



SAINT TIMOTHY
CATHOLIC CHURCH



Celebrating the Life of Angela Kent *An Enduring Legacy of Stewardship*

Stewardship isn't meant to be something that's contained in a particular ministry or an act of generosity. Rather, true stewardship permeates a person's life, radiating in every interaction they have with God and man — be it professional or personal. This was the way that parishioner Angela Kent, who passed away in June, continuously lived her life, radiating a spirit of love and generosity to all around her.

"Angela saw the face of God in people," says St. Timothy parishioner, Dr. Richard Warner, M.D. "She was not judgmental and was always willing to share her faith. I can't remember ever being with Angela where we would not all speak about our love for God, pray, and share fellowship. It didn't matter if we were at our home, out to dinner, or shopping for food for the pantry. Angela not only helped me to be more open and comfortable evangelizing at work, but she also helped me to incorporate it into my care for patients and their families."

Dr. Warner and his wife, Deborah, first met Angela three years ago shortly after becoming parishioners at St. Timothy. Wishing to become involved in parish life, Deborah attended a Woman's Club meeting where Angela happened to be speaking on behalf of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Deborah was captivated by Angela's passion for helping the poor



The Warners and Angela Kent (center) shared their stewardship gifts during a St. Vincent de Paul Homeless Outreach project.

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December 2017

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Celebrating the Life of Angela Kent *continued from front cover*

and overall representation of the Society. She expressed a desire to learn more, only to find an email from Angela waiting in her inbox when she returned home that night, including the date of the Society's next meeting.

"I went to the meeting and not only felt like I belonged there, but I immediately felt a connection with Angela," Deborah says. "I came home and told my husband all about it. He was excited as well and came to the next meeting with me. From there our friendship with Angela began, and we have been active members of St. Vincent de Paul Society ever since."

Over the next few years, the Warners went on to develop a very close relationship with Angela. She became part of their everyday lives — another member of their family. Through each new interaction, the Warners would find new reasons to love and admire this holy woman of service. As the president of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Angela worked tirelessly to reach out to those in need. She was the driving force behind numerous projects such as back-to-school and diaper drives, feeding families for the holidays, and organizing the Adopt-a-Family Christmas program, the Prison Ministry, and Food Pantry collections.

"There truly wasn't anything that Angela wouldn't do to help people or animals," Dr. Warner says. "She always encouraged people to do a little more."

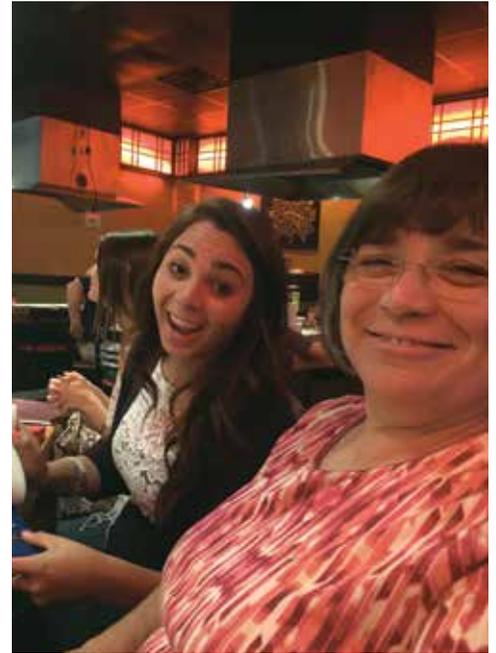
"Angela gave of her time, talent, and treasures effortlessly and wholeheartedly," Deborah adds. "She spent countless hours running St. Vincent de Paul Society and serving those in need. Whether it was making a home visit or handing out food in the pantry, Angela was always involved. I can remember on many occasions talking to Angela early in the morning before she started work. We would laugh when she would ask me if I had read her email yet, which she had sent out at 3 a.m. She put in countless hours doing God's work."

Like a good steward, Angela never considered her work to be done. She was always looking for new ways to use her God-given talents and treasures for others. Yet, as she faced illness, she worked hard to embrace God's plan, trusting that He would call her home in His perfect timing.

Angela passed away on June 6. And though she remains greatly missed by those privileged to have known her, Angela's tireless spirit lives on through the legacy of unselfish love she left behind.

"Angela was special because of so many reasons," Dr. Warner says. "She had a deep unshakable love and devotion to God. She was kind and had compassion for all living things. She never hesitated to help out in any way she could at any time of the day. She was truly a remarkable woman and remains greatly missed."

The St. Vincent DePaul ministry continues to serve the poor, carrying on in Angela's footsteps.



