



Christ the King

# COURIER

Volume 2, Issue 4

Christ the King Catholic Church

February, 2000

## The Father Robert J. McDermott Story

by Dan Scanlan, Staff Reporter

His new office is sparsely decorated, with only one wall to indicate the past of its new occupant.

But the phalanx of diplomas and certificates on that wall, as soon as you enter the office at Christ the King Catholic Church, tells you a bit about its new occupant, Father Robert McDermott.

On one end, a Bachelor of Arts diploma from Northland College in Ashland, Wisconsin; an application to practice law from the Atlanta Law School dated Nov. 30, 1973, and a Bachelor of Laws from the same place. At the other end, similar paperwork from a seminary, while below on the broad wooden desk; three Coke cans share space with lots of paperwork and a miniature Florida Gator football key chain that shows the years McDermott spent at the University of Florida in Gainesville as chaplain.

But the call of law and the cry of the Gators are gone from Father McDermott's life now, as the tall, slightly graying man enters his third month in charge of a parish so recently home for new Charleston Bishop Bob Baker, and before him, Monsignor Mortimer Danaher.

And his first impressions after a few months at the helm? There is pleasant surprise at the level of volunteerism at Christ the King, and a desire for a bit of change.

"They are very active in their parish and it is obvious they love their parish. I don't think I have ever seen the level of volunteerism that I have seen here. ¼ Your involvement here with lay people is awesome," he said. "I don't want to make any radical changes, but I want to decorate the church extensively."

Born to Pauline and Robert McDermott on Nov. 6, 1945 in Allentown, Pa., the bespectacled new pastor had a classic childhood – St. Catherine's grade school, then Allentown Central Catholic High School, where he played basketball and was a swimmer.

His mother said he was a religious boy from an early age.

"Starting in the second grade, he went to Mass every morning until he graduated. The lady up the street went and she took him every morning," she said. "He always said, 'I am going to be a priest' from the second grade, and by God, he was."

But first, his love of water rewarded him with a partial scholarship to Northland College in Wisconsin. That love of the priesthood wouldn't be acted upon immediately. Instead, Father McDermott first went to law school, graduating to become a practicing attorney for almost five years, two as an assistant state attorney, then



Class of 1980

three more as a private attorney specializing in tax law. Only then did he act on that earlier vocational desire, and entered Mary Immaculate Seminary in Northampton, Pa.

Isn't it odd for a parish priest to start his adult career as an attorney?

Father McDermott said he had always thought his eventual path would be into the priesthood, but the changes occurring in the early 1960's, inside and outside the Catholic Church after Vatican II, saw him hesitate.

"It seemed to me that many of the best priests were leaving; it seemed like the ship was sinking and the Church was in trouble. That began a major problem for vocations," McDermott said. "From 1963 on there was a huge exodus of men in active priesthood. There was also a shortage of men entering the priesthood, and a lot of that came from a lack of understanding of what Vatican II was all about."

So he said he considered a vocation to the priesthood seriously, but didn't have the "faith and confidence" to enter a seminary at the time because he thought the church was in trouble. His role models were leaving the cloth, so he went to law school.

From her home in Pennsylvania, his mother said, "It did surprise me. I asked, 'Are you sure?' and he said, 'I want to be sure when I do something.'"

Father McDermott said those first two years handling criminal law as a prosecutor were tough. He said he even became a bit cynical.

"You view almost everybody as a criminal after a while. That is part of the danger of staying in that particular practice of law too long," he said. "I had an uneasy feeling about the seminary. I was giving some thought to the married life, but I felt there were some remnants of priesthood in my mind that I had to resolve in my own mind."

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Well, we made it! The world didn't end...computers still work. People made it to their destinations. I guess some were disappointed that it turned out to be quite an ordinary turning point in history. It's a little belated but "Happy New Year to everyone!"

The *Courier* staff has been busy at work this past quarter...dedicated too. Even with Advent and Christmas preparations everyone worked hard to make this issue spectacular. Thanks to parishioners and ministry leaders, and our own wonderful staff writers we have several articles on the Joyous Season that has just passed. We also have a couple that will lead us into the Lenten Season. We have a wonderful story about having lunch with a giant that was submitted by Lauren McGill, and on page three we have a letter from Bishop Baker to everyone at Christ the King. We even have an article about Bishop Kenny winning the

Volleyball championship title and articles about Christ the King School (safety patrol, music department, registration, etc.). Don't forget to check out our BSA activities!

If you would like to submit an article or if you have photographs of events for our next issue, don't hesitate to send it in to the rectory. Our next issue comes out before Mother's Day. Perhaps you have a special poem or story you would like to have published in your parish paper. We welcome your talents at *Christ the King Courier*. If it weren't for your talents and participation in the events here at Christ the King, there would be no paper! We also welcome your ideas and suggestions.

Our next issue will be our **2nd Anniversary Issue** and we are looking forward to making it the best ever! We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we enjoy putting it together for you.

## Christ the King Courier

742 N. Arlington Road  
Jacksonville, FL 32211  
Phone: (904) 724-0080 Fax: 721-2326

**Publisher:**  
**Managing Editor:**  
**Advertising/Layout Design:**  
**Newspaper Staff:**

**Father Robert J. McDermott**  
**Judy Koziolek**  
**Tony Trotti, (904) 744-6648**

<b>Donna Baker</b>	<b>Dottie McMillan</b>
<b>Ward Berkey</b>	<b>Jane Middleton</b>
<b>Dolores Bianco</b>	<b>Kathy Nichols</b>
<b>Lee Callahan</b>	<b>Eileen Porter</b>
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<b>Blanche Inglesias</b>	<b>Jo Thomas</b>
<b>Wanda Klima</b>	<b>Joanne Wnuk</b>
<b>Linda McCreary</b>	

The mission of *CHRIST THE KING COURIER* is to provide our Christ The King Family with information and news regarding our faith and parish ministries. The goal is to share information, happenings, and stories that abound within the ministries of our parish in the hope that people can use this information to bring you closer to God and our parish church family. Wisdom and enlightenment are two of many of God's gifts, and through *CHRIST THE KING COURIER*, parishioners can share in the joy, love, and fellowship of Christ the King Parish. Our desire is to serve our God, share his message of love and hope with all, and to encourage others to spread the message of the Gospel of Christ the King.

As the official publication of our parish family, *Christ the King Courier* sees the reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians as exemplifying the content and character of this publication.

*"As the chosen of God, then, the holy people whom He loves, you are to be clothed in heartfelt compassion, in generosity and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other if one of you has a complaint against another. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, put on love, the perfect bond. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together in one body." Colossians 3:12-15.*

The *Christ the King Courier* is a quarterly newspaper published by Christ the King Catholic Church. Publisher reserves the right to refuse articles, poetry, advertisements, etc. contrary to paper's policy and standards. The appearance of advertising in these pages does not imply endorsement of businesses, services and products. Readers must exercise prudence in responding to advertising in all media. Political advertising not accepted. Publisher reserves the right to edit all materials submitted for publication.

# From the Desk of Father McDermott

From Father Bob:

I was very impressed with the kind generosity of the parishioners of Christ the King Parish over the holidays. The St. Vincent de Paul Society delivered approximately 60 baskets of food to truly needy families and the good parishioners of Christ the King Parish contributed 2000 presents to the less fortunate throughout our city. Our ticket to heaven is in loving the least of our brothers and sisters.

John in his letter says that, "The man without love has known nothing of God, for God is love." It might not hurt us once in a while to take time out from our busy lives to ponder that. If we don't love anyone, then we don't know God. For God is love.

But anyone who has tried to love people knows it is not as easy as it may sound. Our hearts can get broken, our feelings can get hurt, our attempts to do good - frustrated. We can get used, manipulated, taken advantage of, even made to look like fools. Come to think of it, though, all these things happened to God.

God is love and is always doing loving things for us, and is



repeatedly taken advantage of, used, manipulated, and played for a sucker. I can imagine frustration is a feeling He is quite familiar with; a broken heart best described as what we do to Him everyday.

"No good deed goes unpunished," we often say in regard to responses we sometime get from doing nice things for others. That saying originated with how we expressed our gratitude to Jesus Christ. For the good He did for us, we crucified Him.

"The man without love has known nothing of God," says John. That is certainly very true. Only when we have experienced what happens to those who love are we able to begin to know God.

So many parishioners and friends took photographs for this issue, we wish to thank them all for their excellent work.

Those who have contributed their photographic talents to this issue include Fr. Brian Carey, Kathy Nichols, Bill Dougherty, Cynthia Surles, Betty Harkey, Dan Scanlon, Pat Setser, Frank Gunther, Yolanda Cerquiera, Pat Bell, Al Martin, Martin Shea, Dolores Bianco, Barbara Hanuscin, Robert Sullivan, Mary Ann Sullivan, Marion Dickson,

Donna Baker, Floyd Townsend, Jean Sell and Karen Mathis.

A very grateful **Thank you** to all our parishioners who have helped to make all of our issues so very special, either by submitting articles and/or pictures. Without you, there would be no newspaper.

We would thank God for all of the success and recognition *Christ the King Courier* has received and for all of the new friends we've made along its journey!

From *The Courier Staff*

### Peace!

Peace is not the  
Absence of war  
Sea without storm  
Silence of the grave  
Child that doesn't cry.

Peace is harmony between  
Tears and laughter  
Pain and sleep  
Loss and gain  
Work and leisure  
Silence and speech  
Youth and age  
God and creation  
Giving and receiving  
Motion and rest  
Life and death.

To be at peace means to accept  
The frost and the sunshine  
The night and the day  
The white and the black  
Our Teacher is Christ  
God and man.

Author Unknown  
submitted by Father Neil Carr

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament



Daily  
Mon. - Fri. 9am-5pm  
First Friday  
6pm-6am  
**Jesus waits for you  
in this Sacrament  
of Love**

Daily Adoration  
needs substitutes  
To sign up  
Please call 725-9030

**Baptisms:** We Would like to announce the following people who were recently baptized into the Catholic Church

John Adams	October 31	Paul Nguyen	December 19
Jennifer Kirsch	October 31	Jenny Nguyen	December 19
Andrew Santo	November 14	Hoa Dinh	December 19
Noah Garman	November 27	Dominick Vu	December 19
Tina Gardner	November 28	Rylee Schroder	December 22
Leroy Garvin	December 1	Grayson Shore	December 26
Dale Yolango	December 5	Jenna Sourdiff	December 27
Candace Nagle	December 5	Trever Sourdiff	December 27
Morgan McGovern	December 5	Caitlyn Stanfill	January 8
Paisley Shearn	December 12	Abigail Joseph	January 16
Dominick Pham	December 19		

**Welcome:** We would like to welcome the following individuals and families to Christ the King Community

The Fadi Assi family	The Charles E. Joseph family
The Selwyn Bayot family	Mr. William Larkin
The Patricia Bell family	The James H. Lillis family
The Patricia Brandt family	Ms. Karen Lipsett
The Tuyen Bui family	The Anthony Marinatos family
The Denise Cain family	The Brian C. McCarthy Sr. family
The Brett Chamberlain family	The John McGovern family
The Real Cote family	The John H. McSwain family
The Roderick Dockery family	The Patricia Minchella family
Ms. Stella Sue Dunlap	The Andre Morose family
Ms. Vollie Mae Dunlap	Mr. Robert F. Murphy
The Joseph Ervolino family	Mr. Nathan Ndiforamang
Miss Anna Eskuchen	Mr. Silas Osborne
The Miguel Estrada family	The Gary Reynolds family
The Dominic Gallucci family	The Mario Rivera family
The Deborah Garbade family	The Simeon Santo family
The Greg Ghioto family	The William Shearn family
Mrs. Zuleika Gilliam	A. Allison Smith
The Chase Goodbread family	The James H. Varnell family
Miss Cynthia A. Gordon	The Edmund Villanueva family
Ms. Jennifer Gunn	Mr. Paul Windsor
The George Hale III family	

**Deaths:** The following people are recently deceased members of our parish for whom we offer our special prayers.

Julia Pinkerton	November 19	Joseph LaRose	December 22
Sandra Polsenski	November 22	Herschel Connor	December 27
Margaret Johnston	December 2	Norberta Roesch	January 6
Ben Bascara	December 6	James Bresnahan	January 13
Genevieve Flood	December 9	Daniel Eddinger	January 13

**Marriages:** We would like to acknowledge the following parishioners who were recently united into the Sacrament of Marriage.

Charles Roche & Maureen Stazenski	on November 20	Joseph Ervolino & Geneviene Kalis	on December 11
Lien Nguyen & Thad Thi Nguyen	on December 4	Liem Thanh Huynh & Hoa Thi Nguyen	on December 7
Brian Shields and Christina Gonzalez-Chavez	on December 11	Douglas Getchell, Jr. & Ethel Bicknase	on January 6

# Slow Me Down, Lord

submitted by Father Carr

Slow me down, Lord.  
Ease the pounding of my heart by the quieting of my mind.  
Steady my hurried pace with a vision of the eternal reach of time.  
Give me, amid the confusion of the day, the calmness of the everlasting hills.  
Break the tensions of my nerves and muscles with the soothing music of the singing

streams that live in my memory.  
Help me to know the magical, restoring power of sleep.  
Teach me the art of taking minute vacations—of slowing down to look at a flower, to chat with a friend, to pat a dog, to read a few lines from a good book.  
Slow me down, Lord, and inspire me to send my roots deep into the soul of life's enduring values, that I may grow toward the stars of my greater destiny.

# LETTERS

**Letter from L'ARCHE**

January 3, 2000

Dear Father Bob and Friends,

I write with deep appreciation and thanksgiving for your helping to make Christmas such a special celebration for the men and women with disabilities at L'ARCHE Harbor House. Thank you for touching their lives with such wonderful gifts! Each gift is appreciated by each person not only because they are such beautiful items, but because they represent your loving care and concern. Thank you for extending

your Christmas joy and love to our community. You represent what Christmas is all about - giving of love and joy.

Thank you too for sharing such gifts with our community all year long. We are grateful for your support and friendship expressed through your welcome, acceptance, care, time, treasure and talent. You are an example of Christmas coming not just once a year, but whenever there is love, joy and peace.

Blessings to you for all you do!

Sincerely in gratitude,

Dorothy B. Klein  
Community Leader

## Thank You Letter

Letter from The Hospice Foundation For Caring Community Hospice of Northeast Florida, Inc.

January 17, 2000

Dear Father McDermott:

How grateful Community Hospice is to you and Christ the King for allowing us to bring the Mercedes there to sell drawing tickets. It was a very successful venture for us, bringing in more than \$600.00.

All of the money raised by this event goes directly to the care of

the more than 3000 terminally ill children and adults in the Community Hospice program. Everyone is accepted at Community Hospice regardless of ability to pay for the cost of the care.

I thank you again, personally Father McDermott, along with Community Hospice. I hope one of your parishioners wins the car!

Best regards,

Bill Addison  
Chief Operating Officer  
Amelia Island Concours

## Letter from Bishop Bob Baker

Dear Father McDermott, Christ the King Parish, School Staff, and Parishioners of Christ the King,

Nearly four months have transpired since my ordination and installation as bishop of Charleston, and I write to thank all of you for your many prayers, your good wishes, your generous gifts - including the beautiful Toyota Avalon and your wonderful celebration on September 12<sup>th</sup>.

Two days following the farewell celebration I departed hurriedly for Charleston, as Hurricane Floyd was coming up the east coast of Florida.

I then became, as did other residents of Charleston, an evacuee and I was fortunate to find a safe haven in Hampton, South Carolina. Two days later I was able to enter the city of Charleston and begin residence in my new home on Broad Street.

I thank all those who blessed me with their presence at the

Ordination celebration at the North Charleston Convention Center on September 29, 1999. I will always remember fondly and gratefully my two years at Christ the King Parish and the great spirit of faith and service that I found there.

The people of Christ the King are fortunate to have as their pastor, Father McDermott and the wonderful priests and staff who work with him at the parish and also with the principal of your grade school, Janet Morton.

I ask for your continued prayers for me in the days and months ahead, and I will be praying for all of you in the New Year 2000 and this new millennium of grace. With gratitude to God for the good people of Christ the King Parish, I am

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Robert J. Baker  
Bishop of Charleston



# THE ADVENT TREE



Advent Tree "elves"

by Kathy Nichols

As Father Tetlow said, we are all at our best at Christmastime. Everyone is more generous and giving than at any other time of the year.

The Advent Tree project is a wonderful way in which the whole family can become involved in this miracle of seasons. There are requests from every age on the trees. Children love to pick an ornament off the tree and go to the store to get that one important gift for a child who might not get a gift at Christmas if it were not for them.

After the gift has been wrapped, the ornament they picked off the tree becomes the gift tag that helps the elves (Trudy and her group of volunteers) to make sure that everyone gets their gift.

Once the gift wrapping is completed and the tag is in place, we bring the gift back to the church. In the Gathering Area, surrounding the beautiful Nativity scene, it is placed with the other gifts that were also purchased and wrapped with loving care.

This is truly a beautiful example of generosity and love for our fellow men, women and children.

## CHRISTMAS ELVES GET THE JOB DONE

by Eileen Porter

The energetic and diminutive Trudy Cameron certainly doesn't look like Mrs. Santa Claus but she is viewed that way by at least fourteen of our local charity organizations.

Trudy and members of St. Bernadette's Circle of the CKCCW spend many hours making ornaments with the names and gift requests of the people from the various organizations. These include: Mental Health Association, Harbor House, Oakwood Villas, Boys Home, Silvercreek Apartments, All Saints Nursing Home, First Coast Rehab & Health, Children's Home Society, Foreign Seafarers, St. Vincent de Paul Farm, Catholic Charities and St. Gerard House. The ornaments are hung on Christmas trees that are placed on the altar in late November.

Our generous Christ the King parishioners choose ornaments, then buy and wrap the gifts and return them to the gathering area of the church. Trudy and her faithful helpers deliver the gifts to the various organizations.

There are almost as many different requests as there are people on the list. Some nursing home residents ask for cologne or a warm sweater. Some of the young people ask for items as varied as a doll or a bicycle. Clothing requests are equally different - from infant sleepers, for a new baby, to men's trousers and sweatshirts.

It is a beautiful and moving sight to see the mountain of

beautifully wrapped gifts that help CK families share the true meaning of Christmas - sharing with our brothers and sisters who need a helping hand. This year there were more than 2000 gifts. The packing and delivery of these gifts is a monumental job but Trudy and her group of volunteers manage to do it each year.

Two of her busier helpers are Marge Stiles and Jim Knight. Trudy's husband Hector is involved in all stages of this important ministry. The members of St. Bernadette Circle and their husbands are also on hand for this job. In addition to these people, others from the parish get involved, they include Donnell and Yogi Baer, Helen Ramos, Monica Crisp, Judy Murphy, Kathy Purtle, Donna Simons, Judy Murphy and countless others.

Trudy is an inspiration to all of us. In addition to the Advent Tree ministry, she has been an active member of the Altar Society and she has been a volunteer at the Christ the King Clinic since it opened its doors in 1993.

She has been the parish representative to All Saints Home for the last 25 years. At All Saints Home she coordinates the annual benefit luncheon and card party and makes certain that each resident is remembered on his or her birthday.

Trudy has been a member of Christ the King Parish since 1955. She is a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. Trudy is truly a remarkable woman. In her spare time, she even manages to get in an occasional game of golf.



Selecting ornaments from Advent Tree



Toys and gifts in the Gathering Area



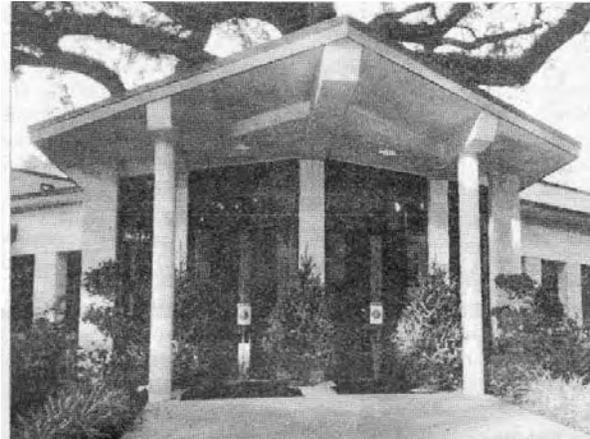
Trudy Cameron - "Mrs. Santa Claus"

# Christmas Eve Midnight Mass

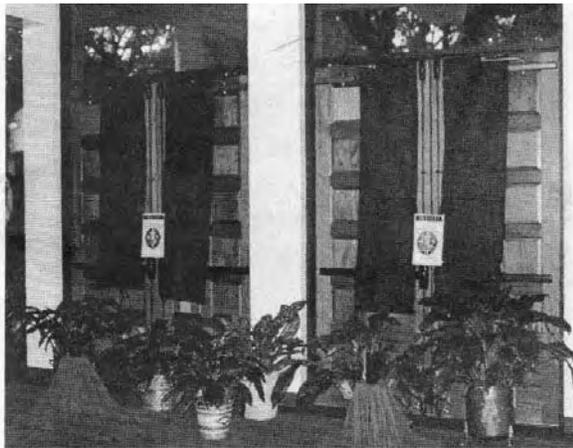
## Open Wide the Church Doors



Sealed doors from outside church



"Open wide the doors!"



The sealed doors from inside the church

Every twenty-five years, the HOLY DOORS of St. Peter's Basilica are closed and sealed by our Holy Father for a whole year in preparation for a Jubilee Year celebration of our faith. Earlier this year, the DOORS were sealed and were opened on Christmas Eve, December 24, 1999, at Midnight to begin a Jubilee Year that celebrates the 2,000<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Christianity.

In unity with our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, and our Mother Church, St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City, the main doors of Christ the King Church were closed and temporarily "sealed" on the first Sunday of Advent, November 28<sup>th</sup>. They were reopened just before Midnight Mass, December 24<sup>th</sup>, to begin the Jubilee Year which will conclude on the Solemnity of the Epiphany, January 6, 2001.

This closing and temporary "sealing" of our church doors said to each one of us, and to the whole world, that we at Christ the King were closing ourselves to the sinfulness of prejudice, of hatred, of injustices of all kinds, and to

prepare to hear and live the Gospel in a new way in the new millennium.

On Christmas Eve, at 11:30 PM, all of us gathered outside the locked church to participate in a ritual **OPENING THE DOORS**. A procession, which was led by the Book of the Gospels, led us into the Solemnity of Christmas as we sang the *Te Deum*, "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name." At 11:40 PM, the Adult and Handbell Choirs began a program of Christmas music that was a prelude to the Midnight Mass.

