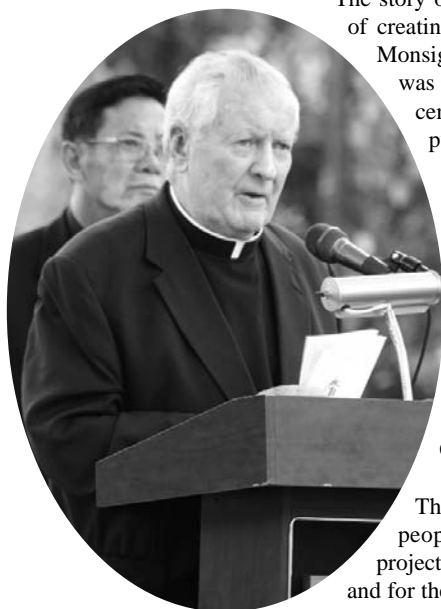


## CTK Child Care Center Dedication

by Carol - Ann Black

Happy the bride on whom some rain shall fall. We are all familiar with this saying. How about dedication ceremonies? How does the rain touch them? My observation would say rain is no problem here. Dedication of the new Christ the King Child Care Facility occurred on September 2 and the only casualty of the rain was some of the prepared remarks and part of the blessing. Bishop Galeone acknowledged a few raindrops as he took the podium, went quickly to the religious ceremony, and then finished quickly as we all ducked inside to escape the deluge. There we witnessed the unveiling of the marble plaque, which bears the names of Monsignor Danaher, who established the childcare center while he was pastor, and of Isabelle Fusco, who was the establishing director. The building is dedicated to them.



The story of Isabelle's appointment to the job of creating the childcare center is legendary. Monsignor Danaher simply told her that he was inspired by the Holy Spirit to create the center and that she, Isabelle, was the one to put the project into motion.

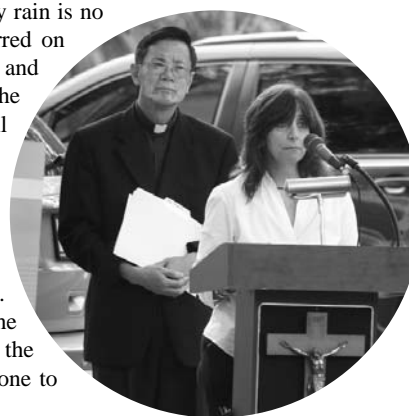
That she had no experience in this realm mattered not. Isabelle was the one. And she was for many years.

And when Isabelle retired from the center, Theresa Little became the director. She had more experience in the field, but by this time she was inheriting a somewhat aged facility. The building had after all, been built as a convent. Again, it mattered not, and the program that she brought into being has been recognized by the city of Jacksonville as one of the finest in Duval County. I believe that Theresa and her wonderful, dedicated staff must be thrilled to be able to work in this remarkable new facility. The families of the youngsters in attendance are very blessed to have their children at Christ the King Child Care Center.

Frank Japour and Father Thanh thanked all of the people involved in this project for their hard work and for their attendance at the

ceremony. Sadly, Isabelle passed away several years ago and didn't get to witness this dedication with us, but three of her daughters were in attendance. In addition Mr. and Mrs. Warren Powers of the Powers Foundation were present to see how their generous grant money had helped to produce this excellent facility.

Before the rains came down, we were treated to a special rendition of This Little Light of Mine, by the Christ the King School Choristers, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders, directed by Tina Harrell, head of our music ministry. It was a perfect expression of the joy of the occasion.



Inside this issue of Christ the King Courier:

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Priesthood of the Laity  
Conversion Story

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# Father Thanh's Message

Did you know that by Thursday, November 26 you will have had approximately 1,460 dreams since last Thanksgiving and that 31,536,000 seconds will have passed you by? In this day and age everything goes by so fast we don't usually even think about seconds anymore. And at this time of the year, it is even harder to slow down as the holidays are upon us and we rush to prepare for them. Yet that is the very thing that God wants us to do. He wants us to slow down and remember how much he loves us and to take the time to remember we have been blessed.

Even the season tells us it is time to slow down. It is fall. October has passed. The earth is changing. The colors, still vibrant, are more and more subdued as the cooler weather beckons to slow down and relax. Winter will soon be upon us, another reminder that it is time to rest.

It is time for us to take stock of what we have in our lives. November which began with All Saints Day and All Souls Day was a time to remember those who have died and to remember how blessed we are to be a part of such a wonderful family of God. We remember our veterans this month and we have a special day called Thanksgiving...all of these holidays tell us to slow down, take the time to remember our loved ones who have fought to keep us free and safe and to count the

being thankful. The holidays help us to remember, to pause and to give thanks to God for all things good. It is my hope that you will take the time to reflect on your own lives; how you have loved and perhaps how you have failed to



love your neighbor as yourself and that in your reflection you will come to love God more. I encourage each of you to share your struggles and blessings with others so that others may see God's blessings in your life and then, by seeing your example they may reflect on their own life and see how God has blessed them.

I, as a priest have many reasons for being thankful to God. This past September I was given the opportunity to go to France with friends. Along with the beauty of French illumination and the delicious array of French food such as wine, cheese and croissant, I had a chance to participate in the candlelight Rosary at Lourdes with about 10,000 people filling up the square in front of the Basilica. I prayed there, for Christ the King Parish and the Vietnamese Community through the intercession of Our Blessed Mother and Saint Bernadette. Its highlight was celebrating the Mass with six other Vietnamese at the altar of St. John Vianney. My sincerest gratitude goes to Mr. & Mrs. Louis Vang Van Nguyen, Christ the King parishioners, who made this time possible for me.

I thank God for this trip simply because the time in France has given me an opportunity to reflect upon my eighteen years of

priesthood. I've spent thirteen of those years with you, my Christ the King family. Eight of those years I have been your pastor. I remember vividly the Saturday of Mother's Day weekend in 2001 ... Bishop Snyder called me to the rectory of the Cathedral and told me "I have no choice. You have no choice. You are it. You are the Administrator of Christ the King".

That was how I received my appointment to be your spiritual leader. As I knelt down for our Bishop's blessing, I wondered how this could be. I was then and I am still deeply humbled and honored. And now eight years later, I reflect on our eight years together. We have struggled; we have certainly had our ups and downs but we have always done it together...you have kept me humble...thank you for your help and cooperation.

Throughout my pastoral service I have shared my faults as a sinful human. I get discouraged when I do not live up to my ideals and when my expectations are not met. I get frustrated when my plans for you do not materialize. I am saddened when my homilies leave you cold; yet, light up like a Christmas tree when I delight you.

Despite the downside, I am in love. I love the Church. I don't mean the building, lovely as it is. I mean God's people. I mean you. I mean the devout among you and the lukewarm; those who love and those who couldn't care less; the



haves and the have-nots; the strict and the not-so-strict; the young, the middle-aged and the elderly.



You may ask, "Where do you find your joy?" My answer is simple. I find my joy in celebration...in sharing with you the Word of Life and the Bread of Life. There is joy in my heart when I witness the love you share in marriage, and in pouring saving waters on the heads of your little ones. My joy is in conveying to you God's own forgiveness and in praying with you as you prepare to



meet our Lord and Savior. Like Jesus, I try to deal gently with you, because, like Jesus, I too am subject to weakness.

To me, each of you is precious, a child of God, and an image of Jesus. In my daily prayers, I remember especially those of you who are struggling; so many of you who are discouraged; and so many who have experienced tragedy. I try to love you as Jesus does. I say try because at times I fail, but believe me, I never stop trying. For my trust is not in myself, in my naked humanness; my trust is in the Holy Spirit who orchestrated my ordination. My trust is in the Spirit whose gifts that St. Paul assures me, are "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." (Galatians 5:22-23).

*continued on page 5*



blessings our efforts through God's grace have brought. Then we can look ahead to the season of Christmas; a special month and a joyous time are at hand as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ.

Yes, there are several reminders in our lives that tell us to slow down and there are several reasons for counting our blessings and

## Christ the King Courier

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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.

## Editor's Corner

by Carol-Ann Black

I recently had the pleasure of attending the Stories of Hope Benefit at the downtown Jacksonville Library, Rooftop Deck (a truly unique and beautiful setting). This delightful evening was a fundraiser for Emergency Pregnancy Services, but for me it was much more. It was an evening of sharing and of joy. Not the usual atmosphere when Right to Life/Abortion are the topic of discussion. All too often this topic breeds an atmosphere of anger and fear. But the business of EPS is the saving of lives, and that happy event should be honored. And it was. A story of hope was shared. A young woman told of her gut-wrenching decision to seek an abortion and then her change of heart because of the kind attention of one woman at EPS. Her "baby" is now four years old and a joy for her older sister and her mother.

The Keynote Speaker was David Bereit, National Campaign Director of 40 Days for Life. 40 Days for Life brings together pro-life believers to pray outside abortion clinics in many cities around the country and in foreign countries as well. Mr. Bereit is a very earnest, committed pro-life activist who told of the struggles and the successes of his organization in seeing numbers of abortions decline and clinics actually close down. These are statistics and events to be celebrated. And they were at the Stories of Hope Benefit.

Emergency Pregnancy Services is an organization committed to the sanctity of life and offers aid and comfort to women and families at vulnerable times in their lives. EPS is a leader in the pro-life activist world that shows the power of caring and prayer and love. It is a joy to be associated at any level with this remarkable organization.

This issue of the Courier features several articles that touch on the topic of the Year of the Priest. Father Thanh and Father Zehler wrote about their trips to Europe both of which included stops in Ars, France, home of St. John Vianney but differed in other ways. In addition a childhood friend of mine wrote a very personal article about the canonization of Father Damien of Molokai for his parish bulletin (St. Peter's in Waldorf, Maryland), but he agreed to share it with the Courier as well. He said it made him feel famous.

October is the month of the rosary, and it was celebrated in fine style at Christ the King. The Vietnamese community organized a magnificent procession on October 25 for the entire parish to enjoy. I only wish that we could publish our pictures in color as the dresses and banners and flowers were brilliant and a joy to behold. Most importantly, however, it was a very holy event that led up to the two o'clock Mass celebrated in Vietnamese and English.

The staff of Christ the King Courier wishes everyone a holy and happy holiday season. Enjoy the festivities with family and friends and consider sharing a meaningful event with all of us via the Courier.

### EPS - EMERGENCY PREGNANCY SERVICES



6903 Merrill Road

BABIES SAVED — May through October — 14

BABIES SAVED since September 2008 — Total 32

### Courier Guidelines Notice

Readers, you may notice in this and other issues of the Courier certain inconsistencies in rules for capitalization regarding God, the Bible, gospel quotes. The reason for this is that, when we use direct quotes from other sources, we cannot make any changes. Therefore, if His, He, Him referring to Jesus, God, or the Holy Spirit are not capitalized in the original, we do not "correct" them.

## What's Happening



### OUR CHURCH WELCOMES

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

Mr. & Mrs. Tai Chau  
Mr. Sonny Nguyen  
Kimberly Retequiz  
Mr. & Mrs. Ferdnando Angarita  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Miller  
Mr. Larry Sanchez  
Ms. Jessica Montoya  
Mr. & Mrs. Roberto Pacheco  
Mr. & Mrs. Max Harlow  
Mr. & Mrs. David Vance  
Chuong Nguyen  
Ms. Teresita Fowler  
Mr. Michael Winston

Mr. & Mrs. David Hernandez  
Nhat V Ha  
Tuan A Hoang  
Nghia T Nguyen  
Ngoc-Lan T Nguyen  
Toan Nguyen  
Kim-Hoang Vo  
Mr. & Mrs. Cuello Fernadez  
Mr. & Mrs. Epifanio Gumera  
Mr. & Mrs. Cornelio Hernandez  
Viengcham Johnson  
Ms. Manzano Cerna  
Sangmoon "Thomas" Kim



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

Alena Marie Maroney and Michael Kenneth Parenteau, Jr.



### Baptisms:

We would like to announce the following people who were recently baptized into the Catholic Church

Harrison Nguyen  
Jayden Danh  
Faith Thuy Nguyen  
Narissa Marie Breeden  
Shelby Anne Waller  
Kayla Rae Quini  
Matthew P. Fisher  
Daniel E. Fisher  
Lucas Henry Aeaya-Wolff

### Deaths:



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

Nam Kinh Huynh  
Timothy G. Bradley  
Hazel Edwards  
Cecelia Kulas  
Albert J. Peel  
Isaac G. Siliman  
Mary Rocca  
Mignonette Carter

# The Priesthood of The Laity

Edited by Paul Ghiotto

[NOTE: The majority of this article is derived from an article of the same name as written by Father Paul A. Duffner, O.P., which first appeared in *The Rosary Light and Life*, (RLL) Vol. 44, No. 1, Jan.-Feb. 1991, and from an address in Rome by Pope John Paul II (PJP) to the assembled bishops of the United States on July 2, 1993]

St. Peter, in his first epistle, was writing to baptized Christians (the laity) when he referred to them as a holy priesthood: "Be yourselves as living stones, built as an edifice of spirit, into a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ... You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation." (2:5,9).

The Second Vatican Council, in its **Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity**, speaks in similar language: "The laity...are consecrated into a royal priesthood and a holy people." (n. 3) The Council also said: "The supreme and eternal Priest, Jesus Christ, wills to continue His witness and service through the laity also...giving them a share in His priestly functions of offering spiritual worship for the glory of God and the salvation of men. For these reasons the laity dedicated to Christ and anointed by the Holy Spirit, are marvelously called and equipped to produce in themselves ever more abundant fruits of the Spirit. For all their works, prayers, and apostolic endeavors, their ordinary married and family life, their daily labor, their mental and physical relaxation, if carried out in the Spirit, and even the hardships of life, if patiently done – all of these become spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." (n. 34) [RLL]

Ordinarily when we hear the words "priesthood" or the sacrament of Holy Orders. Yet the quotations above

Pope John Paul II stated that "one of the strengths of parish as the focal point not only of sacramental life but and social activity...A great effort is needed by priests Church herself, as a communion benefiting from the members. Communion is a dynamic reality which between all members of the people of God. The vocations and gifts of its members into a unity of all together with God the Father through Christ, Spirit."

The point of departure is an awareness on the – hierarchical and charismatic – are different necessary for building up the Body of Christ.

It is a blessing for the Church that in so many of ways: religious education, pastoral counseling, some parishes where the laity has assumed the of priests it is important to remember that one with the specific *sacra potestas* proper to the laity is never furthered by obscuring the ministerial only celebrants of the Eucharist, but also spiritual them.[PJP]

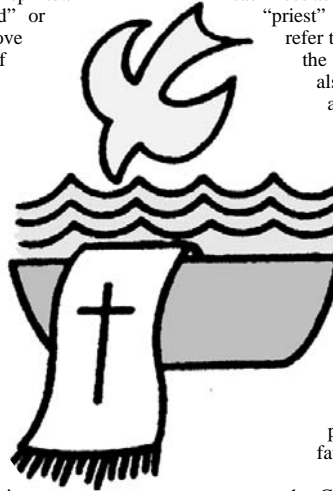
The laity should be conscious of their own standing in grace of the sacraments, but as active and responsible agents It falls especially to the lay faithful to bring the truth of the cultural life. The lay faithful expect their bishops to strengthen them in holiness and guide them with authentic teaching while at the same time leaving them room for initiative and freedom of action in the world.[PJP]

The priesthood of the laity is therefore derived from the sacrament of Baptism as opposed to the ministerial priesthood which is derived from the sacrament of Holy Orders. The priesthood of the baptized Christian gives each one of us the capacity to share in Christ's sacrifice, and to offer spiritual sacrifices of all that one does in union with Christ the Priest. [RLL]

This is exactly what we strive to do at Christ the King through our many ministries which serve our fellow parishioners and our neighbors. Take a moment to glance through the parish bulletin and become acquainted with all of the ministries. Everyone who attends Christ the King is called upon – and most definitely needed - to play an active part in at least one ministry to further his or her own spiritual growth and that of others.

Are you active in some of them? Any of them?

Like the old seminary recruiting poster always proclaimed: "There's always room for one more!"



"priest" we think immediately of those who have received refer to every baptized Christian.

the Church in the U.S. has always been the role of the also of Catholic formation and education, of charitable and laity to renew parish life in the image of the complementary gifts and charisms of all her implies a constant exchange of gifts and services vitality of a parish depends on merging the diverse which manifests the communion of each one and constantly renewed by the grace of the Holy

part of priests, laity, and religious that their gifts though complementary and that they are all

parishes the lay faithful assist priests in a variety social service activities, administration, etc. In temporary administration of a parish due to a lack should not confuse "ministerial" responsibilities ordained priesthood. The royal priesthood of the priesthood of the ordained, which makes priests not fathers, guides and teachers of the faithful entrusted to

the Church; not as mere recipients of doctrine and the of the Church's mission to evangelize and sanctify the world. Gospel to bear on the realities of social, economic, political, and

## The Year for Priests Prayer for Vocations

Good and gracious God, hear our prayer for an increase in priestly vocations. Touch the hearts of young men in our world today. Instill in them a burning desire to serve you. Give them the courage to answer your call with generous hearts.