Angela Kent with Alex Warner, daughter of Dr. Richard and Deborah Warner, whom she sponsored for the Sacrament of Confirmation.



Angela Kent during her birthday celebration with Dr. Richard Warner, M.D.

Reflections at the End of the Year

Dear Friends in Christ,

It seems as if we just finished Lent and Easter, and here we are at Advent and Christmas. To say this is a busy month for many is an understatement. Although December is a month of love, it can also be a difficult month for some. For those with families, it may be a month of travel as people rush to be united with loved ones, sometimes after a long period of separation.

There is no shortage of reminders as to what time of year this is. However, for us as Catholics, we may need to refocus to see where we are in our faith lives. Were you aware that for us, December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception? In that regard, we celebrate a Holy Day of Obligation on Friday, Dec. 8. Advent begins on Dec. 3, and you may notice that we begin to wear purple as a sign of Advent. That color changes to white or gold beginning at Christmas.

Of course, this is also the last month of the regular calendar year, which may add additional tasks to our own schedules as we finalize things for the end of the year. However, there are many opportunities for us during this month to share, to pray and to celebrate in a Christian way, and I would encourage you to make an effort to be part of these. Right here in our parish, much is happening along those lines, and a careful reading of the bulletin will alert you to the “when, where and what” of these upcoming opportunities.



As I indicated earlier, this can also be a difficult time for some. In the midst of our own celebrations and joy, we need to be aware of that reality and of those living with it. This is a time to reach out, and it is a time to show love.

This December, let our minds be focused on Christ, Who will be born for us at Christmas, and for Whose coming we must always be prepared throughout the year. This is a time to thank God and to pray. It is a time to reach out to love and live peacefully with one another. We need to remember that life continues after December, in spite of everything we feel we need to get done.

My prayers and blessings go out to each of you and your families. May God continue to watch over you. May the year 2017 end well for all of us!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rev. Kenneth J. Malley".

Rev. Kenneth J. Malley



Gift of Music Mini

Here at St. Timothy, we are embraced with the gift of music during our worship, and Fr. Malley perhaps describes it best.

“The gift of music involves the talents of many individuals coming together to make a beautiful sound for the Lord,” he says. “It lifts the minds and hearts to God’s glory!”

Indeed, our Adult Choir and our Bells of St. Timothy not only enhance our worship, but they also help lead us to a deeper dimension of faith.

“We have one Adult Choir and a different Contemporary Music Group at the Sunday evening Mass with drums and guitar,” Fr. Malley says. “There is a variety of music, and with the variety we are really reaching out to praise God in many ways. Our music represents our Catholic way — a variety and diversity. The main goal is to lift the mind and hearts to praise the Lord.”

As the pipes to our church organ are undergoing installation, the sounds they will be able to produce will be as that of a symphony. Fr. Malley likens the sounds of the organ to our voices raised in song.

“As a group of individuals, we come in all shapes and sizes and sounds — all voices together for the glory of God,” he says. “With our organ, there will be trumpet pipes, so brass instruments have a role and purpose. Each person in the (parish) community has a different role and function.”

After Marianne Mackey-Smith's youngest son graduated from high school, she joined the choir in 2008. Wednesday evenings became her favorite night of the week! Eventually, she auditioned for a solo and was selected, and became a wonderful musical moment for her. The handbell ensemble formed in 2012. She was inspired to join in part by the fact that both of her sons rang handbells when they were elementary students. She participated in the National Catholic Handbell Festival in Cincinnati, Ohio, during the summer of 2017 at the National Pastoral Musician's Conference. She had an opportunity to ring with over 100 other ringers — another wonderful musical moment. Here, she takes part in handbell rehearsal.



Ministry Lifts Talents to Praise God

Marianne Mackey-Smith, administrative assistant to the Music Ministry, perhaps is typical of many of those taking part in the Adult Choir that sings at our 11 a.m. Sunday Mass, and has been a part of St. Timothy from the parish's beginning. She had taken piano lessons for four years while she was in high school, but she has had no formal voice training.

"The great thing about the Adult Choir is most have been singing all their lives, and I don't mean in the formal sense," Marianne says. "Some sang in high school and in college, but most come with the love of singing. It's a pretty neat ministry in that regard."

With that in mind, and speaking from her personal experience, Marianne encourages others who haven't had a lot of formal training to consider joining the ministry.

"I was able to take piano for four years," she says. "That's all the formal training I had. I was, and am a 'car singer!' I want to encourage folks to come out. I feel that the Music Ministry has always spoken to me on a deeply personal level, and especially at Mass. I'm somebody who came out of the pews to the choir and handbells ensemble."