While the main doors were temporarily "sealed," all parishioners were asked to accept the inconvenience of entering and exiting through the other doors of the church. This served to remind us of our Advent preparation for the Jubilee Year. In this way we were able to join our Holy Father in his admonition: "Open the doors to Christ! Open wide the doors to Christ! The doors of culture, of the economy, of politics, of the family, and of personal and social life. Open wide the doors!"

by Meredith Reno

It was the last Christmas Eve not only of this century, but of this millennium. Mother Nature cooperated with the spirit of Christmas, at least to this former northerner, by providing a crisp, clear, dazzlingly bright night full of stars. One could imagine that the original Christmas Eve in Bethlehem had been similar.

We stood outside the sealed church doors and waited for Father Bob to begin the ceremony. When he arrived amid altar servers bearing candles, he blessed us all, and sprinkled the doors with holy water, knocked on them three times and we all entered the church in a procession. He said that this jubilee

millennium celebration would continue until the Epiphany, 2001.

Once inside the church, Bernie Sans and the choir heralded the arrival of the Christ child with carols and handbells. Although the church itself was chilly, the atmosphere was warm.

Father Bob led the celebration of this very special Mass. His homily asked us to do some special soul searching by asking ourselves some very important questions.

It was with a sense of gratitude that I received the Eucharist on this special night. It is with a sense of grace and thankfulness that I am a part of this Holy Catholic and Apostolic community. It is with a deep appreciation of the gift of love that I have been given to share that I say "Thank you." Love is the most precious gift of all.

### L'Arche Harbor House

cordially invites you to become a founding member of

## Rainbow Club



- L'Arche Harbor House is a "home for life" on Arlington Road in Jacksonville, Florida for people who are mentally and physically challenged. Here we find the joy and fulfillment of walking each step of the way with our family members.

- The cost of each person's care far exceeds the reimbursement Harbor House receives. To ensure Harbor House will be a continual source of hope and love to each family member, we are establishing the "RAINBOW CLUB."

- We invite you to become a Founding Member of the "Rainbow Club" through a donation of \$25.00 per month to our L'Arche Harbor House or by making a gift of \$300.00 annually.

- Our goal of 100 Founding Members is within reach. With your "yes," we will be even closer to continuing to be faithful to our lifetime commitment of love and support to our L'Arche Harbor House family. Please join us today. Our family depends on you.

**Call For Information**  
**L'ARCHE HARBOR HOUSE, INC.**  
 700 Arlington Road • Jacksonville, Florida 32211-7306  
 904-744-4435 - Fax: 904-744-4470

# Christmas Midnight Mass rings in Jubilee 2000

This past Christmas was not your typical time of Advent. What made it special was the ringing in of the Jubilee year marking the 2000<sup>th</sup> birthday of our Lord Jesus Christ.

At Christ the King Church, parishioners and guests who arrived for the Midnight Mass were asked to convene in front of the main doors entering the church. At 11:30 p.m., Father Robert McDermott, adorned resplendently in white and blue vestments, and with altar servers leading the procession, approached the gathered crowd. With blessings of grace, mercy and joy, he sprayed holy water and bestowed blessings on the doors, then knocked loudly three times with the cross, requesting entrance to gather the Lord's flock and begin our journey into the Jubilee.

Inside, Bernie Sans, Musical Director for Christ the King, led the handbell and vocal choirs filling the church with the magical sounds of Christmas. It also led to one of the more jovial moments of the evening, when Bernie explained to

Father McDermott that there was still 15 minutes more to the music program. Having been so efficient with the prayers and supplications upon entering the Church, Father McDermott had tried to begin the Mass at 11:45 p.m. instead of Midnight. Our Pastor, the choirs, and all the parishioners and guests, enjoyed the humorous moment and soon the choirs rang in the Jubilee year with great music and voices lifted up to Our Lord.

In the Homily, Father McDermott pointed forward to the coming millennium and the opportunities it brought to rededicate ourselves to our God and each other.

It was a beautiful service that lasted nearly 90 minutes (which no one seemed to notice) when Father McDermott wished all a "most blessed Christmas" and invited parishioners and guests to ring in the New Year in the same way.

The Mass was a great blessing for all as they took the Holy Spirit to their homes to share the day and be inspired by the true meaning of Christmas.

**Father McDermott knocks on the doors to the main entrance of Christ the King Church. The doors had been sealed and were opened during Christmas Midnight Mass marking the beginning of the Roman Catholic Church Jubilee 2000**



**(Above) Brightly decorated Christmas trees and poinsettias add to a sense of the season during the Christmas Midnight Mass. (Right) The statue of Mary, Mother of Jesus, watches over the Nativity scene. (Below) The Christ the King Choir and musicians perform for a full house at Christ the King Catholic Church.**



**Parishioners enter after the doors are unsealed at the Midnight Mass**



**Father McDermott uses incense to bless the pulpit prior to reading from the Gospel and giving his homily at Christmas Midnight Mass**



**Story and Photos by Bill Dougherty**

# L'ARCHE Harbor House's Living Nativity



Viva Walker, Sharon Sterling, Paul Heilman



Standing: Amy Shultz, Kathy Valencourt, Robert Sturdevant, Stacy Setser, Barbara Chastang; sitting: Pam Johnson and Robert McCormick

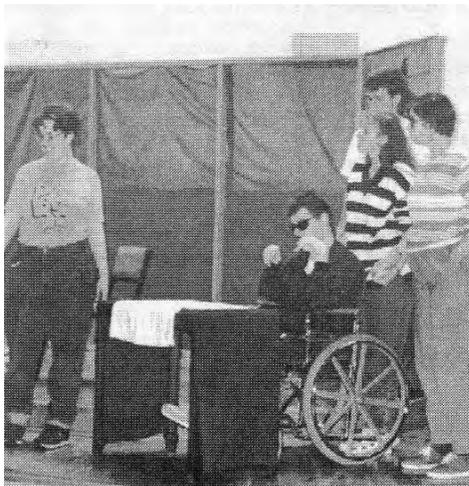


Chip Hays, Jeff Vliek, Gary Ratterree, Larry Miller, Roberta Smith



Bishop Kenny High School volunteers Mary Ann Johnigean, Meagan Dyer, Erica Davalt, Cassie Moulder

by Dolores Bianco & Staff Writer



Viva Walker, Robert McCormick, James O'Donald, Barbie Roty, Barbara Chastang

On December 10, some very special people gathered to show us the true meaning of Christmas. That was when L'ARCHE Harbor House's core members and resident assistants performed a "Living Nativity" in our church. They helped us remember what the most important gift we will ever get at Christmas is: Our Lord, Jesus Christ, who came to bring a sign of hope to the world.

Sharon Toth, Director of Development at Harbor House, explains: "When Jesus became incarnate through Mary, He did not cling to His godliness. Rather He took on the human condition and all the weakness that humanity entails. The fact that godliness is manifest in weakness is a mystery and difficult for us to accept. The core members are a symbol of godliness, hidden in weakness. As they "live out" the nativity each year, they are inviting us to enter into this mystery of beauty revealed in people with disabilities."

The dedication of the assistants in helping the rest of the cast with their parts is a reflection of their daily commitment to them. One stated "we are all dependent on one another. We must trust each other to build relationships."

The effort put forth by the entire team at L'Arche was outstanding. They were joined by friends in the community who offered their time, resources, and talent in order to bring



Mary Baer, Stan Entzminger, Rich Trebus, Scott Mosher, James O'Donald

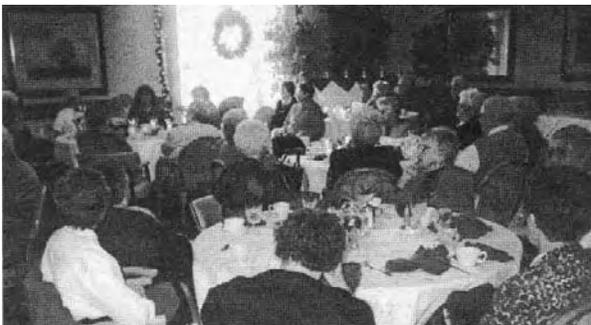
the true meaning to the spirit of Christmas. The cast brought us a beautiful presentation of Jesus' birth using their God-given talents, and sang Christmas songs throughout the program. Their glowing performance was a sign of God at work through them all.

Following the show, refreshments were served at L'Arche Harbor House, which was beautifully decorated by the Bishop Kenny Key Club. Visitors filled the house to capacity. Bishop Kenny High School volunteers were hard at work helping wherever needed. The music was led by the Family Singers of Jacksonville. Some local celebrities were also there (Channel 4's Mary Baer even joined in the band and played flute!). The sparkle in the eyes of the core members during the celebration showed that the Spirit of Christ was alive and flourishing once again at Harbor House.



Richard Cashen, Nathan Ndforamang., Katrina Billings, Edyta Kaczmarczyk, Ann May

# Queens and Kings



Queens and Kings celebrate their annual Christmas party at Selva Marina Country Club



L-R: Ann Seravo, Secretary, Irene Laafe (standing), President, Audrey Alexander, Vice President, and Josephine Canter



Frank and Ruth Gunther enjoy stories while Al Martin and helper prepare for drawing of prizes



L-R: Jim Knight, Helga Miller, Walter Miller, Adee Martin, John Fitzgerald, Ruth Fitzgerald, Wanda Wodjat and Bet Knight (in foreground)

by Betty Harkey

The Queens and Kings, Senior Adult Club, held their annual Christmas dinner at Selva Marina Country Club on December 12. Pictures of the event show it was a fun time for all.

The Club is open to all who are 55 and over. We meet once a month, on the second Sunday, in the Shirley David Hall at 1:30 p.m. Come join us for our St. Valentine's Ice Cream Social on Sunday, February 13.

# What the Ministry of Mothers Sharing is about...



MOMS celebrate with Sister Paula Hagen

by Carol Ann Black

What is this Ministry of Mothers Sharing thing anyway? I hear they have Bible Study and prayer groups - they must be spiritual. But, what's so different about MOMS?

meet MOMS from other parishes. Christ the King MOMS organized Mass-time childcare for our own parish families.

Julie Burke said it all:

*Share you faith MOMS*

*MOMS is special in so many ways*

*Where we all get together to lighten our days.*

*A place to write our feeling and to share*

*With women that you know will always be there.*

*A group that will love and pray for each other*

*To support and understand what it means to be a mother.*

*In MOMS we have built ties that no one will break*

*With friends we have and continue to make.*

*With our journals complete and our hearts filled with love;*

*May we all live our lives with God's blessing from above.*

*This time has meant more that you will ever know.*

*May God bless you all.*

Start with the fact that MOMS has the central binding, unifying element - Motherhood. That motherhood serves as the catalyst for a group of women to create an awareness of the inner sacred self, and helps them discover new ways to inspire, encourage and affirm each other. Through the process of personal and spiritual growth, women clarify their values and strengths and bring this new vitality to family relationships and the Christian Community.

We accomplish this 'mission' by means of a series of eight structured sessions, using our Journals and prayer rituals. By the time we reach session seven, some of us are already planning future Bible, Prayer, and Social projects.

Or we simply plan a period of spiritual peace to be enjoyed solely within the family. We all react so differently.

Best of all, MOMS is for ALL moms. Have you ever met a retired mother? More sharing and more support. We have had several mother/daughter teams do the MOMS sessions.

Once you complete the sessions, you can look forward to continued association with MOMS in support of new groups coming through. There are also prayer/retreat invitations from Marywood or from other parish MOMS groups. For instance, St. Paul's at the Beach has a fabulous retreat, Jubilee Joy, February 5 for all area MOMS. It should be an enjoyable time and a chance to

Come join MOMS. You'll love it.

# Thank You - Father John

Staff writer

What better companion to celebrate the new year, millennium, and the gift of the past 2000 years of Christianity that Jesus in His Church? Father Tetlow's idea of having midnight Mass for us attracted more than just a few - the church pews were full of faithful bringing in the new year.

The church opened its doors for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament more than 2 hours before midnight so those who wished could come and pray and spend time with Jesus before the Mass.

At midnight Bernie announced that the Jubilee year had begun. Soon after, the Mass also began and

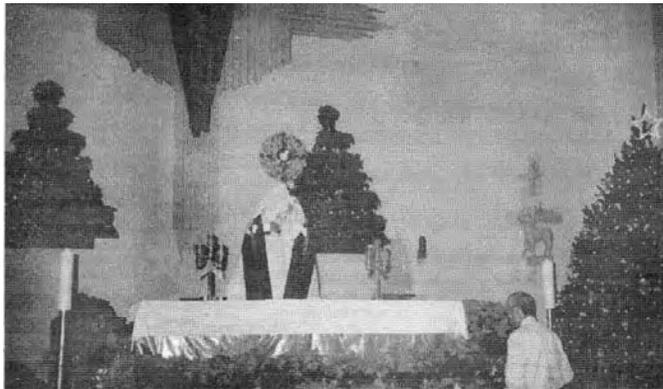
we all prepared to receive the Eucharist.

Father Tetlow made a "prayer basket" for us in which we could place our prayer petitions for the new year. He asked us all to seek the grace needed to rid us of anything keeping us from doing God's will.

Thank you, Father Tetlow, for preparing and presiding over the first New Year's Midnight Mass. Your inspired homily moved us and touched our hearts with God's love, and thank you for allowing us to answer our Jubilee call of celebrating the Eucharist at the very beginning of this special time in history.



Bill reads from the Holy Scripture during the New Year's Eve Midnight Mass.



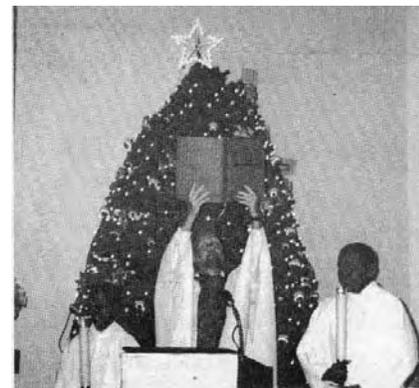
Father Tetlow open the Mass on New Year's Eve at midnight.



Ron reads from the Holy Scripture during the New Year's Eve Midnight Mass



Father Tetlow and Father McDermott celebrate the Eucharist during the Mass



Father Tetlow prepares to read from the Holy Gospel

## New Year's Eve with Father Tetlow

by Meredith Reno

The church was filled. A hum reminiscent of excitement reverberated throughout the pews. It was New Year's Eve 1999, the very last one of this century. As we waited for Father Tetlow to make his processional, Bernie Sans announced that he was the first to wish us all a happy new year. It was 12:05. Momentarily I was a tad disappointed . . . I never saw midnight make its mark, I didn't see the ball drop on television; the beginning of a new century ushered itself in quietly on slippers feet.

Father Tetlow led the procession to the altar. The peace and serenity that enveloped him shouted to me with the promise of a new year, a new century, a new beginning. In his homily, Father Tetlow spoke of the relationship between Helen Keller and Annie Sullivan and the connection that Ms. Sullivan had made possible for her.

Here was a young child made totally deaf and blind by meningitis with no connection to the world around her. Annie Sullivan was able to give Helen the connection to herself from an earlier time when

she could see and hear. Father Tetlow pointed out that for many of us, there is no connection to the spiritual world. It was an awesome analogy.

We all had an earlier time when we could see and hear our own spiritual connections. He suggested that we all take the time to examine our lives, and the people in them, and see where there is a connection for us that will bring us back to our spiritual selves.

When the Mass ended, it was with a sense of gratitude and hopeful expectations that I walked out to greet this new millennium. I

am a fortunate one . . . I have discovered what my connection is and look forward to making it ever stronger.



# Christ the King Child Care Christmas Program



Miss Grace with toddlers



Two-year-olds spell out Merry Christmas



Toddlers and two-year olds



Miss Pearl with Pre-K



Daycare Christmas Program toddlers and two-year-olds



Father McDermott enjoys Daycare Christmas Program



Two-year-olds, toddlers and Miss Grace

by Dan Scanlan, Staff Writer

The Christmas season arrived early as the 78 students at Christ the King's Child Care Center held their second annual holiday program at the Kingdome December 16.

"As we gather today to watch this beautiful performance, may the Holy Spirit be with them and help them do their very best," said Father Bob McDermott during the invocation. "We also pray at this time of year for the poor people, that they too enjoy the benefits of Christmas."

Then came the toddlers for a happy rendition of Jingle Bells, all dressed as little angels with wings. After a few nervous choruses, the

two-year-olds came out to sing, wearing antlers made from cutouts of their hands and t-shirts that spelled "Merry Christmas" when they all finally lined up.

"Silent Night" was sung by the three and four year olds, their sweatshirts decorated with Christmas trees. Then the big boys and girls of the pre-k class came out to tell the audience that "It Must Be Santa" as they trooped on stage dressed in their favorite pajamas, many clutching teddy bears. Finally, Santa Claus arrived on stage as the last words of the classic story, "Twas the Night Before Christmas" rang out, and the half-hour show closed to cheers and applause.

# 1999 Christmas Boutique



Karol Saffer and Joy Mills wrapping for the students



Mothers helping at the wrapping table



More wrappers!

by Kathy Nichols

"I've got the money in my pocket. . .I've got my list and I've checked it twice. I don't care who's naughty or nice-I'm going shopping!" That's how we view each child who shops at the Christmas boutique. They get such pleasure out of actually picking out each item on their list, buying it with their money, and getting it wrapped by the volunteer wrappers. Year after year, my children remember the boutique gift items that they purchased for me.

Each year, parents of students at Christ the King send in six items per child. These items are priced by the volunteer pricing team, and then set on tables for the children to buy. Each child may buy up to six items for their family.

We need as many volunteers as possible in the upcoming years. We need pricers, sorters, helpers, wrappers, and people to set up for the boutique on the day before the event. Please keep us in mind.

We want to thank Carolina Gardner and Pam Petit for doing most of the leg work for this event this year.

# Christ the King School Christmas Program



Father McDermott giving the blessing



L-R: Amanda Nichols, Carla Ludwig, Ashlee Putala, Shannon Saffer, Allison Lynch



The fourth grade vocals



The eighth grade class in "The Night the Reindeer Rocked"

by Kathy Nichols

On December 13<sup>th</sup>, the fourth, fifth and eighth grade students "rocked the Kingdome" with the production of "The Night the Reindeer Rocked" and "Santa-Ma-Jazz". Yes, even on the Monday

night of a Jaguars' home football game, the gym was packed. After a blessing by Father McDermott, the show began. Rocky DiGeorgio directed an excellent stage show by the eighth grade, with vocals by the fourth grade. The fifth grade closed the show with Santa-Ma-Jazz.

# Faith Group Shares The Joy Of Christmas



Left to right: Pat Bianco, Helen Peabody, Helen Ramos

by Dolores Bianco

Besides meeting for six weeks before Easter and Christmas each year, this Renew Group enjoys an occasional social gathering. Such

was the case just before Christmas at the home of Dolores and Pat Bianco. Father Tom and Father Thanh joined in the sharing of good food, fellowship and faith.

## To Uncle Moe: A Tribute

by Lucille Guzzone

My Uncle Moe died the week before Christmas. He was my father's only brother. So, I decided to write this article not only as a tribute to a dear uncle, but as a reflection on how people can cope with sadness during a festive season when most of the world celebrates the holidays, and others cry for the loss of a loved one. I was unable to attend Moe's funeral, so my family here at home prayed for him and sent the usual spiritual bouquet and basket of flowers. It was a small consolation to those who knelt by his coffin and later buried him in the cold blustery wind of New England's December.

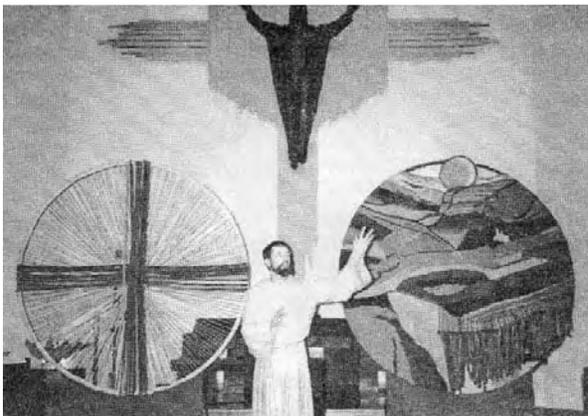
Moe was a war hero who later went on to become a respected journalist for the local newspaper. After earning another college degree, he obtained a position as a social worker employed by the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

He was well known by many - rich and poor. He did his best to make others feel good about themselves. He was a talented

comedian who served as master of ceremonies for variety shows sponsored by the Holy Rosary Church. He had the most glorious smile and owned the sharpest wit. Of course, I remember those family gatherings when he and my dad used to grill the most savory Italian sausages and peppers for their families to enjoy as we kids frolicked in his pool. And even during his illness, he continued to be an avid movie critic, a reader, a thinker. He passed away, as his wife - whose recent life was devoted to his tender care - sat at his bedside.

These are a few precious memories of one person. Yet, many others who suffer a great loss during the holiday season recall sweet memories of their own. But maybe this is not such a terrible time to grieve because as we reflect on the Holy Infant in the manger, we are comforted by a steadfast hope and an eternal faith that the dear ones who go before us are at peace, enfolded in the loving arms of Almighty God and His Blessed Son, the baby Jesus.

## A Dramatic Presentation: St. Francis - Troubadour of God's Peace



Staff writer

Almost 20 years ago, Leonardo DeFilippis had a vision of renewal and evangelization in the Church. At the time, he was acting in Shakespearean festivals. Then that fall, he began a deeper spiritual journey that would lead him to produce high-quality artistic dramas, making the vision his mission.

This unique, one-man production of St. Francis of Assisi, here at Christ the King on December 7, won a bronze medal in the New York International Film Festival and the Catholic PROCLAIM award for best broadcast television production. It was quite understandable. By the quality of the production, it was clear that the Holy Spirit was certainly at work through Leonardo.

The scene was simple, much like the Saint. The beautiful music played that day took us back in time to around 1200, when Francis experienced a profound conversion and began his ministry.

St. Francis was born into a wealthy family and lived frivolously and excessively until our Lord, in a vision, instructed him to "go and repair his church". It was then that Francis said yes to God, turned from the ways of the world, and imitated Jesus by his life of poverty and simplicity.

Leonardo prepared for his portrayal of St. Francis by living for two months in a skid row hotel. He did this to understand and

imitate Francis' love for the outcasts of society.

