

Annual General Meeting 2026 Parish Reports

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Parish Council Chairman Report

2026 General Assembly

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As I complete my first year serving as Chairman of our Parish Council, I am grateful for the opportunity to provide this update on the life of our parish and the work that has taken place over this past year.

There is much to report. St. Ignatius continues to grow, our facilities continue to develop, we have addressed several important needs of our parish, and we are preparing for some significant projects in the year ahead.

But before getting into those things, I believe it is important to recognize what all of this growth and activity is really about.

An Orthodox parish is not simply a place where we come on Sunday morning to attend services. It is a community in which we work out our salvation together in Christ. We need one another. We pray together, worship together, serve together, struggle together, raise our families together, and hopefully help one another become more like Christ along the way.

That sense of community is increasingly important as St. Ignatius continues to grow.

A Growing Parish

On a typical Sunday, we are now averaging approximately 450 people in attendance, and this past Pascha we welcomed more than 600 people.

Glory be to God!

Growth like this is an incredible blessing, but it also brings responsibility. We must make sure our facilities, ministries, clergy support, financial stewardship, and overall parish structure are prepared not only for where St. Ignatius is today, but for where we may be five, ten, and twenty years from now.

The Parish Council has tried to approach that responsibility thoughtfully and prayerfully over this past year.

Caring for Those Who Care for Us

One important priority this year was ensuring that St. Ignatius is fully compliant with the Archdiocese Clergy Compensation Guidelines.

I am pleased to report that we have accomplished that goal.

Our clergy give an enormous amount of themselves to this parish and to each of us. Making sure that we are appropriately supporting them and their families is not simply a budgetary obligation. I believe it is part of being responsible stewards of the parish God has entrusted to us.

Planning for the Future of Our Property

Another significant step this year was engaging an outside professional property assessment firm to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of our buildings, grounds, and other parish-owned assets.

That work has now been completed, and we have received a detailed report identifying our current assets, their condition, expected useful life, and projected expenses associated with future repair and replacement.

This may not be the most exciting project we undertook this year, but it may be one of the most important.

Good stewardship means taking care of what God has already provided before simply asking for more. This assessment gives the Parish Council a much clearer picture of the long-term needs of our campus and allows us to plan responsibly instead of waiting for major expenses to become emergencies.

Along those same lines, I am pleased to report that the mold remediation work has been completed this past year, addressing another important facility need.

Improvements to Our Parish Campus

We were also blessed this year to expand our youth and Parish Life facilities through the addition of a new multi-use sport court.

What makes this project particularly special is that the entire project was funded through private donations.

We are tremendously grateful to those parishioners whose generosity made this possible. The sport court provides another place for our children, teens, families, and parishioners to spend time together and strengthens something that is increasingly important as our parish grows, the opportunity simply to be together as a community.

We also have reason to be particularly thankful for the new culvert and drainage system installed on our property.

Earlier this month, we experienced the type of significant rainfall that previously could have resulted in another flooding event on our campus. The new system performed as intended and helped protect our parish facilities.

Thank God!

After what our parish has experienced with flooding in the past, seeing that investment do exactly what it was designed to do was a tremendous blessing.

At the same time, we recognize that there are still additional improvements needed to our overall drainage system. The Parish Council is aware of these needs, and they will be addressed as part of our ongoing effort to care responsibly for our parish property and protect our campus for the future.

St. Olga Mission

One of the most exciting developments of this past year has been the launching of the St. Olga Mission.

Glory be to God!

The establishment of a new Orthodox mission is something worth celebrating. At a time when more people are searching for the ancient Faith, we have an opportunity, and a responsibility, to help bring Holy Orthodoxy to those around us.

We pray for St. Olga Mission, for those who are laboring to establish it, and for all those who will ultimately find their spiritual home there.

Looking Ahead

While much has been accomplished, there is also significant work ahead of us.

We have revitalized the architectural plans for the continued development of our parish campus, and we are once again moving forward with planning for our Kitchen Remodel.

