

# SAINT ANNE MISSION

*Klagetoh, Arizona*

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 1 7

## Reflection at Summer's End

Dear Friends,

Every season is special, but Summers have long been times of increased activity at Saint Anne Mission. Groups of volunteers fill our days from early June until nearly the end of July. This Summer was particularly busy, with no fewer than six groups enlivening our Mission.

Our volunteers taught classes, pushed swings, gave "horseback rides" to the kids, replaced roofs and siding, poured concrete, cooked pancakes, repaired fences, installed floors, played basketball, hiked trails, watered horses, watched sunsets and sweated - outside the lodge as well as in - and listened to the stories of the Navajo people they encountered.

All of our guests have their own stories to tell, their own experiences to share. Each visit to the Mission is different, even for those who have made many pilgrimages to this special place in the desert.

I am blessed to live in a place that so many hold holy, and deeply appreciative to all who have sacrificed to ensure that there's a Catholic Mission in Klagetoh for seasons to come.

With Appreciation,



Bro. Charles Schilling, SC  
*Administrator*

## Basketball Court Progress

This past July I received a phone call from Mr. John Yonushonis. He could barely speak. While I feared that he might be experiencing a stroke, John managed to get out the news that the Fiesta Bowl had approved a grant for \$10,000 in response to a request he had prepared on behalf of the Mission and our shared goal of refurbishing the outdoor basketball court. The amount they approved: \$10,000. The grant meant that we could go ahead with the project.

For over two years John had worked tirelessly on fundraising, planning, grant writing - in short, all of the hard ground work needed to get this project off the ground.

Last week John and his friend Ryan came to Klagetoh to begin

the first phase of the refurbishment project: patching, repairing, and leveling the existing concrete surface. They worked with Brothers Kevin and Robert as well as Mission maintenance man Alex and some hired help from the area to pressure wash and expand the court.

The next phase is the installation of new goals and the application of a concrete leveling compound. Then we will be ready to overlay the concrete with an all-weather tiled surface system designed by Versacourt. The "grand opening" of the new court should take place some time in October. We'll keep you posted.



*Left: John Yonushonis and Brother Kevin break up old concrete. Far left: Brother Robert pressure washes the court.*

## Mission Groups Scheduled

*The following groups are scheduled to visit in 2017-18*

**American Indian Benefit Alliance**  
Amarillo, TX  
October 19-20, 2017

**St Mary's High School**  
Phoenix, AZ  
November 15-19, 2017

**St Stanislaus College**  
Bay St Louis, MS  
November 19-24, 2017

**St Louis University**  
St Louis, MO  
March 10-17, 2018

**St Stanislaus College**  
Bay St Louis, MS  
March 30-April 6, 2018

**Mt St Charles Academy**  
Woonsocket, RI  
April 14-21, 2018

**Bp Guertin High School**  
Nashua, NH  
April 21-28, 2018

**Catholic High School & St Joseph's Academy**  
Baton Rouge, LA  
June 9-16, 2018

**Hope for the Children Fdn**  
Queens, NY  
July 7-14, 2018

Saint Anne Mission  
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*Saint Anne Mission is a 501(c)(3) non-profit under an IRS group ruling issued to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.*

## Busy Fall

While no match for the frenzied activity of the Summer, Autumns at Saint Anne Mission are not totally devoid of activity. Along with the Navajo people, we make preparations for the approaching snows of Winter.

Following the Navajo Nation Fair, the Mission resumes its regular weekly rhythm of Wednesday morning Rummage Sales and the Thursday evening Children's Program.

In October, we will welcome Mr. and Mrs. Lester Crow and their associates from the American Indian Benefit

Alliance to Klagetoh for their annual visit and Fall giveaway.

In October we also plan to celebrate the completion of our new basketball court with a blessing and dedication ceremony.

At the end of October, we decorate the Mission hogan and welcome local children for Halloween treats (and school supplies!).

We have two high school groups scheduled in November: St. Mary's of Phoenix and St. Stanislaus from Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.

## Thelma Kee - Happy Easter!

In August, while I was attending meetings in Mississippi, I received an email from Sr. Monica informing me that Mrs. Thelma Kee had passed away. Thelma was one of the "pillars" of Saint Anne Mission. She worked closely with Sister Maria and Father Flann in the 70s, 80s and 90s. In those days she was a catechist, a and a Eucharistic minister. When I moved to the Mission in 2012, she was a steady presence - always there in "her pew" with her husband Richard at her side for Sunday Mass. A few years later, as she aged, Thelma's began to show signs of what the world often call "diminished capacity," but in Thelma's case her faith remained steady. Every Sunday, regardless of the time of year, she would greet me with a warm smile and a "Happy Easter". Thelma's



greeting reminded me that, while we traditionally remember different parts of the life of Jesus throughout the liturgical year, every Sunday is a celebration of the Resurrection. Every Sunday is Easter.

Happy Easter, Thelma!