

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

The water I shall give will
become in him a spring of water
welling up to eternal life.

John 4:14

Sunday, March 8, 2026



SAINT ANTHONY
OF PADUA CHURCH

Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
9:00am - 4:00pm

Website: www.stanthony.com
www.dio.org

Email: info@stanthony.com

Phone: 217-347-7129

Mailing Address:
PO Box 764

Physical Address:
101 E Virginia Ave

High School Office:
304 E Roadway Ave
217-342-6969

Mr. Greg Fearday, *Principal*

Grade School Office:
405 N Second St
217-347-0419

Mr. Cody Rincker, *Principal*

**In the event of a sudden illness,
accident or life threatening
emergency, while offices are
closed, please contact our
priests at (217) 703-1042.**

Liturgy Schedule:

Monday thru Friday: 6:30am

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:30am

Saturday: 4:30pm

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:15am, & 11:00am

Live Streamed Masses:

Saturday at 4:30pm / Monday thru Friday at 6:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday: 3:15pm to 4:00pm (anytime by appointment)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 7:45am to 8:15am



Fr. Peter C. Harman, Pastor

Fr. Jayke White, Parochial Vicar

Deacon Joe (Pat) Emmerich

Mrs. Carrie Koenig, Director of Operations

Mrs. Sara Hoene, Executive Parish Secretary

Mrs. Tiffiny Wrigley, Business Manager

Mrs. Mary Koester, Financial Secretary

Mrs. Karie Sudkamp, Financial Secretary

Mrs. Liz Schmidt, Spiritual Direction, Annulment Ministry

Ms. Regina Villafuerte, Music Director

Mr. Kenny Thies, Technology Administrator

Mr. Bart Willenborg, Cemetery Sexton

Welcome

*We extend a warm welcome to all our guests and
visitors who have joined us at today's liturgy. We hope
that you feel at home here. Please let us know if we can
be of any assistance while you are among us.*

“From the Pastor’s Desk”

Dear St. Anthony Parish Family:

Today is our Parish Lenten Penance Service. There will be seven priests here to hear confessions beginning at 3 p.m. I encourage you to make use of this opportunity as part of your Lenten pilgrimage. If you wish to find a good examination of conscience for your preparation, I would direct you to the ones offered at the U.S. Bishops’ website, www.uscb.org.

Thanks for your generosity to Catholic Charities this past weekend, over \$7,000.00 was collected. You can still send your donation in the mail or drop it by the parish office. Your envelope for next week’s Special Collection, March 15 is for Catholic Relief Services. They are the official overseas relief and development agency of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, dedicated to serving those in need across the globe. They have an A+ rating from Charity Watch, the standard by which we can be sure that what we offer is spent wisely and on programs which for which they have oversight. I have worked with CRS as Rector of the North American College in Rome, as they offered programs for our seminarians to involve them in their charitable work in Africa. Our men came home changed by what they saw: poverty and situations they had not witnessed, and work being done to truly assist the most needy. I urge you to be generous from your Lenten sacrifices to help our brothers and sisters across the world who have so much less than ourselves.

I look forward to our annual Hall of Fame Gala on Saturday evening March 28. Each year we have the opportunity to celebrate the good work done for St. Anthony and our community. This year again we will recognize many dedicated and generous volunteers who help make St. Anthony parish and schools the blessing they are. It is always an enjoyable evening. I hope you will plan to join, for the celebration of goodness breeds more goodness! Details are in the bulletin in these weeks.

May God sustain you as we come this week to the midpoint of our Lenten journey!

Fr. Peter Harman, Pastor



Men’s Weekend: March 12-15
Lay Leader: Gene Niemerg
Call or Text him at 217-240-4365

Women’s Weekend: March 19-22
Lay Leader: Pat Thompson
Call or Text her at 217-246-2150

or email Effingham DeColores: effdecolores@gmail.com



Stations of the Cross
During this season of Lent, St. Anthony Church will have Stations of the Cross on Friday at 2:10pm in church (on school days) and every week at 7:00pm in church.