Leonardo explained that he is called to not only believe the words he speaks on stage, but to live them as well. At the end of the performance, he informed us that St. Francis was the first to reproduce the nativity, started Eucharistic adoration and the Stations of the Cross.

The effect of this production on the audience was that it challenged our commitments to God and becoming saints, as we are all called to be, by showing us the ways of one who did become a saint, and the joy and love of God he had due to his total surrender to Him.

Some other works by St. Luke Productions include: the Gospels of Luke and John, the Song of Songs, the Confessions of Saint Augustine, St. John of the Cross, and his newest, Maximilian: Saint of Auschwitz.

Leonardo is married with seven children, and his wife does much of their creative writing. There are many other talented people that staff Saint Luke Productions, and they are supported solely on donations and prayers. He especially needs ours, with regards to his memorizing the Gospel of John for a production next year.

For more information or to schedule a performance or make a donation, contact: Saint Luke Productions P.O. Box 761, Beaverton, OR 97075, (503) 641-1255. NON-PROFIT TAX-EXEMPT CORP. 1-800-683-2998

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# Our Lady of Guadalupe comes to Christ the King

by Bill Dougherty

On Sunday, December 12, 1999, Father John Tetlow dedicated the statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The statue sits in the garden between the Rectory and the Church and is a reminder of the power that faith has in our lives.

In 1531, a poor Indian named Juan Diego, on a hill known as Tepeyacac, saw the Mary the Mother of God. She appeared to Juan Diego four times, each time asking him to see the Bishop of Mexico and "bid him to build a temple on this hill so that I may give all my love, compassion, help and protection."

It was during Mother Mary's fourth appearance that she told Juan Diego to not be concerned about his uncle who lay dying with the plague, that he would be cured, and he was. Directed by the Holy Mother, Juan Diego climbed to the top of the hill and collected different flowers so that he might have proof of Mary's appearance that would convince the Bishop of Mexico to build the temple. When he showed the flowers to the Bishop, which included roses that were out of season, the Bishop believed and ordered the temple built.

Pope John Paul II visited Her Basilica during his first foreign trip as Pope in 1979 and read this prayer (see below).

We at Christ the King can be grateful for the generosity of Mr. Richard Keene and the efforts of Father Tetlow to have the statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe come to Christ the King. Mr. Keene, a native of Plant City, Fla., now residing in Jackson Hole, Wyo., met Father Tetlow during a Medjugorje Mass. The two became friends and it was that friendship, and the memory of his grandmother, that led Mr. Keene to donate the statue.

Our Lady of Guadalupe is the Patron Saint of the North Americas. She is also the Protectress of the Unborn, hears the prayers for husbands and wives, and watches over us as only the Mother of the Living God can do.

When you pass by the statue, remember the miracle of saving the life of Juan's uncle, the faith she gave to those in need, and the courage he continues to give for use to pray. So when you pass by, say a "Hail Mary," or the "Rosary" and know that your prayers are heard.



Father Tetlow and Our Lady of Guadalupe

## Christian Unity

Reprinted with permission from the *Pastoral Briefings*, a weekly update from the Diocese of Saint Augustine, Volume 2, Number 35.

Bishop John J. Snyder and Bishop William B. Trexler of the Florida-Bahamas Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America joined in Evening Prayer at the Cathedral-Basilica in St. Augustine on Sunday, Oct. 31, 1999.

Their participation commemorated the signing of the Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification in Augsburg, Germany on the same day.

In Augsburg, Cardinal Edward I. Cassidy, president of the

Pontifical Council of Promoting Christian Unity, represented the Catholic Church; Christian Krause, president of the World Lutheran Federation represented the Lutheran Church.

The declaration reaches a fundamental consensus on the doctrine of grace in relation to human works, a cause of debate between Catholics and Protestants for nearly five centuries.

A key element in the declaration is: "Together we confess that we are accepted by God and we receive the Holy Spirit, who renews our hearts, empowers us, and calls us to do good works, not on the basis of our merits but only through grace and faith in the salvific work of Christ."

### YARD SALE

WHERE: L'Arche Harbor House  
700 Arlington Road

DATE: Saturday, March 25, 2000

It's time to clean out your closets, clear off those shelves, eliminate the clutter, and recycle those items you no longer need or want.

To help motivate you, please consider donating such "white elephants" to Harbor House for their Annual Spring Yard Sale. Please call 744-4435 to help or to donate items.

## LET'S PLAY BALL!

by Delores Bianco

Be a fan or be a player in the Annual Softball Game on Sunday, April 16, 2000. The game begins at 2:00 p.m. at Christ the King baseball field, 742 Arlington Road. This event is sponsored by Jacksonville Apartment Industry to benefit residents of L'Arche Harbor House.

### Prayer written and read by Pope John Paul II to Our Lady of Guadalupe

*O Immaculate Virgin, Mother of the true God and Mother of the Church!, who from this place reveal your clemency and your pity to all those who ask for your protection, hear the prayer that we address to you with filial trust, and present it to your Son Jesus, our sole Redeemer.*

*Mother of Mercy, Teacher of hidden and silent sacrifice, to you, who come to meet us sinners, we dedicate on this day all our being and all our love. We also dedicate to you our life, our work, our joys, our infirmities and our sorrows. Grant peace, justice and prosperity to our peoples; for we entrust to your care all that we have and all that we are, our Lady and Mother. We wish to be entirely yours and to walk with you along the way of complete faithfulness to Jesus Christ in His Church; hold us always with your loving hand.*

*Virgin of Guadalupe, Mother of the Americas, we pray to you for all the Bishops, that they may lead the faithful along paths of intense Christian life, of love and humble service of God and souls.*

*Contemplate this immense harvest, and intercede with the Lord that He may instill a hunger for holiness in the whole people of God, and grant abundant vocations of priests and religious, strong in the faith and zealous dispensers of God's mysteries. Grant to our homes the grace of loving and respecting life in its beginnings, with the same love with which you conceived in your womb the life of the Son of God. Blessed Virgin Mary, protect our families, so that they may always be united, and bless the upbringing of our children.*

*Our hope, look upon us with compassion, teach us to go continually to Jesus and, if we fall, help us to rise again, to return to Him, by means of the confession of our faults and sins in the Sacrament of Penance, which gives peace to the soul.*

*We beg you to grant us a great love for all the holy Sacraments, which are, as it were, the signs that your Son left us on earth.*

*Thus, Most Holy Mother, with the peace of God in our conscience, with our hearts free from evil and hatred, we will be able to bring to all true joy and true peace, which come to us from your son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who with God the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns for ever and ever.*

Amen.

His Holiness John Paul II  
Mexico, January 1979.

# THE SUZUKI STRINGS DURING THE HOLIDAYS



Mrs. D. serving pizza



The Suzuki Strings at the Seawalk Pavilion  
at Jacksonville Beach



Regency Square Mall

by Kathy Nichols

Ho, ho, ho. . . here comes Santa Claus. . . in his fire truck to the beach!?! On December 4<sup>th</sup>, the Suzuki Strings performed a holiday concert prelude to Santa's arrival. This was held at the Seawalk Pavilion at Jacksonville Beach.

On December 11<sup>th</sup>, all the violinists travelled to Regency

Square Mall and performed a variety of Christmas carols for all the shoppers. Following this concert, everyone went to Shepherd's Square for a celebration pizza party sponsored by St. Vincent de Paul. This was to thank the Suzuki Strings for the money and food collected during the Fiddle-a-thon.



The Suzuki Strings at Regency Square Mall



Pizza party



Regency Square Mall

# ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



by Olin Middleton

St. Joseph Catholic Church, the magnificent domed church in Mandarin, was the setting on Saturday, November 20, when 266 couples from throughout the diocese renewed their marriage vows.

One couple was celebrating 70 years of marriage. There were seven couples celebrating 60 years or more, 99 couples celebrating 50 years or more, and many couples celebrating 45, 40, 35, 30 and 25 years. The honored couples led the procession for the Eucharistic Liturgy presided over by Bishop John J. Snyder and concelebrated by Rev. Daniel J. Cody, Pastor.

The Bishop commented that the third millennium was not too significant in view of the 11,000-plus years represented by the couples renewing their marital vows. Each couple was called by name to come forward to be presented by the Bishop with a certificate. Each "bride" was given a beautiful yellow rose. The St. Joseph Parish Choir presented a lovely musical program.

After the ceremony, pictures were taken with the Bishop, and the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women hosted a reception on the colonnade across the front of the church.

## A "Truly Christmas" Story

by Ellen O'Rourke

I have a very generous class. At our weekly prayer service for the teachers, Carla Chin mentioned that the I.M. Sulzbacher Homeless Shelter had a Christmas fund-raiser program called, "And to All a Good Night." For \$11 one homeless person could sleep in the shelter for one night. I decided to mention it to my second grade class. I figured I could collect close to \$11 and make up the difference. How nice it would be to provide such a service to someone less fortunate than ourselves!

The response from the children was overwhelming. They literally emptied their pockets. At lunch several children had decided to donate their ice cream money. In the middle of the class, children came to me with money they had found in their desks or at the

bottom of their backpacks. By the end of that day, we had an impressive pile of change. The next morning, as my students came into the room, they came right up to me to give me their donations. They took it upon themselves to ask parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends, and neighbors to give them their spare change. Instead of asking me how much money we had collected, the standard question became, "How many people are going to get a good night's sleep now?"

Our virtue of the month for December is generosity. My whole class deserves recognition for their efforts. Our grand total at the end of one week was \$131. The I.M. Sulzbacher Center will be full this Christmas season.

Isn't it great to be Catholic? Isn't it great to be a student at Christ the King School? I would

# Sweet Satisfaction



Eleanor Arnett and Pat Askew



Ginny Ervolino and Isabelle Fusco

by Pat Setser

The tables were set with red cloths, the candles were lit, the white doilies enhanced the beauty of the wonderful home baked cakes, breads, cookies, pies and candies. The Christ the King Council of Catholic Women (CKCCW) "showed their stuff." Almost as quickly as new items were displayed on the tables, they were sold. Many items were wrapped beautifully or were in festive containers. The women who created these goodies were so generous in their time and talent, and best of all, the entire parish benefitted from their talents. I'm

sure that some of these specialties were saved for the Christmas holiday to be enjoyed by guests.

There were also three large baskets full of holiday treats, drinks and snacks. These were raffled on the last day of the Bake Sale. Again, these baskets were the combined donations of various members of the Circles. Over \$900 was earned from this project. This money will be used to help various organizations within the community and within our own Parish community. Working together we are able to accomplish so much. Sweet satisfaction comes from working together. Thank you!



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# Nocturnal Adoration Society

## A Brief History

Submitted by Marty Polsenski

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

The story of the Nocturnal Adoration Society is as simple as it is inspiring. In almost every instance the persons responsible for the spread of the society were laymen. Their devotion to the Eucharist inspired them to gather men into groups who would spend the night in prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed on the altar.

The Society had its origin as an organized establishment in 1809. Prior to this time, there had been groups meeting in various places during the night hours of the Forty Hours Devotion. These groups had no connection with one another; they were not organized as a society. In 1809, during the very troubled political situation of the time, a priest, Giacomo Sinibaldi, had the idea of gathering together a group of men who would pray during the night hours in the churches of Rome, where the Blessed Sacrament was exposed for the Forty Hours devotion. His idea was very popular and in a short time he had so many men that it was possible to have Adoration throughout the night in every church in the city during the Forty Hours. As the group grew in number, the need for some organization was obvious. In 1810, the group formed themselves into a society, drew up a Constitution, and received official approval from the Church. In 1824 Pope Leo XII raised the Society to the level of an Archconfraternity with the power to affiliate other groups into the Societies.

In a short time, Nocturnal Adoration Societies were being formed in other countries. In 1848, Father Herman Cohen, a Jewish convert, assembled nineteen men to form a Nocturnal Adoration group in Paris. With the approval of the Archbishop of Paris, the Society held its first night of Adoration in December 1848. In 1862, Father Cohen established a community of Carmelites in London and in 1863 organized a Guild for the Nocturnal

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. From France the Society spread to Spain, Canada and the United States.

In 1877, a member of the Paris Nocturnal Adoration Society met with some laymen in Madrid and formed the Spanish branch of the Society. On the fiftieth anniversary of this foundation, the Society in Spain had 99,000 persons in 653 centers. From Spain the Society spread to Mexico and was established in Mexico City in 1900.

A publisher in Montreal, Canada, on a trip to Europe in 1881, read about the Nocturnal Adoration Society in France. With the thought that the Society would be an excellent blessing for Canada he met with the president of the Society in France. With the approval of the Archbishop of Montreal, the Society was formed and held its first night of Adoration in the Church of Notre Dame in December 1881.

Boston was the first city in the United States to have a Nocturnal Adoration Society. Through the efforts of Dr. Thomas Dwight, professor of anatomy at Harvard Medical School and a convert, who had met with the president of the French Society, a group was formed. With the approval of the Archbishop of Boston, they met for their first night of Adoration in the Cathedral in December 1882.

Baltimore was the next city to have a branch of the Society. William Bartlett, a priest and convert who had studied in Rome and had become acquainted with the Society there, established the Society in his parish in Baltimore in 1883.

The Society came to New York City in 1903. It was organized in the Church of St. Jean Baptiste. In 1929 this Society officially became the national headquarters for the United States.

Today, in the United States, there are over 500 centers of the Society with an estimated membership of 60,000.



## History at Christ the King

The description above leads one to inquire just when the Nocturnal Adoration Society Chapter was formed here at Christ the King. In a close scrutiny of the Chapter's records, it was first recorded as an active chapter in 1962, thirty-eight years ago. We are a little embarrassed that the records do not clearly show who started the Chapter's records, nor a listing of the charter members. We know it was during Bishop Larkin's tenor as pastor. It is the only Chapter in Northeast Florida.

So what does our Society do on first Fridays? We begin at 10:00P.M. and meet throughout the evening in devotion and in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. The evening is divided into eight one -hour segments. A Band composed of a Leader and members participate in the Devotion each hour and then they

are relieved by another Band. At 6:00 A.M. the Blessed Sacrament is retired with a Benediction and normally a Mass is said. In a period of eight months a Band cycles through the hours and then begins the cycle again.

- Currently our bandleaders are:
- Band 1 Regis O'Connell
  - Band 2 Eli Shami
  - Band 3 Dick Sollee
  - Band 4 John McCarthy
  - Band 5 Buddy Costello
  - Band 6 Bruce Shuert
  - Band 7 Anatole Maher
  - Band 8 Jim Middleton

It would be inaccurate to say that several of the early morning hours times are easy. As you can imagine, it involves some sacrifice and dedication. We are thankful to be able to participate in this Devotion and sincerely welcome anyone to join us.

## Original Member of Nocturnal Adoration at Christ the King

Our member registration records indicate the following individuals as original members:

- |                 |                   |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Frank Becht     | Bruce Shuert      | Donald Pellicer   |
| Tony Shami      | Ed McCaskill      | Frank Bauman      |
| Richard Donelan | Thomas Shell      | Vincent Gardner   |
| R. N. Corbeil   | Sid Brennan       | Frank Redmond     |
| Al Martin       | Pedro Arias       | Roy Baer          |
| Dave MacNamara  | Kevin DeVoe       | John Faustini     |
| Tom Terre       | Felix Soaun       | Ed Stives         |
| Jerry Gallagher | Arthur Gardner    | Thomas Vogel      |
| Joe Brown       | Al DeVoe          | Anthony Altini    |
| William Omello  | Anatole Maher     | Joseph Richter    |
| Bruce Manning   | Joe Marktstener   | Richard Wolanin   |
| Alfred Pink     | Pete Conlin       | Stephan MacNamara |
| John McCarthy   | Nick Kulugo       | Roberto Foldarai  |
| Bernard Goode   | Clarence Westrick | Bob Cazziuz       |
| William Hartman | Frank McGrath     | George Wall       |
| Buddy Costello  | Joe Ghioto        | Joe Brown         |
| Tom Thomas      | Robert Matthews   |                   |
| Joe Gaule       | James Middleton   |                   |

If we have inadvertently missed anyone we sincerely apologize. You will certainly recognize some of the names and yes these parishioners have been faithfully fulfilling their obligations to the Society for over thirty years. It is difficult to imagine when some of them do not look over thirty themselves.

### Prayer to Our Blessed Mother



Take my hand, O Blessed Mother. Hold me firmly lest I fall. I grow nervous while walking, and humbly on thee I call. Guide me over every crossing. Watch me when I'm on the stairs. Let me know that you're beside me. Listen to my fervent prayers. Bring me to my destination, safely along the way. Bless my every undertaking, and my duties for the day. And when evening creeps upon us, I'll never fear to be alone. Once again, O Blessed Mother, take my hand and lead me home.

It is said that you will never fall if you say this prayer every day.

## Just a Little Link in Etta's Life

by Barbara Hanuscin

Sometimes, one just might have a tendency to underestimate the strength of the role they or someone else may hold in a chain of events. The parts we all play are links that form a chain of connectivity between us and those around us within the community. Perhaps, nowhere else are these links stronger than within a parish community and especially here at Christ the King Parish. This is a short, simple story about some links. It is written as a tribute to Etta Struzzi, who, although unknowingly, has helped strengthen and bless these links by her own existence.

One Sunday afternoon, a group from the Single and Single Again Ministry had taken a walk over to see the new House of Prayer. On the way back, I noticed that one person, Nino, just didn't seem to be his usual upbeat self. I inquired as to what the problem might be. He replied that he was very concerned about his mother. As we talked, I learned that both his mother and father were blind and deaf. His father had passed away, and now his mother was ill with cancer. His sister had taken leave from her job to care for their mother at home, and Nino was helping support them and also helping to care for his mother, Etta.

There was much sadness and frustration tucked within his words. There was the frustration of needing healthcare services and being advised to call a community agency by well meaning folks. Unfortunately, the services once provided by that agency were no longer provided, due to financial cutbacks. This agency referred them to that agency and another, and somehow they ended up with the Boy Scouts of America, which did not offer the type of services Etta needed.

The brother and sister were somehow managing the physical care, but one thing was most important to Etta, and they just hadn't been able to fulfill her wish as yet. Etta wanted a priest to whom she could sign her last confession. It seems they had called a phone number in St. Augustine, however the person on the line told them they would have to bring their mother to the service for the deaf and blind in St. Augustine, which they were told was once a month. It just was not physically possible for Etta to make the trip to St. Augustine.

**How simple it is for most to obtain absolution . . . We take it for granted and some even ignore it. . . For some it is more difficult . . . and more precious.**

I agreed to call his sister and speak with her regarding their mother's needs. I gave her the

number for St. Vincent's Geriatric Wellness Outreach, and they scheduled a visitation that would be within the following two weeks.

Still, Etta's wish to be able to sign her confession was foremost in my thoughts. Although I did not get to meet her, I felt as if I had to do more to help her obtain the peace she was seeking. I thought how simple it really is for us to go make our confessions, especially with the parish Reconciliation services over the Christmas and Easter seasons. We really might be inclined to take it for granted because it is so easy for us to do. Sometimes we might be spiritually blind and deaf to what God is trying to show or say to us. Yet, how much more difficult it would be if we were physically blind and deaf.

I went to the rectory and relayed this dilemma to Pat, who in turn gave me Father Rene Roberts' phone number. Father Roberts ministers to the blind and deaf in St. Augustine. I called Father Rene and spoke with him regarding Etta's wish. As it turned out, he was going to be in Jacksonville the following evening for a function at Harbor House. He said he would be most happy to visit Etta and would call the family.

Etta's condition was worsening and her physician called in hospice before Geriatric Wellness could visit. The next evening, Father Rene visited Etta and she was able to sign her last confession with him. She died within the next couple days. Her ability to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation gave her the peace she needed to meet her heavenly Father.

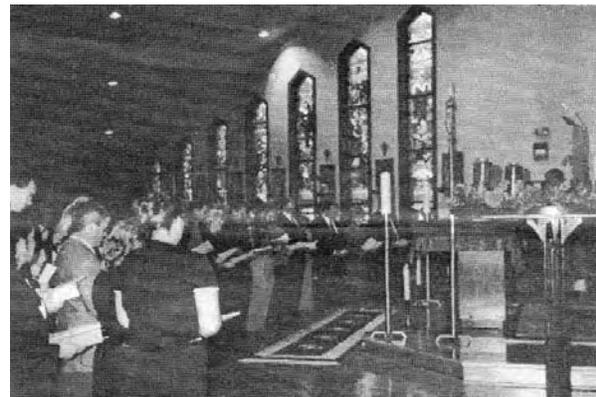
Now look at all the links in Etta's chain during her last week on this earth. Her children whom she raised so lovingly, despite the physical handicaps of her husband and herself, had grown up not resentful of things she could not do or give them, but grateful for the love of their mother and father, and their gift of life. Leroy and Dorothy, who had asked permission to form the Single and Single Again Ministry for friendship and fellowship, were links. The Single and Single Again Ministry is what linked Nino to me. The Parish Nurse Ministry helped me to be another link in Etta's chain. Pat, part of the rectory staff, as well as the Diocesan Directory she used for referencing Father Rene Robert's phone number, and the publishing staff were indirect links in that chain. Harbor House and all the special people there were responsible for Father Rene being in Jacksonville at the time Etta needed him, so they were also indirect links. Father Rene was that final link in making Etta's wish come true.

Thank you, Etta, for the privilege of being a little link in your chain, and being blessed by your presence in this world.

## RCIA Catechumenate Sunday



Father McDermott and RCIA candidates at Catechumenate Sunday, December 12, 1999



Sealing (blessing) of the lips

by Staff Writer

On Sunday December 12, 1999, twenty-one Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.). Candidates participated in the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens, presided over by Father McDermott and Father Carey. This represented the first major step in the 9-month-long faith journey into Catholicism for these Candidates.

After being called forward to the foot of the altar with their

Sponsors, the Candidates publicly affirm their resolve to follow and serve Christ, renouncing all powers not of God. Their Sponsors and all present in the church affirmed their readiness to assist the Candidates in finding and following Christ.

This was followed by the Signing of the Candidates with the Cross, on the forehead, the ears, the eyes, the lips, over the heart, on the hands and feet. The Sponsors then presented each Catechumen with his/her own copy of the Catholic Bible.

# Liturgy 101 - Liturgy of the Word

## ✠ Part Two ✠

by Bernie Sans

Lovers and friends need to talk. Lovers and friends need to listen. Even more, they *want* to talk and listen. Yet they do so in different ways that correspond to different times in their lives. They do not continuously share the same things with one another over and over again. The new and the unexpected in their lives is shared against the background of what is familiar and old.