Reveal to them a vision of your Kingdom. Help them to see the joy of priestly ministry. Lead them in the footsteps of your Son, Jesus Christ.

We ask you to bless our seminarians and guide them on the path toward priesthood. Strengthen them as they are educated and formed in the duties and responsibilities of the priesthood. Help them to become faithful servants and leaders in the Church today.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns, now and forever. Amen.

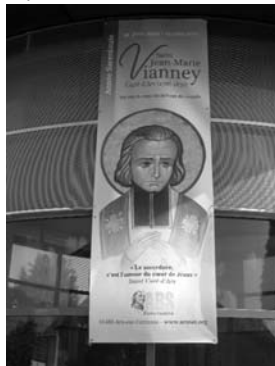


## Father Thanh's Message

continued from page 2

In my pastoral duty, I realize more and more the importance of community in our Christian life simply because "all of us were baptized into one body...and we were all made to drink of one spirit" (I Corinthians 12:13). All of us together make up the Body of Christ, wherein no one can say to any other, "I have no need of you". I love you more dearly in the center and focus of our worship, the Eucharist.

Every time I genuflect after the words of consecration at Mass, I pray for you...Christ the King community. Eighteen years as a priest, I still stand in awe at the altar, in astonishment before such as you. I am honored to be a priest at Christ the King, with its rich tradition and legacy of 55 years. Yet I am saddened when I read that only 30% of Catholics in our



country share the experience of the Eucharist each Sunday and that perhaps this lack of commitment to our Lord is a reality in our parish as well.

I recall the story of St. Francis who resisted all suggestions that he should be ordained a priest. Only with reluctance does he allow himself to be ordained a deacon. In this way he taught all his followers just how lofty and holy a dignity the priesthood truly is.

One day he said to the friars, "If I met an angel and a priest walking together, I would salute the priest

first and then the angel." This puzzled some of the friars, no doubt, because they knew priests who were evidently not as holy as angels. St. Francis went on to explain. "I would salute the priest first because the angel, although so great is only God's servant, but the priest actually represents Jesus Christ." (Some refer to a priest as "other Christ").

In the silence of my heart, I express my deep gratitude to God for the gift of priesthood, the gift of being "other Christ". I thank you for being a part of my priestly journey. I ask you to forgive me for the times I was not fulfilling my role as "other Christ", in my duties whether in preaching the Gospel, presiding over the sacraments, or when shepherding your community or teaching your children. Please continue to pray for me so my heart will be filled with Jesus' love.

St. John Vianney used to say, "It is always springtime in the heart that loves God." That is why Jesus, before appointing St. Peter as the chief shepherd of His Church, made sure that he loved Him very much by asking Peter the same question three times, "Do you love me?" Regarding the love of a priest for Christ, St. Paul wrote, "Christ loved the Church and sacrificed Himself for her." Just as Christ's love led him to die on the cross, so the priest is prepared to give his very life for the love of the Church.

Please pray that God will continue to help me to grow more and more compassionate in my commitment to love as Jesus loved us. Pray that God may ever deepen the sense of Jesus' mission in me so that I will continue to preach about the coming of His Kingdom with zeal. Pray also that God will bless me so I, like Jesus, "come not to be served but to serve and to give His life" so that others might 'have life', God's life, and "have it in overflowing fullness" (Matthew 20:28). May God stir up and strengthen the gifts of His grace in me and make me always open to that grace, in which alone lies His hope; His joy.



**Eighth Annual International Celebration**  
**January 3, 2010**  
**Prepare and share your favorite ethnic dish.**  
**From French to Indian**  
**Hungarian to Haitian**  
**We need all nationalities' cuisines.**

## International Catholic Stewardship Conference



by Laurie Plotz

The Stewardship Conference was held in Dallas, TX. This year the attendees represented 136 dioceses and more than 14 countries. Representing Christ the King at the conference was Father Thanh, Frank Japour and Laurie Plotz. The theme this year was "Stewardship: Living our Baptismal Call." What could be more fitting than focusing on the sacrament of Baptism at this type of conference? Baptism is the sacrament of welcoming and belonging. When we fully embrace our Baptism we become faithful stewards.

Our goal in attending the conference was to gain insight into how to create a more vibrant community of parishioners who are aware of their gifts and live lives marked by prayer, service and generous sharing. Everyone has gifts given to them by God, but not everyone is aware of their own gifts or how to share them. We hope and pray that through the sessions we attended and the speakers we heard that we will be better able to help our faith community realize their special gifts. We also want to create an atmosphere of thankfulness. We should all take time everyday to thank God for all the wonderful things he has blessed us within our lives and remember that we are united through our Baptism.



**Christ the King**  
**Christmas Penance Service Monday,**  
**December 14 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**What better way to prepare for the birth**  
**of our Lord?**

## WHY CATHOLIC?

STRENGTHENING FAITH...MAKING DISCIPLES

by Nick Winiewicz

Have you hungered for a deeper faith life? How well do you really know the true teachings of the Church? Are you confident enough to talk openly about your faith? Do you know how to respond when others question your Catholic beliefs and the teachings of the Church? Do you as a parent know how to pass along a full appreciation of the rich gifts of Catholicism to your families?

Renew International has developed a program to answer these needs and Christ the King, along with other parishes, will be participating in this program. Why Catholic? is a concrete approach for evangelization and adult faith formation. Conducted in small faith sharing sessions, we will explore the four pillars of the Catechism of the Catholic Church:

- ✦ The Profession of Faith: What We Believe
- ✦ The Celebration of the Christian Mystery: Sacraments
- ✦ Life in Christ: Walking with God
- ✦ Christian Prayer: Deepening My Experience of God

The program provides easy to understand explanations of Catholic faith, clarifies moral teachings, and includes direct quotes from the Catechism as well as Sacred Scripture. It will help us to develop a thirst to more fully understand God and draw people together in prayer and in common bond for truth and meaning. Finally, it fosters discipline in prayer and invites an ongoing conversion to Jesus.

Conducted in small faith-sharing groups, we will explore the teachings of the Church, what they mean to each of us, and what we will do about it. In today's world, more than ever, we need to strengthen the roots of our faith to defend ourselves, our families, and our community and country against the onslaught of abortion, materialism and relativism. We do this by prayer, deepening our faith understanding, and by living lives as model Christians so that all who see us will know that we are Catholics living a strong faith life. This will help to lead others back to God through Jesus Christ.

The program will begin this Lent. The leadership team is actively engaged in recruiting small group facilitators and you will be given the opportunity to sign up for this wonderful renewal in January. Depending on the needs of the community, there will be choices of days of the week and time of day to make this as convenient as possible.

You will hear much more about Why Catholic? starting in December and I ask everyone to thoughtfully pray for their personal participation in the renewal and for its success. Please pray with us the following:

### A Disciples' Prayer

Loving God and Father,  
help us to be people of prayer,  
committed to the person and message of Jesus your son.

Help us to grasp the integrity and beauty  
of the truths of our faith and  
the transforming power of your grace.

Nourish and strengthen us as people of faith,  
disciples of Jesus, committed to the mission of the Church  
and eager to share the gospel without restraint.

Let our hearts burn within us  
as we catch glimpses of your heart in Jesus,  
for through him, we know your loving plan for us.

We ask this through Jesus the Christ who lives  
with you and the Holy Spirit  
in one living Trinity. Amen

Let our hearts burn within us. This reminds me of the two disciples walking to Emmaus when Jesus, unrecognized approaches them. He interprets for them all of the references to Himself in all the scriptures. Their response was, "Were not our hearts burning with us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:32) As Saint Peter states, "Therefore, beloved, since you are forewarned, be on your guard not to be led into the error of the unprincipled and fall from your own stability. But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. (2 Peter 3:17).

Thank you and God Bless

## A Conversion Story



by Carol-Ann Black

Most conversion stories are individual and held fairly private. In the case of Sonny Nguyen this is not the case. Sonny and his family joined the church as a group last Easter time and they were quite willing to share their story. On a recent Sunday afternoon I met with Sonny and his wife, Thuy Vu, and their son, Jimmy, a student at A. Philip Randolph Magnet School. Their younger child was busy with Sunday school. Also present to assist as interpreters were their friends Hai Nguyen and his daughter, Maria.

Sonny and Hai were originally from the same town in Viet Nam. They left separately in 1980, but met up very briefly in refugee camp before Hai came to the United States. Hai promised to try to arrange a Jacksonville sponsor for Sonny, and in fact was able to do so. Hai had become acquainted with the Vietnamese community at Christ the King and had already become Catholic. He encouraged Sonny and his family to join in with the community's activities. The children could attend Sunday school for the cultural program. This was really the beginning of the conversion process for the family. Through friends Thuy already had interest in the Catholic Church. They encouraged her to take the RCIA step independently, ahead of her family, but she preferred to wait for her husband to join her in that move. Sonny was beginning to open to community activities and when he brought his daughter, Tiffany, for Sunday school, he began to sit in on the class.

The entire family ultimately joined the RCIA program and they were welcomed into the Church at last Easter's ceremonies. The process was not without its difficulties. Sonny found many of the concepts presented in the Bible difficult to grasp. His son had trouble with the Vietnamese language Bible. Gradually Sonny became more comfortable in faith and son Jimmy thrived with an English language Bible.

Sonny shared that he has found the Lord's Prayer a particular gift for himself. The prayer for forgiveness has been especially rewarding. He has become more able to offer and receive forgiveness. A family wedding would put Sonny in contact with someone with whom he had had serious difficulty. How to deal with this? Forgiveness from one to the other worked, and they mended their broken relationship. This has been a great joy for Sonny and he feels strongly that without his conversion to Catholicism he would not have found this path. Ongoing Friday prayer group and Bible study continue to be important to Sonny in his faith journey. Christ the King is truly blessed to have this family part of our parish.

### Call to Adoration

**If we are willing only to do what is ordinary then we can only expect God's ordinary blessing. Only when we are willing to do the extraordinary are we guaranteed of obtaining God's extraordinary blessings.**

**Eucharistic adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is absolutely the extraordinary effort that God is asking for today in order that He may bestow upon mankind His extraordinary blessings.**

**When we are willing to do on earth what is done in heaven, i.e., adore God perpetually, then God will create a "new heaven" and a "new earth."**

# Canonization of Father Damien

This article is taken from the October 25 bulletin of St. Peter's Catholic Church bulletin in Waldorf, Maryland.

*St. Peter's parishioner previously known to us as Tom Wanner brings news from Rome and the miraculous effect St. Damien of Molokai has had on his life.*

Father Damien of Molokai, 1840-1889, was a missionary priest of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary who served in Hawaii from 1864 to 1889. He spent the last 16 years of his life heroically serving the Hansen's disease (leprosy) patients quarantined by the government to Kalaupapa on the island of Molokai.

Pope Benedict XVI declared him a saint at the Vatican on October 11, 2009. My wife, Marie and I, along with our daughter, Cynthia, were privileged to make a pilgrimage to Rome to attend the Canonization. To understand why it was important for us to be there, let me quote from a journal I kept a number of years ago.

*Dec 4, 1996* Marie said she heard from Cyndi and that she had bad news. Cyndi called about 6:20 PM. She had passed out in a woman's rest room at Disney World and had been taken to the hospital. They said she had a brain tumor.

*Jan 8, 1997* [After her first brain surgery] As I get ready for bed and reflect on the day, the thought occurs to me that I should also be praying to Blessed Damien, the leper priest of Molokai.

*Jan 9, 1997* At Mass this morning I think some more about praying to Father Damien. Mom had named me after him and so she was somewhat devoted to him. He has been declared "blessed," a step on the way to being canonized. I have read about people praying to someone who has died and then when the cause they were praying for comes about, if it can be documented, this becomes a part of the case for sainthood. I figure Father Damien could use a miracle or two in his cause for canonization and we could use one as well. So I ask him to intercede for us for a complete remission to Cyndi's undiagnosed ailment. I ask this only if it is the will of God. I also pray for all of those who are praying for us.

*Blessed Father Damien of Molokai, we pray to you to intercede through Jesus Christ to ask God, if it be His will, that Cynthia be healed.*

My middle name is Damien and even though I knew I had been named after him, had read a book about him, and was somewhat devoted to him, there was more to the story. Sister Leopoldina Burns, a young sister of Saint Francis who served with Blessed Marianne Cope, helping Father Damien in 1888-1889, had been given a stick-pin by him with a tiny medal of the Blessed Virgin. Through a niece, Sister Leopoldina heard that my mother had named me after Father Damien and sent the stickpin for my mother. In 2000, my mother gave it to me and my daughter Cynthia wore this relic for over two years until, unfortunately, she lost it probably in a taxi on a business trip to Seattle.

For the past 12 years my family and I have been praying intercessory prayers through Father Damien. Although Cynthia still has lesions on her brain and has undergone two diagnostic brain surgeries, chemotherapy and other treatments, the illness is still undiagnosed but the effects are well controlled with anti-seizure medicines. We believe that we have received enough of a miracle of our own since Cynthia is basically healthy. Our prayers through Father Damien have been answered.

The trip to Rome joining a pilgrimage of 550 people mostly from Hawaii led by his Excellency, Larry Silva, Bishop of Honolulu, was centered on the Canonization ceremony. We were fortunate to be able to get inside St. Peter's Basilica for the inspiring Canonization ceremony and Mass with the Pope. The tremendous faith we observed by the people from Hawaii—including meeting Makia (Elroy), one of the leper patients—and their willingness to discuss their faith is something we will long remember.

I grew up as Damien to my family and friends and only became Thomas when I joined the military at age 18. My family still knows me as Damien and I am now reverting to that name for the remaining days the Lord allows me. — *Damien Wanner*



## Catechetical Sunday Parish Catechists are Commissioned

by Lucille Guzzone

The third Sunday in September in the United States is celebrated by the Catholic Church as Catechetical Sunday. It is a day when catechists are honored and blessed. Pope John Paul II said that "catechists are among those who received Christ's command to go and teach all nations." Pastors are encouraged to acknowledge these teachers and their mission before the parish community.

The first Catechetical Sunday was celebrated on October 30, 1935, in Rochester, New York. By 1944 the tradition was evident in every state including Florida. The Diocese of Saint Augustine requires that every church recognizes its catechists at a special Mass. At Christ the King Church the nine o'clock Mass on this particular Sunday was set aside for these devoted people. Father Steven Zehler presided at the Mass. During his homily, he stressed that although a person's mission is to teach and to lead, the main focus and goal of his role is to serve.

The following twenty-nine people who were commissioned, representing the RCIA team and the faculties of the Christ the King School and the Religious Education for Children program, were:

Colleen Lewis, Kim Repper, Sandy Hill, Melissa Kabat, Barbara Boutte, Connie Goodbread, Joanne Fowler, Patty Ruhl, Stephanie Chinault, Lucille Guzzone, Terry Yip, Jenny McClellan, Betty Wheeler, Page Peeler, Cristina Williams, Alfred Martin, Fernando Rodriguez, Joseph Birch, Shannon Coffey, Deacon James Scott, Kevin Wolfe, Berry Landers, Norma Landers, Darlene O'Neal, Louie O'Neal, Sal Barahona, Adam Kirsch, George Barletta, Mary Rouse.

## Sunday Morning Bible Study

Wake up with Scripture!

Every Sunday

9:00 a.m., in the rectory

Make plans to come and join us for a study of Revelation.

The Collegeville Bible Study has wonderful, insightful, and approved-by-our-Church taped lectures, study books, and workbooks for our enrichment.

The almost best part of our studies has been the friendships we have established in our time together.

All we are missing is **YOU**.

Questions? Call 735-9391



# Musical Musings



by Tina Caiñas Harrell

Do you wonder about this?

Why would this appear in this column?

The liturgically astute individual would know...

Yes, at the end of this month, we begin a new Liturgical Calendar: Year C in the 3-year cycle of readings for Sunday and weekday Masses. The liturgical color changes from green of Ordinary time to purple, a color signifying repentance (but of a time of expectant, joyful preparation for the coming of the Messiah as opposed to the more intense examination of sin in reflecting upon the Crucifixion during Lent).

This "New Year" is yet another opportunity to follow the 33 years of the earthly life of Our Lord Jesus Christ from His birth, through His 3-year public ministry, to His Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension and through to the birthday of the Church on Pentecost. These years are condensed down to one and the Church strategically places markers along the way to assist us with a closer walk with Our Lord and to help delve deeper into the mystery of the Word becoming flesh and dwelling among us and doing so much for us.