Blue and Pink Support Group

If you have experienced pregnancy or infant loss, please join us in our new peer support group. "The Blue and Pink Group." We will not meet in March, but will resume in April.

This inclusive group will meet to share, listen, and support one another through our journey of loss of grief and healing.

For questions, please contact Kara Huston at khuston@stanthony.com



Please pray for Restoration of Religious Liberty, those who are ill, those in hospitals and nursing homes, those recovering from surgery, all those serving our country, and also for:

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Steve Bierman | Heather Hakman | Bill Nuxoll |
| Marty Brumleve | Gina Hargis | Art Pike |
| Rich Brummer | Ron Harris | Kenneth Polarek |
| Danny Bushue | Donna McDewitt Jones | Deborah Richards |
| Bertha Bushur | Ingrid Kay | Olivya Smith |
| Dennis Bushur | John Keenan | Shirley Valenti |
| Mary Lynn Byers | Betty Koester | Marilyn Wentz |
| Cody Chasteen | Eric Koester | Ashley Westendorf |
| Ramona Dirks | Evelyn Koester | Judy Willenborg |
| Msgr. Leo Enlow | Joan Koester | Keith Willenborg |
| Donna Feldhake | Terry Kraft | Paul V Willenborg |
| Richard Feldhake | Kevin Langeland | Ann Worman |
| Claudia Gale | Mary Lawyer | Dan Worman |
| Jackson Gaitros | Colleen Linde | Jerry Worman |
| Susan Goldstein | Gerry A Lohman | |
| Cheryl Gross | Blain Loll | |
| Dorothy Grunloh | George Mette | |

Lenten Regulations

- 1. ABSTINENCE** – Everyone 14 years of age and over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.
- 2. FAST** – Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 is required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is permitted. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength may be taken according to each person’s needs, but together these two should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids (including milk and fruit juices) are allowed.
- 3. To disregard completely the law of fast and abstinence is seriously sinful.**



Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 7:

6:30am Mass: Marie C Dust

4:30pm Mass: Harold & Bertha Bushur Family

Sunday, March 8:

7:30am Mass: Mary P Willenborg

9:15am Mass: Parishioners of St. Anthony

11:00am Mass: Clem & Minnie Luchtefeld

Monday, March 9:

6:30am Mass: Lorraine Jones

8:30am Mass: Living & Deceased Member of Franklin Platz Family; Charles & Grace Hotze Family

Tuesday, March 10:

6:30am Mass: Marie Niemerg

8:30am Mass: Richard & Carolyn Kabbes Family

Wednesday, March 11:

6:30am Mass: Thad Jurgens

5:15pm Mass: Tom Laub

Thursday, March 12:

6:30am Mass: Doris Dasenbrock

8:30am Mass: Carl Bushur Anniversary

Friday, March 13:

6:30am Mass: Marlene Bushue

8:30am Mass: Virginia Poeppelmeyer

Saturday, March 14:

4:30pm Mass: Marie C Dust

Sunday, March 15:

7:30am Mass: Caroline Dietzen

9:15am Mass: Parishioners of St. Anthony

11:00am Mass: John & Bernie Niemann Family



AN INVITATION TO OUR PARISHIONERS

Join us for the St. Anthony Spring Gala
Saturday, March 28, 2026
Keller Convention Center

Enjoy a social evening of dinner, celebration and fun, featuring your 2025 Hall of Fame Inductions. Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate St. Anthony's rich history.