So it is with the loving God who shares his message with us. We hear God's word through a prism of a changing yet constantly recurring cycle of feasts and seasons known as the liturgical year.

**The Lectionary:** The readers in our parish find the readings assigned for each day of the year in a set of liturgical books called the lectionary. These volumes also include various texts associated with the readings such as the psalms and acclamations. One of the aims of the Second Vatican Council was that "the treasure of the Bible...be opened up more lavishly, so that a richer fare may be provided for the faithful at the table of the Lord" (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, #51). Those who fashioned the system of readings found in the lectionary attempted to follow the desire of the Council by incorporating more selections from the Old Testament and by providing more representative numbers of scriptural readings than were formerly proclaimed at Mass.

These volumes are divided into various settings: the first group of three volumes contain the readings for Sundays, Solemnities, and feasts of the Lord and the saints. What is characteristic about these three volumes is that they apportion the readings contained according to a three year cycle, the main feature of each being the gospel: year A is based on Matthew, year B on Mark, and year C on Luke. St. John's gospel occurs on Sundays of Lent, during the Easter season, and on certain Sundays in the year B.

Within these three cycles the readings are distributed to focus on the various seasons of the liturgical year.

The other volumes contain the readings assigned for weekdays, special occasions and votive Masses. The weekday readings are distributed over a two-year cycle.

**The Liturgical Year:** Many people seem to understand our Christian cycle of feasts and seasons as merely a type of dramatization of events in the life of Christ, something like a liturgical pageant. However, Pope Paul VI reminded us that the liturgical year exerts "a special sacramental power and influence which strengthens

Christian life."

Writers often use the term "paschal mystery" when commenting on these lines of the Pope. This term refers to the whole saving work of Christ that attained its highest expression in His passing over from death to new life. We, however, participate in this passover of Christ since our own experiences are intimately joined to His. Thus the liturgical year commemorates the numerous ways Christ is born among us today, the many ways in which He heals and saves us, and the various ways in which we, with Christ, overcome death and are restored to new life. Put another way, the liturgical year is our way of staying in touch with Jesus the Lord. We don't have to worry about Him staying in contact with us. But we need to wrap ourselves in the mystery of God's loving action as we progress onward to the completion of the Kingdom begun on earth with Christ.

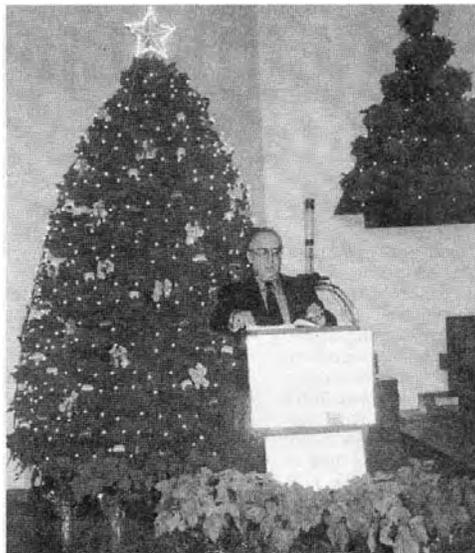
The following is a brief look at the major seasons of the liturgical year and the readings assigned to them:

**Advent:** During this four-week season of quiet and restrained joy we look forward to Christ's second coming at the end of time and prepare ourselves to celebrate the feast of Christ's first coming. Our sure conviction is that just as God once came in the person of Jesus, so Jesus will come again. The Old Testament readings for Advent are, quite naturally, prophecies about the Messiah. The second readings are exhortations, while the gospels focus on the Last Coming, John the Baptist, and the events immediately preceding Christ's birth.

**Christmas Season:** Extending from the first Mass on Christmas to the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, this season embraces a series of feasts that generally focus on what it means for the Word to have become flesh and dwelt among us. The readings, chosen in light of the mystery of each feast, tell us that human life and all of creation is holy, is blessed, is graced, and is worthy of God. They tell of the Lord who revealed Himself as the Messiah sent by God, not only to the Jewish nation, but to all peoples.

**Lent:** Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and continues until the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening. Thus the season is not a preparation for Easter alone, but rather for the "Paschal Triduum" which begins on Holy Thursday night and continues till Easter Sunday Evening.

Three practices are traditionally associated with Lent: prayer, almsgiving, and fasting. According to the ancient writers of the Church, Christians fast, not only in



Tony Trotti is Lector at Midnight Mass

imitation of Christ who fasted forty days in the desert, but also to have something to share with the poor (almsgiving). Lent has often been called a retreat before baptism, a time when Catholics, by prayer and good works, join the catechumens who are preparing to be baptized during the Easter vigil, a time when Catholics prepare to renew their own baptismal promises at Easter.

During this time the Old Testament readings focus on the main events of the history of salvation. The gospels begin by recalling Christ's temptations and continue with the presentation of certain baptismal themes (e.g., the man born blind) or with other themes appropriate for the season. The readings from the letters of the apostles often correspond with the other readings and provide a connection between them.

**Paschal Triduum:** These three days ("triduum" is Latin for "three days") are the high holy days of the Church. The Triduum begins with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening and reaches its climax during the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night when the catechumens are baptized, confirmed, and receive the Eucharist (the sacraments of initiation). During these days we celebrate the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is a time when we enter the timelessness of God, not merely looking back at past events, but participating in present reality. What happened to Jesus continues to happen to us.

The scriptures proclaimed during this great feast highlight various aspects of the paschal mystery, and yet the liturgy never loses sight of the whole mystery. For example, the Lord celebrated in the Eucharist on Holy Thursday is the Risen Lord; the sufferings and death recalled on Good Friday only have meaning in light of the Resurrection.

**Easter Season:** Easter is so overwhelming a mystery that it needs time to run its course. The Easter season, called "the great Sunday" by St. Athanasius, is a

period of seven weeks and ends on Pentecost. It is a season when the joy and happiness of Easter is extended. It is also a time when those who were sacramentally initiated at the vigil are encouraged to reflect on the meaning of the sacraments that were celebrated. The first readings, from the Acts of the Apostles, show how the primitive Church responded to the love of the Risen Lord. The gospels recount the appearances of the Risen Christ, recall that He is the Good Shepherd, and present us with excerpts from the Lord's discourse at the Last Supper.

**Ordinary Time:** By Ordinary Time we mean that period of the year having no special seasons. Actually, it is not very ordinary at all, since it is the whole mystery of Christ, without any particular emphasis, which is now celebrated. During these weeks the gospels present the Christ who spoke in parables, who instructed the people and who worked miracles. The Old Testament readings, highlighting the unity of the two testaments, are generally chosen to correspond to the gospel selections. The readings from the apostles provide us with instruction, exhortation, and encouragement on what it means to live a Christian life. Toward the end of Ordinary Time our attention is once again turned to the Second Coming of Christ.

To be a Christian is to be a person whose life is nourished by the scriptures. We are to be a community of faith and, as St. Paul reminds us, "faith comes through hearing, and what is heard is the Word of Christ" (Romans 10:17). As we gather together and celebrate our yearly cycle of feasts and seasons, we do so that we may continually be touched and transformed anew by the announcement of God's love and power in our lives.

*God willing, next time we will reflect on the Liturgy of the Word by considering several factors which help us more fully experience the word of God proclaimed in our liturgical celebrations.*

by Father Brian Carey, C.S.Sp.

**JUBILEE:** *the word is overshadowed by MILLENNIUM and Y2K. Read about the Biblical Jubilee in Leviticus 25: 8-55.*

Jubilee has to do with **JUBILATION**. Jubilation is what happens in the end zone when a touch-down is scored; it is the fanfare for a triumph, the rejoicing at a wedding or the birth of a baby. It is the Trumpet that sounds in Zion to mark a great act of God or a proclamation in His name.

It is the Choir of Angels announcing the birth of our Savior. It's a "Yippee - we're saved" cheer with our fist raised.

This is what our Holy Father is calling us to this year, a shout of triumph to our God, a Holy Year, not just a holy day. It is a time to rejoice in the gift of Jesus as our Savior. It is a time to proclaim the good news that it is now possible for us to be safe for eternity through the grace of Jesus Christ. You will find quotations from the Pope's message at the side of the pictures in your Parish Calendar.

On Christmas Eve the Pope opened the Holy Door in Rome. It is a call to "open the door to Christ" in our lives. It is a time of repentance for where we have failed in the past. A time of conversion, to endeavor, with

God's help to do better in the future. It is a time to share the Good News of our Redemption in Christ, to evangelize. It is time to close the door on what is past, to forgive. And to open it to the possibility of living a life of love, compassion and consideration for others.

While each of us has to attend to this in our own personal lives, some suggestions have been made to help us by the U.S. Bishops and our own diocese. You will receive notice of some of these from time to time through church and diocesan bulletins and publications.

Some of the following have been recommended:

**PRAY DAILY:** Commit to at least 5 minutes, at the beginning of each day.

**PRACTICE FORGIVENESS:** Who do I need to forgive in my life? Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation more frequently and more thoroughly.

**C E L E B R A T E T H E EUCHARIST:** Enter more fully into the celebration of Sunday Eucharist; try to go to Mass one day a week or at least occasionally; make an effort to spend time in adoration.

**LIVE A JUST LIFE STYLE:** Treat people with the dignity they deserve as a son or daughter of God. Work against discrimination, injustice, and oppression.

**CARE FOR THE POOR:** Be generous in action and donation to those in need.

**DOMESTIC CHURCH:** Nurture love, forgiveness and reconciliation in your domestic church, your family. Make time for each other. Pray together. Think of family devotion possibilities.

**SHARE FAITH:** Talk about God's presence in your life to your family, friends, workmates.



#### JOIN A SMALL CHRISTIAN GROUP OR COMMUNITY:

This will help strengthen your faith and be with people who will support you in Christian values and action.

**KNOW YOUR FAITH:** Read more about your faith and the Church. Read a few paragraphs of the Catechism of the Catholic Church daily or weekly. Join a Faith Study Group such as a Bible Study. Share with family or friends ways in which you can apply the teachings of the church to your life.

Besides these you may wish to go on a pilgrimage, a Eucharistic Congress, visit sacred shrines etc.

Whatever you decide to do, may it change your life for the better as you **OPEN THE DOOR TO CHRIST**. And may you be **JUBILANT** throughout.

## Christ the King Council of Catholic Women

### PROJECTS



CKCCW sponsors new project: "Children Matter". They raised \$500 in donations to help children at Woodland Acres School.

by Pat Setser

Since Fall, the Council of Catholic Women has been busy. We have added a new Circle which was formed by Monica Crisp. The Circle is named St. Robert Circle in honor of our former pastor and now Bishop of Charleston. Several new members have joined existing circles. We held a Membership Tea and it was a wonderful afternoon of getting to know each other.

In September we held our first general meeting and the originator

of AngelAid was our speaker. This organization helps children and families who have AIDS. We learned about their many services and were impressed with their scope of help. Also in late October, we had a Day of Reflection at Marywood with the topic of "The Power of Healing." The facilitator was Francis MacNutt.

Another recent project was "Children Matter". For this project we collected new underwear, socks and other clothing for needy students at Woodland Acres School. We also provided baby

items, diapers and clothing for the school children's younger siblings. The generosity of parishioners amounted to over \$500 in donations! This was the first time we sponsored this project and were very pleased with its success. The clinic supervisor at Woodland Acres said that the donations came when she needed them most.

Our Bake Sale/Raffle was held December 11 and 12<sup>th</sup>. The Shirley David Hall was decorated with red table cloths and lighted candles. The baking talents of the members were on display and the yummy treats did not last long. Three gift baskets, full of snacks, specialty coffees and teas, Christmas candles, candies and ornaments were won by Regis O'Connell, Catherine Price and Willodene Coursey. The event was successful because of the members' generous donations and because of parish support.

Our Mass/Living Rosary and Party was December 16<sup>th</sup>. Nearly 50 people attended and participated in the Mass with Father Bob McDermott as celebrant. The Mass was accompanied with violin playing by the children led by Rocky DiGeorgio, and organ playing by Bernie Sans. This was the beginning of a special time in preparation for Christmas. You might be wondering, what is a Living Rosary? Each participant is given an unlit candle and as the prayers of the rosary are said, each candle is lit. This lighting of the candles reminds us that we are lighting the way for the Christ Child.

We have three events in February which are listed below.

CKCCW sponsors new project: "Children Matter". They raised \$500 in donations to help children at Woodland Acres School.

The CKCCW will co-sponsor an afternoon of entertainment with the Assumption Council of Catholic Women at Assumption Activity Center on Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, at 3:30p.m. Marion Conner Price will do a melodrama entitled "Leading Ladies of the Century." Marion has been performing in this region for many years and was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from Theater Jacksonville. The tickets are \$10 and will include a light supper buffet at the conclusion of the performance.

The Card Party will be Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, and we plan to have a style show of wedding gowns worn by ladies from the past. On February 20<sup>th</sup>, we will have a

Communion Breakfast after the 8:30a.m. Mass. Circles offer lots of good fellowship while earning money to help others. If you have not joined a circle yet, please call Pat at 399-3198 for more information.

One event open to everyone in the parish is the melodrama "Leading Ladies of the Century" with acclaimed performer Marion Conner Price. Call Pat at 399-3198 for ticket information.

# Father Robert J. McDermott installed

Members of the Knights of Columbus lead the procession into the church to begin the installation of Father McDermott as the parish's new pastor



On Nov. 21, 1999, during the Noon Mass, Father Robert J. McDermott was officially installed as Pastor of Christ the King Church.

Presiding over the ceremony was The Most Reverend John J. Snyder, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of St. Augustine.

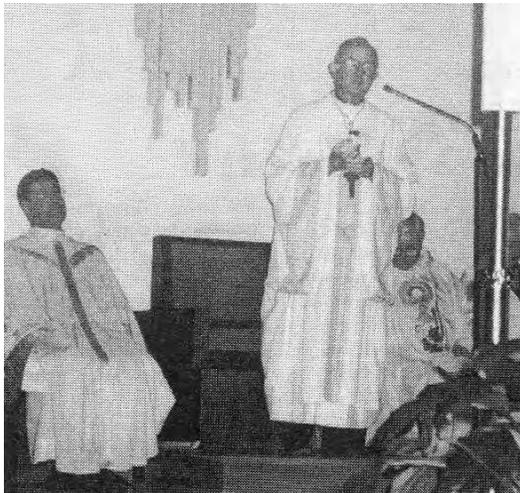
The Mass included performances by the Children's Choir, the St. Joseph Vietnamese Choir, the Christ the King Adult Handbell Choir, and the Maronite Chant Choir.

Members of the Knights of Columbus lead the opening procession to begin the Mass. The last to enter and preside over the Mass was Bishop Snyder. After the Gospel reading, Bishop Snyder spoke fondly of Father McDermott and his expectations of him as our new pastor. He spoke of the tremendous support group of ministries, the Parish Council, and that Christ the King had one of the strongest stewardship programs in the country.

Following his remarks, Bishop Snyder presented the Parish clergy and staff, the parish Council, and the Parish Finance Council to Father McDermott. After leading the congregation in the Nicene Creed, Father McDermott faced the Bishop and recited his oath to lead the parish of Christ the King Church.

After the Liturgy of the Eucharist and Holy Communion, final blessings were bestowed upon Father McDermott and Christ the King parishioners by Bishop Snyder. Then all were invited to congratulate our new pastor at a lunch in the Parish Hall.

Hundreds attended the lunch with finger foods, punch, coffee, and a delicious cake that was decorated to mark Father McDermott's installation as pastor. It gave parishioners an opportunity to meet their new pastor and thank Bishop Snyder for the Mass and his selection of the man who is leading Christ the King into the new millennium.



Bishop Snyder speaks about his good friend, Father McDermott



Bishop Snyder (center) begins the noon Mass with (from left) Fathers Thanh, McDermott, Carey and McCarthy



Deacon Dave MacNamara reads from the Gospel of Our Lord, Jesus Christ



Father McDermott in prayerful contemplation of his new duties as pastor of Christ the King Catholic Church



Bishop Snyder installs Father McDermott as pastor of Christ the King Catholic Church

# as new pastor of Christ the King Church



The Adult Handbell Choir performs during the Mass and installation of Father McDermott as Christ the King's new pastor



Pat Thomas, Stewardship Chairwoman, congratulates Father McDermott after his installation



Bishop Snyder congratulates Father McDermott on his installation as new pastor of Christ the King



It's okay, Bernie, the music was wonderful



Kenny Nguyen Do, 3, and his sister Dalena, 5, all dressed up for the occasion



There was a wide selection of delicious delicacies awaiting hungry parishioners



Members of the Christ the King staff, Parish Council and Parish Finance Council fill the front rows awaiting presentation to the new pastor by Bishop Snyder



Thao Tran, 10, and her Aunt Thoi Bullard serve punch during the luncheon

# SCOUTS



## Catholic Scouting Camporee

by Donna Baker

This past year the Catholic committee on scouting for the Diocese of St. Augustine did not have a Fall Camporee. Each committee member was asked to do activities to promote Catholic Scouting in his/her own Parish. The Scouting units at Christ the King were given permission by Father Thanh and Pat Thomas to hold a camporee on the church grounds the weekend of November 12-14, 1999. The theme was based on "FOLLOWING THE CALL OF CHRIST", the four "calls" to holiness, to community, to mission and ministry, and to Christian Maturity. The camporee was designed to provide scout troop/packs and families with a relaxing religious weekend in a camp setting. The weekend was open to all parish Girl Scout, Boy Scout, and Cub Scout units and their families. A total of 160 members participated in the weekend camporee, camping out under the stars on the baseball field or sleeping on the stage in the Kingdome.

The program for the camporee included Mass, Spaghetti Dinner, Christian skits, fellowship, campfire, sports, crafts, faith walk, service projects (Scouting for Food, cleaning the church grounds), rosary march, and other activities.

We had such a successful weekend and it would not have been possible without the help of the following individuals:

Father Carey - who came and shared with the scouts the part of his life about being a priest.

Seminarians Dung Bui and John Freddy - who spent the afternoon talking with the scouts about the call of Christ in their lives and in some Bible stories.

Coach Yocum - who gave his time to be with us this weekend, as the chaperone for the use of the Kingdome so the Brownies had a place to sleep.

Cooks & servers - The make-do kitchen outside at the back of the Kingdome. Coach Yocum, Mike Maroney and Jeff Putala, who did an excellent job feeding a spaghetti dinner to 160 people.

Reggie Dubay - who came and taught the adults who were interested in being trained as Catholic Scouting Religious Counselors.

Legion of Mary - for their donation of rosaries to the scouts and families for the rosary march on Sunday morning.

The Scout Troops - Cadet Troop 188 (Patty Maroney), Junior Troop 941 (Miriam Smith), Brownie Troop 310 (Michelle Putala and Laura Biskner), Cub Scout Pack 5 (Mike Klima), and Boy Scout Troop 5 (Rob Viets).



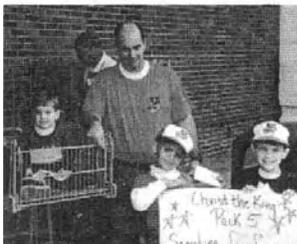
## Call to Fellowship: Camping on the Church Grounds

by Donna Baker

The second weekend in November, 160 Scouts and their families gathered on the church grounds for the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Christ the King Catholic Scouting Camporee.

They came in cars and vans with trailers attached to the backs of their vehicles. Some brought the bare minimum, tents and sleeping bags. Others brought their grills, tables and chairs.

But all came with Scout Spirit to socialize amongst themselves.



### Call to Service: Scouting for Food

by Donna Baker

“Ask and you shall receive” is a popular quote, and that is exactly what happened. On Saturday, November 13, Girl and Boy Scout units from Christ the King Parish went door to door in the neighborhoods surrounding the parish asking for nonperishable food items.

The Tiger den of Cub Scout Pack 5 stood out front of the Food Lion store in Arlington asking shoppers to buy nonperishable items and donate them to the Scouts.

The Scouts collected over 385 nonperishable food items and donated them to the St. Vincent de Paul Society here at Christ the King to give to those in need of food.

### Camporee Quotes

submitted by Donna Baker

**Q: What was your favorite part of the Camporee?**

A: Michael Simons: “It was fun being able to camp at the church with all my friends.”

A: Steven Gardener: “Jiffy-Pop popcorn over open flame.”

Tyler Simons: “The activities were my favorite.”

Javier O'Rourke: “The faith walk was my favorite.”

### Call to Holiness:

#### Seminarians Dung Bui and Jhon F. Guarnizo

by Donna Baker

We had the pleasure of spending the afternoon and evening with two seminarians, Dung Bui and Jhon F. Guarnizo. Some of the Scouts had the chance to ask them questions.

- \* Do you eat Holy Communion all day?
- \* Can you quit studying to be a seminarian if you change your mind?
- \* Do you eat at MacDonald's or Burger King?
- \* Are the host and wine good?

- \* What do you eat in seminarian school?
- \* Why did you want to become a priest?
- \* What sports do you like?
- \* Do you like to study?
- \* What American food do you like?

The seminarians, Dung and Jhon explained how they answered their own calls to holiness at a very young age, when they decided to become priests in order to serve God.

# Christ the King Athletic Association

by Tom Wildes

It's that time again, the Spring Baseball Season is upon us. A lot has happened since last season. A new Board of Directors has been installed with the following changes taking place in January of 2000: Tom Wildes was elected the organization's President; Laurie Plotz as Operating Director; Angela Whitson as our new Service Director; Debbie Lopez is the new Treasurer; and Bernadette Robison was elected Secretary.

The board is faced with many challenges which we gladly accept. A few short-term goals are increasing player participation, facility improvements, communication with parents and providing a quality Christian environment for "our" children to learn the game of baseball.

This organization will not survive without "Parent Participation." We are in need of volunteers in many areas. Contact a board member if interested and everyone is welcome to attend the

meetings at any time. Call us for a schedule.

Our Spring Registration has already begun (Saturdays only) and continues until Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. We are offering multiple discounts for the children. Registration hours are 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Players' ages are 5 to 12 years of age, and fees range from \$65 to \$85 per player, excluding discounts. Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate when you come to register.

In closing, we are committed to the Christ the King family and

welcome our neighbors in the community. We are prepared to support CKA in any manner possible, and our goal is to help to make this year a winning season for our kids. If you have any questions, please call Tom Wildes at 725-0338.