Both of these represent significant investments in the future of St. Ignatius and are anticipated to be capital campaign priorities during the upcoming 2026/2027 ecclesiastical year.

As those plans develop, we are committed to communicating openly with the parish about the scope, costs, priorities, and timing of these projects. These are important decisions, and they should be approached carefully and with the long-term needs of our parish community in mind.

We also have a very special milestone approaching.

In the first quarter of 2027, we anticipate celebrating the 40th Anniversary of St. Ignatius Orthodox Church.

Forty years represents countless Divine Liturgies, baptisms, chrismation's, marriages, funerals, Sunday School classes, ministries, meals, friendships, acts of service, and generations of faithful people who have called St. Ignatius home.

We look forward to celebrating this milestone together as a parish family. Stay tuned for more details.

The Parish Is All of Us

I want to close with something that I believe is particularly important as our parish continues to grow.

It can become very easy in a parish of our size to think that someone else will take care of things.

The clergy will handle it. The Parish Council will handle it. The ministry leaders will handle it. Someone else will volunteer.

But St. Ignatius is not the clergy. It is not the Parish Council. It is not our buildings or our ministries. St. Ignatius is all of us.

Our parish will only remain the close and loving Orthodox Christian community we want it to be if each of us takes responsibility for helping make it so.

That may mean teaching Sunday School, helping with a meal, serving in a ministry, welcoming a new family, visiting someone who is struggling, cleaning up after an event, helping maintain our property, making a financial contribution, or simply noticing that something needs to be done and stepping forward to do it.

There is no insignificant service to the Church.

When we serve one another, we serve Christ Himself.

As our Lord tells us in the Gospel of Matthew, *“inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.”*

That spirit of service and volunteerism has helped build St. Ignatius over these past forty years, and I believe it will be even more important during the next forty.

We have been given much. We have a beautiful parish, faithful clergy, growing ministries, hundreds of children and adults filling our church each week, and a community of brothers and sisters with whom we can walk toward Christ.

May we never take those blessings for granted.

On behalf of the Parish Council, thank you to Fr. Philip, our clergy, our ministry leaders, our volunteers, and every parishioner who gives of their time, talents, and treasure to St. Ignatius.

There is much for which we should be thankful, much work still to be done, and much to look forward to.

May God give us the wisdom, humility, and strength to be faithful stewards of all that He has entrusted to us.

Glory to God for all things!

Your Servant in Christ,

Eric Beard
Parish Council Chairman

Organizational Reports

Antiochian Men (AMEN)

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we begin another ecclesiastical year, St. Ignatius AMEN remains grateful for the opportunity to help men grow in Christ, strengthen fellowship, serve our parish, and support one another.

Our Brotherhood Continues to Grow

Our AMEN email circulation now reaches nearly 250 men, and our goal remains to bring more men into active fellowship, spiritual growth, and service. Our **AMEN Men's Breakfasts** continue to be an important source of fellowship, and after a summer break we look forward to returning to a consistent fall schedule.

Monthly Coffee Meet Ups

Our Monthly Coffee Meet Ups, founded and coordinated by Ben Voiles, also continue to give men a simple way to gather for informal fellowship at coffee shops around the region.

Retreats and Spiritual Growth

This past year, St. Ignatius men joined brothers across DOMSE for the November 2025 AMEN Retreat, and during Great Lent we held a virtual retreat with Fr. Matthew Snowden focused on the spiritual work of the season. Looking ahead, we anticipate the next DOMSE AMEN in-person retreat in March 2027 and hope for another strong St. Ignatius group.

Returning to Holy Cross Monastery

One of AMEN's great blessings remains our annual pilgrimage to Holy Cross Monastery. In September 2026, SIOC AMEN will send two groups, over two weekends, to step away from daily noise and enter more fully into prayer, worship, work, and fellowship.

Ready to Serve

As we look toward the 2026/2027 ecclesiastical year, our message is simple: **AMEN is here to serve.**

If a ministry needs help, a parishioner needs support, a project needs hands, or something needs to get done, please reach out. With nearly 250 men of many ages, backgrounds, professions, skills, and abilities, we want to put those blessings to work for the good of our parish.

