

Gary and Kathy Poindexter

Upon moving to Germantown in 1976, Kathy Poindexter joined St. Boniface parish. In 1979 Gary and Kathy enrolled the first of their 4 children at St. Boniface elementary. It was here where they first began volunteering, simply bringing snacks for holiday parties and showing up whenever the school needed parents to pitch in. As it turns out, showing up for the church became a perpetual act for this couple, going on nearly 50 years. While their involvement encompasses a variety and breadth of deeds too numerous to list, a few early highlights emerge: Gary coaching basketball or playing guitar with his son at Saturday masses and Kathy assisting with school and Faith Formation when her grandchildren were attending. In more recent years, Kathy has helped with bookkeeping and clerical duties at the rectory, and Gary has created, implemented, and helped manage many aspects of physical security for the church and school.

Gary was an early adopter of technology and donated the first personal computer to the school. He and his son provided tech support before the IT profession was even a thing. In his professional life, Gary applied his mastery of computers and technology with criminal justice, working as a consultant for various local and federal law enforcement agencies over the years. He realized his unique background could be useful to keeping the school and parish safe and selflessly devoted himself to this cause.

This brings us to a lesson the couple wanted to impart: get involved, join a group, attend a meeting. People will get to know you and learn what your personal talents and gifts are, and little by little, this can lead to great contributions to your community. Don't be afraid to step up and try it. Good things happen when you get involved and become engaged.

Gary is looking to pass the torch and wants to mentor the next generation of tech experts and/or anyone with security experience to contact the parish and learn how they can continue the important work he's accomplished. Please contact Carolyn at the parish office.

As our conversation came to a close, I asked Gary and Kathy how their decades of service might have led to personal fulfillment or fed their spirit in some way, Kathy very simply stated that "this is my parish and I care about it", and that was all the motivation they ever considered or needed.

Thank you Kathy and Gary for your dedication and love for St. Boniface. You have always made sure to make us a priority while you still juggled other duties and responsibilities. Your tireless dedication over the years to step in where needed is appreciated.

Interview conducted by Ronald Zacker