For more information, visit our website at:
<https://church.stanthony.com/hall-of-fame/>

To purchase tickets online, visit:
<https://dio.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/455/responses/new>

Honoring the Hall of Fame Inductees:

- Joyce Kabbes (Alumni) • Don (Alumni) & Twila (Staff) Wentz • Gene & Rhonda Fearday (Friends of St. Anthony) • 2000-2009 Women's Tennis Teams (Athletic Team) • Michelle (Valenti) Bolliger (Fine Arts) • Gary Greene (Booster Club Member of the Year)



SAINT ANTHONY
OF PADUA CHURCH

St. Anthony Parish in Effingham, IL is currently accepting applications for a

Rectory Housekeeper

The Rectory Housekeeper is responsible for cleaning the parish rectory one day per week, requiring up to six hours of work. Housekeeping duties include cleaning bedrooms, bathrooms, dusting, mopping, washing linens and towels, among other household cleaning.

The ideal candidate is energetic, a self-starter, pleasant, and can maintain confidentiality.

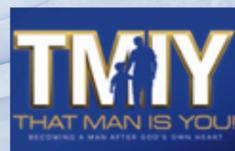
For more information about the position or to apply, contact Carrie Koenig at 217-347-7129

or visit our website at
<https://church.stanthony.com/employment/>



Sacrament of Baptism - Baptisms are celebrated during Mass on Saturdays & Sundays (not during Lent). A family must be registered & actively living their faith at St. Anthony Church for 1 year to assure the faith will be shared with the newborn child. Godparents must be registered in a Catholic parish or a witness in a Christian church & actively living their faith. A Baptism Class is required for all parents. We ask that both parents attend this class together. Godparents and witnesses are also encouraged and welcome to attend. For more information, please call the parish office.

Baptism Class - Parents are required to attend a Baptism Class before their child is baptized. The next class will be held at St. Anthony's Parish Center, Thursday, March 19 at 7:00pm. To register call the parish office at 217-347-7129.



**SonRise Men's Breakfast
The Hidden Face of God**

This week at TMIY, we will take a look at how God is coming to us through other people and how we can encounter God in our home. Find out how he wishes to encounter us all day, every day. All men are welcomed.

Come for Hot Breakfast on Friday, March 13, 6:15am, prayer, program and discussion from 6:30 – 7:30am, at the St. Anthony Parish Center, Effingham. Learn more at thatmanisyou.com or Dan Woods, 217-821-1495 or danwoodsface@gmail.com.

Liturgical Ministers for March 2026

Ministry	4:30pm	7:30am	9:15am	11:00am
Lectors	Bob Mette	Jolene Hoke	Jane Dust	Michael Wall
Eucharistic Ministers	David Emmerich Sophia Emmerich Nicole Field Patricia Kirk Cindy Thies	Alice Dust Greg Dust Carlene Weber Shae Thoele More Needed	Kelly Butts Dixie Hartke Carolyn Rohlring Brian Sehy More Needed	Larry Masengale Theresa Masengale Susan Ealy More Needed
Servers	Brooks Niebrugge Lila Niebrugge Adam Kowalke	Mary Hoke Bryson Bartimus	Morgan Litz Maeve Niebrugge Bailey Brummer	Jesse Warner Barron Sprecher Charlotte Sprecher
Ushers	Ken Bourgeois Don Niebrugge Bart Willenborg More Needed	Joe Jansen Tony Weber More Needed	Justin Brummer Joel Griffith Patrick Niebrugge More Needed	George Dallmier Dennis Meyer More Needed

Lent and Learn 2026

Wednesday Mini-Retreats

Join us weekly

March 11, March 18, & March 25

- 6:30 am Parish Mass
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- 7:00 am - 5:15 pm Adoration in church
- 12:00 - 1:00 pm Confessions in church
- 5:15 pm Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Parish Mass
- 6:00 pm Soup / Light Meal in the Parish Center *free of charge*
Lent and Learn Presentation with Fr. Harman and Fr. Jayke

2026 Lent and Learn Series:

Experiencing The Paschal Mystery through the Lives of Those Walking with Jesus

Join us for a weekly reflection of how the Apostles, Mary, and friends of Jesus lived the Cross and Resurrection. Contemplate what that means for disciples today.