Our challenge remains to become better husbands, fathers, sons, brothers, friends, and servants of Christ through prayer, fellowship, repentance, and service.

We are grateful for the support of our clergy and parish community and look forward to another year of serving alongside you.

Your Servant In Christ, Eric Beard, AMEN President

Antiochian Women of St. Ignatius

AW President: Kim Miller-Anderson | e: aw.president@sioctn.org | m: 347-609-5255

Our Ministry

The Antiochian Women (AW) of St. Ignatius are a **Sisterhood Serving Christ Through Serving Others**. Throughout the year we provide opportunities for our women to give back and nurture our community. Our chapter receives guidance and participates in acts of mercy coordinated by the Diocesan AW organization, and we pay annual dues to maintain our membership in the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast (DOMSE) AW.

Looking Ahead

Our goal is to continue providing the women of St. Ignatius with opportunities for fellowship and connection, while embodying our purpose of being a "Sisterhood Serving Christ Through Serving Others."

Church Year 2026 Highlights

Through fundraising and special offerings this church year, the AW of St. Ignatius has supported the following acts of mercy:

Month	Activity	Highlight Detail
February	Soup Fundraiser	\$200 – Camp St. Thekla \$863 – Casa Cuna Baby Orphanage
March	Special Collection	\$1,445 – Widowed-Clergy Wives Endowment Fund
Feb – Mar	Lenten Meals	Coordinated all Lenten Meal Fellowship – thank you to the members of St. Ignatius for answering the call to service and ensuring we always had plenty of food
Monthly	Fellowship	Monthly opportunities for fellowship and relationships among the women of St. Ignatius as we continue to grow together in faith

A Call to Serve

If you are interested in serving, or would like to learn more, please reach out to our AW President, Kim Miller-Anderson. We are grateful for the many hands that make this ministry possible.

Role	Description	Time Commitment
Treasurer Officer	We are looking for a new Treasurer, as our current Treasurer is transitioning to St. Olga's. The ideal candidate has a penchant for numbers and some financial acumen.	Approximately 4–6 hours per month, including AW Officer meetings and attendance at AW events.
Host for AW Events	Host either a fellowship activity or a community give back event in the next church calendar year starting in May 2027 after Pascha.	Total estimated time, including the actual event duration is around 3-4 hours for the month that you volunteer.

Church School

Overview: Church School endeavors to nourish the minds and souls of our children through listening to and learning from Scripture and participating in the liturgical life of the Church. We are deeply grateful for our dedicated volunteers, who are well trained and give sacrificially of their time in service to our children.

Highlights

- Our **3–12 year-olds** continue in the *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd* (CGS), where **wonder is cultivated, response is invited, and independence is embraced.**
- Our **Middle School class**, led by Ann Baumgartner, journeyed through the Old Testament from Creation to the Tabernacle, while also exploring the liturgical festal cycle.
- Our **High School class**, led by Mat. Sarah Begley, engaged in an in-depth study of the Divine Liturgy, culminating in a “**Liturgy Puzzle,**” in which the students reconstructed the Liturgy from memory.

By the Numbers: 95 students • 34 weeks • 15 teachers • 4 substitute teachers • 3 training events • 2 processions • 1 very big thank you

Looking Ahead

- This year, the **High School class will join the Middle School class** as they continue their journey through the Old Testament, exploring the Tabernacle and the story of God's people, led by Mat. Sarah.
- Our **12 and under children** will continue to fall in love with the Good Shepherd, abide with Him in the True Vine, and discover their place in the Kingdom of God.

Dates to Remember

September 13 — Church School Begins
November 29 — Thanksgiving Break
January 3 — Christmas Break
May 2 — Pascha Break

October 11 — Fall Break
December 27 — Christmas Break
March 14 — Spring Break
May 23 — Last Day of Church School

How You Can Help

Please **pray for our children, their loving parents, and our dedicated teachers.**

Please **register your children and make every effort to bring them faithfully and on time to class.**

Consistent attendance allows our teachers to build relationships with the children and allows the children the time to enter into their work.

