

Stewardship Reflection: The Lyon Family

If you had asked me a few years ago, before I started volunteering as an usher at St. James, if it would be a good idea for my 8-year-old son, Brendan, to help me with my ushering duties, I would have been doubtful. Following the suggestion of a senior usher who had showed me the ropes on my first day, I asked my son if he'd like to tag along during my first ushering duty. He gladly came along, and he's been there with me almost every single time since that first shift of ours. Aside from accidentally poking the end of his collection basket stick into the side of his fellow ushers a few times, I think he's doing a great job. I'm glad that both of us have found a way to be involved at St. James while being able to spend quality father-son time together as well. I know he enjoys the opportunity to volunteer because I've never had to ask him to help. He's just there by my side when the time comes.



According to my wife, the way our DNA separated into our kids is some kind of variation of the 80's film *Twins*, where a laboratory experiment siphoned all of the superior genes into Arnold Schwarzenegger's character, while the leftover genes went to Danny DeVito. Put another way, anything good in my kids came from my wife, and anything else...well, that was my fault. Of course, I realized that she must be right when I saw my wife's enthusiasm and personability in our daughter Alexandra as the two of them began volunteering as door greeters at St. James. They both enjoy working together and greeting their fellow parishioners at the 10am Mass.

St. James is a unique community that touches people's lives and allows its families to strengthen and grow our domestic churches. As a dear family friend from Ohio always reminds us each time she remembers visiting us and attending Mass together, "You have...such...a special...church."