SAINT ANTHONY
OF PADUA CHURCH

Lenten Dates

March 8 Parish Reconciliation Service
3:00 pm

Fridays in Lent Stations of the Cross
2:10 pm (on school days) and 7:00 pm in church

Holy Week

- April 2 Holy Thursday 6:30 pm
- April 3 Good Friday 3:00 pm
- April 4 Holy Saturday 8:00 pm
- April 5 Easter 7:30, 9:15, 11:00 am
Alleluia! He Is Risen!

Please submit written **bulletin articles** to: bulletin@stanthony.com or mail to Bulletin, PO Box 764, Effingham, IL 62401. Articles must be in the office by noon Monday prior to publication.

Child Abuse Reporting & Investigation number at 217-321-1155 or Children & Family Services Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-25-ABUSE.



Sacred Heart CCW is cordially inviting St. Anthony CCW ladies to their annual salad supper on April 7, 2026 at 6pm at the Parish Center. The speaker for the evening will be Shirley Dallmier. She will be speaking on the Boxes of Joy program. Our joint meetings are always special, so come join us for a great evening.

Mattoon Deanery Council of Catholic Women Meeting Monday, March 16, 2026 "Ladies' Day Out, Irish Style"

Immaculate Conception, Mattoon
320 N 21st Street; Mattoon
Furthering faith and family, featuring fun, food and fellowship
*****NOTICE TIME CHANGE*****
9:30 – 10:15 Registration; 10:30 Mass
Lunch, Meeting and Drawings to follow
Guest Speaker: Fr. R. Dean Probst
(NOTICE: 50/50 Raffle replaces white elephant gift)
Wear Green – get 1 ticket Bring a new friend – get 5 tickets

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Effingham Catholic Young Adults

March
10th
@7pm

for
young
adults
21-35

HOLY HOUR HAPPY HOUR



GroupMe

HOLY HOUR HAPPY HOUR

Confession available
7pm @ St. Aloysius
19812 E 1000th Ave, Dieterich
8pm @ The Railyard
202 W Center St, Dieterich



Table of Plenty

The Month of March is here, and Lent is in full swing. Our Saint Anthony Table of Plenty this month will be distributed to "Crisis Nursery" of Effingham County. It is a nonprofit center for parents or caregivers to be able to drop off their children, from age birth-age 6, during a temporary family crisis. Open 24/7, services are always available. Their staff provides love and care, along with meals and snacks to these children. St. Anthony Jr. High students are asked to bring their donations to morning Mass on Tuesday, March 10. The elementary students may bring their donations to morning Mass in Thursday, March 12. Parishioners may drop their donations in the church foyer, before Mass on March 14/15. I spoke with Meghan Rewers, Director, and she is delighted to receive our contributions this month. Thank You, Saint Anthony, for your continued support and amazing donations each month. Our students LOVE this project, and we all know this doesn't just happen. Meghan has given me their following needs: single serving snacks crackers, cookies, pretzels, chips, cereals, and all variety packs. Also, canned pasta, easy Mac-N-Cheese, fruit cups, fruit pouches, juice boxes, and toddler snack items such as puffs and pasta pic ups found in the baby food isle.

Blessings, Jayne Genta, Table of Plenty

IGNATIUS BOOK FAIRS



Come check out our Ignatius Book Fair to be held at St Anthony Grade School on Sunday, March 15 from 2:00-5:00 pm and Thursday, March 19 from 3:00-4:30 pm



St. Anthony Parish Treasure Sale

Friday, May 29th: 8am - 6pm
Saturday, May 30th: 8am-12 noon



St. Anthony Grade School
405 N 2nd St, Effingham, IL

Pro-Life Corner

Everyone is welcome to attend the **Deanery Prayer Vigil for Life** to Pray for the Protection of All Life at St. Michael's church in Sigel on Tuesday March 24th. Praying the rosary will begin at 6:00 pm. Fr Hyland Smith will be the celebrant for the 6:30 pm Mass. A business meeting will follow in the school gym with refreshments being served while current pro-life issues and events are discussed.