We are also always grateful for those with skills in **art, woodworking, and crafts** who can help us maintain and create our beautiful, handcrafted CGS materials.

Get Involved

If you have a heart for serving children, please contact **Shellie Sowell** at shellie.sowell@sioctn.org or 615-300-6246. We are always looking for assistants to join this ministry. God willing, next summer we will offer an in-house CGS training for those who desire to work with our 3–6 year-olds.

Teen SOYO

Teen SOYO helps the youth of St. Ignatius grow in their love for Christ and His Church through worship, fellowship, service, and leadership. This year provided many opportunities for this!

Highlights

- **Appalachia Service Project:** Eight teens and four adult leaders spent a week serving families in Magoffin County, Kentucky, through home-repair projects, prayer, and fellowship.
- **Parish Life Conference:** Five teens represented St. Ignatius in Springdale, Arkansas, with our Bible Bowl team earning second place in the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast.
- **All-Night Teen Vigil:** Teens served the parish by preparing for Pascha, assisting with candles, flowers, and chairs, praying through the night, and concluding with a sunrise walk.
- **Weekly Teen SOYO Meetings:** Teens gather each Wednesday for a meal, fellowship, theological and biblical discussion, and time to build friendship and community.
- **Prayer and Fellowship:** Teens led Akathists throughout the year and began the Nativity Fast with a Teen Lock-In centered on prayer and fellowship.
- **Parish Fellowship:** Teens strengthened relationships across generations through Teens vs. Seniors Trivia, Teens vs. Clergy Volleyball, and the Teen SOYO vs. Young Adults Angleball Game—which the teens won!
- **Teen Leadership:** Our teens continued growing as leaders within both the parish and diocesan Teen SOYO.

By the Numbers

- 12 participants in the Appalachia Service Project
- 5 teens represented St. Ignatius at the Parish Life Conference
- 3 teens elected to the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast Teen SOYO Board
- 3 teens attended Leadership Training at Antiochian Village
- 4 teens read the Epistle during Teen Month in October

Looking Ahead

- Continue forming our teens in Christ through worship, fellowship, service, leadership, and greater participation in parish, diocesan, and Archdiocesan life.

How You Can Help

- Pray for and encourage our teens, attend Teen SOYO parish events, and support the ministry through volunteering, transportation, meals, service projects, and simply taking the time to know the young people of our parish.

Get Involved

For questions or to become involved with Teen SOYO, contact Tyson Hugee, Director of Youth Ministries.

Young Adults Ministry

2026 Annual Report: Richard Ajalat, Coordinator

Overview

The Young Adults ministry, led by Richard Ajalat, exists to help young adults live in the world but not of it, growing in faith together while engaging fully in daily life. The group currently gathers quarterly, and this year the ministry took steps toward establishing more regular, formal events.

Highlights

- Continued gathering quarterly for fellowship and support
- Began laying the groundwork to grow the ministry into a more active, closely knit community

Looking Ahead

In the coming year, the ministry hopes to hold four events and to build a genuine sense of community among young adults in the parish. Growing awareness of the ministry and making it easier for young adults to find and join gatherings will be a key focus.

How You Can Help

- Help spread the word about upcoming gatherings among young adults in the parish
- Share ideas or connections that could support communication and promotion efforts
- Keep this ministry in your prayers as it grows into a more consistent, visible presence in parish life

Get Involved

Interested in connecting with the Young Adults ministry or learning more about upcoming gatherings? Reach out using the contact information below.

Richard Ajalat, Coordinator
richard.ajalat@sioctn.org

Ministry Reports

Bereavement Team

2026 Annual Report – Sh. Margie Naftel

Overview

The Bereavement Ministry Team walks alongside St. Ignatius families as they prepare for and move through the loss of a loved one. The team offers guidance on the Orthodox Funeral Service and preparation for departing this life, coordinates with families and funeral homes when needed, and oversees sign ups for the Reading of Psalms and the Mercy Meal.