One of these "markers" is right around the corner: the 12 days of Christmas. Why did the Church choose 12? For the 12 tribes of Israel and the 12 apostles. What is this time-spread marking? The fact that the Wise Men did not arrive to present their gifts to the Christ-Child until almost 2 years after the Nativity. In the Gospel of Matthew there are clues to support this. Chapter 2:11 "and entering the house (no manger, shepherds, or angels) they found the child with Mary his mother..." Chapter 2:7 "Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared." Chapter 2:16 "When Herod saw

that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old and under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men."

Now let us delve into our own Catholic history for the musical part of the 12 days.

From 1558-1829, it was a crime to be a Catholic in England and to practice one's faith openly meant imprisonment, torture, and even death. The song, "The 12 Days of Christmas" came about as a catechetical tool to secretly teach children important facts about their Faith. Each verse of the song held a vital symbolic key for unlocking a spiritual truth for the teaching of the Catholic Faith during persecution. Not such a "nonsense" song as you would think. Imagine yourself back in that time standing in a public square in England and singing your Faith with joy: a bold, courageous no-nonsense statement! Please come by the organ after any Mass and I will gladly give you a copy of this song's history for you to share with your children and grandchildren.

Did you know that by attending Mass every Sunday (as we must, of course), for 3 years, you will have heard the entire Bible read? The Lectionary has been crafted by biblical scholars in a thematic presentation and it is a masterpiece when considering the vastness and depth of God's Living Word. However, if you not only attend Mass on Sunday, but also daily Mass, you will have heard the entire Bible in one year!

There is quite a lot that happens in the Church calendar during the great month of November. We begin with the Solemnity of All Saints and All Souls then celebrate the lives of saints such as Martin de Porres (whose statue we have in our Chapel), Leo the Great, Martin of Tours, Frances Xavier Cabrini, Margaret of Scotland, Elizabeth of Hungary, and Cecilia, along with the feast of the Presentation of the Virgin Mary and our own parish feast day of Christ the King on November 22.

The hymns of Advent are rich with prophecy, hope, joyful expectation, a call to repentance, and spiritual preparation for the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord. The readings speak of Christ's Second Coming, while we prepare within the "inns" of our own hearts, a place for the Christ-Child. While the world and all its commercials are pounding on us and our children to make room under the Christmas tree for more and more material goods, the Advent liturgy beckons us toward the true riches of the Season just ahead with the prayers and symbolism of the Advent Wreath and the beauty of the Nativity Crèche.

So, when you pick up the hymnal to sing during Advent, let your mind's eye capture every word laced with Holy Scripture; let the rhythm of the music call your own heart to beat with thanksgiving for the life we have in Our Savior Jesus Christ and let your spirit soar with joy as you exclaim "Happy New Year!" and begin yet another year in your spiritual journey.

## His Faithful Servant

by Darlene O'Neal

The year of the priest brings to mind certain members of Christ the King parish who exemplify holiness.

One of those parishioners is Netito (Tito) Espejo. Tito was raised in the Philippines and after completing high school, joined the United States Navy. It was while he was stationed there, in 1981, he and Celia were married. He retired from the Navy after serving 20 years.

Netito Espejo and his wife, Celia, have been members of Christ the King since 1992. He is an original member of the Fil-Am ministry and Celia sings in the Filipino Harmonic Choir and also the King's Choir.

Tito is a Eucharistic Minister who was commissioned by Father Thanh to also serve as Sacristan. He coordinates the readers and the Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Trinity at the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass.

Tito serves at most funerals, making sure preparations are in order for the service. On the first Saturday of the month, he assists Deacon James Scott with the baptism classes. He previously assisted Deacon Dave MacNamara with these classes. He also assists at some of the actual baptisms.

Tito joined the Knights of Columbus when his good friend, Jose Praxedes was selected Grand Knight. He serves Council #4727 as Church Director and Warden. He assists Monsignor Danaher at the First Friday Masses, setting up and readying the altar for the Mass which is held each month at the council hall. Tito is the contact person for requests for a particular monthly Mass. He is part of the Brotherly Care ministry whose members are commissioned Eucharistic Ministers to visit and take the Eucharist to Knights and K'Cees who are ill or unable to attend Mass.

Tito served as Mass coordinator for the 50th anniversary of Council #4727 last January. He recently achieved 4th Degree Knight in Holy Trinity Assembly #2368.

Tito is a member of the new ministry "Why Catholic" and he also serves the homeless their evening meal when he is called to the I.M. Sulzbacher Center.

Tito exemplifies holiness as he continues to serve his God, his community and his country.

While interviewing Tito for this article, I asked him, "Is there anything else?" to which he replied, "I don't have any more time."

Tito, on behalf of our Christ the King family, God bless you and thank you for your service.





# Religious Articles Store Under New Management

## Meet Charm Sauls

by Ellin Iselin & Charm I. Sauls

**Hometown:** Chicago, IL

**Occupation:** Manager, Religious Articles Store at Christ the King

**Ministries:** Ministry Of Hope, Christ the King Courier, Country Store, MOMS

**Family:** Spouse-John; two sons; five grandchildren

### Education

Charm attended Illinois Community College and took a course in Business Management. She also attended Elmhurst College and took a year in advertising layout.

### Career

Charm took over as manager of the Religious Article Store on August 14, 2009. Charm describes the shop as a store which offers Catholic products and reading material to help Christ the King parishioners live their lives faithfully serving God. We offer religious items for all ages, that will help keep Christ in our lives and give us a better understanding of our faith. Charm brings to the store several years experience in managing gift shops. She also has skills in marketing and advertising as well as an understanding of newspapers and radio.

### History of the Religious Articles Store

According to Charm's research the store was founded in 1958. It was first housed in a classroom in what is now our main school building. Annette Rogero was the first manager. In 1961 the store moved into the Larkin Room. It basically sold cards and reading material and a few pictures and crucifixes. In the mid-1960s the store moved into the church. Mrs. Pat Powell succeeded Annette as manager for several years. In the late 1960s Joyce and Frenchy Deschenes took over. Maureen and Leonard McCook assumed management in 1991 and the gift shop was enlarged and remodeled to its present size in 1994. Today the Religious Articles Store offers a wide selection of bibles, books, pamphlets, rosaries (some made by Marian Palmer), statues and medallions.

There are also items for special occasions, a Kid's Corner, a clearance section, items for holidays, crucifixes, and a great selection of pictures.

### Personal life

Charm's husband John works at the Sprint service center on Atlantic Boulevard. They met in Jacksonville and lived in St. Augustine for 19 years. While living in St. Augustine in June of 2005, Charm received the Radiant Love Award from the Women's Celebrations Group for small businesses for her work helping small businesses in the community.

John and Charm moved to Jacksonville two years ago. They live just six houses down from grandsons Nicholas, Joshua and Matthew. Nicholas attends Bishop Kenny, and Joshua and Matthew are enrolled in Christ the King in 5th and 7th grades respectively.

Son, Tim, is the head of the athletic association for Christ the King, and daughter-in-law, Donna, runs the concession stand and helps with school projects. Oldest son, Robert, and his wife Emily, live in Tennessee with their son Zack. They also have a granddaughter, Rachael, who attends Bartram Trail High School.



# EPS Stories of Hope

by EPS Staff

On October 3, 2009, Emergency Pregnancy Services celebrated our First Annual "Stories of Hope" Benefit under the stars on the rooftop deck of the Downtown Jacksonville Library. We were blessed to share this exciting evening with a wonderful turnout of patrons, both new and old. Guests gathered Saturday evening for a night of music, food, fellowship and inspiring stories of transformation that have occurred within the walls of our organization. The MidLife Crisis band kept the evening moving with great music and energy while The Perfect Pear Catering Company provided guests with delicious food. The trees on the rooftop deck were decorated with 108 mirrors, representing the lives saved at EPS over the past 12 months. The beautiful weather and inspiring fellowship were enjoyed by all!

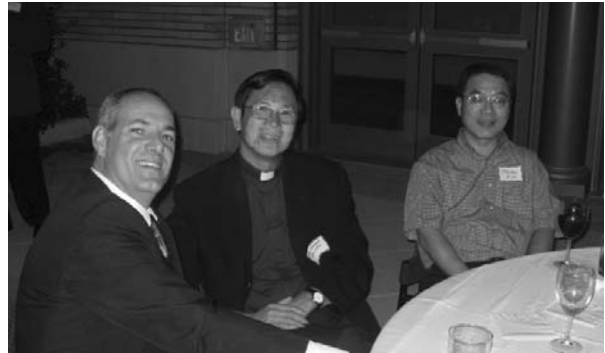
Our program began as Nikki, former EPS client and current volunteer, courageously shared her incredible testimony with an audience of faithful supporters. David Bereit, National 40 days for Life Campaign Director, inspired our guests with an impassioned message and a rousing call to action. David urged the audience to find a place in the Pro-Life movement. Whether through gifts of time, prayer, material or finance, he encouraged



each guest to become involved in the effort of saving lives throughout their community. Comparing abortion to letting those we love drown, he asked "What would you do to save your loved one from falling overboard?" This question struck the hearts of many as he shared his own past experience of being called to Pro-Life work. As guests departed, they each received a copy of *Stories of Hope*, a beautiful collection of client stories and the life-changing work at EPS. We would like to thank everyone who supported or attended this event. Special thanks to: Bishop Victor Galeone for his beautiful invocation; John Falconetti for his warm welcome message; our Event Sponsor, Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Edge, Platinum Table Patron, St. Vincent's HealthCare and Silver Table Patrons, the Acosta-Rua Family, The Fraternal Order of Police, St. Matthew's Catholic Church and Mr. and Mrs. Wyman Duggan. Your generosity will make a tremendous difference in the lives of many throughout the coming year.

Should you be interested in learning more about our First Annual "Stories of Hope" Benefit,

our mission at Emergency Pregnancy Service or receiving a client stories book, please contact our Riverside office at (904) 308-7510. We would love to share our mission with you!



## Vocations

by Dennis J Stoddard  
Parish Vocations Coordinator

Pope Benedict XVI had declared a "Year for Priests" beginning with the solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on June 19, 2009. The year will conclude in Rome with an international gathering of parish priests with the Holy Father from June 9 to June 11, 2010.

The Knights of Columbus in solidarity with our priests and bishops will send the state chaplain from each and every jurisdiction to Rome for the international gathering of priests with our Holy Father.

Supporting vocations to the priesthood and religious life should be a top priority of all Catholics and their families. Pope John Paul II wrote, "In a word, priests exist and act in order to proclaim the gospel to the world and to build up the Church in the name and person of Christ the Head and Shepherd."

One of the greatest services any Catholic can perform for the church is to foster priestly and religious vocations. We can do this through prayer and by offering wide ranging support for vocations through many initiatives. But we must first look to our own families

- our church youth groups, Religious Education classes, and our Catholic school students.

We can "adopt" a seminarian or postulant - write letters of support, offer prayer, invite your adopted candidate to family dinners and activities; even a small monthly stipend can be beneficial to a struggling student.

Parents, what will your child be? This is not yours to decide. But you do create a crucial climate within which the choice is made. You are the single most important influence your child will ever experience.

A study commissioned by the Knights of Columbus revealed that 75% of Catholic young people who had seriously considered religious life felt that they were never encouraged to pursue that goal.

Do you know someone who would make a good priest, brother, or sister? Why not tell them so. Your encouragement may be all they need.

There are countless ways to increase vocations in our diocese. But most importantly we must remember, "that vocations are everybody's business."

*Pax Tecum*

## St. Vincent de Paul Society

has an emergency-level need for young and middle-aged people who pray to be of service to the Lord and His community.

Also needed are:

paper products: toilet paper, paper towels  
meat items: canned chicken/tuna  
macaroni and cheese  
chili, canned stews.

And items we have come to see as luxuries since we so rarely have them to give:  
bath soap, shampoo  
laundry items, dish detergent.

Just bring the supplies to the gathering area and we will store them in our pantry.

**Thanks for helping out!**

## Red Marbles

Submitted by Paul Ghiotto taken from the internet

I was at the corner grocery store buying some early potatoes... I noticed a small boy, delicate of bone and feature, ragged but clean, hungrily appraising a basket of freshly picked green peas.

I paid for my potatoes but was also drawn to the display of fresh green peas. I am a pushover for creamed peas and new potatoes.

Pondering the peas, I couldn't help overhearing the conversation between Mr. Miller (the store owner) and the ragged boy next to me.

"Hello Barry, how are you today?"

"H'lo, Mr. Miller. Fine, thank ya. Jus' admirin' them peas. They sure look good."

"They are good, Barry. How's your Ma?"

"Fine. Gittin' stronger alla' time."

"Good. Anything I can help you with?"

"No, Sir. Jus' admirin' them peas."

"Would you like to take some home?" asked Mr. Miller.

"No, Sir. Got nuthin' to pay for 'em with."

"Well, what have you to trade me for some of those peas?"

"All I got's my prize marble here."

"Is that right? Let me see it" said Miller.

"Here 'tis. She's a dandy."

"I can see that. Hmm mmm, only thing is this one is blue and I sort of go for red. Do you have a red one like this at home?" the store owner asked.

"Not zackley but almost."

"Tell you what, take this sack of peas home with you and next trip this way let me look at that red marble." Mr. Miller told the boy.

"Sure will. Thanks Mr. Miller."

Mrs. Miller, who had been standing nearby, came over to help me.

With a smile she said, "There are two other boys like him in our community, all three are in very poor circumstances. Jim just loves to bargain with them for peas, apples, tomatoes, or whatever.



When they come back with their red marbles, and they always do, he decides he doesn't like red after all and he sends them home with a bag of produce for a green marble or an orange one, when they come on their next trip to the store."

I left the store smiling to myself, impressed with this man. A short time later I moved to Colorado, but I

never forgot the story of this man, the boys, and their bartering for marbles. Several years went by, each more rapid than the previous one. Just recently I had occasion to visit some old friends in that Idaho community and while I was there learned that Mr. Miller had died. They were having his visitation that evening and knowing my friends wanted to go, I agreed to accompany them. Upon arrival at the mortuary we fell into line to meet the relatives of the deceased and to offer whatever words of comfort we could.

Ahead of us in line were three young men. One was in an army uniform and the other two wore nice haircuts, dark suits and white shirts...all very professional looking. They approached Mrs. Miller, standing composed and smiling by her husband's casket.

Each of the young men hugged her, kissed her on the cheek, spoke briefly with her and moved on to the casket. Her misty light blue eyes followed them as, one by one each young man stopped briefly and placed his own warm hand over the cold pale hand in the casket. Each left the mortuary awkwardly, wiping his eyes.

Our turn came to meet Mrs. Miller. I told her who I was and reminded her of the story from those many years ago and what she had told me about her husband's bartering for marbles. With her eyes glistening, she took my hand and led me to the casket.

"Those three young men who just left were the boys I told you about. They just told me how they appreciated the things Jim 'traded' them. Now, at last, when Jim could not change his mind about color or size....they came to pay their debt. We've never had a great deal of the wealth of this world," she confided, "but right now, Jim would consider himself the richest man in Idaho."

With loving gentleness she lifted the lifeless fingers of her deceased husband. Resting underneath were three exquisitely shined red marbles.

The Moral:

We will not be remembered by our words, but by our kind deeds. Life is not measured by the breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

## High Flight

Remembering our veterans on  
Wednesday, November 11.

By John Gillespie McGee, Jr.

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of  
earth  
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered  
wings;  
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the  
tumbling mirth  
Of sun-split clouds—and done a hundred  
things  
You have not dreamed of—wheeled and  
soared and swung  
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,  
I've chased the shouting wind along, and  
flung  
My eager craft through footless halls of  
air.  
Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue  
I've topped the wind-swept heights with  
easy grace  
Where never lark, or even eagle flew—  
And, while with silent lifting mind I've  
trod  
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,  
Put out my hand and touched the face of  
God.