## Welcome

### New CKA Board

<b>Tom Wildes</b>	<b>President</b>
<b>Laurie Plotz</b>	<b>Operating Director</b>
<b>Angela Whitson</b>	<b>Service Director</b>
<b>Debbie Lopez</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Bernadette Robison</b>	<b>Secretary</b>

*Continued from page 1*

## FATHER McDERMOTT

So he entered the seminary, not at all sure that this was the right path, but saying there "was enough of an urge to give it a try." The first six months were pretty hard, but with prayer and the guidance of his director, Father McDermott said he knew it was the right path. So did his mother.

"He wanted this his whole life. That is all he ever talked about," she said. "I wasn't surprised. From the second grade on he was in love with the priesthood."

Still, the reaction from Father McDermott's law partners when he left the practice of law to become a priest was initially surprise, he remembered.

"I was attending daily Mass and Communion as a lawyer; so I wasn't totally away from the lifestyle," he said. "There was also happiness for me. ... And that was the kind of relationship I generally had. If I was happy, they generally supported it."

After four years at the seminary, McDermott was ordained in 1980, then his first assignment was at the growing parish of St. Catherine's in Orange Park. That lasted a year, and included active involvement in the Cursillo ministry. Then his first real assignment was as Catholic Chaplain for the University of Florida in Gainesville, which lasted almost five years.

"I was sort of in crisis ministry, since students go from one crisis to another," he said.

"I know Bobby loved it," added his mother. "He likes Florida and he loves that football team."

Prince of Peace on Jacksonville's Southside was next, although for only 13 months. But during that time, Father McDermott said he started a Bible study class

with up to 70 people sometimes. He continued that adult education during his next four years at Assumption Catholic Church. Then came his first pastoral position at St. Patrick's Catholic Church on the Northside, where he spent the last nine and a half years as what he called a "one-man parish" where he said he did it all.

"You really had to put it all together. You were in charge of everything; there was no delegation," McDermott said. "RCIA, CCD, CYO - you had to have some level of interest and activity in all of these. I went to Denver to see the Holy Father with our people and I did many camping trips with the CYO and other field trips."

He was also responsible for a lot of new construction at the Northside church, including the Shamrock Center with gymnasium, classrooms and meeting facilities, plus a school science and art building and offices.

St. Patrick's sacristan Ray Walker said Father McDermott was a man who "takes the bull by the horns" and accomplished a lot in his years there.

"He didn't like people who didn't do anything. Jesus talks about this in Revelation, either hot or cold, he wanted people to work and he was a worker," Walker said. "He is definitely a mover and a shaker, and he gets things done."

Walker says his friend loves sports, including the Jaguars and of course, the Gators, as well as NASCAR racing. He would often ask friends to come over and watch sports with him, showing that buildings weren't his only legacy. People mattered too.

"He had a wonderful Men's Club that he put together," Walker

said. "It worked well, and he got people who might not have worked well to do so, so he accomplished much that was not brick or stone."

McDermott also continued to expand his ministry outside of the church, becoming involved in the prison ministry called Kairos, which holds regular retreats inside the walls of area prisons like Starke's Florida State Prison. That could be an outgrowth of those years as a state attorney, said McDermott.

"I had a notion for a long time as a prosecutor that if you do the crime, you should do the time, and we all start out equal. When I started getting into the prisons I began to see young people who were nine and 10 and on the streets, when we were having milk and cookies after we came home from school," McDermott said. "I began to feel I could give back a little since I was a pretty active prosecutor, and I felt some remorse for that."

Then came the call to lead Christ the King after Father Bob Baker was designated the new Bishop of Charleston and a number of other pastors in the diocese either retired or were reassigned.

"I knew I was going to be moved eventually. I wasn't sure it was going to be here," McDermott said. "I knew if something opened up, I would be asked to take it."

Walker said the folks at St. Patrick's weren't surprised. They knew their pastor had applied for another parish. Still, they miss him, Walker said.

"It was a very sad thing. I was very, very close to him and I offered Christ the King double their money back if they would let us have him back," Walker joked. "He is missed by St. Patrick's and he misses us."

This move didn't surprise his mother, who said her son "loves" his new parish.

"He heard it was a nice church and he knew quite a few people there," she said.

And as he settles into life at his new home, McDermott said he is amazed at the number of people who just walk into the rectory daily to volunteer for this project or that event, instead of having to pay for someone to do the "major things." That led McDermott to say that while many new bosses make changes when they take over a new job, he doesn't have many planned, being a believer in the old adage, if it isn't broke, don't fix it.

But he did make one change. The new church bulletin is bigger, both in page count and print size. And he would like to redecorate the church, especially behind the altar.

"I want to make it more decorative, maybe even do something with that back wall. It seems awfully cold," he said. "There may be something we can do with that."

Christ the King's new leader said these changes, coming after two years of Bob Baker and decades with Mortimer Danaher, won't rub any of the church's 2,400 families the wrong way. And he said he looks forward with pleasure to completion of the new school addition and library and working with his new flock.

"I am very optimistic and very excited," he said. "They are committed to their parish, and the depth of it is deep and talented. A lot of parishes don't have the depth and talent that we have here. ... I am looking for good things to happen here. They have been happening all along, so I would like to keep the ball rolling."

His mother said that shouldn't be a problem for her son, and her only regret is that Father McDermott's father, a plant industrial engineer at Bethlehem Steel, passed away in 1975.

"He's very respectful in everything. He is a good son, a great son," she said. "He loves it and he is happy he became a priest. ... The sad thing is my husband never saw him be a priest or a lawyer."

# Bishop Kenny Wins State Volleyball Title!

LAKE BUENA VISTA—If history is any indication, a volleyball team from Jacksonville was destined to win a state title this season. The last area volleyball title came in 1989 and the previous in 1979, making 1999 a logical choice for an area team to win it all. And although the BK squad may not be aware of the area's volleyball history, they became a part of it last night.

BK, led by Jackie Jennings, Elizabeth Tyson and Elizabeth Brookshire, overcame an opening-game loss to come back and hammer Cypress Lake 13-15, 15-5, 15-6 to claim the Class 4A state volleyball crown at the Wide World of Sports Complex. The win gave the Crusaders their first title and also the area's first since Bolles won the Class 2A championship in 1989.

"It's just been an awesome experience," said BK first-year coach Janice Turner, who was an assistant on last year's team that lost in the state final. "The whole team is just so talented and it's been a great experience from day one."

After streaking to an 8-3 lead in game one, BK (24-11) faltered. It allowed the Panthers back into the contest and the teams battled to a 12-12 tie. After BK failed to add points with three consecutive sideouts, the Panthers closed them out behind the strong serving of Shannon Puder.

"We passed real well and they weren't quite as effective in that first game," said Cypress lakes coach Richard Hubbard. "We took [Tyson and Jennings] out of there and kept them on their heels."

Tyson and Jennings were anything but silent in game two.

Brookshire began the game with six consecutive service points, forcing the Panthers to call time out. The stoppage had no effect on the Crusaders.

Tyson recorded huge back-to-back kills, and Jennings had a pair of blocks that earned BK points. Up 9-1, the Crusaders continued to pour it on. Unlike Friday's Final Four win against Zephyrhills in which the Crusaders struggled with their service game, BK was dominant in every facet.

After briefly trading points with the Panthers, Brookshire closed out game two with four service points and the momentum had clearly shifted.

The decisive game three was a Crusaders highlight show, with Jennings and Tyson adding highlights on almost every play.

Four consecutive kills from the 6-foot-1 Jennings gave Kenny a 5-0 lead. Tyson was just as impressive, recording huge kills almost at will, and left the crowd in awe of her incredible leaping ability and pinpoint placement of the ball. "When you get on fire, it's the best feeling in world," said Tyson.

*Christ the King Courier* is interested in "What's Happening" at Bishop Kenny High School. If you have a story or know of one - please consider submitting the story or information to one of the *Courier* Staff.

*(Reprinted with permission of The Florida Times-Union, December 13, 1999.)*

## WIDOW & WIDOWER SUPPORT GROUP

by Isabelle Fusco

Once again, the group of Widows and Widowers met at The House of Prayer on December 7.

A feeling of closeness filled the room. We came to help and comfort one another in our common time of sorrow with prayer and meditation.

Al Martin came equipped with several video tapes about our Heavenly Father. The lessons came from the Catechism of the Catholic Church and were a great tool for all of us. They helped in educating us about our faith so that we can grow in holiness by the lessons we learn about the Catholic Church.

The moderator on the tapes was Bishop David Forley of Birmingham Alabama. His

program is seen on EWTN network and is entitled "Catechism Explained."

Father Thanh visited us with explanations about Advent and the grace we receive in preparation for the coming feast of our Lord's birth.

After lunch, Deacon Dave came with more spiritual information. We enjoyed the fellowship and we are getting to know our church family in a more intimate way.

The group broke up about 3:00p.m. If you wish to join us, please call Isabelle at 724-5186 for information. We all need each other. Our next lunch meeting will be February 8. Please check the bulletin for time and place.

## FIDDLE-A-THON WITH THE SUZUKI STRINGS



by Kathy Nichols

Rocky DiGeorgio, in association with the St. Vincent de Paul Society, orchestrated (no pun intended) a Fiddle-a-thon to raise money for the Society. The children were to collect pledges for each day they practiced the violin. The pledges could consist of non-perishable food or cash. The grand total was submitted by Rocky the week of November 5th. The final gift to St. Vincent de Paul was

2,000 canned goods and sundries, plus \$1,300 dollars.

But that's not all they gave, for their practice paid other benefits. Dressed in their hoe-down attire, the Suzuki Strings under the direction of Rocky DiGeorgio and the Teen Angels Handbell Choir under the direction of Susan Grossholtz did a beautiful job of performing some pieces for the residents of The Atrium on October 30<sup>th</sup>. The residents at The Atrium enjoyed the results of their efforts.

# Catholic Charities And St. Vincent de Paul Society

## Working Together to Make a Difference



**Pictured L-R: Judy Koziolk, Mary Ann Sullivan, Mary Pat Witham, Jeanette Ghioto, Ernie Waller**

by Jeanette Ghioto,  
Community Development Director  
Catholic Charities Bureau, Inc.,  
Jacksonville Regional Office

On Tuesday, October 12, at about 3:00 in the afternoon, I received a telephone call in my office at Catholic Charities from the rectory at Christ the King Church. It was an urgent request for a parishioner. Time was of the essence. Someone needed help quickly! As I sat down to listen and grabbed my pen to capture the details of the situation, I silently reflected upon the thousands of telephone calls we receive at Catholic Charities every month. Nearly all those who call the agency are in a state of crisis... their lights have been turned off, they are being evicted, their children are hungry, family members have been stranded... The list goes on and on. This call hit closer to home than most, however, for it concerned a crisis within my own parish.

Judy Koziolk, our faithful parish secretary, explained to me that our fellow parishioner, Mary Pat Witham, had just been advised that she required emergency brain surgery. This event alone was of catastrophic proportions, but Mary Pat had no family in the city for support. The surgery was extreme and its success was questionable. As I listened to Judy relay the details of Mary Pat's illness, I searched her words for how Catholic Charities could help. All the expenses of the surgery seemed to be covered and a plan was in place for her admission to the hospital and her stay there as well as her anticipated return home. But the most frightening part for Mary Pat was that the surgery was scheduled for the next morning at 7:30 a.m....not much time for someone with no family close by to help her prepare emotionally. I was waiting for Judy to explain how we could help. Mary Pat had told Judy and Mary Ann Sullivan, another parishioner and friend, that she was indeed afraid of the surgery. It was so sudden and so uncertain. The only thing she truly wanted was to see her grown son before she went in for surgery the next morning. Could we get her son to Jacksonville? I thought to myself, as Judy continued to explain the circumstances, that this would not

be difficult since we at Catholic Charities do provide, on a limited basis, travelers' aid. However, her next sentence caused my thoughts to stop in their tracks. Mary Pat's son Fred lived far away in a small town near Portland, Oregon! "Holy Spirit - I need you!" was the immediate thought that ran through my mind! How could we make this happen?

The story became more complicated as Judy talked. No one had been able to reach Fred to discuss the possibility of his coming so far so quickly. Indeed, he was not even aware that his mother needed the emergency surgery! And, of course, there were the costs to be considered for such a long journey. By this time it was 4:30 p.m. eastern time and 1:30 p.m. Pacific time. I went home and started making phone calls. At the same time, another friend of Mary Pat's was also researching plane fares. I called upon some of the experience I had as an international telephone operator to third world countries, remembering that calls were sometimes relayed on a messenger basis when extensive telephone service was not available. (We operators would relay information to a local operator, a runner would deliver the message to the person being called, and he would then come to the station to receive the call.) Perhaps this would work in finding Fred. So I contacted the police department in the small city where Fred lived and pleaded for help. And then a "Godcidence" occurred at that very moment! I do not believe in coincidences. I do believe that God has input into every situation, and His providence is called a "Godcidence." When the police department answered, I relayed the information about Fred and his mother, and the officer responded, "Oh, I know him! He is a member of the volunteer patrol for the police department. Let me give you their number!" WOW! I called the volunteer patrol and explained the situation once again, pleading, "All his mom wants is to see him tomorrow morning before she goes into surgery!" The response was incredible. An officer

of this department went to Fred's work site to find him and to explain the situation. At this point, Mary Pat was able to talk with him, tell him of her surgery the next morning and her desire to see him.

The next challenge was to find affordable airfare. The best price I could find on the Internet was in excess of \$1,800, but Catholic Charities does not have that kind of money for travelers' aid. So I called Ernie Waller, president of St. Vincent dePaul Society at Christ the King. After I explained the situation to Ernie, he assured me that I could count on the Society for help. I also decided to call the Catholic Charities agency in Portland, Oregon, the largest city near the small community in which Fred lived. I ultimately spoke with the Director, Dennis Keenan. When I explained the situation to him, he too assured me that his agency would help financially as well. It was left to me to find the lowest airfare possible.

The friend of Mary Pat's who had been working on travel arrangements was a travel agent.

Researching the airlines and time scheduling she was able to get us the best possible rate. She had been waiting for the go-ahead sign to make the final arrangements for Fred from her office in St. Augustine. At last, we were able to provide that.

At 7:30 a.m. the next morning, Mary Pat was smiling at her son, Fred, who had traveled all night to be at his mother's bedside. The doctors advised them that her blood pressure had gone down with the presence of her son. The surgery was successful and today Mary Pat continues to recover and is doing well. Fred stayed to help with the recovery process, thanks to the help of friends in the parish.

With God, ALL things are indeed possible. Special recognition goes to Ernie Waller, President of CK SVDP, to Dennis Keenan with Catholic Charities in Portland, Oregon, and to the Albany, Oregon police department for their prompt, compassionate responses.

## K'Cee's Annual Dinner Dance



**K'Cee's President Inge Morgan**

by Dolores Bianco

The Knights of Columbus #4727 women's auxiliary each year combines fun with funding for their annual Holiday Dinner Dance. This year's event, held in Christ the King's Parish Hall, was accompanied by a mini comedy of errors. In welcoming everyone over the PA system, it turned out that the sound also went to the adjoining hall where there was a wedding reception. Those guests were inadvertently invited to "join in and buy more raffle tickets!" ~ until Al Martin came into our party to see what was going on.

When Father McDermott pulled the first prize winner of Martha Shea's ceramic Christmas



**Martha Shea, Joe Damato**

Village, he was told the lucky winner, Riley Hughes, was actually Harriet Hughes' dog. "A DOG!" he exclaimed. He was immediately assured that Riley's owner would indeed enjoy Martha's beautiful village. Second prize of two tickets to all Disney Parks went to Rita and Russ Butzirus. Fr. Bob chose as third prize winner Mary Lou Coyle. Since she and Bob weren't there, Mary Lou was called with the good news. She didn't seem very excited when the prize, a handsome afghan made by Carol Coseo, was delivered to her home. The reason: she thought, over the phone, she had won a "trash can" - not an "afghan"!

Good food, moving music and a grateful gathering rounded out the truly enjoyable evening.

# Knights of Columbus Receives Awards



L to R Joseph Cochrane, Michael Orris, Alfred J. Martin, Jr., Robert Anderson Dennis Stoddard, and Joseph Kohten

Submitted by Al Martin

The Knights of Columbus Assembly 0152 of Jacksonville, Florida is a Civic Award recipient for the 1998-99 fraternal year. This award is presented for overall excellence in the sponsorship of patriotic programs

by Knights of Columbus assemblies Order-wide.

The award announcements came from the Knights of Columbus international headquarters in Hartford, Connecticut.

Supreme Knight Virgil C. Dechant, president of the international organization, in recognizing the local



Al Martin is presenting the award to Joseph Kohten at the Fourth Degree Christmas party as St. Patrick's

honoree said, "Please accept my sincere congratulations upon attaining this award. The overall devotion shown by your officers and members to the principle of patriotism is seen in the overall excellence of the various programs conducted by the assembly and is praiseworthy."

In accepting the award, Sir Knight Joseph E. Kohten, head of the local group said, "Receiving this award is quite an honor. We're very pleased with this accomplishment." A second Membership Award was also presented to the assembly for attaining a specific membership goal set by the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus.

## A.I.M. Dance



Dancers enjoy the evening



Everyone joins in a congo line

Article and photos submitted by Barb Hanuscin

On November 11, 1999, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul at Christ the King was host for A. I. M. (Arlington Interdenominational Ministries) dance for the L'Arche Group homes in the Arlington area of Jacksonville. Sharon Jones has served as representative for St.

Vincent de Paul at the monthly A.I.M. meetings for several years. This was the second year in a row that the dance was held here. Everyone had a "GREAT" time. Representatives from Life Teen, St. Vincent de Paul, Parish Nurse Ministry and the Single and Singles Again group were on hand to assist with the decorating, refreshments and dancing.

## Visiting Day

submitted by Neil Porter

He was looking forward to this moment all day long, after six days of labor and it has finally arrived – Visiting Day!! The man with the keys arrives to swing open the large, heavy doors. The cold gray hall springs to life in the warm glow of light. He can hardly control his emotions.

The families begin to arrive. He peers from the corner of the room, longing for the first glimpse of His loved one. He lives for the weekends. He lives for these visits.

As the cars arrive, He watches intently. Then, finally, she arrives – His bride, for whom He would do

anything. They embrace, eat a light lunch and reminisce how things used to be. At one point, they break into singing, with interruptions of laughter and applause.

But all too soon it is over. A tear comes to His eye as His bride departs. Then the man with the keys closes the heavy doors. He hears the key turn in the lock marking the end of a special day. There He stands, alone again. He knows that most of His visitors will not contact Him again till next week. As the last car pulls away from the parking lot, the Creator of the Universe retreats into loneliness as He waits until next Sunday – Visiting Day.



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## Single and Single Again:

## Words of Thanks and Best Wishes

submitted by Pat Bell

*Dorothy Boyd and Leroy Garvin, founders of the Single and Single Again Social and Support Ministry, are greatly appreciated, and will be sorely missed.*

*Dorothy and Leroy had been making plans for Dorothy to leave Jacksonville, as she found better job opportunities up north. Leroy, who suffers from Crohn's Disease, was going to move to Ohio with her. Before they could finalize their plans, Leroy had a relapse, which put him in the hospital in October. This illness and its subsequent side effects have kept him in the hospital all through Thanksgiving, Christmas and into this our Jubilee Year.*

*At the time of this article Leroy has been moved to Orange Park Medical Center after yet another relapse. Please keep Leroy in your prayers as he continues to fight this disease.*

*Below, members express their appreciation and say "Goodbye" to Dorothy and offer their "Get Well" wishes to Leroy.*

"I'll miss Leroy's happy smile and Dorothy's sense of humor. Dorothy and Leroy made the not-so-simple act of putting one foot in front of the other a lot easier by making the Singles Group a happy place to go. The Singles Group helped me to go out into the world and be independent. From the first time I met Leroy and Dorothy, they made me feel so comfortable and made me realize there are others out there just like me. Without their patience and kindness, I never would have been able to continue in the group. Their responsibility was great, but the rewards they heaped upon us made us far richer and I will miss them both." —*Cyndi Garrett*

"I appreciate Dorothy and Leroy for their organizational ability, faithful dedication to the Singles group, and their perseverance in hard times when it seemed like everything was falling apart." —*Harvey Gale*

"I am grateful to Leroy and Dorothy for having come to Christ the King and for their asking to start up the Single and Single Again Social and Support Ministry. It took someone with the forcefulness Dorothy possesses to get the group off the ground. Leroy is a great organizer, a "PR" person, and his hard work helped reach folks who really have benefitted by being members (no membership dues, of course). Leroy seems to enjoy stepping back and observing the positive changes in the folks who join as they warm up and begin to relax and come out of their shells and begin to experience having fun again. They will both be missed by our group. The best way to show our appreciation is to continue with



**Leroy Garvin and Dorothy Boyd, founders of the Single and Single Again ministry**

the Single and Single Again Ministry. Thank you, Dorothy and Leroy. —*Barb Hanuscin*

"What was good was to be a part of the two people (Leroy Garvin and Dorothy Boyd) who decided to help other people like me who are alone due to whatever reason. They set up social occasions and brought good fellowship to everyone. They made it possible for people to come out of bad feelings and be happy, but most of all, I am glad to call them my friends." —*Nino Struzzi*

"Most of the single groups that I've come in contact with have been more for younger groups. This one at Christ the King has the age group for older members. Dorothy and Leroy put in a lot of love and hard work to build this singles group from just a few members to the large numbers we now have. Dorothy and Leroy will be missed because of all the work and friendships that they have made for themselves, and for the friendships that the singles made amongst themselves. I wish Dorothy the best of luck in her new adventure, and I hope that Leroy gets well enough to come back to visit the group." —*Jean Loerker*

"Dorothy and Leroy gave me the opportunity to become socially involved with the single world. Having become a widow, the tendency to become homebound is not uncommon. Being involved with the singles, I became involved socially and became friends with many singles. Leroy and Dorothy spent a lot of time and effort being sure that there were events available for singles' involvement. They were very dedicated to the



**background L-R: Dorothy, Pat, Amelia  
foreground L-R: Kan, Marlene, Sue**



group. We all owe them a debt of gratitude for their hard work and concern." —*Alana Buzza*

"I appreciate Dorothy and Leroy because they did something I tried to do 12 years ago after becoming a widow. Suddenly, I found myself looking for new areas of interest. I had friends, most of whom were married, and all of a sudden I became a threat to them. They no longer called me for social activities. Then Dorothy and Leroy came to Jacksonville and to Christ the King Church. When I saw the announcement in the Sunday bulletin, I could hardly wait for that first meeting. I joined the group that night and have been active ever since. We have done a lot of different things this past three years and have had a lot of fun. Everyone joins in to help with the dances and the planning meetings. I'm truly sorry to see Dorothy and Leroy leave us. Their friendly and outgoing personalities will be missed. I want to thank them for starting the Single and Single Again Ministry. The church really needed this group. I'd like to wish them the best of everything in their new life in Ohio. And, I would like to wish Leroy a speedy recovery. Hope he'll be able to join Dorothy real soon. God Bless." —*Marlene Allen*

"When I got my divorce after 35 years of marriage, I was at a loss as to how I was going to go on with my life. A friend heard about the singles group and gave me Dorothy and Leroy's phone number. That was the most important call of my life. Dorothy was very nice and said they were having a meeting the next night. My friend Carroll and I went, and I have still been going for almost three years. You can make new friends and have a social life. No one needs to sit at home and brood about a loss, life goes on. Dorothy and Leroy have helped so many people; they will be missed a lot. Dorothy and Leroy are real people and care for others." —*Sue Kibler*

"The very first function I attended with the Singles Group was a dance. I can honestly say that I have never been so openly welcomed among a group of strangers as I was that night. Dorothy was friendly, included me in the conversation, and overall was a lot of fun to be with. Leroy worked hard at keeping the group active. Due to his contacts around the city, our group has exposure to other singles' groups, various newspapers and church bulletins. Leroy is a genuinely caring person, and all of his efforts are greatly appreciated by those of us who benefitted from his hard work. Dorothy and Leroy started the group and kept it going, while unselfishly giving of their personal time. I wish the best for the two of them. They will be sorely missed." —*Linda Saxman*

"As I start this brand new year of 2000, I have a new challenge to do and that is being the President of Single and Single Again Ministry. I became involved in this ministry about the third meeting that was held almost three years ago, and I have been involved since then. My first meeting I remember feeling welcome, and even though we always feel a little awkward going somewhere new, I felt very comfortable because Dorothy and Leroy made me feel that way. Dorothy and Leroy have worked very hard to establish this group and make it what it is today. Through their dedication and hard work, we have a very successful ministry, and have some very special people. But the most special of all are Dorothy and Leroy. I will miss them both very much as leaders of our ministry, but also as my friends." —*Pat Bell*

*Leroy was also a dedicated staff member of the "Courier". The Staff would like to add their sentiments to the Single and Single Again Group. We will miss Leroy when he moves to Ohio. We miss his gentle smile and calming presence in the midst of our chaotic rush to meet the deadline.*

*Our prayers are for his recovery from this debilitating disease.*

Cards and "Get Well" wishes for Leroy can be sent to 1285 Ovington Road, Jacksonville, Florida 32216.