Highlights

- Shared information about the ministry during the Family Nights held in early 2026.
- Team members were present at every funeral held at St. Ignatius this year, offering support wherever it was needed.

By the Numbers

- **6–8** regular volunteers serve on the team.
- The team meets **monthly**.

Looking Ahead

In the coming year, the team hopes to offer information seminars during Family Nights, working together with those who coordinate that ministry to help more parishioners understand what the Bereavement Team offers and how to prepare well for this part of life in the Church.

How You Can Help

- Help spread the word: the team's biggest need is greater communication and visibility so parishioners know this ministry exists and how to reach it.
- Consider joining the team, or simply keep this ministry and the families it serves in your prayers.

Get Involved

If you would like to learn more about the Bereavement Ministry Team or offer your support, please reach out using the contact information below.

Sh. Margie Naftel

mnaftel2010@gmail.com

Choir/Chanters

2026 Annual Report • Brandon Baca, Protopsaltis

Overview

The Choir and Chant ministry exists to beautify the services and our shared liturgical life through song. The group gathers weekly under the leadership of Protopsaltis Brandon Baca, who stepped into the role this year and now guides a team of about twenty regular chanters and choir members.

Highlights

- Brandon Baca stepped in as Protopsaltis and choir director this year, ensuring continuity in the ministry
- Provided ongoing training and instruction for chanters at St. Anna and St. Olga
- Continued developing a deep bench of chanters and choir members so every service can be offered beautifully

By the Numbers

- About **20** regular volunteers serve as chanters and choir members
- The choir and chant stand gather **weekly**

Looking Ahead

In the year ahead, the ministry is focused on continued growth of the choir and chant stand, increased training for singers, and improving the sound experience during services so the fullness of the liturgical singing can be heard clearly throughout the nave.

How You Can Help

- Pray for the choir and chant stand as they continue to grow and train new voices
- Consider joining choir practice - contact Brandon to set up an audition
- Keep the ministry's sound and technical needs in your prayers as future improvements are discerned

Get Involved

If you enjoy singing or would like to learn to chant, we would love to have you join us. Reach out using the contact information below.

Brandon Baca, Protopsaltis
brandonbacaremax@gmail.com

Family Night

2026 Annual Report • Brandon Baca, Coordinator

Overview

Family Night exists to facilitate community through food, fellowship, and Christian Education. Coordinated by Brandon Baca, the ministry brings together fifteen to twenty regular volunteers each week to welcome the parish family to the table.

Highlights

- Volunteers are now preparing the meals themselves, strengthening the ministry's sense of shared ownership
- Family Night continues to be a gathering place where the parish connects over food, fellowship, and learning

By the Numbers

- Regular weekly attendance of approximately **150** parishioners
- About **15 to 20** regular volunteers and leaders
- Gathers **weekly**

Looking Ahead

Looking ahead, Family Night hopes to grow its volunteer base and improve Adult Education offerings, while also identifying and training future leaders to help carry the ministry forward for years to come.

How You Can Help

- Join the volunteer team to help prepare and serve weekly meals
- Consider mentoring or training to help develop future ministry leaders
- Pray for continued growth in fellowship, community, and Christian formation

Get Involved

Family Night welcomes new volunteers and families alike. If you would like to get involved, please reach out below.

Brandon Baca, Coordinator

brandonbacaremax@gmail.com

Festal Decoration Ministry

2026 Annual Report, Cassie Hansen, Team Leader

Overview

The Festal Decoration Ministry, also known as Flowers, beautifies the church for the great feasts of the year, helping the parish encounter each celebration through sight as well as prayer. The team is led by Cassie Hansen, together with several dedicated women and families of the parish.

Highlights

- Built lasting friendships among team members while serving together
- Welcomed new members into the ministry
- Debuted a new "shield" decoration for the Feasts of the Cross

By the Numbers

- **6** regular volunteers and family members serve on the team

Looking Ahead

In the year ahead, the team's goal is simply to keep serving the parish faithfully, decorating the church for each feast with the same care and joy while being thoughtful stewards of what is entrusted to them.