Let Jesus Feed Your Marriage in 2026!

Renew your Sacrament, deepen your communication, strengthen your relationship, and rekindle your romance by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience! The following upcoming weekend experiences are available. Sign-up now as space is limited! For more information or to apply, go to wwme.org, or call Terry & Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317.

4/17/2026 - 4/19/2026, St. Peters, MO
6/12/2026 - 6/14/2026, St. Peters, MO
7/31/2026 - 8/2/2026, Cape Girardeau, MO

Week Ending Mar. 1, 2026	Weekly Totals	Fiscal YTD (Week 34 of 52)	Last Year's YTD
Regular Church Support	\$28,950.94	\$1,015,598.22	\$967,968.35
GOAL	\$28,265.00	\$961,010.00	
Difference	\$685.94	\$54,588.22	

Diocesan Collections	Week Ending Mar. 1, 2026	YTD
Nigeria	\$365.00	\$14,824.66
Catholic Times	\$60.00	\$2,730.00
Cemetery	\$200.00	\$12,790.10
Catholic Charities	\$7,295.00	\$7,519.40
Central/Eastern Europe	\$20.00	\$983.00
Church in Latin America	\$20.00	\$420.00
Easter Flowers	\$570.00	\$4,770.00
Catholic Children's Home	\$20.00	\$3,807.20
Catholic Relief Services	\$50.00	\$50.00
Holy Land	\$65.00	\$65.00
Seminarians	\$300.00	\$550.00
Retired Priest (Pentecost)	\$200.00	\$510.00

Springfield March for Life Thursday March 19

- Leave Effingham Event Center 7:30am on charter bus
- \$20 each.
- Mass with Bishop Paprocki 10am at Nelson Center Ice Rink, 1601 N 5th St, Springfield, IL
- Eat your sack lunch
- 12noon Rally, Speakers, March at the Capitol
- 3 pm depart for Effingham
- 5pm arrive at Effingham Event Center
- For info and registration papers, call bus captain Diann Ruholl 217-663-2056 or email at dcruholl@hotmail.com

TEAMS WANTED! – A Trivia Night hosted by Crisis Nursery of Effingham County and Kiwanis Club of Effingham County will take place on Saturday, March 14th at the Teutopolis Banquet Hall. Exercise your brain and have fun supporting two great organizations! \$300 and a FREE table for Trivia Night 2027 will be awarded to the First Place Team. There will be other games and prizes available throughout the night. Doors open at 6pm and Trivia starts at 7pm. Reserve your table today by contacting Kayla Schumacher 217-342-3000 x 3; ad@crisisnurseryofeffingham.com or scan the QR code to register. Be sure to follow the event on Facebook for exciting updates!



St Isidore Spring Breakfast at Bishop Creek is Sunday, March 15, 2026 from 7 AM till Noon. Start your week off on a lucky note with a great breakfast. The menu will include sausage, ham fried or scrambled eggs, pancakes, homemade bread and rolls. We will also have a country store with baked goods, raffle items, quilt, chances, and mystery boxes. Come out and help us celebrate St. Patrick's Day. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sacred Heart Parish presents

St. Pat's Bash

A Community Event... Everyone is Welcome!

CASINO

Casino Night

Live Auction * Silent Auction
50/50 Drawing * Raffle

Saturday, March 14, 2026
Effingham Event Center
1501 W Fayette Ave., Effingham

Event Ticket: \$50
Event ticket includes dinner and start-up chips for the Casino

5:00pm - Doors Open
5:45pm - Dinner
Ochs Street Smoked Meats:
Smoked Garlic Chicken & Beef,
Hashbrown Casserole, Salad,
Sweet Ranch Carrots, Rolls

7:00pm - Casino Starts

- Buy Your Tickets Early -
Only 375 Event Tickets Will Be Sold!
Event tickets can be purchased here >>>>>>



Gun & Cash Raffle

1st Prize - Browning Maxus II Sporting 12 ga - OR - \$1,000 CASH
2nd Prize - Savage Arms 110 Trail Hunter. 400 Legend with Hogue Stock - OR - \$500 CASH
3rd Prize - Sig Sauer P365 9mm - OR - \$250 CASH

Raffle Ticket: \$20
Raffle tickets can be purchased here >>>>>>

Winners will be drawn at St. Pat's Bash. Need not be present to win. Must have a valid FOID card to claim firearm prize. Guns supplied by and to be picked up at Accuracy Firearms in Effingham.