# Jacksonville International Air & Sea Spectacular a huge success

The 1999 Jacksonville International Air & Sea Spectacular was a huge success for the Navy and the city of Jacksonville.

Held Nov. 4-7, more than 300,000 spectators visited the Jacksonville Landing and NAS Jacksonville for the Air & Sea portions of the event. Nearly 20,000 of those people got the opportunity to tour the Navy frigate USS Samuel Eliot Morison.

The Jacksonville Landing had a tank, troop carrier, a Navy Diving exhibit, and even a F/A-18 Hornet simulator on display to provide hands-on experience for all ages.

At the NAS Jacksonville International Air Show, the highlight was the first-ever nighttime air show. Civilian and military aircraft lit up the night skies with the Jacksonville city skyline aglow across the St. Johns River. It got even more exciting when Ken Shockley went from 0 to 300 mph in less than six seconds, huge flames trailing behind him, as the world's most powerful Chevy, the Shockwave Jet Truck, roared down the NAS Jacksonville runway. A fantastic fireworks display topped off the evening.

Nearly every aircraft in the Department of Defense inventory

performed or was on hand as a static display at the air show, including the U.S. Air Force's F-117 Nighthawk Stealth Fighter. And it was truly an international even with British and Canadian parachute teams, a British Nimrod (jet version of the Navy's P-3 Orion), a Canadian F/A-18 Hornet, a German Tornado, and a British Harrier vertical takeoff jet.

Plans are already underway for this year's even scheduled for Nov. 2-5, 2000. The U.S. Navy's Blue Angels will be the featured performer as NAS Jacksonville celebrates its birthday and 60 years of naval aviation history. The night air show will be on Saturday, instead of Friday, allowing more people to take advantage of this spectacular show. More aircraft

will perform, the jet truck will be back, and it will be a night of sights, sounds, fireworks, and fun.

To find out more about this year's Air & Sea Spectacular, go to the NAS Jacksonville web site at [www.nasjax.navy.mil](http://www.nasjax.navy.mil) and click on "Jacksonville International Air & Sea Spectacular." You'll find photo galleries from 1999 and information on performers in this year's event.

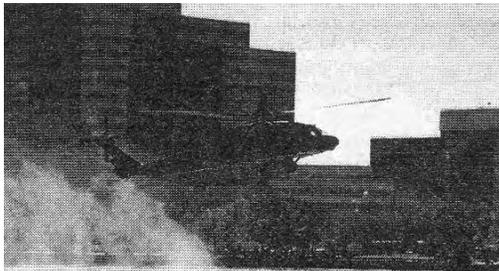
It's ships, planes and jets...and fun for the entire family. Spend a day at the Jacksonville Landing and another day at the NAS Jacksonville International Air Show. See your tax dollars at work and support our men and women in uniform. It's all at the Jacksonville International Air & Sea Spectacular 2000.



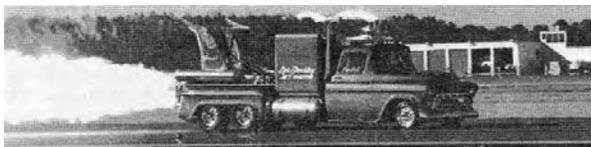
The U.S. Navy's Blue Angels will be the featured performers at the 2000 Air Show



Fireworks light up the skies over NAS Jacksonville



A Navy helicopter hovers over the St. Johns River in downtown Jacksonville during a search and rescue demonstration



The Shockwave Jet Truck is ready to go 300 mph down the NAS Jacksonville runway



Nearly 20,000 people had the opportunity to take a tour aboard the USS Samuel Eliot Morison (FFG-13)

## First Place Winner at Time & Talent Fair - Legion of Mary



### Christ the King Ministries 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mardi Gras Dance



March 4, 8 PM - Midnight in the Kingdome  
Cost: \$15 - Includes one free drink with ticket  
Heavy hors d'oeuvres  
Cash Bar Available  
50/50 raffle tickets available  
Door Prizes with Father Bob McDermott as MC

Come for an evening of dancing with a DJ And Fellowship!

Must be present to win prizes and 50/50 raffle.





St. Vincent de Paul workers at Thanksgiving

by Yolanda P. Cerqueira

We at Christ the King are part of an international Catholic organization of lay persons who wish to live our faith by loving and serving as Jesus did. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul was founded in Paris, France in 1833 by Frederic Ozanam, a 20-year-old college student. His inspiration was St. Vincent de Paul, whose zeal for Christ was manifested in his love for the poor.

The purpose of our Society is to fulfill two great Commandments: love of God and love of neighbor. We seek out God's needy, both materially and spiritually, and help where we can. No need is too great or too small. If great resources are needed, we have them. Sometimes we can do no more than listen and give comfort; we are very good at it.

The world needs charity as much today as it did in former times. But it needs charity as taught by Jesus and as described by St. Paul, as always patient and kind, neither rude or selfish, nor taking pleasure in other people's failures, rather lifting people up and giving hope. With charity, there must be justice. A justice that respects the dignity of the persons we serve. This is what our Society tries to do.

We are not professionally trained social workers. We are members of Christ the King parish, who have the call to be the arms and legs of Jesus. Although Catholic in character, membership is open to all who wish to live their faith by loving and serving their neighbor.

## ANGEL AID

by Mary Ann Sullivan

*From time to time the Courier will inform you of charitable organizations which you may feel inclined to assist.*

AngelAID is a non-profit organization that assists children and family members of the terminally ill, as well as those in life-threatening situations.

AngelAID was started by Arlene and Carl Shipley, 'adoptive parents' of Tashia (Butler) Shipley. Tashia was a nine-year-old child that came into their lives. She had been diagnosed with AIDS due to

It is important to stress that we are a spiritual organization rather than a social one. Our meetings, held weekly, begin with prayer, scripture reading and discussion as to how we may apply it to ourselves and those we serve. Before we make a home visit, we pray that the Holy Spirit will lead and guide us to assist the individual at the point of their need, whether it be materially, spiritually, or both.

Our Conference at Christ the King is made up of 24 active members who make the home visits, and 30 associate members who support us financially on a regular basis or serve on special projects.

As of November of 1999, we had visited 971 homes, handled a total of 1,966 cases, and put in 3,012 service hours. When Vincentians make a home visit, always in pairs, we assess the need and then act upon it.

The problems that arise with our clients are as varied as our clients themselves. Sometimes it might be a simple request for food, help with a JEA bill, or payment of rent. Perhaps a family has fallen into hard times and just needs a little help to get over the rough spots. Whatever the situation, we are there to help alleviate the problem or assist the individual to help himself. There are times when we refer clients to other agencies such as Catholic Charities or Arlington Community Service, because they are better able to respond to the request.

Christ the King has a Food Pantry located on our campus, and it is stocked with nonperishable goods that come from you good

sexual abuse. In the two years they were a family, they taught her how to live while preparing her to die. It was not an easy task. It was during this time that Arlene and Carl decided to start AngelAID.

AngelAID provides moral and spiritual support, food for specialized diets, as well as clothing for those needing assistance. They also provide case management which helps assist the families. Contributions and volunteers are always welcome.

AngelAID is located at 1704 Hendricks Avenue in Jacksonville.  
Phone number - 398-4888  
Web page - angelaid.com

## St. Vincent dePaul Society Loving the Father Through the Poor

people and from the children of our school, who bring needed items on First Fridays.

Who are our clients? They may be parishioners, your neighbor down the street, or any family or individual who is experiencing some difficulty in their life, whether it be financial or spiritual. Anyone who calls for help is answered. All cases are completely CONFIDENTIAL and clients can rest assured that what is said to a Vincentian goes no further than that. Our sole aim is to make their burden a little lighter.

In October of 1998, we opened an office of St. Vincent de Paul at the Rectory. It operates five days a week from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and its purpose is to assist transients and emergency cases. To support these clients, a nutritious packaged lunch is given to them. This office at the Rectory is also staffed by volunteers from our parish.

Without you, we could do nothing. The funds on which we operate come from you, the parishioners. The money you put in the poor box goes directly to assist our clients.

All Vincentians are volunteers. Most of us have regular jobs during the work week. Fortunately, we also have retired people who are able to call on our clients during the day. The others serve in the early evening and on weekends if necessary. Each member might handle one or two cases a week, depending upon the need.

In addition to our regular work, St. Vincent de Paul has some special projects. The Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets are well-known to you all. This year, because of the generosity of our parishioners, we were able to assemble and deliver over 110 baskets of food. This was quite a feat; and yet, because of the cooperation of the parish, all requested baskets were delivered on time for families to enjoy their holiday feast.

Besides the holiday baskets, another project is the sponsoring of the Arlington Interdenominational dance for the handicapped citizens, which takes place in the Parish Hall. Needless to say, there were many smiles and happy feet for the occasion.

One of the items on the agenda for this year is to have a Teen Ministry, because it is from the young that we recruit and form new members. We warmly invite the young to get involved in St. Vincent de Paul. From them, new ideas are generated, and the Vincentian ideals are passed from generation to generation.

It has been said that the love of God and the love of neighbor were, in reality, one. We in the Society experience that as we go about our business. The poor, as well as all of us, are part of the Mystical Body, the Church. In serving the poor, we are loving and serving Jesus Christ. We cordially invite you to become one of us.

## The Millennium Bug No Reason For Alarm

by Staff Writer

Which category did you fit into: Paranoid Reactionary, Sensible Conservative, or Unaffected Passivist regarding the "Y2K bug?" Hopefully, none of us faithful Catholics would be so worried as to be paranoid about the effects of this "bug" on our lives. After all, we are encouraged to fear not by our Holy Father. However, there were some who really believed that just after the stroke of midnight, January 1, 2000, the world would indeed end!

Those who remained passive, and made no changes or preparations could have experienced many problems. According to financial experts, every aspect of our lives could have been affected.

Accessing ATM's for cash, paycheck direct deposit problems, and payment by credit cards were just a few of the potential crises. Also expected were difficulties using power, phones, health care, home PC's, and even food and water.

More crime was expected. The government and Red Cross

suggested that we prepare as if we were expecting a severe storm. We were also asked to avoid air travel if possible. Financial advisors recommended we withdraw cash in case of disruptions.

According to the Florida Times Union, there was actually less crime on New Year's Eve than in the past. The airport here reported that they were free of Y2K glitches.

I was in Mass when 2000 arrived, and had totally forgotten about the "bug". The lights stayed on, and when I arrived home, I found everything in working order. In the days that followed, I heard nothing of any problems experienced anywhere.

All in all, if we were the Sensible Conservatives that we should be at all times, we were probably in the right state of mind, and our affairs were in order in preparation for the new year.

Men and women of faith believing our Creator has a plan know there is no need to worry when the world is in chaos. It was interesting, though, to see how well the computers were modified, keeping our on-line world turning.

## Silent Auction Success



Barbara Chastang, Cora Lalli



Mary Baer, Dottie Klein

by Dolores Bianco

Hats off to Harbor House's Auxiliary for its remarkable, successful Ninth Annual Silent Auction and Sale held on November 13<sup>th</sup> at Christ the King. We are grateful to Mary Baer of WXTV for the evening.

Chairpersons Cora Lalli and Jeanne Vleik did an outstanding job coordinating the event amid injuries and other adverse circumstances. They made it a real community effort, enlisting the willing aid of many talented members.

Thank you to Mary Malone of European Street for providing the

magnificent buffet table with delicious foods; to those who provided lively music throughout the evening, and to all our volunteers. Last but not least: Many thanks to all those who came, enjoyed and contributed by your generous bidding. You are a tremendous support, financially and physically, to the care of Harbor House's residents.

It's not too early to start planning for next year. Please start saving items now for our themed baskets or one-of-a-kind collectibles. For information regarding Auxiliary membership, call 744-4435.

## Hispanic Ministry Prayer Meeting

On December 27, a prayer meeting was held at 7:00pm in The House of Prayer at Christ the King Catholic Church. In attendance were the following members of the Hispanic Ministry: Rosa M. Townsend, Sandra Parra, Carmen Goecoechea, Daisy McDonald, Norma Landers, Arturo Garcia, Jorgelina Lee, John Fred Guaniso, and Floyd I. Townsend

John Fred had researched articles from the office of readings about the expected birth of Christ. He then had them printed in Spanish. Using this information, he led the group in meditation and prayers, followed by a discussion of what they meant to each of the members.

They each underlined the sections which stood out for them, and then spoke to the group about their feelings on the subject. The articles were from a sermon by St. Leo the Great, from a Letter to the Colossians and from Acts. All were pertaining to the birth of Christ, what Christmas is about in the religious sense, and what it means to each person as they celebrate their own birth in Jesus Christ. The birthday of the Lord is the birthday of peace.

The Hispanic Ministry is looking for more members to join them. There are many Hispanics in Christ the King parish, and with more members, the ministry could do more for the Hispanic faith community.

## Farewell, Father Tom! Hope to See You Again in June!



Father Tom McCarthy, Father Brian Carey

by Jean Sell

For thirteen years Father Tom McCarthy has been coming to Christ the King every June and returning to Ireland in August. The first time he came to Christ the King, Monsignor Danaher asked Howard and me to meet his plane and keep an eye on him while he was here. We did just that, and have continued to do so every year since.

Father Tom is a very spiritual person who makes one, sometimes two, Holy hours each day. When he first started coming here, Saturday morning was a time for golf. Sometimes during the week, time permitting, he could get a game in with friends.

As the years went by, Father made more friends. On his return each year he had a list of people on

whom to check. If someone had passed away during his absence, Father Tom always checked on the spouse who had been left alone.

A few years ago as Father's health failed some, he slowed down, but he was still available to all, always ready and willing to listen.

Howard and I visited Ireland, and went to Rockwell College to visit Father Tom. We were treated like royalty, especially anyone who overheard us say that we were from Christ the King Parish in Jacksonville, Florida.

Father had a safe trip back to Ireland on January 12<sup>th</sup>. On June 9<sup>th</sup> we will meet his plane with a big "Cead Mile e Failte, Father Tom" which is "one hundred-thousand welcomes" back to Christ the King!

## Hispanic Ministry Christmas Party



L-R: Carmen Goecoechea, Rosa Maria Townsend, Josephina Lee, Norma Landers, Barry Landers, Silas Osborn, Sandra Parra

by Staff Writer

On Friday, December 17, the Hispanic Ministry Christmas party was held at the home of Norma and Barry Landers. In attendance were the following members: Rosa and Floyd Townsend, Jorgelina (Tita) Lee, Norma and Barry Landers, Sandra Parra, Silas Osborn, Carmen Goecoechea. This was a

covered dish party. It was a very good party.

This is a very strong ministry; however, they are looking for more members to join them. If you are Hispanic, from any nation, and are interested in advancing the Catholic faith in the Hispanic community, please come and join them. The meetings are held in the rectory at 7:30 p.m. on Monday evenings.



# MINISTRIES

## Coordinator of

### Volunteer Services

If you would like to volunteer your Time, Talent, & Treasure but not sure what you would like to do or maybe you're in a ministry but the one you want, call Al Martin, 744-4302.

### Rectory Office Volunteers

Adults willing to volunteer a morning/afternoon/all day Monday thru Friday 9-5. Different positions available: receptionist, clerical, computer operator. Call the Rectory at 724-0080 for more information.

### Parish Council

The Parish Council is a consultative body that the Pastor can pray and reflect with, and ask for assistance to guide in the overall care/ministry of the Parish and the enhancement of its mission. Meetings are the first Monday of each month at 5:30 PM in the Rectory. Call Mike Mackin at 744-6659. It is made up of representatives (President, Chairperson or Facilitator) from each ministry in the Parish, as well as representatives from the Finance Council, Christ the King School, Christ the King Daycare, Athletic Association, Scouts, Knights of Columbus, Marriage Encounter, Sponsor Couples, and Wedding Coordinator. Elections are held every two years to elect a President, vice-president, secretary-recording, secretary-clerical from the body of representatives.

### LITURGICAL

#### Altar Server Ministry

Interested youth 5th grade or older and who have received First Holy Communion. Once trained they are entered into a rotating schedule for the Masses. Contact Jim Litchkofski at 646-0694.

#### Altar Society

Individuals who care for the vessels, vestments and linens used in the Liturgies. Call Debbie Scobie at 723-3977.

#### Church Decorating

Decorating the church and gathering area, during different seasons of the church. Contact Terri Vogelsang, 744-6310 for information on how you can help.

#### Daily Adoration

We need people who are willing to sign up for one hour a week so that someone is praying all during the day. Adoration is in the Sacred Heart Chapel, Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Please call Blanche Iglesias at 725-3968 or sign up on Time and Talent Pledge weekend.

#### Eucharistic Ministers

Assisting the clergy in the distribution of Holy Communion either during Mass or by bringing the Eucharist to the homebound or hospitalized. Candidates are chosen by Father Robert J. McDermott as recommended by the priests and staff members of the parish. Elizabeth Tadors, coordinator, 725-6745.

#### Gift Bearers

Families, Individuals or Parish ministries who want to bring the gifts to the altar during Mass. Call Kathy Weedon at 221-5468.

#### Lector Ministry

A Lector is an instrument of God's grace and proclaims His word for our Christian Community. Call Lucille Guzzone, 724-9617.

#### Mass Greeters

Welcome all who come to Mass. This team may offer the only contact many parishioners have in our faith community. Great opportunity for adults and families. Contact the chief usher at the Mass you are attending for more information.

#### Music Ministry

Any individual who has a talent with music or can play an instrument or just interested in the Singing Choir, Handbell Choir, Funeral Choir, or being a Cantor for Mass, call Bernie, 724-0080.

#### Nocturnal Adoration

Held on the first Friday of each month from 10 p.m.-6 a.m. There are eight groups who rotate their hour each month. If you would like to join us in this prayer ministry, call Marty Polesnski at 384-4392.

#### Sacristans

We help prepare for the celebration of Mass. For more information on how you can be a Sacristan call Ray Hawk, 641-0205.

#### Ushers

Men and women who commit to attend the same Mass every week. They are requested to wear a navy blue jacket and to assist the celebrant as needed. Call Howard Sell at 744-5937.

### EDUCATION

#### Bible Study

Individuals wishing to study the Bible. They meet Thursday mornings at 9 a.m. and another group meets at 7 p.m. in the rectory. All are welcome to join. For more information contact Father Brian Carey at 724-0080.

#### C.C.D.

Opportunity for students grades 1-8 to learn/experience the Catholic faith with others in their age group. Sessions held September-May in the school on Wednesday 7-8 p.m. Sunday Mass attendance required. Call Subdeacon Eli Shami at 721-3334, on Wednesdays, 7-8 pm at 724-2954.

#### C.C.D. Teachers

Needed certified teachers to teach grades 1-8 catechism. If you feel called to reach out to young people this may be the place for you. Call Subdeacon Eli Shami at 721-3334.

#### C.C.D. Volunteers

Volunteers needed for Wednesday nights during the school year to help teachers and clerical staff. Call Subdeacon Eli at 721-3334.

#### Center for Family Life

For counseling information, call 308-7474.

#### Child Care Center

Adults wanting to share their talents in the three different subcommittees: educational, plant facilities, and fund raising. Contact Theresa Little at 724-7239.

#### Christ the King Catholic School

Grades Pre-K thru 8th grade. The principal is Janet Morton. The school needs volunteers on the school board, at the cafeteria, office, library, clinic, as a room mother, etc. Call 724-2954.

#### Faith Sharing Small Groups

Small groups of people meeting in private homes to discuss the Sunday readings and sharing how these readings relate to our daily lives. Contact Jean O'Connor, 727-9590.

#### Landings

Works with Catholics who have been away from the Church for a period of time and wish to return. Contact Jackie Davis, 743-6667.

#### Marriage Encounter

A program designed to teach married couples how to better communicate, to strengthen and support Christian marriage. Contact Emilio and Theresa Gonzalez-Chavez 721-0012.

#### Pre Cana/Engaged Encounter

For information on upcoming workshops and weekends, call 308-7474.