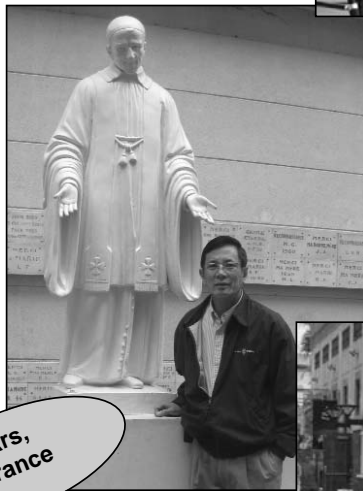
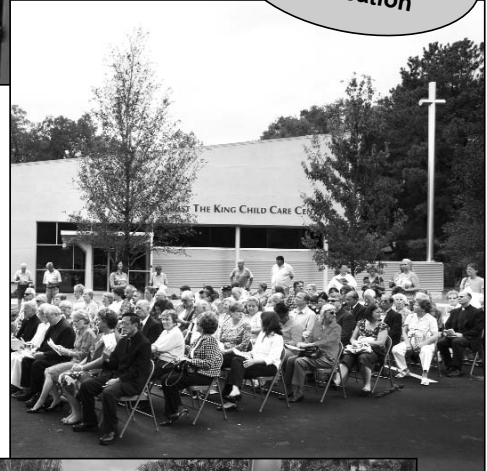


*John Gillespie Magee, Jr., a 19-year-old American serving with the Royal Canadian Air Force in Britain, wrote "High Flight" in late 1941. He was killed that December when his Spitfire collided with another plane over England. President Reagan quoted "High Flight" in his address to the nation following the Challenger disaster in 1986.*

# The Passing Parade



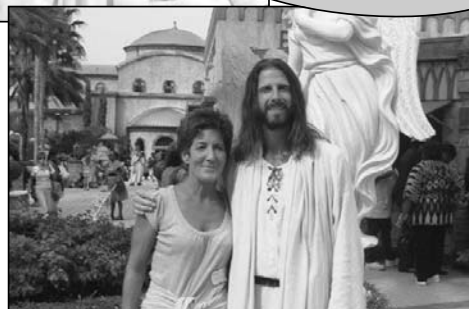
CTK  
Child Care  
Dedication



Ars,  
France



Holy Land Experience





## Christ the King Advent Gift Giving Tree

Select one or more ornaments  
from the trees and place with your  
wrapped gift in the Gathering Area



Wanna know  
a secret?

I use  
**SCRIP**  
from the school  
for Christmas  
gifts giving

Sign up in the  
Religious Article Store

# Catholic New Media

by Mary Ann Sullivan

Do you remember years ago when your only mail was delivered by the postman? Do you remember when your only form of entertainment was the radio, movies and, eventually, the television? Times have certainly changed. Today we have the ability to receive mail almost instantly via e-mail. With the internet, we can see and converse with family members who may be across the country or across the world. The LP of years ago became the CD of yesterday and the download on an iPod today. Times have certainly changed. The computer age has brought us something to be wary and conscious of; but something also to embrace.

In past issues of the Courier (2006-2007), Nick Klepac did an outstanding job of informing you of interesting Catholic websites. In the few years since then, not only websites have arisen, so has podcast. Wikipedia defines podcast as a "series of digital media files (either audio or video) that are released episodically and downloaded through web syndication."

In Pope John Paul II Apostolic Letter ("The Rapid Development" January 24, 2005) he wrote: *"The media provide a providential opportunity to reach people everywhere, overcoming barriers of time, of space and of language; presenting the content of faith in the most varied ways imaginable; and offering to all who search the possibility of entering into dialogue with the mystery of God, revealed fully in Christ Jesus."* Pope John Paul II had the vision of evangelizing through the use of media we know as the internet. *"Do not be afraid of new technologies! These rank among the marvelous things" - inter mirifica - which God has placed at our disposal to discover, to use and to make known the truth, also the truth about our dignity and about our destiny as his children, heirs of his eternal Kingdom."*

Did you realize that the Catholic Church has embraced this new form of media? Pope Benedict has started doing podcasting. And there are hundreds of free sites that are geared toward the Catholic or those interested in the Catholic Church. **And no, you do not have to own an iPod to enjoy these podcasts. They can be easily played on your computer.**

SQPN.com - SQPN (Star Quest Production Network) is an organization specializing in the production of audio and video programs that stay faithful to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. Some of these programs are prayers and strictly geared toward only teaching, others are podcast that do not 'hit you over the head' with Catholic teachings. They usually talk about different things in everyday life and then interject our religious teachings along the way. On this site there are 25+ podcasts that may touch upon Harry Potter, the Saints, Catholic families or computers. My favorite podcasts are found here.

**Daily Breakfast** - food for the mind and the soul. Father Roderick Vonhogen, from the Netherlands, mixes movies, travel, running and religion into his podcast.

**Catholic: Under the Hood** is a program presented by Father Seraphim Beshoner, a Franciscan Friar and a relatively new priest (hood/friar - do you get the connection?)

**In Between Sundays** is a program geared more toward young adults.

**Catholic in a Small Town** is Mac & Katherine Barron raising their children in a small town of Swainsboro, Georgia.

Listening to various SQPN podcasts pointed me toward a few other podcasts.

**Busted Halo** is on satellite radio (The Catholic Channel) and also available as a podcast. Father Dave Dwyer of the Paulist Fathers answers questions regarding parts of the Mass and why we do what we do at Mass.

**The Catholics Next Door** is a young family of Greg & Jennifer Willits who live near Atlanta, GA and their everyday Catholic life. The Willits are also well known for their videos of "That Catholic Show" (sure to entertain and educate kids).

Little by little I have learned things I did not know about my religion. Be willing to search out "Catholic podcast." The list could go on and on.

This new Catholic media can pique interest of those who want to know more about our religion; it can nudge those who have fallen away from their religion; and it can help ground those who are stable in our religion. Our priests are few today, they **cannot** be replaced by this new media, but they can be given a hand by it. *"Do not be afraid."*

## Theme For 2010 Communications Day Invites Priests To Use Digital Media

by Carol Glatz -Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - For World Communications Day 2010, Pope Benedict XVI has chosen the theme "The priest and pastoral ministry in a digital world: New media at the service of the Word."

As the church celebrates the Year for Priests, the pope also wanted to invite the world's priests to consider ways they could use digital media in their ministry, said a statement from the Pontifical Council for Social Communications. The Vatican announced the theme Sept. 29.

If understood and used wisely, new media technology "can offer priests and all pastoral workers a wealth of information and content that was difficult to access before, and facilitate forms of collaboration and greater communion in ways that were unthinkable in the past," the statement said.

While the church also must be aware of and address problems the new digital culture causes, it said, the church should recognize the enormous potential new instruments of communication have in ministry and evangelization.

Thanks to the new media, those involved in preaching and catechizing can now reach individuals and entire communities on every continent using words, sounds and images, it said.

"If used wisely, and with the help of experts in technology and communications, the new media can become a valid and effective tool for priests and all pastoral workers for evangelization and communion that are true and full of meaning," it said.

In most countries, the Catholic Church celebrates World Communications Day on the Sunday before Pentecost; in 2010 the communications day will be celebrated May 16. A papal message for the occasion usually is released Jan. 24, the feast of St. Francis de Sales, the patron of journalists.

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# Maryknoll Martyr

by Frank Becht

Father William Woods, better known as Father Bill Woods, is a Maryknoll missionary who was killed in Guatemala, Central America on November 20, 1976. What makes Bill Woods, as he was well known to me, so special, is that we were classmates and friends in Maryknoll College, Glen Ellyn, Illinois from 1949 to 1951.

Maryknoll is formally known as the Foreign Mission Society of America, their mission being to provide priests, brothers, nuns and lay workers outside the United States to countries in the Orient, Asia, Latin America and Africa.

As result of joining the Maryknoll Affiliates recently established here in Jacksonville by Father Bob Carleton, the local Maryknoll Director, I acquired a brochure titled **Maryknoll Martyrs**.

While I was aware of Father Bill Woods' death some years ago, I had not thought of him as a martyr. He was listed as martyr #13, the most recent Maryknoller to die for his faith.

Father Woods was born in Houston, Texas on September 14, 1931. Upon graduating from St. Thomas High School, he began his studies for the priesthood at Maryknoll College in Glen Ellyn, Illinois where we met. We attended Maryknoll College for two years together. From then on, our lives went in different directions.

I had decided to leave the seminary after high school and two years of college, but instead of going straight home as did Bill and fellow classmate, Rafael Davila, I decided to accompany two friends from Houston for a short vacation along with fellow classmate Dennis Lally from Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

I arranged to deliver a new Chevrolet pickup truck from a Chicago dealer to a Houston dealer. We left Chicago loaded with the luggage of four classmates. Most of the way two of us rode in the front while the other two rode in the rear. That worked fine until we ran into rain in Missouri. Then there were three in the cab;

guess who rode in the rain in the back. But we arrived in good shape.

We delivered "Bill" to his home; delivered our luggage to the Davila home; and delivered the pickup to the dealer, returning to the Davila home which was home base for our sightseeing trips for the next few days. We even toured sites in San Antonio. This is a trip I've never forgotten, nor the gracious Davila family. Dennis Lally and I hitchhiked home, I to Georgetown, Indiana and he to Pennsylvania.

Bill Woods and Rafael Davila returned to Maryknoll at Glen Ellyn in the fall and then to Maryknoll at Ossining, New York where they were ordained in June 1958.

Father Woods was assigned to Central America where he spent all of his priestly life working with the people of Guatemala. This was a period in Guatemalan history in which there was severe political unrest that was brought on by a leftist guerrilla group trying to overthrow the government of Guatemala. Earthquakes and weather conditions made worse the extremely harsh economic conditions in Guatemala.

One project was development of a housing project on the outskirts of Guatemala City, which was designed to alleviate the housing shortage caused by a disastrous earthquake in February 1976.

Another project, a colonization project was aimed at obtaining land for the landless poor in the mountains of Huehuetenango. He had become involved in this enormous project for more than 10 years; it involved the resettlement of over 1000 families. Community development and training of local leaders were critical. A major service involved air transportation of the elderly, the sick and those incapable of traveling overland to this jungle project.

While working on this project one day, he was taking off in an airplane headed into the San Luis Ixcán Mountains (western Guatemala). His plane crashed and he was killed along with four American civilian passengers. The details and cause of the accident have never been determined. Some feel the plane was sabotaged while others state the plane was shot down. Some feel that it was the Guatemalan Army that shot down his plane.

The Funeral Mass and burial were in Huehuetenango, Guatemala on November 23, 1976. The Mass of the Resurrection was celebrated at Maryknoll, New York on Wednesday, November 24 and a memorial Mass in Father Woods' home parish, Holy Ghost Church, Bellaire, Texas. His mother Mrs. William Woods, Houston, Texas; a sister, Mrs. Henry Wedelich, Houston, Texas; and two brothers, John Woods, Belize, and James Woods, Houston, Texas, survive Father Woods.

Father Woods was a very serious and dedicated person with a very pleasing personality and a keen sense of humor. I remember him as a "no nonsense guy" in the seminary.

Upon his death, his mother is quoted as saying, "he died just as he lived, working with his people." Father Woods is reported to have said that "they-whomever they are-would kill him sooner or later." In a May 27, 1976 letter to Guatemalan President General Kjell Lougerud Garcia at the time, Father Bill Woods wrote "I love Guatemala and especially those peasants who are putting so much effort into developing a new life in the Zona Reina (in the Ixcán). It would break my heart to have to leave the country. I repeat, my only interest is to help make the peasants better Christians, better Guatemalans, and thus help them produce more for their country."

In recent years, Maryknollers in Central and South America have come under mounting criticism for their increased efforts to help the poor and downtrodden. It's been said, "We've turned tradition on its head. It used to be God's will to accept the suffering. Now it's God's will to denounce suffering."

Father Bill Woods is indeed a martyr, an Ixcán martyr, for he died for his faith and the downtrodden of Guatemala.



## Thanksgiving, Thanksgiving



submitted by Father Thanh

We give you thanks, dear Lord above  
For all your living, giving love  
For life itself, that gift most dear  
For wondrous scents and things to hear,  
For things to taste and feel and see,  
For things to love and do and be,  
For mountains, tow'ring high, to climb  
For valleys, cool, and hills sublime.  
For oceans, rivers, lakes and streams,  
For sun's bright rays, and soft  
moonbeams.

For all the gifts that we enjoy  
Our thanks we raise and praise employ!

We give you thanks, dear Jesus true,  
For all the things you came to do.  
For taking on our mortal frame  
When to our world, a child you came,  
For living, teaching, helping, caring,  
Healing, preaching, loving, sharing.

For suffering our fate, and then  
For rising back to life again,  
Ascending high to cloudy skies,  
Preparing homes in paradise  
For all the gifts brought by your living  
We offer now our high Thanksgiving!

We thank you, Spirit, breath and fire,  
For all the gifts that you inspire.  
For faith that makes our future bright  
And fills our lives with hope and light.  
For love that seems to have no end  
When shared with family or a friend.  
For joy that lifts our happy hearts  
With music, hobbies, sports and arts.  
For fellowship at feast and meal  
For hugs and laughs and smiles that  
heal.

For all the gifts inspired and true  
We offer now our thanks to you

Dear Father, Holy Spirit, Son  
We join our thanks and praise as one  
Now, may our works of thankful giving  
Break forth in lives of thankful living.



# In The Spotlight...

Recognition is being given to the following people  
for being a beaming light of hope, love, and caring.  
Unconditionally giving their time to others...  
Volunteering to go that extra mile to help when they are needed.

by Charm Saults



**Linda Dutton** has been the computer teacher at Christ the King School for .....years. She has found the most enjoyable part of her position is seeing the children's enthusiasm and zest for learning. Under her watchful eye, they become proficient in Microsoft products, keyboarding and internet research.

Linda was born and raised in Jacksonville, and attended Christ the King School and Bishop Kenny High School. Her family was one of the founding families of the parish. Besides her teaching duties, Linda participates in several ministries and committees that make our parish the active welcoming place that it is. She is a Eucharistic Minister. She oversees the SCRIP program and served on the 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Committee of Christ the King School. Linda serves as a board member for the L'Arche Harbor House and for the Clay Roberts Fishing Tournament and is a member of the Bishop Kenny Class Reunion committee.

Linda is married to Doug Dutton, who was born in Alabama and is retired from the State of Florida in Tallahassee where he was a lobbyist for the pulp and paper industry. He has three married children—Mark, Greg and Kimmi and five grandchildren. He is a Eucharistic Minister and enjoys golfing.

Linda has three children—Kevin and Greg Wrubluski and Kate Wrubluski Thilges—all of whom attended Christ the King School. Kevin, a graduate of Valdosta State, and his wife, Suzie, have two children. Greg is a captain in the Marine Corp, married to Heather and they have five children. He is currently serving in Afghanistan. Kate received her degree from University of North Florida and is employed by Health Designs. Her husband, Nate is studying to be a physician's assistant at University of Florida.

All of the Duttons enjoy lots of family time and golfing.



**Barbara Boutté** has been a Pre-Kindergarten teacher at Christ the King for 19 years. Barbara went to college in Jacksonville and graduated from JU with both a BS and a Master's Degree in Education. When Barbara left Florida, she never thought that she would be returning to Jacksonville. However, in 1989 her husband André, a Naval aviator, received orders to Mayport Naval Air Station and this became their permanent home. The Bouttés first came to Christ the King School when they were looking for a pre-kindergarten for their own daughter, Danielle. They soon became parishioners, and Danielle grew up in the Christ the King family. Since then, André has retired from the Navy and is Director of Operations for Watson Realty Corp. Danielle has graduated from CTK, Bishop Kenny HS, and Florida Atlantic University, and Barbara has stayed teaching pre-kindergarten, a job she really loves.

Barbara says, "As parents, we were so pleased with the academic foundation that Danielle received at CTK, but more than that we were truly thankful for the Christ-centered environment and the caring, nurturing teachers." It's a fact that the majority of the staff and faculty of our school has had, or currently has, their own children enrolled in CTK. Every year Barbara looks forward to welcoming new families, but she says that her real satisfaction comes from watching so many of her previous students grow up right here at Christ the King.



**Cindy Stillson** is originally from Old Bridge, New Jersey. She came to Jacksonville in 1978 where she met her husband Dwight at the Theater of Jacksonville. Monsignor Danaher married them on September 7, 1985 at Christ the King.

The couple have two daughters Erin and Megan, both attend the University of Central Florida. Erin is a senior vocal performance major and Megan is a freshman musical theater.

Cindy attended the State University of New York and the University of North Florida. In addition to teaching at Christ the King School, Cindy is also the music teacher at St. Patrick's School in Jacksonville. Even with her busy schedule she is a pianist with the music ministry at St. Patrick's. Cindy is in her second year with CTK, where she has produced the annual Christmas pageant and the spring musical, "The Elves and the Shoemaker." This year she plans on producing a presentation of Engelbert Humperdinck's classic opera, "Hansel and Gretel," first staged in Weimar, Germany in 1893. It will be a part of CTK school's Grandparents Day celebration. Other musical programs for the 2009-2010 school year include the Christmas pageant on December 8, an annual talent show in late February and the annual musical (TBA) on April 28. Do not miss any of these great events showcasing the student talents of Christ the King School.



**Kelli Moneyhan** is a new teacher this year at Christ the King School. She is already well known at Christ the King for her participation in several ministries. She is active with MOMS, the Beautification ministry, runs the nursery on Sundays for the 9:00 a.m. Mass and heads up the country store for the Octoberfest. Kelli teaches social studies to the sixth graders.