Chase White, our Music Director, carefully chooses the music selected for Mass.

"It is designed to extract more meaning out of the readings," Marianne says. "The music chosen is very specifically to support what is read in the Gospels, and particularly the Psalms. Singing and praying to God and the Lord has gone hand in hand for a long, long time."

Those favoring more contemporary music can attend the 5:30 p.m. Sunday Masses, when the music is produced with guitars and drums, under the leadership of Justin Lantz, our Parish Youth & Young Adult Minister.

Further enhancing our worship are the Bells of St. Timothy, our handbell ensemble that is in its fifth season. Marianne also is a member of this group.

"In the history of church music, handbells have been around for a long time," Marianne says. "The church tower with bells is related, and there always

was a celebration with the church bells pealing. It's a remarkable sound — it always gave me goose bumps!"

The Adult Choir and Bells of St. Timothy ensemble meet from August through Christmas, then take a short break before resuming meetings in January. The groups then meet through the end of May. Neither performs during the summertime.

While the Adult Choir is generally at the 11 a.m. Sunday Mass, the handbell ensemble is designated for the Saturday Vigil Mass, but does not perform on a regular basis.

Rehearsals for both groups now are underway for the much-anticipated Dec. 17 Christmas Concert.

Not only does the music both groups perform help us as parishioners engage more deeply in the liturgy, but those performing are affected, as well.

"Because the music is selected for the readings, it gives us an opportunity to think about the readings in a musical way," Marianne says. "It's truly for the sheer beauty of it all. At the conclusion of our rehearsals, we all pray. And the music we're singing or ringing really praises the Lord. Some of the words of the anthems we sing are very moving. We're deepening our relationship with Christ because we're practicing that music between Sundays. This is another opportunity because we're in church, we're on the church campus, in rehearsal, with the purpose of doing something beautiful that talks about our faith and honoring our Lord."

"We have such a nice group of people who meet and produce good music," she continues. "Your musical background can be about anything with the Adult Choir. We do our best and work with all who come out. For the handbells ensemble, it is most helpful if one has the ability to read music."

***Interested in joining the
Adult Choir or the Bells of St. Timothy?
Contact Marianne Mackey-Smith
at 813-968-1077.***



Meet Deacon Jerry and Becky Crall

Serving the Family of God

For Deacon Jerry Crall, our parish goes far beyond just being a church.

“When I think of St. Timothy, I think about it from the perspective of family,” Deacon Jerry says. “St. Timothy isn’t just a place where I go to church — it’s a family, there’s a real connection there. When I think about all the people who are there, I didn’t pick them — the Lord brought them there, just like He brought me there. These are the people the Lord has chosen to bring together into this family. It’s God picking those people, and bringing them into my life, and I’m grateful for that.”

Deacon Jerry, and his wife, Becky, have been part of the family of St. Timothy from the very beginning.

Originally hailing from Ft. Wayne, Ind., the Cralls moved to Tampa with their young family in 1980 due to a job transfer. Although they initially joined St. Paul Parish, it wasn’t long before Deacon Jerry, still in diaconate formation at the time, became involved in the formation of the mission parish that would become St. Timothy Catholic Church.

Ordained in 1987, Deacon Jerry’s primary service to the parish has been in the areas of RCIA — Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults — and helping people through the marriage annulment process. After serving as the Director of RCIA for over 30 years, Deacon Jerry recently “retired” from that role and is currently responsible for all annulments in the parish, as well as helping

couples he has worked with to prepare for marriage within the Church.

“What I like most about both of those scenarios is that it’s the process by which you bring people to participate in the sacramental life of the Church,” Deacon Jerry says. “I consider it a ministry of mercy.”

Although the heart of her ministry was initially at home, caring for Jerry and her six children, Becky also found many ways to become involved in the parish, from serving as a sacristan and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, to RCIA and the sacramental preparation of children. She also worked as the secretary for the Faith Formation Office for a number of years.

For the past 24 years, Becky has also been a part of the Marian Servants of Divine Providence, a public association of the faithful, with the mission of helping people grow in their relationship with the Lord through spiritual direction, healing prayer, retreats, and more. Becky currently serves as Administrative Assistant to the Director of the School of Spiritual Direction at the Cenacle, in Clearwater. She emphasizes the importance of listening for God’s call to serve.

“There’s always been a sense of being called to do something, not seeing it as a job,” Becky says.



Deacon Jerry and Becky Crall have been faithful members of our parish since its beginnings.

“There’s a sense that God wanted me in whatever I was doing.”