How You Can Help

- Keep this ministry in your prayers as the team prepares the church for each feast
- Reach out if you're interested in helping decorate, no experience is necessary

Get Involved

Interested in joining the Festal Decoration ministry? The team would love to have you, no experience is necessary, and they are happy to teach you everything you need to know.

Cassie Hansen, Team Leader

cltiger510@yahoo.com

Prosphora

Overview

St Ignatius' Prosphora bakers continue to provide needed loaves on a regular basis. Due to the growth of the parish and possible loss of bakers due to transfers to St Olga, more bakers may be needed.

Highlights

2026 saw a slight decline in the number of volunteer bakers, but there have been a couple of recent family additions. We foresee that several existing bakers may transfer to St Olga resulting in fewer bakers. We recently added new bread seals that should provide larger Lambs and clearer seals to the baskets. Providing Prosphora for scheduled weekday Divine Liturgies has been challenging. We put together a new Prosphora supplies basket for St Olga mission.

By The Numbers

St Ignatius currently has 24 families listed as Prosphora bakers. A few of those have asked to be placed on temporary hiatus. We have two baskets available with baking supplies. The bakers supply six loaves for Prosphora and Antidiron (blessed bread). We keep a supply of frozen bread, primarily baked by Deacon Mark, to routinely supply one additional loaf for Sunday Divine Liturgy.

Looking Ahead

The primary need for 2027 will be to recruit new bakers. A workshop to explain the Prosphora process may be helpful in that regard.

How You Can Help

If anyone is interested in learning about Prosphora and how to help, please consider volunteering as a baker. No previous experience needed!

Get Involved

If you are interested in becoming a Prosphora baker or if you are an existing baker and have questions, please contact Deacon Mark at 615.678.3837, dn.mark@siocn.org, or Shamasi Margie at 615.512.9848, mnaftel@gmail.com.

Sacred Cleaning Ministry

2026 Annual Report: Joan Kirkpatrick, Ministry Leader

Overview

The Sacred Cleaning ministry, led by Joan Kirkpatrick, assists our clergy by caring for the Nave and Narthex each week. The team vacuums, tends to the candle receptacles, and reverently handles the Holy Bread and candles, helping to keep our worship space ready and welcoming for the parish.

Highlights

- Welcomed 3 new members to the team
- Expanded cleaning responsibilities to include the former temple space
- Enjoyed fellowship together as a team

By the Numbers

- **13** regular volunteers serve on this team, meeting weekly

Looking Ahead

In the coming year, the ministry hopes to grow in prayer together, deepen relationships among its members, and continue faithfully meeting the needs of our clergy as the team keeps growing.

How You Can Help

- Keep this ministry and its volunteers in your prayers
- Treat the Nave and Narthex with care and reverence between services
- Consider joining the team, more hands are always welcome

Get Involved

If you would like to learn more or join the Sacred Cleaning team, please reach out using the contact information below.

Joan Kirkpatrick, Ministry Leader

jjkirks@gmail.com



St. Anthony's Bookstore

The Saint Anthony Bookstore exists to support the mission of St. Ignatius Orthodox Church, under the guidance of Fr. Philip and our clergy. The bookstore provides resources to encourage prayer and participation in the sacramental and liturgical life of the Church, making available to the parish community materials for catechesis and spiritual formation in the Orthodox Faith.

Under Fr. Philip's guidance we have worked to obtain and maintain a curated selection of Orthodox books, icons, and items for personal prayer and home altars from more than 80 vendors and monasteries. The bookstore currently stocks over 1,730 unique items.

We offer volumes of scripture, psalters, prayer books, liturgical texts, writings and lives of saints, books by contemporary Orthodox Hierarchs, priests and scholars, artists, poets and novelists. We have books for all ages. Our prices are regularly less than suggested retail, and books for children and youth are discounted even more.

During the current fiscal year, to date the bookstore has completed 2,024 customer transactions. Parishioners and guests have purchased more than 2,100 books, more than 800 icons, and over 1,000 other items this fiscal year. This represents a 27% increase in customer transactions compared to the previous year, and a 34% increase in net sales. Revenues continue to exceed our expenses.