Kelli was born in Key West and moved to Jacksonville in 1976. Kelli and her husband, Mickey, were both working as mail carriers for the postal service when they met in 1989. They were married at Resurrection Church in August of 1996. Mickey is from Jacksonville and graduated from Christ the King School. While Kelli is teaching, he is at home with their children—Carolyn, age 7; Amy, age 5; and Sean, age 2. The family also includes Kelli's two adult daughters Erica and Erin, and a grandson, Xavier, two years old.



# Parish-wide Inaugural Marian



# Rosary Procession and Mass



**Childrens flower petal veneration**



# Meet the Faustinis

by Darlene O'Neal

Doris and John Faustini have been volunteering their time and talents for many years at Christ the King Parish. They have been active since they joined this parish in 1968.

They are both from Cleveland, Ohio and were married there some forty-six years ago. John was raised on a farm where he learned many of his horticultural talents. His family farmed in both Ohio and Florida where he graduated from high school in Miami Beach. Doris attended schools, including Notre Dame Academy, in Cleveland..

John and Doris have a family of six children; Mark, Paula, Joan, Laura, Christopher and Stephen. All their children attended Bishop Kenny High School. When the Faustini children were students at Christ the King School, Doris served as president of the Home and School Council. Later on, when John retired, he maintained all the fire extinguishers in the school and church.

John was a coach for the Christ the King Lancers baseball team and Doris was the scorekeeper. During a tournament playoff game, it was Doris' skill as scorekeeper that proved the Lancers won by ONE run. A picture of the team hangs in the rectory hall.

Doris served as president of the ladies' guild and she was vice-president of the K'Cees in 1999 through 2001. Presently, she and John are active in the K'Cees and the Knights of Columbus. They can be found square dancing whenever the Knights have hoedowns. They also help make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the St. Francis soup kitchen.

John served on the Beautification Ministry, tending the rose garden on the Larkin Road side of the church for many years. He worked at the County Extension Service as Master Gardner and is a member of the Men's Garden Club of Jacksonville. Along with members of the garden club, John brings his plants and citrus fruit to the Jacksonville Fair each year where he and Doris work in the horticultural section. All profits from the sale of plants go to offer scholarships to students in the Department of

Horticulture at the University of Florida. Go Gators!

Since its inception, Doris and John have been faithful volunteers at the Lenten Fish Frys. Their specialty is making and serving iced tea and coffee. They have been part of the Stewardship Committee since its beginning and continue to serve on the Stewardship/Welcome Committee. On Monday mornings, they can be found at the rectory, John counting the Mass collections and Doris posting the collections on the computer.

For over 30 years, when only men were allowed to participate at Nocturnal Adoration, John served as secretary-treasurer for most of that time. When it opened to women, Doris joined. Today, she is the Monday captain of daily Adoration. They are part of small groups faith sharing, and both are faithful ushers at the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday.

John grows citrus trees and he shares bags of grapefruit and satsumas every year with parishioners and St. Vincent de Paul ministry.

Once a month, they play bridge with fellow parishioners Olin and Jane Middleton, along with Cas and Dolly Casterlin. These are two very special people who have been volunteering their time and talents long before it was decided to recruit people for Time, Talent and Treasure. The Faustinis live the true meaning of stewardship.

Acknowledging John and Doris Faustini for all their years of dedication and service to Christ the King parish is long overdue. On behalf of our church family, we thank you.



## Welcome to the Kids Page

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# Tim Talks

Tim McClellan - Parish Council President

Christ the King is a large parish community with diversity in culture, and wide ranging interests. We are drawn together by our faith in Christ our Savior, and called upon to be stewards of that conviction, supporting our parish and our Catholic faith.

We are often reminded through scripture to give of ourselves.

"It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35)

"Whoever is generous will be blessed." (Prov. 22:9)

The rewards for giving willingly to our faith community are plentiful.

We are challenged to find ways to give thanks to the Lord for our good fortunes. "How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good he has done for me?" (Psalms 24:1)

How we respond to the question of giving back can include our treasure, but it can also include our time and talents.

We are all given the same number of hours in a day. Each individual chooses how to use the time we are provided. We live in a hectic world where we are pulled in many

different directions throughout the day.

Whether we are working overtime at the office, scrambling to get our children to football practice or dance classes, cleaning house, tending to the yard, or juggling all of the things that keep us running on a daily basis, there are never enough hours in the day to squeeze everything in.

At least that is what we think.

We are forced to prioritize our days, and in many instances, we lose track of what really matters in the daily grind. We are so involved in getting from point A to point B, or with completing a task at work, that we let things slip at home, and with our faith. All of us try to pack more into our daily routine than we could possibly manage, and we do not allow time to savor what we have, to really connect with our families, or to find some quiet time to come closer to our faith.

There are always opportunities to change our path. We could take a step back from the routine, and start to prioritize the things that really matter to us. Is that extra

hour or two at the office really going to benefit you or your family in the long run? Will it help you to become closer to God?

Or, would we be better served to spend that time trying to build a deeper bond with family or with your parish community. Finding time to develop a stronger relationship with our family and our faith can serve to give us a more fulfilling life.

The rewards we receive for adjusting our focus and putting more energy into those things that really matter in our lives are limitless.

Make more time for your family, friends, and faith.

Make more time for your parish community.

Share the gifts God has given you. Offering our time and talent to our faith community is a great way for us to live our faith. This is where we can walk the walk, and in the process make our parish a better place while enhancing our own relationships with God. All we



need to do is look at what truly matters to us, open our minds and our hearts to finding ways to better serve our Lord, and make the commitment to give of ourselves in the name of our faith.

The opportunities are endless, and so are the rewards.

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40)

## Sister Mary Ann

by Frank Becht



Sister Mary Ann is the only child of Clarence (Bud) Clausson and Frances Steele Clausson who lived in Patterson, New Jersey. Her father was a truck driver and her mother a waitress. Her father attended St. Mary's Catholic Church in Patterson, New Jersey and her mother attended St. Anthony's. They were married in December, 1946, and are now deceased.

Sister Mary Ann attended one year of grade school at St. Anthony's but transferred to St. Brendan in Clifton, New Jersey, where she graduated. She graduated from high school at St. Joseph's in Patterson, New Jersey. Both schools were run by the Sisters of Charity.

After graduation she worked as a secretary. She got in the habit of attending daily Mass and here had an opportunity to meet and get to know several Dominican sisters. Although she had

previously considered going into the convent, it was the Dominican Sisters of Newburgh, New York who convinced her to join the Congregation in 1968 where she attended Mount St. Mary's College run by the sisters. She majored in education and social studies. Upon graduation in 1972, she taught grade school for one year at Succasuna, New Jersey, and then for many years in Westchester, New York. In 1978, while teaching in Westchester, she attended Fordham University for her Masters Degree in Religious Studies.

After receiving her Masters Degree she became the Director of Religious Education at St. Bartholomew's Catholic Church in Yonkers, New York from 1987 to 1995. She was employed by the parish to coordinate and direct religious studies for the Catholic School children and the public school children CCD program. In addition, she trained catechists and prepared and coordinated parent education.

There are many different Dominican congregations doing a wide variety of works. In July 1965, Sister Mary Ann, as a member of a teaching order, worked with two other Dominican Congregations in the creation of a new congregation of Dominican Sisters called the **Dominican Sisters of Hope**. Their specific goal is "To be better able to serve people of God."

In 1995, Sister Mary Ann returned to the Motherhouse where she began studies in physical therapy at Orange County Community College. In 2000, she graduated and was employed by St. Francis Hospital, Poughkeepsie, New York as a therapist assistant. She spent the next four years working with orthopedic and stroke victim patients.

In 2004, Sister Mary Ann began work as a physical therapist at Children's Annex School for autistic children, in Kingston, New York. From August, 2007, to March, 2008, she began the first part of a sabbatical for religious women at Berakoh, New Hampshire. For the second part of her sabbatical, from April, 2008, to July,

2008, she volunteered to help nuns in the first Dominican Monastery established by St. Dominic over 800 years ago in Fanjeaux, France, by working in the guesthouse.

After a short leave, she returned to Fanjeaux as part of the community until July, 2009. Then, Sister Mary Ann came to Jacksonville to be with her aunt and uncle, Jean "Foxy" and Howard Sell. She left Saturday, August 29, to return to her convent in Poughkeepsie, New York, and she will again work with autistic children at the Children's Annex.

Sister Mary Ann is highly dedicated as a sister trying harder each day to do a better job serving the people of God. She resembles her aunt Foxy in looks as well as her always active involvement with people. During my interview with Sister Mary Ann, she talked much about community. That's what triggered her vocation, the community of the sisters after daily Mass. What makes her life so worthwhile is her community with fellow sisters.

Sister Mary Ann is also a highly educated person; she has not been content with one job,



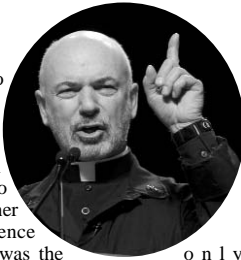
but has educated herself to better serve the needs of the people of God. We need more Sister Mary Anns! Don't dare to refer to her as a "nun." She says there's a difference between nuns and sisters. I dared not get into the difference for lack of space.

God Bless you, Sister Mary Ann! You are dear to many you have helped!

## Father John Corapi: Discover the Power of the Holy Spirit

by Nicholas and Natalie Winiewicz

On August 15, Natalie and I headed to Buffalo, New York to celebrate my mother's 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday and my parent's 71<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary. It was also to attend a conference held by Father John Corapi in his four-part discussion to Discover the Power of the Holy Spirit. Father Corapi has curtailed his live audience presentations due to his health, and this was the only one to be held in 2009. We went to the HSBC Arena in Buffalo and were joined by 11,000 faithful from 45 states, Canada and Australia. The conference was emceed by Jerry Usher and EWTN News Director Raymond Arroyo also participated.



His sermons were:

- "The Theology of the Person and Power of the Holy Spirit" in which he describes the Holy Spirit as personified Love, the Spirit of Truth, and the power of God that created the entire universe.
- "The Gift Who Contains all Gifts" - Here Father Corapi states, "If the world lacks peace, prosperity or anything else that is good, it is because it lacks the Holy Spirit. This happens one person at a time."
- "The Holy Spirit is Given to Those that Obey" and is not given to those who disobey Him. Leaders of families or nations that do not have the gifts of the Holy Spirit cannot lead well, hence the state of the nation, the world, and so many families today.
- "The Spirit We Have Been Given is No Cowardly Spirit" but rather a Spirit of power, love and self control. "We have observed entirely too much cowardice operating in the world, and even in the Church in modern times. Why? Because the Holy Spirit is lacking in individuals - not that the Holy Spirit has gone away, but because individuals have shut Him out through sin and disobedience. It is time for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit. This happens one person at a time" he said.

His discussions were powerful and met with enthusiasm from the entire audience. He frequently said "No Pain, No Gain; No Gore, No Glory; and No Cross, No Crown." Father Corapi gave up his tax exempt status 10 years ago so that he could speak freely about the current state of the world without fear of retaliation. Quoting Einstein, he said that the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again but expecting a different result. He chided so many Americans for voting for the same people or party over and over again and expecting differing outcomes. Saying that he is frequently misquoted in the press, he made it unequivocally clear that "You cannot be Catholic and pro-choice." This was met with one of several standing ovations from all in attendance. He added later, "You cannot raise the bottom by lowering the top." He also asked, "Who started healthcare in the United States? - the Catholic Church. Who runs the most hospitals? - the Catholic Church. Who is not being asked about healthcare in the current debate? - the Catholic Church." One of our favorite quotes is "my Mother wears combat boots" referring to Mother Mary and the war against sin in the world.

He spoke about the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. With WISDOM, people can see God at work in all lives and UNDERSTANDING can show followers of Jesus Christ how to live. "A person with understanding is not confused by conflicting messages in our confused and disoriented culture on how to live." RIGHT JUDGMENT is a gift that helps people avoid sin while FORTITUDE is essential to overcoming fear. "The greatest courage ever displayed was Jesus Christ crucified." Through KNOWLEDGE, people understand the meaning of God's revelations while PIETY helps believers develop reverence for God and the things of God. The last gift is FEAR OF THE LORD.

Bishop Kmiec, Bishop of Buffalo, New York, celebrated Mass and it was beautiful to see 11,000 people attend Mass and receive communion distributed by 60 priests and deacons. The bishop renamed the HSBC arena to the "Holy Spirit Brings Catholics" arena. We saw many couples, especially young couples praying the rosary during intermission as others went for food, and hearing so many people sing songs of praise was truly amazing.

On Sunday, Natalie and I attended church at Our Lady of Pompeii, where we were married 39 years ago. A newly ordained priest (34 days) in Father Corapi's order said Mass. He had driven from Connecticut to hear the conference and provided a powerful witness to the Holy Spirit as he related his conversion story from drugs and alcohol. We thought we were hearing the story of St. Augustine.

Our wish is that all of the parishioners of Christ the King would have been able to attend. It was a wonderful experience and made us aware of how proud we are to be Catholic and how lucky to be born one.

## The Sign of the Cross

by Charm Saults

There are still three ways of making the Sign of the Cross.

Using five fingers extended, representing the wounds of Christ.

Using three fingers, honoring the three persons of the Holy Trinity.

Using one finger, denoting the oneness of God.

Signing the cross sums up Christian doctrine. First, we touch

As children we learn to make the sign of the cross at home, in school or in church. We tend to be a bit uncoordinated at first, but we learn quickly, and regularly cross ourselves before prayers, at mealtime and during church services.

The history of the Sign goes back to the first Christians. It was a way of identifying the Christians as disciples of Christ in the early years of the church.

The sign of the fish—the ichthys—was used as a symbol of some of the first Christian discipleship. Other Christians would trace a cross on the ground with their staffs, hands, or sandals. Then quickly erase it so only a few would see it.

Saint Cyril of Jerusalem (died A.D. 386) issued a stirring challenge to Christians in his *Catechesis*: "Let us then not be ashamed to confess the Crucified. Be the cross our seal, made with boldness by our fingers on our brow and in everything over the bread we eat and the cups we drink, in our goings out and comings in; before we sleep; when we wake; when we are traveling; and when we are at rest."

Saint Cyril believed in stressing the power of the Sign of the Cross against evil spirits. "Make it on your forehead so the devils, at sight of the standard of the King, may flee away trembling." Saint Jerome (died A.D. 420) wrote to the Lady Paula, suggesting the sign of the cross was sometimes made on the lips.

It is believed that the transition of the small sign to the large one happened during the Monophysite heresy during the fourth and fifth centuries. Christians, who were committed to the apostolic teachings wanted to confess their faith in Christ's true nature. A large sign of the cross was suggested, to be made using just two fingers when making the sign of the Cross. Priests, also give their blessings in somewhat the same manner when they conclude the Eucharistic blessing.



our forehead, acknowledging our intellect, as we indicate our faith in God the Father, a person of the Trinity. Second, we follow a line from our forehead to our breast, professing our faith in the Word made man. Third, we move our hand over our breast from left to right signifying the fact that our lungs and heart are located in our breast, which is the seat of our life-sustaining breath and blood. We call to mind the third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, and the Breath of God.

The small sign of the cross is also made three times before the reading of the Gospel. On the forehead indicating our belief in the good news of the Gospel; on the lips, calling to mind that we preach the message of the Gospel by word of mouth; on our heart showing that we cherish the word of God.

The sign of the cross is really a very simple profound prayer to be used frequently throughout the day.

*Keep Christ in  
Christmas!*

# The Passing Parade



"Oh when the Saints ...  
go marching in ..."



All Saints Day



Halloween





## Clay Ludwig—A Young Vincentian



by Yolanda Cerqueira

When you think of active families in our parish one of the names that would immediately pop into your head would be the Ludwig family as all of the members of this remarkable family have given of their time and talent to make Christ the King a better place. But this particular article is about one member of the family and that is the youngest one, Clay Ludwig and his involvement with the Young Vincentians at Bishop Kenny High School.

Clay is in his third year at Bishop Kenny and he also happens to be the duly elected president of the Young Vincentians which is part of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. He is in his first term as president, and together with his officers, he has made some exciting plans for this organization. This year the Young Vincentians have approximately 185 members who all work together to ease in some way the burdens of other peoples' lives.

Some of the things that might surprise our readers are the activities of the organization. Most of us think about young people collecting canned goods or clothing to give to the poor and that is very essential to the operation of any Vincentian Society but this year the emphasis is on outreach to the community. That means seeking out the areas where help is needed.

Clay stated that many members are involved in the "40 Days for Life Campaign" which began in October. They have been collecting diapers and baby wipes for unwed mothers. This also means that there are student members who go when they can to the Women's Help Center and do such things as filing, cleaning the kitchen, and vacuuming when necessary all year

long. There are other students who mow the lawns of some unwed mothers or do handy work for them when called upon to do so. No task is too small to complete. The Young Vincentians are there to serve others.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society has opened a thrift store on Beach Boulevard and every Wednesday afternoon there are three or four Bishop Kenny Young Vincentians who work in the Thrift Store doing whatever they are asked to do.

