that the Catholic Church has to offer.



Youth Ministry coordinates the annual Baby Jesus Shower



Knights of Columbus coordinates the annual Breakfast with Santa



Friends gathered at the PTO sponsored Hoedown



The SALSA group has many activities of faith and fun

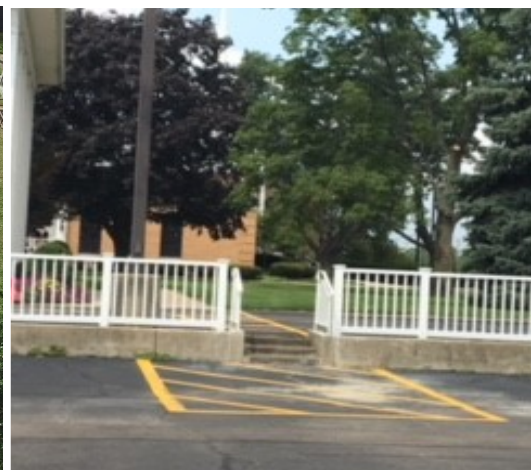


The senior members of our parish gather once a month for Seniors Day Out

#5

Support your parish financially.

"Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap." **Luke 6:38**



Funds like the **Building and Grounds Fund**, helps us to maintain, upkeep, and even improve the parish campus.

*Pictured above:
the new welcome fence into the Church*

You know how expensive it is to run your own home.

Parishes face even higher costs- and depend on parishioners to help meet them.

Take a serious look at the money you give to your parish each week. Do you increase your contributions each year as the cost of living rises?

Giving to the Church is more than just financial obligation. Once you recognize that everything you have is a gift fit from god, you see that giving generously to continue God's work in **the parish is an essential part of our spirituality.**

Going Right:

Memory Bricks and Pavers are a way to support the Parish while also honoring loved ones; the Annual Athletic Association Fish Fry; the renovated Parish Pete's Park.



Our Funds

General Fund

day to day operations of the parish

Building and Grounds Fund

maintenance of our beautiful campus grounds

Friends of St. Albert Fund

through the Dayton Foundation

Liturgical Needs Fund

provides for altar bread, wine, candles

Parish Memorial Fund

memorialize loved ones far into the future

Sr. John Maureen SC, School

Tuition Fund

ensure Catholic education is available to all parish families

Electronic Giving

Electronic Giving is available through WeShare. It makes Parish Giving easy.

1939 Legacy Society

Honoring the Parish by through planned giving from their estate.

#6

Pray for your parish.

"I urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ...eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Eph 4:1-3



About the Perpetual Adoration Chapel

Our Perpetual Adoration Chapel is open 24/7. Located in the Spirit Center, you will need a code to access the building after 3pm (during the week) and on week ends.

Contact Paula Smith for more information.

Keep your pastor, parish staff, and fellow parishioners in our daily prayers.

Saying a Rosary, spending time in Adoration, fasting or offering up any sufferings, annoyance, or inconvenience you experience for the well-being of your parish will bring rewards not just for the parish but for you personally. You will begin to see yourself as spiritual support for all good work being done in and through your parish. Pray also for the return of Catholics who have strayed from the practice of their Faith, people raised with no faith, and people searching for meaning and purpose in life.

No parish is perfect, and even the best parishes can improve. Imagine what would happen if every person in your parish did one little thing to make the parish better!

Going Right: Pro-Life displayed 30 white crosses in front of Church to represent souls that lost their lives through abortion: The Adult Bible Study prays for St. Albert the Great; Our Legion of Mary prays the Rosary on a regular basis for our parish.



Statement of Activities

for 6 months ended 12/31/2018

INCOME	Actual	Budget
Income Totals:	\$1,534,956.00	\$1,338,688.00
Parish	\$834,131.00	\$784,000.00
School	\$700,825.00	\$554,688.00

EXPENSE	Actual	Budget
Expense Totals:	\$1,542,105.00	\$1,358,893.00
Parish	\$538,312.00	\$543,239.00
School	\$1,003,793.00	\$815,654.00

INCOME — EXPENSE:	\$ (7,149.00)	\$ (20,205.00)
Parish	\$295,819.00	\$240,761.00
School	\$ (302,968.00)	\$ (260,966.00)

Stewardship Prayer

Great and glorious God, you are the source of all good things and all we have comes from you.

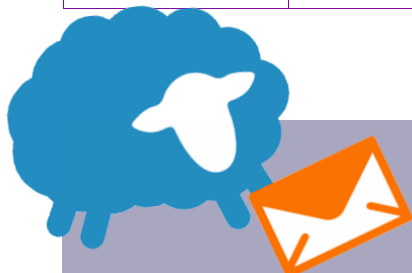
Help us to be ever mindful that we have been made by you and for you, and that our responsibility is to share what you have given us in such abundance.

Help us to put You first in all our decisions. Help us to distinguish between our wants and our needs. Inspire us to help build the Kingdom of God by sharing the wealth of gifts you have poured upon us, and give us confidence in your never failing protection.

We ask this in the Spirit and through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Written by Fr. Chris Worland



Introducing a new communication tool called

Flocknote



We have implemented a new and improved communication tool that make it easy for every one to be involved and connected to the Parish. It's powered by a service called *Flocknote*. Like sending a "note" to your "flock".

If you missed the "Sign Up Sunday", No Problem! It is very easy to sign up!

Key Points

- Totally free to use; Requires NO download or passwords, and takes a couple of minutes to sign up
 - Lets YOU receive email or text messages from the groups and ministries that you choose
 - And allows you to reply directly back to those messages. Information is kept totally private

Ways to Join

1. Text to Join with Cell Phones: Text the word Albert to 84576
2. Join on your Computer or Laptop: www.flocknote.com/StAlberttheGreatKett
Look in the bulletin for our next "Sign Up Sunday"

For further reading,
Living Catholic Stewardship:
Discerning Your Gifts & Faith
and Finances



ST ALBERT
THE GREAT
CATHOLIC PARISH

Information taken from
**Six Ways I can Make
My Parish Better**
by Our Sunday Visitor