#### R.C.I.A.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Preparing people to enter the Catholic Church through an inquiry and catechetical process. Call Marie or Lyle Stewart, 721-2849.

#### Sponsors for Career Day

#### at Christ the King School

On Career Day we need several people to volunteer to share information about their careers/vocations with the children. If you would like more information, please call the school at 724-2954.

#### Sponsor Couples

Needed married couples to help engaged couples discern if marriage is for them. Call Jim/Mary Ann Middleton at 743-3951 for further information.

#### Sunday Childcare

For 8:30 & 10:00 Masses Christ the King Childcare & Religious Formation for your 1-4 year old child in the Child Care Center. Free of charge. Call Marsha Williams, 221-4459 or Donna Iglesias, 725-0680 to help or for more information.

#### Vacation Bible School

A week long summer program (usually in August) for children ages 4-11 years to help deepen their faith and involvement in the Christian community. Fun for everyone. Call Diana Mattox at 928-9224.

### ACTIVE ASSOCIATIONS

#### Adopt A Player

People of our parish who would like to contribute toward the cost associated with registering a child for a C.K.A.A. sport call John Lorgey at 743-8496 or the office 725-0338.

#### Beautification Committee

Individuals and families who want to beautify the church grounds. Meet the third Saturday of every month 9-12 noon in the church parking lot by the fountain. Come join us in beautifying His House. Call Terry Riggs 744-7357.

#### Boy Scouts

Troop 5 sponsored by Christ the King Church. Boys 6-12th grade. Meet Tuesdays, 7 p.m. in the Scout Hut-Call Rob 981-0363.

#### Catholic Scouting Ministry

Adult individuals interested in providing youth ministry through the scouting program. Meets 4 times a year; organizes and implements "Catholic camporee" for all Scouts once a year; attend spring awards ceremony. Training provided. Call Donna, 641-0698.

#### Christ the King

#### Athletic Association (CKAA)

Serves children (ages 5-12, boys; 5-15, girls) who believe that youth athletics provide valuable lessons in citizenship/teamwork. Call John, 743-8496/office 725-0338.

#### Christ the King Courier

Interested in publishing a newspaper? We need proofreaders, reporters, photographers, etc. We meet Wednesdays in the rectory at 7 p.m. Call Judy at 724-0080.

#### CKCCW

Our board meets monthly, September-June, to guide our seven circles who meet at various times during the month. Our General meeting is the last Thursday of each month at 7 PM. We welcome new members. Call Pat Setser, 399-3198.

#### Cub Scouts

Pack 5 sponsored by Christ the King Church. Boys in 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade. Dens meet weekly in the Scout Hut. Call Dave Waters 721-6567 or Donna Baker, 641-0698.

#### Cursillo

A Renewal movement of individuals in the Church who want to deepen their faith and enhance their walk with Christ. Call Carl Ludwig at 724-8485.

#### Girl Scouts

Girls of different age levels that meet weekly or bi-weekly in the Shirley David Hall after school or in the evenings. Call Nancy at 745-3751.

#### Habitat - Habitat for Humanity

Forms partnerships between those in need and those who are willing to put their faith into action by donating their time, talent, and treasure to construct such housing. Call Bill Damato at 642-8920.

#### Hispanic Ministry

We wish to develop a parish ministry to worship and meet the spiritual and social needs of the growing Hispanic population at Christ the King. We meet every Monday at 7 PM. for Bible study in the Rectory. Call Rosa Townsend, 744-9231.

#### Single and Single Again

Alone? Join us! We're the Single and Single Again Support Group, meeting new friends and enjoying social activities. We meet Tuesdays, 7:30 PM in the Shirley David Hall. Call Pat, 722-8525.

#### Respect Life

We are a ministry wishing to make a difference in people's lives either by supporting the Saint Gerard House, Project Rachel, Respect Life Pilgrimage and the Diocesan Respect Life Program. Sign up at the Time and Talent Fair or contact Patty or Mike Maroney, 743-9227.

#### The Legion of Mary

Men or women who offer their services to their pastor, to aid him in performing spiritual works in the parish. Members may be active or auxiliary (praying). Weekly meetings are held every Monday at 7 p.m. in the rectory. Call James Scott at 757-8423.

#### Religious Articles Gift Shop

Volunteers who staff the gift shop before and after Sunday Masses and Wednesday Marion Mass. Call Maureen McCook at 642-2725.

#### Widow/Widowers Support

For those who have lost loved ones. Contact Isabelle Fusco at 724-5186 for info on the next time we meet.

#### Stewardship Committee

Participate in a vital leadership group devoted to discovering and communicating insights into Christian discipleship and their application to stewardship as a way of life. Monthly meetings plus activities throughout the year. Call Patricia Thomas, 724-0080.

#### M.O.M.S. Ministry

Ministry of Mothers Sharing, is designed to encourage prayer, discussions, and friendships between women of all ages. Call Carroll Ann Black, 221-2642

#### K' Cees

Organization of Catholic Women, an auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus Council 4727. They help/support the Knights. Meetings are at the Knights' Hall on Merrill Road on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m. Call Inge Morgan, 725-1838 for information.

#### Queens and Kings

Our lively senior citizens socialize on the second Sunday of each month from 1:30-4 p.m. September through June. Do come to enjoy! Call Pat Humbard, 396-6073.

#### Knights of Columbus

Organization of Catholic men and their families dedicated to promoting concepts of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. If you are a practicing Catholic man at least 18 yrs. old, interested in fellowship with people who share the same beliefs, call Pat Bianco, 743-4999.

#### Life Teen

Youth ministry program with a strong focus on the Eucharist. Meet Sunday for Mass (usually at 5 p.m.) and Life Night (fellowship) afterwards. Call Nancy, 398-1961

#### Life Teen - Core Team

Over 18, have a love for teens and are not currently a parent of a teen. Meet on Sundays at 6:15 p.m. in the rectory. Call Nancy Powers at 398-1961 for more information, on meeting times.

#### Parents for Life-Teen

Adults or teens interested in supporting the Life Teen program. Membership is open to all adults regardless of whether or not you are a parent. Activities are creative, fun, exciting and diverse. Call Jeanette, 725-7559 or 354-4846.

#### L' Arche Harbor House

Mutual ministry with members and assistants, building community support and awareness to the needs and gifts of the disabled members of the L' Arche Harbor House family. Call Dottie Klein at 744-4435.

#### St. Vincent de Paul Society

We were founded by people who care about the problems of those around them. We care and would like you to share the care with us. For information on how to become a Vincentian call Ernie Waller 634-8544, x1, and leave a message.



#### St. Vincent de Paul

Visitation Ministry We need volunteers to visit the sick/elderly of the parish. Leave a message on 634-8544, x1.

#### I. M. Sulzbacher

Individuals who give two hours of their time to 400-500 men, women and children the third Tuesday of each month by saying grace, serving dinner and cleaning up the kitchen. Call Donnell, 743-6174.

#### Teen Stewardship

Teens share their Time, Talent and Treasure with their parish. Call Gus & Jackie Carlson at 465-6957.

#### Advent Tree

A program that puts smiles on faces of people at Christmas time. Those who share time and talent in this ministry help put up the Advent Tree with special paper ornaments. Parishioners choose ornaments to take home, purchase the gift, return the ornament with the gift attached to it. Volunteers needed to help distribute the gifts to nursing homes, orphanages, etc. Call Trudy Cameron at 724-0511.

#### Christ the King

#### Clinic Volunteers

Staffed by Doctors, Registered Nurses and ancillary support people from Christ the King Parish. They donate their services the fourth Saturday of each month 9-1p.m. Call Janis at 398-4392.

#### Parish Nurse Ministry

Nurses who belong to Christ the King Parish willing to volunteer their time and talent to support the ministry of health within the parish. Call Barbara at 724-1776.

#### Christ the King Blood Drive

#### Needs Volunteers

Twice a year Christ the King Church along with the Florida Georgia Blood Alliance holds a blood drive. Call Kallene Simmons, 642-8319.

#### St. Vincent de Paul

#### Emergency Assistance

We need volunteers to work in the St. Vincent de Paul office in the rectory, providing referrals and assisting people who need immediate help. Hours are from 10 a.m. till noon Monday through Friday. Call Ernie Waller at 743-3395.

#### Prayer Network

One of our newest and most rewarding ministries - praying for others in need - spiritual, health related and other. Please call Donnell Baer at 743-6174.

#### Teen Stewardship Volunteers

Meet twice a year to coordinate service hours and pledges of teens. Call Jackie & Gus Carlson 465-6957.

# Schedule of Upcoming Events

# Marywood Retreat Center

For weekly events - please check the bulletin April 5, April 19)

### Parish Council Meeting

The first Monday of each month at 5:30p.m. in the Rectory. A representative from each ministry should be in attendance. Everyone is welcome to attend. (February 7, March 6, April 3, May 1)

### I.M. Sulzbacher

On the third Tuesday of each month we feed the homeless at I.M. Sulzbacher Center from 5:15-7:30pm. (Feb. 15, March 21, April 18)

### Beautification Day

The third Saturday of each month from 9a.m.-1p.m. all are welcome to come to the Church grounds and help with clean up of the grounds and flower beds. (Feb. 19, March 18, April 15)

### Baptism Class

The first Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Rectory. This class is a must for anyone who would like to have their child baptized. (March 4, April 1, May 6)

### Christ the King Clinic

The fourth Saturday of each month from 9a.m. to 1p.m. The clinic on University Blvd. is available to those in medical need. (Feb.26, March 25)

### Lenten Fish Fry

Every Wednesday during Lent, a fish dinner is served in the Parish Hall from 5-7pm. The meal consist of fish, baked beans, coleslaw, bread, coffee or tea. Cost per adult is \$3; children under 14 \$1. Take outs are available. (March 8, March 15, March 22,

### The present laws of the Church regarding fast and abstinence during the Season of Lent are as follows:

1. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast. On days of fast, one full meal and two lesser meals are allowed; eating between meals is not permitted. Catholics who've reached their 18th year are bound by this law until the beginning of their 60th year.
2. Ash Wednesday and All Fridays of Lent are also days of abstinence. On days of abstinence, meats should not be permitted. The Law of Abstinence binds all Catholics who have completed their 14th year.

The New Code of Canon Laws states: "On these days (of penance) the faithful are in special manner to devote themselves to prayer, to engage in works of piety and charity, to deny themselves by fulfilling their obligations more faithfully and especially by observing the fast and abstinence..."

### St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Join us for a little Irish laughter, entertainment and friendly sociability, as well as a delightful dinner of corned beef and cabbage in March. From 1- 4PM in the Parish Hall. Check the bulletin for the exact date.

### Room Mothers Book Fair

Come and browse through the different books for children of all ages. The fair runs from March 13 through to March 19.

### Penance Service

In preparation for Easter, a Lenten Penance Service will be held in April at 7:00 P.M. in Christ the King Church. Check the April bulletins for the exact date. The sacrament of reconciliation is also available each Saturday from 4:00 to 4:50 P.M.

### Stations of the Cross

On Fridays during Lent, following the 8:15 A.M. Children's Mass, we will have the Stations of the Cross in the Church. Evening Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday during Lent at 7:00 P.M. in the Church. St. Maron will have Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 7 P.M. in the Sacred Heart Chapel.

### Confirmation

The sacrament of Confirmation by Bishop John Snyder will be on February 26 at 11:00 a.m. A reception will follow in the Parish Hall.

### Mardi Gras Dance

MOMS will sponsor the second annual Mardi Gras Dance on March 4<sup>th</sup> in the Kingdome. Plan on joining us for a fun-filled evening.

### Dinner Talent Show

Christ the King School will sponsor a dinner/talent show on March 23. The event will be catered by Carrabba's.

Holy Week Schedule	
<b>Palm Sunday</b> - Regular schedule for Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses.	
<b>Holy Thursday</b> - 6PM Mass of the Lord's Supper	
<b>Good Friday</b> - 1PM - Seven Last Words of Christ 3PM - the Passion & Death of our Lord	
<b>Holy Saturday</b> - Stations of the Cross 6PM - Stations of the Cross	
<b>Holy Saturday</b> - nightfall - Easter Vigil (no 5 PM Mass)	
<b>Easter Sunday</b> - Regular schedule for Sunday Mass	
	Vietnamese Mass - 2 PM

### Mid-Life Directions Workshop

**Date:** February 18-20, 2000  
**Time:** 7:30 pm on Friday to noon on Sunday  
**Cost:** \$72.00 (\$100 deposit on arrival.) Private room \$20 additional charge.  
**Leaders:** Sisters Anna Brennan and Janice Brewi, CSJ

This weekend offers a time of reflection on mid-life as a time of transition and renaissance; as a time to allow the past, present and future to come together. Mid-life is a time to learn how to relax and contemplate; to reflect on your deepest beliefs as they illuminate your life.

Sisters Anne Brennan and Janice Brewi founded Mid-Life Directions in 1981 as a means of helping adults age 35-65+ promote and develop personal and spiritual growth. Sisters Brennan and Brewi have written numerous articles and three books, and have conducted hundreds of Mid-Life Directions programs throughout the United States, Canada, England, the Virgin Islands, Singapore and Malaysia.

### Journey: A 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Grades Retreat

**Date:** February 25-26, 2000  
**Time:** 7:30 pm Friday to 8:00 pm Saturday (1 night/3 meals)  
**Cost:** \$30.00  
**Leaders:** Linda Knight, Onia Rodriguez, Pete Blay  
**Lodging:** Camp St. John

This retreat weekend was designed to help 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders examine their relationship with God. Students in 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades are sometimes inadvertently overlooked as they are often in between Confirmation retreats and Search retreats.

Journey is open to both those who have received Confirmation, and those who are not yet confirmed, as a way of helping them continue to live out their commitment as followers of Christ within parish communities.

Linda Knight (San Jose), Onie Rodriguez (St. Matthew) and Pete Blay (San Juan del Rio) are youth ministers in our Diocese, and have experience in many phases of retreat ministry with youth.

### Elderhostel

**Date:** February 27- March 3, 2000  
**#1** Let's Hear It For George Gershwin!  
**#2** The Civil War: A Southern Perspective, A Political Dilemma  
**#3** "Tate's Hell" and Other Interesting Folk Tales and Legends of Florida

To register for these Elderhostel courses, contact the Marywood Center for further information.

### Living on Purpose with Passion

**Date:** March 18, 2000  
**Time:** 9:30 am-3:30 pm  
**Cost:** \$20.00  
**Leader:** Celeste Kruger

This gathering is for women who wonder, "What might a passionate future with purpose be like for me?" By giving attention to their whole selves, using ritual, art, self inquiry, journal writing, drama and conversations with other women who share the journey, women will honor and build on their strengths. Expect much laughter in a supportive environment.

Celeste Kruger is a leadership development consultant, as well as author and editor of *A Woman's Passion*, an autobiographical sketch of prose and poetry. She holds a Master's Specialist degree in Counselor Education, and a B.A. in Humanities and Religion with a minor in Women's Studies.

### Women's Recovery Retreat: A Weekend with the Wise Woman, Experience in Calmness

**Date:** March 24-26, 2000  
**Time:** 7:30 pm on Friday to 12 noon on Sunday  
**Cost:** Per Person: \$143 (Private); \$121 (Double); \$75 (Com.)  
**Leader:** Susan Nicks

Open to all women in a 12 step program. We invite you to a quiet weekend to rest, share experiences, and make new friends. Through prayer, meetings and meditations, God's presence and power is celebrated. Our study will be Steps 3, 6 and 11. There will be time for quiet walks beside the river, or beneath the trees. Bring comfortable clothing.

Susan Nicks is an effective and popular leader, with 26 years of sober living experience. Her own spiritual journey inspires many!

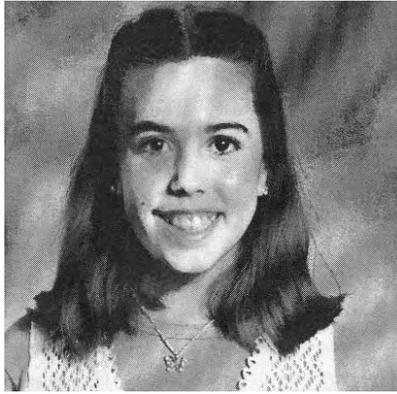
### Men's Scripture Evening #1: Reading Scripture

**Date:** March 30, 2000  
**Time:** 7-9 pm  
**Cost:** \$7.00  
**Leader:** Father Donal Sullivan

How do we read Scriptures today? Father Sullivan opens this series by laying the groundwork with guidelines for study of the Scriptures. Some topics include Structure and Purpose, Language, Importance, History, The Controversy Between Scripture and Science, Authorship, Interpretation, and Authoritative Guidance.

Father Donal Sullivan is pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Green Cove Springs. He is an experienced retreat director with a rich educational background.

## Lunch With a Giant



by Lauren McGill

I think I am the luckiest girl in the world! Why? Today I am going to eat lunch with the Big Friendly Giant (The BFG). We met in the book *The BFG* by Roald Dahl in which the main character was him. We both decided to have lunch sometime. Now, we are going to have lunch in the place where he lives called Giant Country.

Any second now he will be here to pick me up. I went to go look out the window for something to do. Surprisingly, he is waiting for me on the driveway. I run as fast as I can to the front door. I open the door and run to him. I cried happily, "Hi, did you miss me?"

"Of course I did!" exclaimed the BFG. He put me in his pocket, and then he asked "Are you comfortable so we can be on our way?"

"Yeah!" I shouted.

"Then we're off!" yelled the BFG. As he was running we passed continents such as Antarctica, Asia, China and Europe. When we came to the ocean I nervously asked, "Now what are we doing to do?"

"Why, leap over it of course," he replied.

"You can do that?" I anxiously asked.

"Oh yes that's easy," he said. And with that he took a large leap over the huge ocean.

It is stunning that the large leap took us to Giant Country. When he slowed down I knew we were near his cave. When he stopped, he rolled a large stone away from the cave. Then he tiredly said, "We're here."

Happily I said, "That's great!"

When we got in the cave he set me on his humongous table. I sat patiently on the table while he got out food for our lunch. While he was getting food for our lunch he said, "I can't wait to have lunch. I am starving!"

I joined in and hungrily said, "Me too!"

When everything was out for lunch, we started making it. I made the sandwiches and he poured the drinks. For the sandwiches, I am having P B & J, and the BFG is having the same thing. For drinks the BFG poured himself some

frobbscottle (giant soda) and he poured me some soda. When everything was done, we sat down and said the blessing, "Bless us O' Lord. . ." Then lunch began. I started a conversation by saying, "What is your favorite animal?"

"Mine is a monkey," replied the BFG.

"Monkeys are very funny and cute," I told him.

As the BFG stuffed some food into his mouth and he asked, "What is your favorite animal?"

"Mine is a horse," I replied.

"Those are very beautiful," he told me.

When we were done with lunch the BFG suggested, "Let's go dream catching and I will take you home from there."

"Okay," I replied, "that sounds like fun."

"Let's go," he then said.

When we got there he handed me a net and a jar. The net was for catching a dream, and the jar was for storing the dream. After about two minutes the BFG shouted, "I've got one!" He then put it in his jar. In the next ten minutes, I yelled, "I have caught one too!" The BFG helped me to put it in a jar.

After a couple of minutes the BFG announced, "Now I think I should take you home since we have both caught a dream, okay?"

"Well, alright," I said sadly.

We then packed all of the things up and started off to my house.

When we finally got there, I waved goodbye and promised, "Next time you can come to my house for lunch."

The BFG agreed, "Okay."

I walked to the door and turned around to say goodbye again but he had already left. I was a little bit sad but I can't wait to tell my family about lunch and dream catching with the Big Friendly Giant.

*Lauren McGill is a fifth grader in Ms. Chin's class at Christ the King School. Her story, which was submitted for the Smucker's and Jif "Talk of the Table" Contest administered by Scholastic Inc., won Christ the King School a check for \$1,000.00. Congratulations, Lauren!*

## EMILY KOURDY: A LOVE STORY



As we enter into the Millennium, we realized that Emily Kourdy has lived in three centuries. Born in Aleppo, Syria on January 1, 1896, Emily came to the United States in 1920 and lived in Brooklyn, N.Y. She married in 1936 and was widowed in 1946. In 1968, Emily moved to Jacksonville.



Father Thanh came to bless Emily and said, "She has blessed me ten times over."

Jean Sell accompanied Father on this very special visit.

by Eileen Porter

When Emily Kourdy celebrated her one hundred fourth birthday on January 1, 2000 it was a really exciting event. But the real story is much more exciting - a story of real love and devotion that is seldom seen in today's busy world. The story concerns Emily's extended family, Rosemary and Tony Shami and their children and grandchildren.

Emily was born in Alep, Syria on January 1, 1896 and emigrated to the United States in 1920. The family came through Ellis Island and settled in New York City where Emily was married in 1936. Emily's only child Rosemary was born in 1938. Sadly Emily's husband died when Rosemary was seven and Emily worked to support herself and her child.

Rosemary married Tony Shami in 1960 and when they were married a little over a year, Tony told Rosemary that Emily should not be living alone. So they brought

her into their home. For the past 38 years Emily has been a beloved integral part of the Shami extended family.

Emily and the Shami family have been members of Christ the King for thirty-one years and are grateful to the priests of Christ the King who have ministered to them through the years. They are especially grateful to Father Thanh who has visited Emily many times in the past several years, as Emily is no longer physically able to attend Mass.

They are also grateful to family friend and Eucharistic Minister Jean Sell who has faithfully taken the Holy Eucharist to Emily at least once a week for a number of years. This has been a labor of love for Jean as well, since she feels very close to Emily and to the Shami family.

Emily has been truly blessed in being a part of the circle of love that envelops the Shami family and they, in turn, have been enriched by her presence.