Effingham Catholic Charities
Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Music

B I N G O

At the Effingham Event Center

Saturday, March 21, 2026 at 7 PM

Sponsored By:



Entry Fee: \$25 if purchased in advance / \$30 at the door

Doors Open at 6 PM
Bingo Begins at 7 PM

Snacks provided and drinks available to purchase
Prizes worth up to \$100 per game





SAINT ANTHONY
OF PADUA PARISH

Join us for the Saint Anthony Spring Gala

Reservation Deadline:
March 23, 2026

Reservations Will Be Held at the Door
(Confirmation of your reservation will be sent via email or phone.)

Reserve Online
Scan the QR Code



Reserve via Mail
complete this form and mail to:

St. Anthony Church
Attn: Hall of Fame
P.O. Box 764
Effingham, IL 62401

*Enjoy a social evening of dinner,
celebration & fun, featuring your*

2025 Hall of Fame Inductions



Saturday, March 28, 2026

Keller Convention Center

4:30 pm.....Mass at St. Anthony of Padua Church

5:30 pm.....Cocktail Reception

6:30 pm.....Dinner

7:45 pm.....Induction Ceremony

For More Information Contact:

Shelby Dasenbrock: 217-240-0118 | Allie Weber: 217-821-9411 | Parish Office: 217-347-7129 | HallofFame@StAnthony.com

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

\$30.00 per ticket. Please enclose a check made payable to St. Anthony Church.

Guest 1: _____ Guest 2: _____

Guest 3: _____ Guest 4: _____

Guest 5: _____ Guest 6: _____

Guest 7: _____ Guest 8: _____

If not purchasing an entire table, but plan on sitting with a group, please list the names of the party you would like to be seated with and we will try to accommodate your request.

Please put me/us at the table with _____

I/We cannot attend, but please accept our donation of: _____



Congratulations to the 2025 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



ALUMNI | Joyce Kabbes

Joyce Kabbes, a 1957 graduate of St. Anthony Grade School and High School, has devoted a lifetime of service to St. Anthony Parish and the Effingham community. As a student, she was active in cheerleading and band at a time when girls' athletics were not yet offered. For 67 years and counting, she has been a member of the church choir and has faithfully served as cantor, lector, rosary leader, and communion minister to nursing homes. She served on the pastoral council, including two years as president, chaired the parish picnic craft stand, and spent 15 years as a cherished RCIA leader. Alongside Judy Willenborg, she co-founded the Resurrection (Funeral) Choir, a ministry serving the parish for more than 25 years. Married to fellow St. Anthony graduate Ron Kabbes for 65 years until his passing in 2025, Joyce is the proud mother of four sons, grandmother of 14, and great-grandmother of 20. Her life reflects steadfast faith, humility, and quiet dedication to family and parish.



ALUMNI | FACULTY, STAFF, OR COACH | Don & Twila Wentz

Don and Twila Wentz have been devoted members of the St. Anthony Parish community for more than five decades. A 1966 graduate of St. Anthony High School, Don earned a Sociology degree from Quincy College in 1970. After ten years with the Illinois Department of Corrections, he began a 37-year career with Dust & Don Auto Supplies in sales and management. In 2023, he was inducted into the Quincy College Hall of Fame. He has also served the Knights of Columbus as a board member and activity coordinator. Twila, a 1966 graduate of Neoga High School, earned her degree in Education from Eastern Illinois University in 1970. After teaching in Neoga, she joined St. Anthony School in 1983, where she dedicated 30 years—primarily teaching fifth grade—before retiring in 2013. Married in 1970, they raised four children, all St. Anthony graduates, and are blessed with 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. They have faithfully served through parish ministries, fundraising committees, parish projects, and as Eucharistic Ministers to the homebound.