Both Deacon Jerry and Becky have also been trained and serve as spiritual directors, and have found that in those ministries, as well as the other ways they serve, they have received blessings from giving to others.

“In order to be able to do all of these kinds of things, one has to work at their own spirituality,” Deacon Jerry says. “These things keep me rooted and grounded in my own spiritual growth and development and nourishment through the Church and the sacraments.

“We get into something thinking we’re doing this for others, but naturally, God is gifting us back, sometimes more back to us than what we’re giving to others,” he adds. “It’s not the reason we do it, it’s just the benefit that accrues from it. When somebody ministers to somebody else, God graces both

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Deacon Jerry and Becky Crall

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of them — the minister and the one being ministered to.”

Deacon Jerry and Becky, who recently celebrated 50 years of marriage and are now grandparents to 16 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, share the heart of balancing family and service by keeping one’s relationship with Christ at the center.

“You can’t give what you don’t have,” Deacon Jerry says. “Something God always does when He calls us to ministry is to give us the supernatural gifts that we need to fulfill that ministry. He gives us those for other people and to build up His Church.”

Becky emphasizes the importance of spending time with God, in prayer.

“For me, the foundation is the quiet prayer time every day — that quiet time, in the morning, just sitting there and giving God the opportunity to talk to me,” she says. “There’s no agenda to my prayer time. Sometimes it’s dry, and sometimes it seems very beneficial, but I choose to give God that time and allow Him to do whatever He wants with it. I don’t fill it because I want the Lord to fill it. You have to listen. Conversation goes two ways. I can ask for all kinds of things, but eventually I have to stop and allow Him to speak, and I listen.”

Deacon Jerry also reminds of the importance of having a supportive community surrounding you.

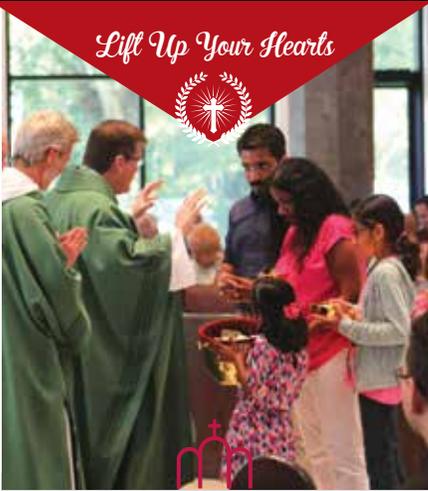
“Our world espouses as the model the rugged individualist — ‘I don’t need anybody, I can do it myself,’” he says. “That’s not the Lord’s way — our God is a community, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It’s a three-fold community in love. We’re not supposed to be lone rangers. We thrive in community. In community, we are supported. We minister to the community, the community ministers to us. It goes back and forth. The word for that is ‘love.’”

“Sometimes it’s easier to give than to receive,” Becky adds. “You want to help people, but you have to be able to allow other people to minister to you, to use their gifts.”

And at the end of the day, it all comes back to family. The Cralls encourage their fellow parishioners to find ways to become more involved in the family of God, their parish community.

“It’s all about love — loving God, loving neighbor, loving His Church,” Becky says “Look to find an area where you can use your gifts and be a necessary part of a community. Realize that you have a significant role in the life of a parish family. Nothing is too insignificant in a family.”

Don’t Forget to Return Your Commitment Card!



SAINT TIMOTHY
CATHOLIC CHURCH

2017 COMMITMENT CARD

First & Last Name

Street Address

City State ZIP

Telephone (Important)

Email

Please bring this card to Mass on **November 4/5**, or mail using the envelope provided. Thanks and God bless you!

Please remember to turn in your commitment cards to the parish as soon as possible. We appreciate your willingness to participate in this year’s Stewardship Renewal. The more we grow to embrace and understand the stewardship way of life, the more our parish will flourish and grow!



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Christmas Schedule

CHOIR CONCERT

Sunday, Dec. 17 at 7 p.m.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Thursday, Dec. 21 at 7 p.m.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday, December 23

Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 24

Masses at 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Sunday, Dec. 24

Masses at 3:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.

Carols at 11:30 p.m. and Mass at Midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY

Monday, Dec. 25

Masses at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Saturday, December 23

Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 31

7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

Sunday, Dec. 31 – Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 1, 2018 – Mass at 9 a.m.

• Mass Schedule •

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m. • Sunday: 7:30, 9, 11 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. • Daily: Mon-Sat 9 a.m., Wed 6:15 p.m. • Holy Days: 9 a.m. & 7 p.m. Vigil: 7 p.m.