To even become a member of the Young Vincentians at Bishop Kenny there is a price. For the boys the entry fee is three canned goods which are donated to the Sulzbacher Center, and for the girls the entry fee is a pack of diapers or baby wipes which is given to the Women's Help Center. And speaking of the Sulzbacher Center about 15 students have already acted as volunteers after school setting up for the dinner meal.

The March for Life follows the 40 Days for Life and will be coming up soon and is held in St. Augustine. The group was really looking forward to this as they are so much a part of this whole Respect Life movement. Clay stated that the group had planned to have a banner as they marched along the streets but found that the cost was beyond their resources. They had been saving but it was not quite enough. Wouldn't you know that an anonymous donor came along and provided the funds! God does work in mysterious ways. So not only will the Young Vincentians march but they will march with a Young Vincentian banner.

One of the activities that Clay said that he and the Young Vincentians enjoy being a part of is the Special Olympics Area Bowling which is held at Jax Lanes on Beach Blvd. Clay attended the last event and he said it was packed with bowlers so excited to be able to participate. At this event they took about 30 students who assisted the bowlers in whatever their need might be. Most of the Young Vincentians enjoy doing this and are only too eager to volunteer. They can only use so many at a time but Clay said that they had another tournament two weeks prior and 15 Vincentians were able to assist.

In every event that they participate in the Young Vincentians wear a special t-shirt that has been designed for them. It is blue and on the front it has the St. Vincent de Paul logo but on the back there are the beautiful words of Frederic Ozanam, the founder of the Society. It reads, "Since God has given me strength, I ought to employ it in his service."

When Clay expresses ideas about the Young Vincentians it is always "we" and never just "I." He believes in the members and their dedication to the principles of the Society. The society itself is a spiritual organization first and then comes the social aspect of it. Once a month on a Wednesday morning Young Vincentian meet in chapel to celebrate Mass. Clay happily stated that the chapel is packed and his comment is, "If we gather monthly around the Eucharist it will keep us on the right path and this is what it's all about." Clay believes that he has been called by God to get out there and express his faith.

But there is much more to Clay than just his deep commitment to the Young Vincentians in that he is also junior class president and on the varsity football team. Clay is a linebacker and a mighty good one at that. In addition to all of this



he mates for Captain Rick Ryals on his boat, Dos Amigos several times a month. Clay says when you do not see him as an altar server on Sunday morning it is because he's out at sea doing the duties of the mate and having a good time all the while.

By anyone's definition Clay Ludwig is a cool young man who is full of faith.

## Happy 98th Birthday, Mary Louise

by Jean Sell

Mary Louise Pellicer has been at Christ the King for many years. Since 2005 Father Thanh, Nettie Conner and Jean and Howard Sell have been having a special birthday lunch party at Mimi's in the Town Center. This year on her 98th birthday because of her health, we brought the party to the Atrium dining room.

We had an added surprise for her when her cousin Monsignor Vincent Haut arrived with Aunt Lois.

No matches were allowed but she did manage to blow out all 98 invisible candles.





# Food for the Soul

by Yolanda Cerqueira

A few short weeks ago 44 Christ the King parishioners and friends including Father Thanh and Seminarian Thomas Kim boarded a bus early in the dawn to travel to Orlando. Our purpose was to personally take part in the Holy Land Experience and that we did with great gusto.

To lend proof to this last statement here are some of your fellow parishioners thoughts about this very unusual day: "Absolutely marvelous," "Would recommend it, everyone should see it," "Great, marvelous, wonderful," "Very biblical—Passion was so real," "Drawn right into the time and the place," "The Last Supper was very touching, very moving." And so the comments go on adding up to a day full of some very reflective memories.



According to a brochure the Holy Land Experience is a living biblical museum that takes you back 2000 years ago to a time and culture much different from our own, and without a doubt it lives up to that description and even more.

After our arrival around 10:00 a.m. we pilgrims were free to enjoy all that the park had to offer. Most of us headed to the Shofar Building to see and hear the Jerusalem Model Presentation which is about the most interesting and informative site as far as actual history is concerned. In order to fully understand you would have to see with your own eyes this very detailed scale model of the old walled city of Jerusalem. The model itself is not small but could be compared to three-fourths of the size of the Shirley David Hall. We pilgrims could easily space ourselves around the city and listen to the presenter who held us literally spellbound by his most interesting and informative presentation. He was even able to throw in some very amusing jokes. It is certainly worth the time and effort to drive to Orlando just to see and hear this incredible history of Jerusalem.

Many of us then took advantage of the opportunity to see the "Woman at the Well" performance which was also in the auditorium of the building. It was marvelous. The actors are truly dedicated to making the bible come alive. The drama unfolds in such a way that one gets clear insight into the thoughts of the people whom Jesus meets.



The highlight of the Holy Land Experience would be the re-enactment of the Passion of Christ done with such realism that one is transported back to that transforming Good Friday. The park has closely replicated the area as it was at that time. We were told that the Garden of Gethsemane was not actually a garden but a grove of vineyards and olive trees. The actors in costumes of the time brought realism to the drama as one could actually see the marks on Jesus left by his scourging. Jesus was truly the innocent lamb but his triumphant rising from the dead was shown in its full glory with Jesus appearing holding the keys to heaven and hell.

Most of the people were now more than ready for lunch and one would not be disappointed with the choices. First of all the park is small so it is easy to locate the eateries which are five in all and include a coffee shop. During this time we pilgrims had a chance to chit chat and compare notes on what we had seen and done. So now we are ready to dive into the afternoon activities.

Recommended by all: The Last Communion with Jesus—This is a short presentation but one that goes straight to the heart of our faith. It is a rather intimate drama in that the number of participants is kept to about 15 people sitting on stools around a table with a tent like covering above us. We are given a piece of unleavened bread and a small cup of grape juice. There is only an apostle and Jesus who then goes through an enactment of the Last Supper and as He does we first eat the Bread of Life and then drink the Cup of Salvation. It ends with all singing the hymn Alleluia

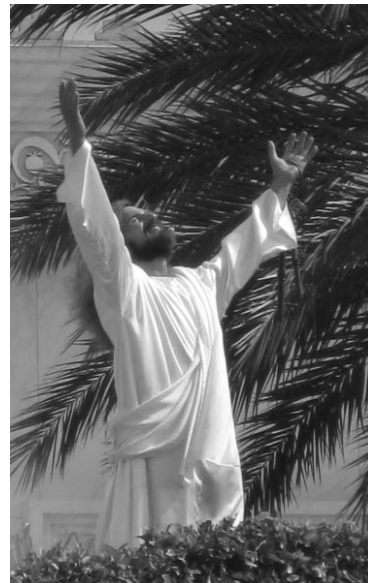
which can't help but move you in a spiritual manner. As a special remembrance we are able to keep the small wooden cups which are made in Jerusalem.

For a change of pace go see Celebrate America in which we are taken back to small town USA, to a 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. Again the costumes lend so much to the occasion; this time everything is red, white, and blue. We quickly fell into the rhythm of clapping our hands and lightly stomping our feet. All the patriotic tunes with a special salute to the four branches of the military could only increase the pride that we feel to be Americans.

There is much more, but you readers need to experience this for yourself. The last presentation

before leaving the park was again in the Shofar Auditorium where we saw "Forgiven" which was very powerful. This drama portrayed individual incidents in the lives of David, Gomer, the wife of the prophet Hosea, and Paul, the Apostle. Each of these individuals had sinned grievously before the Lord. Each in his own way came to the realization of his sins and each humbly prostrated himself before the Lord acknowledging his sin and asking forgiveness. As we all know we have a merciful and loving God who only waits to forgive and receive us back into the fold.

Alas, we were approaching the witching hour which in our case was 4:00 p.m. to board the bus back to Jacksonville. This writer would be remiss without mentioning Daisy McDonald who made the whole thing possible. An outstanding job! And a special salute to Father Thanh who took such incredible pictures that he could take on a second career as a professional photographer. But don't believe me, look for yourself at his pictures of the Passion. Very Impressive.



# Christianity In The World

by Frank Becht

Have you ever wondered how the world stacks up religion wise? If so, here are some interesting facts as produced by various religious websites. There are approximately 159 countries making up the world. The following are the major religions of the world ranked by their adherents and approximate estimates of followers:

**Christianity – 33%** (Includes Catholic, Protestant, Eastern Orthodox, Pentecostal, Anglican, Monophysite, AICs, Latter-day Saints, Evangelical, Jehovah's Witness, Quakers and the like).

This amounts to 2.1 billion Christians worldwide. Of this number, there are 1,114,966,000 Catholics worldwide and 67,117,000 Catholics in the United States. Catholics represent 7% of world-wide population and 22% of US population.

**Islam – 21 %** (Shite, Sunni, etc.) - 1.5 billion

**Nonreligious – 15%** (includes agnostic, atheist, secular humanist and the like) - 1.1 billion.

**Hinduism – 13% – 900 million**

**Chinese traditional – 6% – 394 million**

**Buddhism – 6% – 376 million**

**Primal-Indigenous – 5%** (includes African Traditional /Diasporic) - 100 million

**Sikhism – .36% – 23million**

**Judaism – .22% – 14 million**

**Other – .42% –**

There are numerous other religions to make up the balance of the world population. Can you believe that Islamics outnumber Catholics in the world? Do all

Catholics go to Church? No! The sad fact is that only 22% of Catholics attend Mass regularly. Why is this happening?

As you can see we are lagging behind. What are we going to do about this? It's up to you and me to affect **"change."** Pope Benedict XVI has declared this year **The Year of the Priest.** The purpose is to "support the development of spiritual perfection in priests." We must suspend the tide of abortion, divorce, cohabiting and the trend of convalidated marriages. You can help our priests be more energetic in their job by our cooperative and diligent effort to become better Catholics.

Our own pastor, Father Thanh, recently advocated that we must regain our "respect for life." Life is sacred to all and we must show sanctity of life in our daily actions in caring for the poor and downtrodden and in the defense of right to life.

The following are just a few of the many ways we can help our priests to energize our world:

Become involved in your Church. Do you go to Mass regularly? Do you go to confession at least once yearly? If not, your example is self-defeating to others in your household. Do not drop your children off at church for Mass and confession – you must go to church with them. We must be living examples if we hope to influence them as God would have us do. If we are to have our children continue as Catholics after they leave home, we must know and practice our faith while they are at home. Will our children go to

Mass and be Catholic if we do not?

Join Why Catholic. This will help to revitalize your faith. Are you aware of the Catechism of the Catholic Church? Have you ever read or referred to it for questions regarding your faith? Why Catholic is a new program to begin in 2010 designed to cover the basic beliefs of the Catholic Church. Be sure to join a group to learn your faith. Learn how to choose the right marriage partner and have a happy family life.

Do you believe in the Real Presence? What is it, you ask? (Jesus Christ is present in the form of bread and wine upon consecration by the priest at Mass.) Learn more from Why Catholic and then join Daily Adoration and Nocturnal Adoration which are available at Christ the King. Help increase the percentage of Catholics who believe in the Real Presence beyond the current 60%.

Join one or more of the many ministries. There are many ministries in need of help. If you are to practice your faith, you must become involved in the various ministries who serve the needs of the congregation and the surrounding community- St. Vincent de Paul Society, CKCCW, MOMS, Religious Articles Store, etc. Please refer to the church bulletin; there are many more.

Enroll your children in

Religious Education classes if they attend public schools. In Religious Education they will have an opportunity to learn their faith and at the same time be immersed in the traditional Catholic practices of saying the Rosary, Benediction and the Stations of the Cross.

Men of the parish, join the Knights of Columbus! The Knights are dedicated to helping the poor and disadvantaged. They also are very involved in Right to Life activities and promoting vocations. It will make you a better Catholic.

Read your bulletin regularly; know what's going on in the parish and make a conscious effort to participate. You must make the first step.

This will allow our priests more time to concentrate on more priestly functions. There are so many ways we can help our priests to "develop their spiritual perfection" in this "Year of the Priest." It's up to us to make the effort.

Our own Bishop Victor Galeone is advocating that ministry heads be rotated every three years in the hope of getting more people involved in their parishes. That means **YOU and ME!**

So, let's help make **The Year of the Priest** a success by making ourselves better Catholics and increasing our Catholic percentage in the world by being living examples to our families, our community and the Church.

## Prayer For Those Suffering With Mental Illnesses

submitted by Barbara Hanuscin  
taken from the Parish Nursing Newsletter

**Tender, healing God, we pray that your spirit would rest peaceably upon all your people who are anxiously dealing with mental illness this day. We pray for those who are struggling for a diagnosis that makes sense of the chaos with which they live, and we pray for their families and the health professionals, clergy, counselors, and others who seek to help them in their distress. We know that there is nowhere we can go from your presence, including the dark night of fear. We affirm that your love is for all, and we pray that you would grant each of your precious ones the courage to look for healing, despite voices of shame and despair that would silence hope. This we pray in your Holy Name. Amen.**

According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, as many as 20% of children in a given year are dealing with a diagnosable mental illness, and congregations can help provide education, opportunities for screening and support, and access to care.

## 40 Days for Life

by Dennis Scobie

40 Days For Life is a nationwide campaign of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. The fall campaign was scheduled during the period from September 23 to November 1, 2009. To kick off this campaign, Bishop Galeone celebrated a Mass for Life at Assumption Church on September 26. After the Mass, Bishop Galeone, carrying the Blessed Sacrament, walked with 50 Knights of Columbus Honor Guards and dozens of Catholic youth in a mile-long procession east on Beach Boulevard. At the Women's Help Center Benediction was held with several hundred additional participants.

In conjunction with this event, Christ the King Parish sponsored a day of prayer from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on September 25. Approximately 40 Christ the King parishioners engaged in peaceful prayer outside A Women's Health Center on University Boulevard.

In recent years the pro-life movement has documented over 400 cases where women chose not to seek abortions as a result of these prayer vigils. Needless to say, the battle to end abortion must not stop with the 40 Days vigil. Our presence in prayer outside abortion mills must continue year around. If you wish to participate in this effort please contact Dennis Scobie, at 723-3977 or md12848@yahoo.com.



# Memories

by Olin Middleton

Dolores Bianco's recent story about St. Joseph's Academy brought a flood of memories to me, one of the fondest being my first day of kindergarten at St. Joseph's Academy. I wrote about this first day several years ago, but it is a story worth repeating.

The kindergarten teacher was Sister Mary Peter, a very old nun who had taught my mother's sister and brother in kindergarten. Kindergarten was in the third floor "penthouse" of the building, surrounded by a rooftop play area. Access to the penthouse was up two flights of narrow stairs enclosed by latticework to prevent falls.

Mother dropped me off at 9:00 a.m. that first day. She thought we would be dismissed at noon, but we had to stay until 2:00 p.m. At noon-time all the kids went out to the play area for lunch. They all had brown bags or lunch boxes. I had neither.

One boy came over to me and said, "Don't you have any lunch?"

"No," I told him, "my mother didn't give me anything."

"You can have half of my sandwich," he said. Then he broke it and gave me half.

"You can have half of my apple too," he said.

After 80 years I can still picture his smiling face. I wrote before that I didn't know where life took him, but if he followed the path he set for himself in kindergarten, he must have become a giant among men.

I remember Sister Mary Christopher, (the principal), Sister Mary Mercedes, Sister Mary Aloysius, Sister Mary Antoinette.

On the ground floor of the building were the classrooms. One room housed first and second grades, the first grade on one side of the room and second grade on the other side. One nun presided over both classes. Third and fourth grades were the same, fifth and sixth grades also.

I remember Mrs. Brenner who operated the school cafeteria. At noon I picked up soft drink bottles around the schoolyard and took them in to Mrs. Brenner and I was rewarded with a free hot dog.

I remember the annual Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the nuns. There was a gold egg and a silver egg, the finders of which received a special prize. I never found either egg, but I filled my basket with other colorful eggs.

I learned something from Dolores' story that I did not know. I learned that my sister-in-law, Mary Ann Middleton, was a graduate of St. Joseph's Academy.

I attended St. Joseph's Academy through the third grade, when I transferred to public school, but at age 87 I have a lifetime of very pleasant memories of St. Joseph's Academy.

## Ministry of Mothers Sharing (MOMS) News

by Deidre Hicks

As I'm writing this, I can't believe it is November. Cool weather, please arrive!

While MOMS hasn't had any new session participants since the fall, 2008, we have been busily involved in other activities.

Another session will be scheduled for spring, 2010. It really is a wonderful way to explore your motherhood as a ministry to your family; make new friends; and have a few hours a week to yourself! I pray between now and then, you either make the decision to join us next spring or you refer the ministry to someone else. They don't have to be a parishioner and they don't have to be Catholic. Details will be published closer to the spring-time date. In the meantime, you can always go to [www.stpaulsmonastery.com](http://www.stpaulsmonastery.com) to get more information about the MOMS program.