FRIENDS OF ST. ANTHONY | Gene & Rhonda Fearday

Gene and Rhonda Fearday met while attending Lakeland College and have called Effingham home since being married nearly 50 years ago. Dedicated members of St. Anthony Parish since 1986, they raised four children—Ryan, Darin, Ashley, and Bryce—who attended St. Anthony Grade School and graduated from St. Anthony High School. Today, they treasure time with their eight grandchildren. Both have given generously of their time and leadership to support St. Anthony's growth and success. Gene served as Booster Club President and has been a member of the Booster Club Advisory Board since its founding in 2013. He played an instrumental role in the design and construction of the baseball and softball fields, as well as the pavilion behind the high school. Rhonda previously served on the St. Anthony School Board and Stewardship Committee and continues to serve the community through Meals on Wheels. Together, they have been dedicated leaders in fundraising efforts and remain loyal supporters and familiar faces at Bulldog events.



FINE ARTS | Michelle (Valenti) Bolliger

Michelle is a St. Anthony Grade School alumna and 2005 graduate of St. Anthony High School. She later earned her Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from Millikin University in 2009. From an early age, she immersed herself in dance, voice, and drama, performing in numerous musicals throughout high school, with the Little Theatre in Sullivan, and in MainStage and student-run productions during college. Following graduation, she toured the western United States with Missoula Children's Theatre, teaching and performing musical theatre while mounting full productions in just one week with casts of up to 80 children. She later spent three years as a resident performer at the Renaissance Center in Tennessee, performing on the MainStage and in dinner theatre productions while teaching voice and fitness classes. Since settling in the Chicagoland area in 2013, she has continued performing and volunteering with the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation. In 2023, she received a Lou Award for Best Supporting Actress for her role as Ilona in She Loves Me.



ATHLETE OR TEAM | 2000-2010 Women's Tennis Teams

From 2000–2010, the St. Anthony Girls Tennis program produced one of the most dominant decades in Illinois high school tennis history. Each team finished undefeated, compiling a perfect 104–0 record and contributing to a 144-match winning streak, with more than 90 percent of matches won 9–0. The Bulldogs captured ten consecutive sectional championships, each by margins exceeding ten points. Competing in a single-class IHSA format against schools with enrollments over 2,500 students, St. Anthony—then the smallest school in Illinois to offer girls tennis—was the top-finishing small school at state eight times, placing in the top 20 five times and top 10 twice, achievements unmatched by any small school in state history. At the State Tournament, the Bulldogs accounted for 102 of the 208 total points scored by all small schools during the decade. The teams also excelled academically, earning the school's highest team GPA award nine consecutive years and producing five valedictorians and three salutatorians. Eleven players earned IHSA All-State honors, five multiple times—an extraordinary mark of sustained excellence.



BOOSTER CLUB MEMBER OF THE YEAR | Gary Greene



Gary Greene exemplifies the true spirit of service and dedication that defines the St. Anthony community. His commitment goes far beyond what is expected, leaving a lasting impact on students, coaches, families, and programs throughout the school. Gary generously served two full terms as a Booster Club officer—an extraordinary demonstration of leadership, reliability, and Bulldog pride. His willingness to step up not once, but twice, reflects his deep commitment to supporting St. Anthony and its mission. In addition to his officer service, Gary continues to give his time and energy as a member of the Advisory Board and a dedicated leader in the transportation program. Whether behind the scenes or on the front lines, Gary is someone the community can always count on to get things done. Making him a truly deserving recipient of the Booster Club Member of the Year Award.

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