The store is staffed entirely by volunteers from our parish. We are open Sundays after the Divine Liturgy. Questions and requests can be emailed at any time to bookstore@siocn.org.

We regularly receive new materials. We encourage you to browse, ask questions and let us know how we can better serve you!

Yours In Christ,

The Saint Anthony Bookstore Staff:

Andrea Baca, Angela Santana, Dylan Tharp, and Ginger & Martin McGinty

2026 August 11

Stewardship Committee

2026 Annual Report • Brandon Baca, Chairman

Overview

The Stewardship Committee exists to foster meaningful relationships, share the impact of our community, live out the true faith, and love one another. The committee meets quarterly under the leadership of Chairman Brandon Baca, with a core group of five to six members.

Highlights

- Published an annual impact newsletter to share ministry updates with the parish
- Strengthened communication through regular quarterly updates and reporting to the parish
- Prepared for increased engagement as many parishioners transition to attend St. Olga

By the Numbers

- About **5 to 6** regular committee members
- Meets **quarterly** throughout the year

Looking Ahead

In the coming year, the committee's focus is increased communication with the parish and maintaining regular, consistent reporting so parishioners stay informed and connected to the life and impact of our community.

How You Can Help

- Help share the committee's newsletter and updates with fellow parishioners
- Offer your skills in communication, design, or promotion to support outreach
- Pray for wisdom and continued faithful stewardship within our parish family

Get Involved

If you have gifts in communication or promotion and would like to support the committee's work, we welcome your help.

Brandon Baca, Chairman

brandonbacaremax@gmail.com

Ushers Ministry

2026 Annual Report – Nathan Wright, Coordinator

Overview

The Usher Ministry creates a welcoming and orderly environment for worship, greeting attendees, assisting with seating, and guiding parishioners throughout the service. The team also distributes materials, collects offerings, and helps address the needs of the congregation as they arise. Ushers work to be present at every scheduled service. The ministry is led by Coordinator Nathan Wright, with Pat Marlin taking over for the upcoming year.

Highlights

- Supported new exterior entry and security enhancements, including a third party review of usher team processes.
- Transitioned to a new contracted security vendor in February.
- Added parking measures and a formal system for counting attendees and vehicles as attendance has grown.

By the Numbers

- **15** dedicated volunteers currently serving on the usher team.

Looking Ahead

As we welcome new faces to the usher team this fall, our focus turns to recruiting and hands on training for incoming volunteers. We are also working toward a smoother flow of traffic and a welcoming, distraction free environment for worship.

How You Can Help

- Prayerfully consider joining the usher team; more volunteers are needed to sustain the ministry and prevent burnout.
- Keep the team in your prayers as they welcome and train new members this fall.

Get Involved

If you are interested in serving with the Usher Ministry, we would love to have you. Reach out using the contact information below to learn more.

Pat Marlin, Head Usher

ushers@siocn.org

Wedding Team

2026 Annual Report | Allison Simon, Chairperson

Overview

The Wedding Team supports engaged couples and clergy as they prepare for the sacrament of marriage. The ministry is led by Allison Simon, along with Josie Bonn, Christine Veach, and Lydia McCollum, and its four regular volunteers meet as needed throughout the year.

Highlights

- Strengthened and streamlined the process of engagement toward the sacrament of marriage.
- Continued to grow as a team in understanding how to better support couples and clergy during this season of preparation.

By the Numbers

- Served **12 couples** preparing for marriage this year.
- **4 regular volunteers** led the ministry.

Looking Ahead

In the year ahead, the team hopes to create a wedding pamphlet, available in both print and online formats, to offer engaged couples ongoing support and guidance throughout their engagement.

How You Can Help

- Help spread the word about this ministry through communication and promotion.
- Keep the engaged couples and clergy this ministry serves in your prayers.

Get Involved

If you are able to help with communication or promotion for the Wedding Team, we would love to hear from you.

Allison Simon, Chairperson

allison.wallace@yahoo.com