### Ongoing MOMS activities include:

**CKCCW Circle** – Seven women from MOMS are part of the St. Benedict CKCCW circle. We meet monthly to discuss and participate in the CKCCW sponsored activities. And Lisa Joost, from our St. Benedict circle, is the Secretary for CKCCW. If you are a MOMS member and would like to be in our circle, please contact Deidre Hicks at 744-2442 or [dandkhicks@yahoo.com](mailto:dandkhicks@yahoo.com).

**Mother's Morning Out (MMO) Program** – The MMO program takes place every Monday and Wednesday morning from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. We also want to get a Tuesday and Thursday class established. Kids from ages 18 months through 3 years come for a few hours of story time, games and puzzles, music, crafts and more. Classes are held in the Blessed Mother Kingdome in what used to be the baby room for CTK Child Care.

Father Thanh, Frank Japour and Stephanie Chinault have graciously allowed us to use this room and we thank them and all those who have made donations to the program. This includes Theresa Little who donated toys and equipment that the child care no longer needed.

We currently have 13 kids enrolled in the program and can accept 2 more for the M/W class. We can accept up to 15 for the Tuesday/Thursday class. For more detailed information and/or to register a child, please contact Deidre Hicks at 744-2442 or [dandkhicks@yahoo.com](mailto:dandkhicks@yahoo.com).

### Upcoming MOMS sponsored event

**Parents Night Out – Saturday December 19** - Have a Christmas party to attend or need to do some more Christmas shopping? For a small fee, we will watch your kids from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.; feed them dinner; and have fun games and events for them. This is for a good cause, so please take advantage of this inexpensive babysitting! More specific details will be forthcoming.

## Maryknoll Affiliates

by Frank Becht

Maryknoll Affiliates is a movement of the international organization known as the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America formed in 1911. Maryknoll was formed to serve the Church outside the United States, which until this time had been served by missionaries from other countries. It was time for the American Church to send its missionaries outside the United States.

The downturn of vocations, which has been drastic in the Church worldwide, has also affected mission countries. To counter this downturn in vocations, Maryknoll has formed the Maryknoll Affiliates. Deacon Larry Hart of St. Catherine's in Orange Park is the new Maryknoll Director for this area.

Maryknoll Affiliates are people who closely identify themselves with the Maryknoll organization and their vision, spirit and charism. They are people who work at home and in their local churches and

communities but who wish to support and pray for the principles of Spirituality, Community, Global Vision and Action (guiding principles of the Affiliates.) Affiliates gather in local Chapters for prayer, reflection and mutual support of Maryknoll efforts on a regular basis, generally monthly.

The Northeast Florida Affiliate Group has been organized under the leadership of Fran Henderson of Assumption Parish. Several other parishes are represented by members from Christ the King, San Jose, St. Joseph's, St. Paul's at the Beach, St. Catherine's in Orange Park, St. Ambrose at Elkton and St. Anastasia at St. Augustine Beach.



You can help by encouraging family and friends to support Maryknoll and vocations by purchasing the Maryknoll Magazine. If you would like to join the affiliate group, contact Fran Henderson at 904-730-4847 or [donot-beafraid@catholic.org](mailto:donot-beafraid@catholic.org)


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# Melissa Leonard –A Maiden of Faith

by Yolanda Cerqueira

Most of us who have been members of Christ the King Parish are aware that we have some very special neighbors living right next door to us. Those neighbors are the people who reside in Harbor House. Harbor House is a "faith-filled residential community" for adults with developmental disabilities and for the caring assistants who choose to live with them as family. Besides those very caring assistants there is also a host of volunteers who give of their time and talent doing a myriad of tasks.



One of those volunteers is a young woman of grace and talent by the name of Melissa Leonard. She is the loving daughter of her proud mother, Kathy Leonard. Melissa is truly one of our own having gone through the eight grades of Christ the King and is now a registered member of our parish. At the present time she is a junior at the University of North Florida with Special Education as her major.

Melissa has always had a soft spot in her heart for the residents of Harbor House and so it is very natural for her to

be a part of their activities. This is the third time that she has coordinated the Harbor House Fashion Show. The first time it was a trilateral effort by three girls who were working to receive their Girl Scout Silver Award. The other two girls working with Melissa were Andrea Ramirez and Amanda Maroney.

The second time that Melissa along with Andrea and Amanda put together the fashion show was in 2006 but at that time Melissa was striving for her Girl Scout Gold Award which she achieved handily. The Girl Scout Gold Award is comparable to the Eagle Scout Award, which is the highest honor one can attain in Boy Scouts.

The last two years Melissa has been very busy with her studies and with her sorority which is Kappa Alpha Theta. One of the reasons that she chose that particular sorority was because they are very service-oriented.

So when it came time for this year's fashion show Melissa was ready to take it on with great relish.

For one so young in years Melissa is extremely accomplished with set goals for her future. She shines when it comes to organization and that talent was made abundantly clear as she went about the task of putting together a fashion show with physically and mentally challenged individuals as the actual models for the show. Initially she had to contact a woman's clothing store and arrange for a spokesperson from the store to comment about the fashions being modeled. The last few years Harbor House has developed a relationship with Dress Barn and they were most eager to do the show again. With the help of two or three of her sorority sisters, Melissa went to Harbor House and sized all of the ladies which you could imagine took more than a little time to estimate their sizes and measurements. Harbor House ladies could not go to the Dress Barn; therefore it was imperative that Melissa and her friends choose appropriate clothing that would not only fit but be attractive for the ladies to wear.

In addition Melissa did all the arrangements in securing the food to be served to the attendees at the fashion show. Desserts came from Christ the King Council of Catholic Women and one of her sorority sisters made a fantastic cake with Hollywood written atop the cake and Harbor House around the sides. This was so fitting as the theme of the fashion show was "Harbor House Goes Hollywood." It was so eye-catching with Hollywood written in big gold letters that nobody wanted to cut into this magnificent creation!

Needless to say the fashion show was a total success and the models reveled in the appreciative applause from the audience. The gentlemen from Harbor House who escorted the ladies were dressed in tuxedos which lent an air of elegance to the whole performance.

In her own words Melissa said that she loved doing this project and hoped that the fashion show raised money to help Harbor House. "I love service and working for Harbor House. It was awesome and so much fun."

This writer thinks that Melissa herself is an awesome person in what she has been able to accomplish in her not quite twenty-one years. She could hardly wait to join Girl Scouts as a little one and when she did, she began as a Brownie and remained with the Girl Scouts as an active member (which means service) until she graduated from high school. And if that wasn't enough, since she is no longer eligible to be a Scout, she now works as an assistant to a Girl Scout Middle Grade troop.

Not only is Melissa Leonard a young maiden of faith but more important she exemplifies that faith by all her good works. She is a blessing to our parish and to the people she serves!

## L'Arche Harbor House



by Greg Morris



A fashion show was held at Christ the King Catholic Church the likes of which few had seen before. As an event to raise awareness about L'Arche Harbor House community next door to the church, the fashion show featured many "core members" that live at the facility. The dresses were provided by the generous gesture of DressBarn, a company specializing in such formal attire. The men's suits were provided by Michael's Formal Wear. The show was attended by several large groups, including the ladies from a local Red Hat Society, employees of L'Arche Harbor House, and a sorority from the University of North Florida. The event was planned with great care and organization by Melissa Leonard and upon the show's completion, it was generally arrived at that the effort was a great success.

The models were all thrilled to get to dress up in such fine clothes. Stacy, a core member at L'Arche and member of Christ the King, said she "had a lot of fun" when asked how her time at the show was. With enthusiasm and much joy, the folks at DressBarn, Michael's Formal Wear, Christ the King and L'Arche pulled off a great event.

# America - Mission Country?

by Frank Becht

A few months ago there was an interesting article in the Times-Union newspaper—**The Future is Foreign-Born**. If you missed this article, it featured Father Andy Blaszkowski, a former seminarian resident at Christ the King serving a pastoral year prior to his ordination. He is currently a Parochial Vicar at the Cathedral in St. Augustine. Father Andy was very involved in Christ the King and well liked by all. He became a member of the Bishop W. Thomas Larkin Knights of Columbus and continues to be active.

The article featured Father Andy, a native of Poland, as an example of a foreign-born person who is serving the Church in America. This is an ongoing trend in the United States and one that is expected to continue. While this is true, it is only part of a long story.

America has always had many foreign-born priests for our country was discovered and settled by Europeans many years ago. As a result European priests have christianized America from its very beginning. We have always had priests from Spain, France, Ireland and other countries to serve a growing Catholic community.

In addition to Father Andy Blaszkowski, Father Slawomir Bielasiwicz was ordained and serves in The St. Augustine Diocese. Father Andy's brother, Father Remek Blaszkowski serves at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. More recently, Father Lam Nguyen from

Vietnam serves as Parochial Vicar at Assumption Parish in Jacksonville. Our own pastor, Father Thanh Nguyen, a gallant survivor, who fled Vietnam in 1979 aboard a small boat, has been serving the needs of American Catholics since his ordination in June 1991. There are many more foreign-born priests serving in the Diocese too numerous to name.

What has caused this to be more noticeable now is the dramat-

hood and sent to South and Central America, China, Korea, and India. America had come of age and was asked to help christianize the world.

With Vatican II and the resulting changes in the Church, America became a different country. Many priests and nuns left the religious life for the secular life, which gradually left the Church unable to cope with the need. The growth of secularism in our society has left many

Ireland for I had difficulty in understanding his homily. I was solemnly chastised for my lack of knowledge.

We had Fathers Shepherd, McCarthy, Hampston, Carey and others whose names I can't recall. They helped fill our need for priests. This has now changed; few priests are available in Ireland the same as in the rest of Europe and the United States.

How do we account for the tremendous change that has taken place since the early 1900's when Maryknoll began sending priests to other countries? Now Maryknoll also has a lack of priests; Ireland once the great source for priests is no longer so. Priests in America are over 30% fewer in number than they were in 1965 including the priests from other countries.

Out of extreme need we are welcoming priests from India, Korea, Vietnam, Africa, Spain as well as Poland, yet our need is not being filled. What is the cause for the dramatic drop in priests here and in other countries? Could it be the economy, quality of life, increased financial opportunity, and in general greater opportunity to improve oneself? Both the U.S. and Europe have had substantial economic changes since the early 1900's. I personally feel that as the economy of the country improves, this encourages our young men and women to seek other avenues to improve their quality of life to the disadvantage of the Church.

Is America becoming a mission country again? What do you think?



ic effect that the Vatican II Council has had on the Church since the 1960's. There has been a steady decline in the number of priests ordained in America beginning in 1965 with 58,632 priests and 40,666 in 2009. This decline applies to diocesan and religious alike.

In the early 1900's, the United States became a mission **sending** church with the formation of the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America, commonly known as MARYKNOLL. Over 2000 men have been ordained to the priest-

hood of our churches with diminished congregations often resulting in closures. This situation is not specific to America. Look at Europe. In countries like France, Italy, and Germany, churches are empty.

In 1959, Betty and I came to Jacksonville, making our home in Arlington and Christ the King our parish. At that time the Irish priests, many of them members of Holy Ghost Fathers, were very visible in Christ the King and other parishes locally. Some served in other dioceses. I remember asking a young Irish priest if English was spoken in

## CKCCW CHAT

by Willie Blaquiére

Spring forward, Fall back. Daylight saving time has been used in the U.S. and in many European countries since World War I. The idea of daylight saving time was first conceived by Benjamin Franklin in an essay "An Economical Project" written in 1784. The plan was formally adopted in the U.S. in 1918. An act to preserve daylight and provide standard time for the U.S., was enacted March 19, 1918. At publication we will have changed our clocks and gained an extra hour on a weekend. For all the busy folks at Christ the King, an extra hour is a blessing, hope you all made it to Mass on time.

Christ the King Council of Catholic Women has been very busy planning for the fall and winter season. The Children Matter Campaign in October provided needed materials for Woodland

Acres School. Thanks to a generous and caring parish, the campaign was a success. The most popular item was Bounty paper towels; small things can make a big difference in the day of a teacher.

Coming events include the Living Rosary December 3. All members of the parish are invited, please watch the Sunday bulletin for details.

CKCCW annual bake sale and raffle is planned for the weekend of December 12-13. You can pick up your holiday goodies for the freezer and buy a ticket for a great raffle prize in the Shirley David Hall, after all the Masses.

Coming February 13, is the Saint Valentine's Day card party and fashion show. Come one, come all, play cards, have lunch, entertainment, door prizes and, of course, a great raffle prize. Ladies, tell your friends, get a group together, enjoy the day.

The profit from these events goes back to the parish in some form during the year.

### GETTING TO KNOW YOU:

Natalie and Nick Winiewicz are the proud grandparents of a baby granddaughter, Alexandra Elizabeth. At this writing Natalie is in Baton Rouge, La., being a first time grandmother. Enjoy, Natalie.

Jean Sell had a great birthday celebration this fall; she danced, sang and generally had a wonderful time.

Inge Morgan and husband, Jesse, were in Munich, Germany from Sept. 15 to Oct. 6. They had a great time at the Oktoberfest with friends and family. Their grandson, a Marine serving in Afghanistan, will be back in the U.S. in November.

Audrey Dodd and husband Paul, spent the month of September in Italy; they visited in the Abruzzo

region and the Casabardino, where Audrey's father lived. They had a wonderful experience at the Festa celebration of Saint Angelo, Saint Michael and Saint Rocco. They had good food and good wine celebrating the harvesting of the grapes.

Tara Crisp, daughter of Monica and George Crisp, will graduate from UNF on December 11, 2009. She will receive her degree in Sports Management and Business Administration. Congratulations, Tara and parents.

Eileen Gleason hosted a birthday party for Grace Berkey; the guests included the Monday early morning Mass group aka The Hardee's Group. Glad to hear you are doing well, Grace. Claretta Lamusga is doing better after a not so well summer.

Best wishes to our members and all the members of the parish, for a safe and happy Thanksgiving and blessed Christmas.

# Knightly News

by Frank Becht PGK

## Resurrection's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Resurrection Parish celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on October 3, 2009 with 5:30 p.m. Mass followed by a Dinner/Dance at 7 p.m. in the Parish Center. Bishop W. Thomas Larkin Council 4727 furnished and prepared the dinner (for 250 people) consisting of pork loin, baked potatoes, green beans and salad.

## First Friday Mass

First Friday Mass has been a tradition since the early 1990's when Monsignor Mortimer Danaher became chaplain of 4727. Monsignor continues to serve as chaplain and to say the First Friday Mass at 6:30 p.m.. Mass is followed by a buffet dinner for all who attend. We are most appreciative of the K'Cee members who often organize the buffet.

Monsignor encourages all members to attend this special Mass to remember the deceased members of the Council.

## Memorial Mass

The first Memorial Mass was held in 1959 in the old clubhouse at Christ the King. The annual Memorial Mass was celebrated by Monsignor Danaher on Friday, November 6, 2009 at the Council Hall on the Arlington Expressway. Following the Mass a special service was held with reading of the names and lighting of a candle for each deceased brother knight. A general solicitation was made for deceased K'Cees. The ceremony was followed by a buffet dinner and reception.



## Right to Life

Council 4727 participated in the Fall Campaign of **40 Days for Life**, which began on September 23 and ran through November 1. Bishop Galeone celebrated a 'Kickoff' Mass at Assumption Catholic Church at 9:00 a.m. on September 26 followed by a Monstrance March on Beach Boulevard to the Women's Help Center (next to Planned Parenthood). Council 4727 also filled time slots from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Friday, September 25 at the Women's Health Center at 4131 University Boulevard South. **40 Days for Life** activities were coordinated by Dennis Scobie PGK and Jim Middleton PGK.

## Road Cleanup

Road cleanup was initiated for Lone Star Road by Past Grand Knight Mike Yarbrough in 2003. The program continues on a monthly basis under the direction of Past Grand Knight Dennis Scobie. This is council 4727's effort to help maintain the appearance of our community.

## Brotherly Care Program

In 2007, Past Grand Knight Jose Praxedes instituted the Brotherly Care Program in the Council to visit the sick and homebound members of Council 4727. Father Stephen Zehler became the Spiritual Director to insure adherence of the guidelines in visiting of the sick and distribution of the Holy Eucharist. John Porter administers the monthly program with the help of several brother knights and K'Cees.

In the past two years a total of 119 members or spouses were visited, an average of five per month. For the same period, a total of 108 brother knights and K'Cees participated for a monthly average of four and a half. There are eight regular members.



## Coffee and Donuts

Council 4727 Knights of Columbus serves coffee and donuts after the 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. Masses on the first Sunday of each month in the Shirley David Hall. Brother Robert Roche is in charge. Come visit the knights and others.

