

Blooms Provide Colorful Welcome to Church Campus

By Jon Matousek

As fall begins to deliver cooler breezes and shorter days, the colorful backdrop of St Mary's will change but not disappear. Fourteen passionate and dedicated parishioners have spent countless hours throughout the spring and summer to present an ever-changing and colorful place of welcome, prayer and contemplation.

"Originally, our mission, inspired by Fr. Ron, was to maintain the meditation garden outside of the narthex," said Richard Peterson, Garden Ministry leader. "Since then, we have expanded to include the entrance garden and parking lot islands. There is a great spirit within the ministry." He added, "Some of the team members have gained titles such as Rain Man, Posey Planter and Wonder Weeder. It is very evident that caring for God's creation is one of their true loves."

New members are welcome to join the Garden Ministry, which meets on Tuesdays from 8-10 a.m. with some solo members who work independently. The team will plant a variety of bulbs soon and continue to renovate the parking islands with rich and colorful materials.

Peterson said. "They may have a lot or a little time to offer, but we would love to welcome them. More things grow here than just those things planted in the garden!"