# ALL SAINTS DAY



Mrs. Pichardo's class



The children enter church dressed as saints

by Kathy Nichols

Each year, in celebration of All Saints Day, the first graders come to school dressed up as the saint of their choice. They learn a little about the history of their particular saint, as well as having fun by getting to dress up! After attending the school Mass at 8:15 a.m., they go from room to room throughout the school to display their attire. *Thank you, Mrs. Pichardo and Miss Barker for continuing this wonderful tradition at Christ The King!*

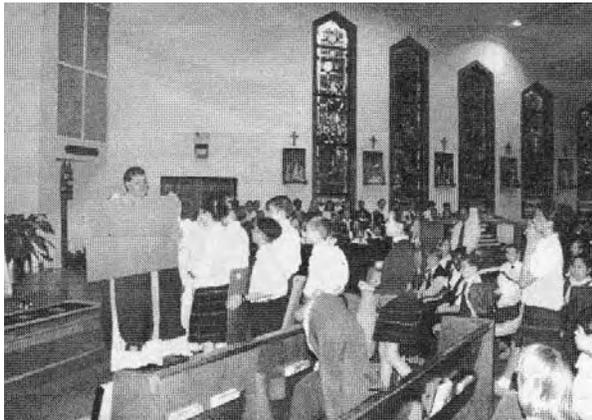


Let's guess who Patrick Shami represents



Miss Barker's class

## STUDENTS WELCOME FR. McDERMOTT



The children present Father McDermott with gifts and posters



The presentation of the gifts



by Kathy Nichols

### TITLE 1

Title 1 is a program designed to give students an extra educational boost in a less structured setting. Small groups of two to six children are given the chance to experience the excitement of reading and/or math. Sylvan/Title 1 operates with the motivation of making learning fun and surmountable, while challenging, in an attempt to build a child's confidence and frequency of success.

Since the program is based on criteria that establishes eligibility, may we ask that you return the questionnaire you received earlier this year. Additional questionnaires were sent in January. Not all children need or are eligible for this program, but their parent's surveys are instrumental in helping other students. We appreciate your cooperation.

animal" also received tickets to an upcoming Jaguars game.

During the 8:15 a.m. Mass on October 29th, the children of Christ the King School gave Father McDermott a heartfelt welcome and presented him with gifts and posters. The self-proclaimed "party

Father McDermott has said over and over again that there is no place he would rather be than at Christ the King. Welcome to your new home, Father Bob!

# GRANDPARENTS' MASS



Father McDermott's Homily during Grandparents Mass, November 24, 1999



Violin entertainment, headed by Rocky DiGeorgio and accompanied by the preschool teachers and aides on tambourines

by Kathy Nichols

"This is one of my favorite days of the year," exclaimed a grandparent speaking with Father McDermott. This traditional event is celebrated annually at Christ the King School and Church the Wednesday before each Thanksgiving. It begins with a Mass, followed by a breakfast

reception with musical entertainment, and ends with a tour of the students' classrooms. During the homily, Father McDermott asked the children about their grandparents. Some replies were, "They spoil us," "They love us," and "They are always there." Thanks Grandma and Grandpa.

## It's a Tradition

by Cynthia Surles

For approximately 20 years, Christ the King School has had a tradition of participating in Grandparents' Mass. This year it was on Wednesday, November 24, 1999, officiated by our new pastor, Father Bob McDermott, with psalms sung by the children's choir.

The sermon is always focused around grandparents, family or related topics. This year Father McDermott walked out into the aisles to speak to the children. After explaining that parents' tithing alone can't cover all of the school tuition, he asked, "Who takes up the slack?" The answer from one little boy was "God!". (Out of the mouth of babes!) The answer our pastor was searching for was, of course, the grandparents and other members of the congregation. When he asked the children how they spend time with their grandparents, someone's response was "baby-sit them." Needless to say, everyone enjoyed and learned from the questions and answers.

The Mass was followed by a continental breakfast in the hall and

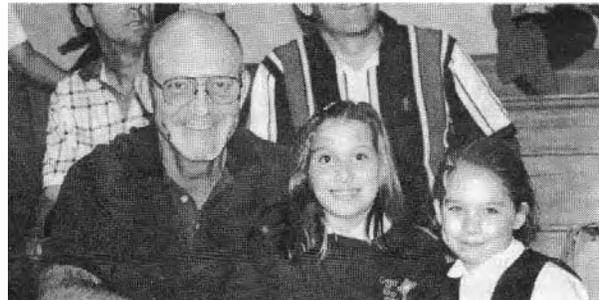
in the gym. Because participation is so great the families are spread over two buildings according to last names. Those in the gym had an additional treat of the school's Suzuki Violin group directed by Mr. DiGeorgio, the music teacher.

I interviewed Mrs. Janet Morton, the school principal, to find out how this tradition started. Almost 20 years ago, she and Monsignor Danaher had a goal to increase school enrollment by getting more people involved. They felt it was important for grandparents to see where their grandchildren went to school. In the beginning, if a student did not have a grandparent but wanted a surrogate, a parishioner volunteer was assigned. As the program evolved, students would buddy up with friends and their grandparents. The teachers enjoy watching the students play host and show off their school and classrooms.

The original idea was obviously a good one, since everyone has a great time, and enrollment has grown from 375 students in the beginning to the current 627.



Bradley Surles with Granny Imogene Surles



Grandpa Putala with his granddaughters, Ashlee and Stacie Putala



Grandma Lynch with her grandchildren Allison Lynch (left) and Victoria Lynch (right)



Amanda Nichols (center) with her grandparents Fran and Bob Kay (far left) and Great Grandma Busia (far right)

# Safety Patrol

by Karen Brune Mathis

Before school and after, Kristin Kersch, Estephan Yazgi and 33 of their fifth-grade classmates don their orange belts and shiny badges and take their posts.

The students are members of the Christ the King School Safety Patrol. This is an organization of fifth graders who are entrusted to keep students safe when arriving at or departing school for the day.

Students try out for patrol and then must maintain good grades, proper conduct and dependability to keep their positions. Safety Patrol students work many posts and change jobs regularly to gain experience.

They raise the American flag each morning and lower it in the afternoon. They open vehicle doors for students dropped off for school, guard the crosswalks so people can pass safely, accompany young students to class and perform other responsible tasks.

Ten-year-old Kristin said she has learned a lot, and cited one primary lesson.

"You learn how to be more polite," she said, speaking from her experience of opening car doors for arriving students. She follows in the footsteps of siblings Jessica, 18, and Adam, 15, who also served on Safety Patrol when they were younger. Younger brother Joseph might follow suit, too.

Kristin also enjoys escorting the kindergarten students to their classes. "It's a lot of fun because you can make friends with some of the little kids, like kindergartners," Kristin said.

"I walk them and make them feel more comfortable," she said.

Estephan said he is learning and teaching discipline at the same time. He is learning the rules of serving on patrol as well as teaching younger students how to behave.

One of his posts was to watch the third-grade students who gather in the gym to wait for their rides home after school.

Estephan, also has watched his fellow Safety Patrol students improve their behavior. "They don't run anymore. They don't run around and talk and all that. They follow the rules, too," she said.

## Large Organization

Christ the King Safety Patrol is one of an estimated 50,000 patrol groups at elementary and middle schools around the country.

The American Automobile Association started the safety patrol program in the early 1920's in Chicago, and reports that at least 500,000 students serve on their local AAA school safety patrols each year.

Kristin and Estephan and their colleagues follow in the footsteps of former safety patrol students like former President Jimmy Carter, several current and former U.S. Supreme Court Justices, five Olympic Gold Medalists and 21 astronauts, according to AAA.

Around the city, the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and its Officer Friendly program, trains and supports safety for private schools that participate.

"We come in and we train the children. We show them a video and explain to them their roles," said Sgt. Gus Carlson, a Christ the King parishioner and father of Caroline Carlson, a fifth-grader serving on Safety Patrol.

"We stress the safety and their importance in getting the kids to and from their classrooms," Carlson said.

The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office also participates in the annual Washington, D.C., trip in June, which Carlson will attend along with 10 other Christ the King adult chaperones.

At Christ the King, students must maintain a C average to remain on patrol and are held to standards befitting the role.

Christ the King fifth-grade teacher Elizabeth McGovern has served as the safety patrol faculty sponsor since 1994, and recalls that the patrols were at work since her son started at Christ the King in 1970.

While students in the upper grades had served on patrol, she said that fifth and sixth graders took the duties in the early 1980's. The patrol remains open to sixth-grade students, although fifth graders generally participate the most.

Christ the King School Principal Janet Morton recalls that Sister Enda worked with Safety Patrol at the school about 1978, and the program is a teaching tool for students.

"I think they learn the responsibility of doing a job and doing it well, and they also learn how to cooperate with each other and work as a team. They have to keep their grades up and their conduct up," she said.

Mrs. McGovern calls it "a great program."

"It is a real motivator for some of the kids academically. I have seen kids who did not make the grade academically, but once they get on patrol, they work a little harder," she said.

## Trip to Washington D.C.

Safety Patrol students around the country spend their school year learning their responsibilities as well as generating support for the annual trip to Washington where



Top Row: Miriam Smith, Chris Infante, Brandon Wall, Graham Inman, Bottom Row: Melissa Mayotte and Caitlin Smith



L-R: Mark, Jacob, Aaron and Laurie Plotz



Tina Porter and daughter, Jammarie, CTK school crossing guard

Safety Patrol students from across the United States tour the U.S. Capitol.

These students spend six days on the trip, which also include visits to Busch Gardens in Williamsburg. This year, more than 30 of the Christ the King Safety Patrol students have signed up for the event.

Christ the King School's Board President Chuck Parliament took the trip as a school chaperone in 1997, when his son John served on Safety Patrol.

Parliament recalls his students savoring what seemed like "thousands" of Tootsie Roll Pops as snacks and rewards for good behavior during the trip.

"It is a great experience," Parliament said of the visit.

"There are so many things to see and do in Washington D.C., and to learn to get along with your peers for a week on a bus is a good learning experience."

Parliament said three of his four children served on Christ the King Safety Patrol.

"I think the benefit would be common courtesy for your fellow man, to be courteous and to have a good attitude," Parliament said.

"They learn to be courteous because that is what was expected, and also to be a good student. They hold their feet to the fire, and that's great," he said.

This year's Safety Patrol is generating financial support for the

trip to Washington, D.C. and four other projects.

The students plan three major events to promote their trip which include:

Sales of Christ the King Ravens T-shirts for adults and children as well as Ravens tote bags, back packs, duffle bags, caps, window decals and pep-poms. The items generate school spirit for Christ the King and its Ravens basketball, volleyball, soccer and softball teams, as well as support for Safety patrol.

Desserts and canned drink sales at the annual Lenten Fish Fry dinners, which start on Wednesday, March 8, and are held through April 19.

The annual Spaghetti Dinner, scheduled this year for 5p.m. to 7p.m. on Friday, May 19, at the Christ the King parish hall. Dinner will be served in the hall and takeouts will be available. Tickets will be sold by students in advance and at the door.

The Safety Patrol students also sponsored other events and programs, and they wish to thank all the parishioners and their family members for the generous support they have freely given.

For information about Safety Patrol and its program, call co-chairs Karen Mathis at 641-5131 or Laurie Plotz at 725-9015.S

**Go Ravens!**

## Christ the King School Perseverance Award

KA	Maverick Claxton	4A	Casey Mobley
KB	Patrick Flores	4B	Rebecca Flag
KC	Kelly Frenette	5A	Mikaila Koenig
1A	Jordan Reiley	5B	Dene Chin
1B	Michelle Sciuolo	6A	Ben Holland
2A	Angelo Devera	6B	Christopher Ribble
2B	Sarah Mathieu	7A	Matt Perret
3A	Tommie Porter	7B	Natalie Que
	Michael Smith	8A	Cara Titoni
3B	Kirsten Greene	8B	Josh Pittman

## A T & T Points

Thank you to the 99 families of Christ the King who are registered with AT&T Points for Schools Program. The school will receive points to be used towards technology if AT&T is your long distance carrier. You may register by calling 1(800) 354-8800.

## Christ the King School Honor Roll 1st Quarter

4A	Chris Infante	7B	Emi Arnold
Jerlita Asunto	Daniel Jerreld	Sam Fewell	Sydney Franklin
Julian Bejarano	Dannielle Kehrt	Cameron Frye	Brian Karahalios
Christopher Glotzer	Victoria Lynch	Michael Kuhn	Elizabeth Lynch
Allison Lynch	Amanda Maroney	Alexandra Mihalakos	Tim miller
Amanda Nichols	Mallory Marsh	Kim Oquindo	Natalie Que
Ashlee Putala	Melissa Mayotte	Erin Thurlow	Katherine Tsengas
Shannon Saffer	Lauren McGill	Michael Winter	
Anthony Shami	Jammari Porter	8A	Adam Burnett
Jessie Stamper	R.J. Pyell	Melissa Dodds	Traci Edmonds
Timmy Toledo	Cyril Rodriguez	Jeffery Flagg	Kristen Henry
	Brian Winter	Matthew LaDuke	Sean Purcell
4B	Estephan Yazji	Eleuterio Ramos	Christin Steffan
Eric Barber		Adel Yazji	
Hannah Christian	6A	8B	Jevie Asunto
Rebecca Flagg	Jerly Asunto	Debbie Barnhart	Danielle Boutte
Jordan Lewis**	Cameron Cox	Molly Crisp	Nicholas James
Jon Paul Little	Michelle Fares	Amanda Jerreld	Tracia Lagdaan
Sayhe Loayza	David Glotzer	Lynn Zarzosa	
Connor Marsh	Brian Griffin	**Denotes all A's	
Kristin McElroy	Lauren Grochmal		
Jordan Mikell	Mark LaDuke		
Nichole Norton	Stephanie Ricker		
Ashton Pevy	Josalin Saffer		
Lane Steffan	Ashley Yount		
Rebecca Yount			
5A	6B		
Ryan Duzon	Christina Lohr		
Leslie Gay	Nichole Miller		
Melanie Johnson	Carlson Salud		
Monica Lapierre	Megan Stephens		
Melissa Leonard	Robert Wooten		
Taylor Morgan	Allie Yocum		
Jacob Plotz	7A		
Erik Pyell	Brittany Burnes		
Steven Vergenz	Natalie D'Orazio		
Sarah Woosley	Joseph James		
	Alexandria Schmitt		
5B	Ashley Young		
Brian Burnes			
Jessica Herring			

## 2000-2001 School Registration

Registration for the 2000-2001 school year will be held in February. All students currently enrolled in Christ the King School must register before open registration in order to keep their space. Any siblings of CK students may register at this time. Please

### Wee Deliver Program

from CK Newsletter

Our Wee Deliver Post Office is open. You may send your child a message, card, or birthday greeting through the school Wee Deliver program. The mail box is outside the school office and postage is free. Brighten your child's day with your own letter of encouragement. Ask your child or his/her teacher for his/her address.

notify the office of any siblings so we may include a registration form in your packet. CK students not returning their registration forms with registration fees within the proper time limit will be placed in open registration time.

### Congratulations! Optimist Award

Congratulations to Danielle Boutte, an eighth grade student who was selected to receive the Optimist Award for Christ the King School. The award was presented to Danielle at the annual Arlington Optimist Club's Youth Appreciation Night. Danielle was selected based on her qualities and traits recognized by all to be good for her school, her family, her church, and her community.

### Christ the King School Student Council 1999-2000

President	Jevie Asunto
Vice President	Samantha Fewell
Secretary	Tracia Lagdaan
Treasurer	Colin Meigs

#### Representatives

8A	Jimmy Rein
8B	Anthony Costanza
	Ben Hill
7A	Nick James
	Jessie Oliver
	Kristin Schanze
7B	Sydney Franklin
	Matt O'Rourke
6A	Mark La Duke
	Kristen Campbell
6B	Michael Price
	Summer Wood
5A	Taylor Morgan
	Michele Medlock
5B	Amanda Maroney
	Daniel Jerreld
4A	Shannon Saffer
	Ashley Putala
4B	Jordan Lewis
	Rebecca Yount

### Christ the King Star Student First Quarter

1A	Haley Bowles
1B	Clay Ludwig
2A	Joey Klinkenberg
2B	Tanner Crews
3A	Mary Katherine Register
	Rose Loiseau
3B	Matthew Mills
4A	Jullian Abinsay
4B	Tyler Barry
5A	Caroline Carlson
5B	Carrie Mobley
6A	Dustin Poling
6B	Karl Bednar
7A	Caitlan Chorbak
7B	Joan Eckstein
8A	Tracia Lagdaan
8B	Serge Bou-Merchek
Computers	Kelly Frenette
Music K-4	Jevie Asunto
Music 5-8	Carly Sheperd
Art K-4	Tracia Lagdaan
Art 5-8	Rachel Motel
Library K-4	Christopher Ryder
Library 5-8	Cyril Rodriguez
Writing	Courtney Corbett
Curriculum	Brianna Medlock
P.E.	
Health	

## CTK Art Department

The Art Department requests donations of sewing needles, thread and thimbles for a special 6<sup>th</sup> grade project. Any old, usable sewing needles, spools of thread and metal thimbles will be put to good use in

the Art Department during January and February. Please put donations in plastic or paper bags and drop them off in the school office or in the Art Room. Thank you for your help.

# SERVICE IN YELLOW



Patrick Sullivan, Matt Hogle and Brandon Keel having fun while doing service hours

by Mary Ann Sullivan

Have you seen the parking lot lately? Is it easier to see the spaces? Are the handicap spaces vividly marked? If the answer to these questions is "yes", then you owe it all to... service hours.

My 16 year old (now 17 year old) son, Patrick, gathered helpers from near and far to accomplish the task. Sure, it was a lot of work, but it was also a lot of fun. Patrick found a task that he believed would better his parish. After getting the go-ahead from Mrs. Patricia Thomas, our Stewardship Director, he gathered people and in a few Saturdays it was done!

Teens attending Bishop Kenny and involved with our Sacrificial Giving Program are required to have a total of 40 service hours each year. Twenty of those hours are to be performed in direct support of our parish. *Have you done your twenty?*

Many of the teenagers are finding their own colorful ways of completing their service hours, such as working at the St. Francis Soup Kitchen or helping with a Habijax home. Assisting those who have less than we do is truly a thought provoking endeavor.

By becoming an active participant in Music Ministry, you not only have service hours, you also share your talent singing praises to the Lord. Spending time in prayer or Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is when you are really focused on your God.

Helping to serve or cleanup at our various dinners and special events shows your willingness to serve others. Beautification of the church grounds takes place the third Saturday of each month; how about pulling a weed or planting a flower at God's house? You could even help with our church newspaper, the *Courier*.

Look around you. Find something that needs to be done.

Check with your assigned service hour committee member or Mrs. Thomas. Your ideas are welcome; your time and talents are needed.

Remember though, you are not doing this just to have it look good on your transcript to college. You're not doing it because that's the way it's done at Christ the King. You are doing service hours as a means of showing God how much you love *Him*.

Your service hours may be in bright yellow, or in the soft glow of the votive candle in the Chapel. It may be the deep color of dirt in pulling weeds or the 'patchwork colors' of distributing food. Just remember; whatever way you choose, always color your service hours with *LOVE*.



# Calling All Cooks...

**We need your help!** We are looking for seasoned cooks and not-so-seasoned cooks to submit their favorite recipes for a parish cookbook. Now, I know that many of you are quite capable cooks, as I have sampled some of your creations. I know that Kathy has a delicious macaroni and cheese casserole recipe; Suzy has a selection of quick dip creations; and Christy can whip up a twice-baked potato like nobody's business.

We need recipes of every kind; ethnic dishes, traditional recipes and of course, the old reliable family favorites. If you have helpful hints or shortcuts to share, we need them. Tell us how you determine how long to cook a roast, prep a turkey, or fry a fish.

Many of you men are pretty handy in the kitchen and wizards on the grill. Share your recipes, let us in on your secrets. What family anecdote would be fun to share with your friends? Make us laugh, make us cry, let us publish a little bit of you in this cookbook. How nice it would be for us as a parish and a school community, to set our tables with the culinary delights of our friends and neighbors. Here is a sample.

## Grandma's German Potato Salad

- 8 lbs. potatoes, cooked and peeled
- 1 lb. bacon
- 1/4 cup vinegar
- 1 tablespoon sugar

After boiling potatoes, rinse in cold water. Cut potatoes into cubes.

Cut bacon into small pieces, fry until golden brown. Mix the vinegar and sugar, then pour into bacon and the bacon grease. Stir together. Pour over potatoes, mix well. Salt and pepper to taste. Serve warm.

Grandma came from good German stock, so I found the need to alter her recipe somewhat. She cooked 5 lbs. of potatoes to 1 lb. of bacon. We found that to be rather greasy, so I increased the amount of potatoes, as the leftovers are very good heated up in a skillet.

Now, I am not saying that her recipe was incorrect, as she and one sister lived to the age of ninety-six and two sisters are still living. One girl is ninety-nine and the other is one hundred-two...must have been some good cooking!

\*Please submit your recipes as soon as possible. We need a good response. You may call Robyn Crews @725-9768 or Patti Sloan @733-5835, we would be glad to answer any questions.



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# BISHOP'S JUBILEE DINNER 1999

by Eileen Porter

Bishop John Snyder presided at the tenth annual dinner honoring the priests of the St. Augustine diocese on November 8. The event was hosted by Christ the King parish.

Father Bob McDermott, Christ the King's new pastor welcomed Bishop Snyder and the visiting priests at Christ the King rectory where they enjoyed appetizers and an opportunity to visit with one another.

The group then went to the Shirley David Hall which had been decorated for the occasion with fresh flowers and greenery. A delicious dinner prepared by Marywood's chef Alan and served by his catering staff was enjoyed by all.

Bishop Snyder then introduced the following priests who were celebrating major anniversaries of their ordination. They included:

### 5 Years

Father Timothy Lindenfelser

### 10 Years

Father Alan Bower  
Father Jeffrey McGowan  
Father Rene Robert

### 15 Years

Father Michael Morse  
Father John Tetlow  
Father Thomas Willis  
Father Keith Brennan

### 20 Years

Father Michael Houle  
Father Nicholas Glisson  
Father Philip Gagan

### 25 Years

Father Edward Booth  
Father Caesar Russo

### 35 Years

Father Donal Sullivan  
Father Victor Narivelil, CMI  
Father Joseph Zawada, OCD  
Father Robert Hanlon, SJ  
Father Joseph Maniangat  
Father Michael Williams  
Father James Orumpakkatt, CMI

### 40 Years

Father Luis Florez  
Father Seamus O'Flynn  
Father Ralph Besendorfer  
Father Michael Larkin  
Father William Kelly

### 45 Years

Monsignor James Heslin  
Father Bernie Ahern  
Father Francisco Revilla

### 50 Years

Father Robert Galchus, CM  
Monsignor Harold Jordan  
Father Roch Laurenzano  
Father Joseph Notarpole

### 55 Years

Father Edward McQuillan, CM  
Father William Butler, CSSP

As evidenced by the above, many years of service to Our Lord Jesus Christ and the parishes of the St. Augustine Diocese have been provided by these dedicated priests. It has been an honor for Christ the King Parish to host these dinners and give us an opportunity to express our gratitude to these devoted servants of our God.