## Camp Promise

Family week was celebrated from August the 8 thru August 16 at Camp St. Johns. This is a week of activities sponsored by Dosa Camps of the Diocese of St. Augustine. On August 13 a committee of thirteen knights and K'Cees from Bishop W. Thomas Larkin Council 4727 provided a delicious barbeque cookout for forty children and their sponsors at the request of Chancellor John Klinkenberg and his family who have been actively involved with this group of children for several years. Camp Promise is aligned with a group called Camp I Am Special, which Council 4727 has sponsored for years.





## BASEBALL, BASEBALL, BASEBALL



by Donna Johnson

This summer, three of our seventh graders had the opportunity to go to Cooperstown, New York with their baseball team, the Jax River Dogs. For those of you who don't know what Cooperstown is, it is the "home of baseball" and the location of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

One hundred and four teams from all across the country and Canada were represented with five from Florida. Our boys were treated like major league ball players. They stayed in barracks and ate together with their teammates and coaches. It was a once in a lifetime experience that we as parents and our boys will never forget. Joshua Johnson, Ronnie Burke Jr., and Ricky Boyette were 3 of 11 who represented Jacksonville. Their accomplishments were nothing short of incredible. Some of those were practicing good sportsmanship, no matter what the outcome, supporting one another when a teammate was having a rough game, and being all around TEAM players. These qualities will take these boys far in life.

Joshua was one of 104 to participate in the "Road Runner" competition. This was a timed competition to run the bases as fast as you can. He came in 8th out of those 104, with a time of 13.1 seconds. (I think he's even faster, but I'm just mom.) He also was able to hit a homerun in the last game they played starting off a rally back from 0-6 to a final loss of 7-8. They played their hearts out.

Ronnie displayed his baseball skills by coming in to pitch while bases were loaded after the starting pitcher struggled giving up three runs. He closed that inning without giving up any more runs and went on to pitch three more perfect innings leading his team to victory. Ronnie also hit two homeruns out of the park during this week.

Ricky contributed to the River Dogs' success with outstanding fielding and total composure on the mound when faced with starting game number three, coming off two straight wins. If he was nervous we didn't see it. He held the opponent to two runs aiding with the final outcome. VICTORY 12-4! Anytime Ricky was designated E.H. (Extra Hitter) he stole bases and scored every time.

The final outcome of this spectacular week of baseball was our boys coming in 9th place out of 104. They were the only Florida team to be in the top 10. Needless to say, we are extremely proud of you. Congratulations: Joshua, Ronnie, Ricky and the whole River Dog family.

## Kids Page Answers Sheet

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## All Hallows' Eve Celebration



by Lucille Guzzone

The children of Religious Education and their families celebrated Halloween and All Saints' Day on the last Wednesday evening in October.

Father Zehler was on hand to view the little ones in their outfits. Many depicted Bible personalities, as well as the saints. Attending the covered dish gathering were King Solomon, Saint Theresa, Michael the Archangel, many of the Apostles, and other well known holy people. Elizabeth Ann Seton and John of the Cross looked remarkably like teachers, Mr. Martin and Mrs. Wheeler. It was a happy occasion filled with delicious pizza, treats and costumes. And it was as an educational one since the children realized the significance of the Church and the saints during this season.





# Christ the King School News

## Oh When the Saints Go Marching In.....

by Deidre Hicks

It all started with 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Mrs. Cass's July trip to New York to see her grandson's graduation. Now, only a few months later, each class in the school has an assigned patron saint for their class, a beautiful banner of their saint and will celebrate a Mass that provides a biography of the saint.

On August 14, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade participated at Mass and gave great information on their patron saint, St. Clare of Assisi. Father Thanh visited their classroom soon after to bless their saint cards and for the class to share with him what else they know about St. Clare. Mrs. Ruhl, their teacher, told Father Thanh that the class is acting on the three P's modeled by St. Clare: prayer and adoration, giving to the poor and praying for missionaries.

In September, 1<sup>st</sup> grade participation focused on their saint, St. Michael the Archangel. During Father Thanh's visit to their classroom, the kids re-enacted the bible story Daniel in the lion's den. The play dramatically showed that we should have trust in God and that God's angel, St. Michael the Archangel, protects us.

On October 30, the school celebrated All Saints Day during the 8:00 a.m. Friday Mass. There was a beautiful procession of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes dressed in their saints' costumes and each class carried its saint's banner down the aisle. The banners lined the sides of the altar and the rear of the church. Several 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders gave the readings and intercessions and brought up the gifts.

It's been a tradition for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade to dress in saint costumes for at least 10 years. Mrs. Ruhl, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher said, "This is a great way for the kids to emulate the example the saints gave us."

Father Zehler's homily on October 30 also highlighted the inspirational lives of many of the classes' patron saints. He told us that on All Saints Day we celebrate the saints who have given their lives to Christ. They are examples that we can succeed in our quest for holiness. We must follow the Lord Jesus in our heart, mind and soul.

After Mass, school principal, Stephanie Chinault, thanked Mrs. Cass for bringing the idea of each class having a patron saint to her. She also thanked Mrs. Tina Harrell for the unique songs for each classes' saint day Mass each month. And a big thanks was given to Mrs. Terri Vogelsang who had designed and sewn all of the banners for each class. Mrs. Chinault said, "These beautiful banners help us visualize who the children are trying to emulate." Then Father Zehler asked us to "give applause to all the saints in heaven."

As a Catholic school, we are truly blessed to be able to praise God every day in class and to learn about so many saints whose examples can help shape our children into loving, giving and compassionate adults.



Mrs. Lewis' First Grade Class



Mrs. Ruhl's Second Grade Class

## Adopt A Saint

by Charm Sauls

All the grades at Christ the King are adopting saints for their individual classes.

On the feast day of each saint Father Thanh visits the classroom to hear what the children have learned about their saint.

**Here is a list of the classes, saints and feast days, along with the day a Mass will be held in their honor.**

Pre-K & the school office have St. Joseph who is known as the worker	Feast day-March 19	Mass-March 19
Kindergarten A has St. Nicholas-patron saint of children, sailors, bakers, and pawnbrokers.	Feast day-December 6	Mass-December 18
Kindergarten B has St. Patrick - patron saint of Ireland.	Feast day-March 17	Mass-March 19
First Grade A has St. Michael the Archangel- patron saint of policemen, mariners, paratroopers and grocers.	Feast day- September 29	Mass-September 25
Second Grade A has St. Clare of Assisi-patron saint of sore eyes.	Feast day-August 11	Mass-August 11
Third Grade A has St. George-patron saint of England and Catalonia.	Feast day-April 23	Mass-April 23
Fourth Grade A has St. Elizabeth Ann Seton-patron saint of academics.	Feast day-January 4	Mass-January 8
Fifth Grade A has St. Cecilia-patron saint of musicians.	Feast day-November 22	Mass-November 20
Sixth Grade A has St. Catherine of Siena-patron saint of writers and secretaries.	Feast day-April 29	Mass-April 30
Sixth Grade B has St. Anthony of Padua-patron saint of lost things.	Feast day-June 13	Mass-May 28
Seventh Grade A has St. Martin de Porres-patron saint of barbers.	Feast day-November 1	Mass-November 6
Seventh Grade B has St. Francis of Assisi-patron saint of animals, merchants and ecology.	Feast day-October 6	Mass-October 2
Eighth Grade A has St. Thomas Aquinas-patron saint of theologia.	Feast day-January 28	Mass-January 29
Eighth Grade B has St. Jude, Apostle-patron saint of difficult and hopeless cases.	Feast day-October 28	Mass-October 23

There is a saint for everyone, just stop by the Religious Articles Store and find out who your saint should be. The store has adopted St. Lucy, patron saint of salesmen and peddlers.

# Guadalupe Room and Bosco Center



by Kathie Szarkowski

When I took this job two years ago, there was nothing in my job description about spackling walls, painting, ripping up carpet, and coming home every night covered in paint and primer! So, why is this happening, you may ask? When the Childcare Center vacated the old building and the gym, Life Teen jumped at the opportunity to have its own space. First, there was talk of giving us the old Childcare Center, but after much talking and praying, we realized that the space could be better utilized for the after school care program. It just was not big enough for the Life Teen Ministry without huge renovations. I went on the search again for the perfect space, and found it in two classrooms in the gym. The old "bumper room" is now the Our Lady of Guadalupe Room. It will be a multi-purpose room which will hold our resources, and allow meeting space for SPARKLE and Spackle (our women's and men's groups) and our weekly Youth Staff meetings. The space will also house my new office. The Guadalupe Room is also a place for the teens of our parish to come and hang out after school, to have a snack, and to share about their day.



The second room we are renovating is called the St. John Bosco Center. St. John Bosco is the father of modern day youth ministry. He said, "Get them to love you and they will follow you anywhere." This is the motto of our LifeTeen program here at Christ the King; get teens to love us, and to love the Church, and we will lead them to the heart of God. The Bosco Center will hold our weekly LifeNights, Lock-Ins, and any other social events held in Life Teen. Also, starting in January, it will be the place for Youth Room Yoga; a place for teens to come and exercise.

It has been such a blessing to have teens come and serve with all their heart by painting the walls and moving us from the old Childcare Center to our new space. This time has created many memories, laughs, time for prayer and even some dance parties. Thank you so much to all the teens who have given a piece of themselves to make this move possible. I could not have done it without you!

We hope that beginning in January all members of Christ the King will come over to see the Guadalupe Room and the Bosco Center.



## Give It Away Now! 3,363 Cans of Food



by Katie Szarkowski

The race was on.... Now was the time for a huge competition between Life Teen Parishes all over the country. I was determined to win. I was determined to collect 10,000 cans of food for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Bulletin announcements were out, commercials were running on Queen of Peace Radio, church announcements were made, and most of all, prayers were sent up for all the people of Arlington who are in desperate need of food to feed their families.

The date came, food came in through the doors of the Church and filled the gathering area, and even more came a week later to the school Mass from the students. All of the food was then taken to the Shirley David Hall to be counted and separated. The task seemed daunting and impossible; the floor and the tables were covered in food. It was an amazing sight. Forty-three teens showed up to Youth Group that night to help. After all the separating, moving, and counting, we ended up with 3,363 cans of food donated all to the St. Vincent de Paul Society. A very special thank you must go out to the birthday bunch, as well as to Sue Pastorini, Curves on Beach Blvd, and to Mrs. Repper's 8<sup>th</sup> grade homeroom at Christ the King. Without all of you, our food drive would not have been as successful!

The average Life Teen Parish collected between 500-1000 cans of food, and we far surpassed that! Although we did not win, nor did we collect the 10,000 cans of food we were hoping for, the Give It Away Now Can Food Drive was a great success! See you next year for the next installment of Give It Away Now!

# Ars, France 2009

by Father Steven Zehler

Diocesan priests, religious order priests, old priests, young priests, tall priests, short priests, thin priests, wide priests, white priests, black priests, priests wearing sandals, priests wearing cufflinks, clean priests, and well... *smelly priests!* More than 1,200 priests from over 75 countries participated in the International Priests Retreat, September 27 to October 3, in Ars, France—the hometown of St. Jean Marie Vianney. The retreat was organized and offered by the Congregation for the Clergy, an office in Vatican City, and was planned as a part of the *Year for Priests*.

There was an estimate of about 75 priests present from the United States. It was pleasantly surprising to see many young clergy in attendance (comparatively). Most priests spoke English, but only as a second language. For me, it was a wonderful experience to engage in conversation with priests from around the world who come from totally different cultures, yet are Catholic priests. This expresses the universality of the Catholic Church, which most religions do not have.

The theme of the retreat was, *“The joy of being a priest: Consecrated for the salvation of the world.”* The keynote speaker was Cardinal Christoph Schönborn of Vienna, who gave excellent daily reflections on the following themes: Joy of Priesthood, Eucharist, Mercy & Reconciliation, Prayer & Spiritual Combat, The Curé of Ars as a model of priesthood, and Mary, the Mother of Priests. I thoroughly enjoyed all of the presentations, but especially the ones on Eucharist and Mercy & Reconciliation, which are themes that the Lord has drawn close to my priestly heart.

Daily Masses were celebrated in the underground Basilica Crypt at the Church of Our Lady of Mercy by Cardinal Claudio Hummes, Cardinal Andre Vingt-Trois of Paris, Cardinal Sean Patrick O'Malley of Boston, and Cardinal Philippe Barbarin of Lyon. Mass was celebrated in the specific language of each Cardinal, but the Eucharistic prayers were always in Latin, the official language of the Catholic Church. The songs were sung in eight or more languages and were beautifully orchestrated. All of the homilies and talks were translated into eight languages, but were originally spoken in French.

## The Mass intentions that I offered were:

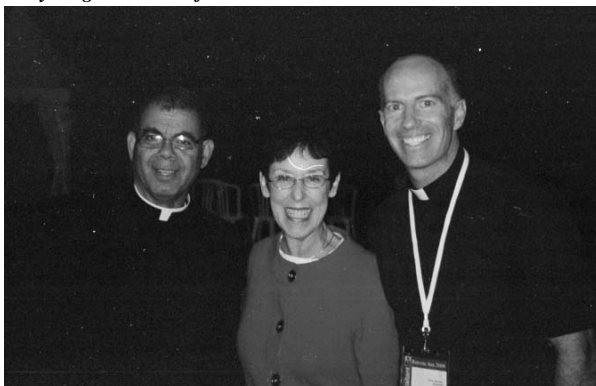
### Two days prior to retreat:

September 25: Kathleen Patti (in Basilica of Ars)  
September 26: Mr. and Mrs. Louis Vang-Nguyen (in Crypt of main Basilica of Ars)

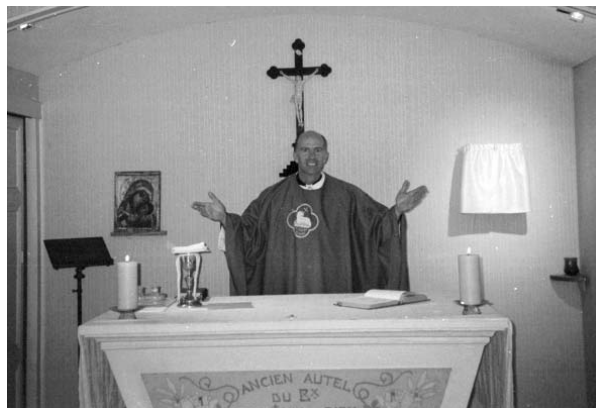
### During the retreat:

September 27: Fr. Robert Trujillo  
September 28: Mrs. Tina Harrell (healing from back surgery)  
September 29: Christ the King Parishioners  
September 30: Mary Hartwell and St. Catherine Parish Adorers  
October 1: Priests of the Diocese of St. Augustine  
October 2: Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Zehler  
October 3: Bishop Victor Galeone

Keep in mind, this was a retreat! Even though there were over 1,200 priests and many volunteers and workers, it was amazingly a *prayerful* experience. Morning and evening prayers were prayed together in multiple languages, and there was a daily Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament. In addition, the Blessed Sacrament was exposed for Adoration in a separate chapel 24 hours a day throughout the duration of the retreat. So, there were lots of opportunity for the Lord to speak to his priests in prayer. One strong word that the Lord spoke to me was the theme of abandonment: *to abandon all*. Therefore, that is where the homily theme of the October 11th Mass upon my return came from: *“Abandon everything to God and follow Jesus!”*



Msgr. Beaubrun Ardouin (New Jersey), Mrs. Patti Mansfield (Louisiana), and Fr. Steven Zehler



Fr. Steven Zehler celebrating Mass in the Crypt of the Basilica of Ars. The altar is the one used by St. Jean Marie Vianney.

One of the highlights of the retreat was the Eucharistic procession of the Blessed Sacrament through the Village of Ars. The procession began in the underground Basilica Crypt, went to a large field for a time of adoration, processed through the Village of Ars with many townspeople adoring, and then concluded outside of the main Basilica with Benediction. If you can imagine, think of our glorious Lord Jesus in a beautiful Monstrance being followed by over 1,200 priests vested in matching chasubles. It was a sight to see and even more so a holy experience!

Another highlight was the Friday evening prayer and praise session. The *Beatitude Community* from Italy provided the music. Bishop Joseph Grech (from Australia) and Mrs. Patti Mansfield (from Louisiana) led the time of praise and worship of God. They invoked the Holy Spirit to guide the time of ministry to God's priests. It was a beautiful experience of song and praise as we lifted our hearts to God.

Personally, this retreat was spiritually rewarding. When I arrived in Ars it was overwhelming to see all of the priests walking around, and I thought to myself, “There will be no place to pray alone.” However, the Lord works through obstacles, and reveals his grace when we are open recipients. Therefore, it was a wonderful time of reflection upon my own priestly vocation, and a blessed time with other brother priests in the universal church we call Catholic.



The old church of St. Jean Marie Vianney in Ars, France