



Middleton, WI

St. Bernard Catholic Church

Fall 2017

Zoroufy sees joy, perseverance in Peru's orphaned children

By Ellen G. Krenke

Jordan Zoroufy is looking for a few good "reverse missionaries."

"These are young people who come down and they see life at (Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II). They see how much (the children) persevere and how they can find joy in what we would consider just absolute suffering," said the 22-year-old Middleton native. "And to come back and share that with your community is the mission. It is not to stay (at Casa) forever, but to take what you learned and bring it back and change the way you live your life."

As the director of development for Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II, an orphanage south of Lima, Peru, Zoroufy's main job is to coordinate the volunteers and then return them to their communities to change hearts.

"That aspect of what we do is a reason in itself to continue the mission that we have down there, because it is not just about the 64 kids. It's about the community down there, but it's also about our community here too ... about what we can bring to those who live and work around us."

Zoroufy developed his passion for helping others as a member of St. Bernard parish along with his parents, Tammy and Hussein, and two brothers.

After he graduated from Middleton High School in 2012, Zoroufy enrolled at UW-La Crosse and was a senior working on a degree in political science when the priest at the Ron Calli Newman Center suggested that he spend a week during his spring break in Peru.

He was open to the idea, because he was looking for "something that has more to offer." So, he applied for a passport and made the 10-hour trip to South America.



Jordan Zoroufy and two children from the Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II orphanage.

After three days there, Zoroufy talked to Monsignor Joseph Hirsch, the director at Casa Hogar, about returning for a longer period of time.

"I knew I needed a little more ... I always had that pull even after I graduated," he said. "I wanted to get a little more out of this experience than what I had this one week."

Zoroufy graduated from UW-La Crosse in 2015 and went to work for Catholic Charities in Madison. He then moved to Chicago to work for a non-profit organization, but he still felt that pull from Peru. So, he called Monsignor Hirsch and asked if he could visit for two months.

"That was last November, and I'm

still there," said Zoroufy, who took the full-time job as the director of development at the beginning of the year.

In that position, Zoroufy said the biggest part of his job is to coordinate the volunteers.

Each month, a group of volunteers, typically from the Diocese of La Crosse, will make the 10-hour trip to help out at the orphanage. These short-term volunteers will spend one or two weeks working with the kids.

ZOROUFY cont. from page 1

The long-term volunteers are mostly recent college graduates, who will spend from three months to a year at Casa. Some of them are medical students, who

Cont. on page 3



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear friends: A great deal has happened over the past few months, and we are looking forward to many exciting things as we move through fall and winter and into 2018.

First, let's recap a few building projects: the religious education building retaining wall has been rebuilt, and water no longer leaks into the lower hall when it rains; lighting controls in the church are being replaced in the next month; a new fence is being installed at our cemetery along Branch Street; and lastly new windows will be installed in the priest's residence in October. Many of them no longer close due to warping.

We have been able to handle the cost of these items with existing funds. Thank you for the generous donations that have been given in particular to the maintenance fund. Your continued support is appreciated.

For the next year, we are looking at refurbishing the restrooms and replacing the ceramic panels on the west side of the church, which are deteriorating due to exposure to the weather.

The city of Middleton is close to making a decision on a final plan and land acquisition needs for the University Avenue and Parmenter Street intersection.

The parish council recently had the opportunity to review the options with city staff, and there was consensus

among the council members that the landscaping plan proposed by the city would greatly enhance the corner of the intersection in front of the church.

Once the city of Middleton has decided which option to pursue, I will host a parish-wide meeting with city staff.

The current plan is to reconstruct the intersection in 2019. I have been very pleased with what the city has proposed for us and what our options may be for possibly also upgrading the landscaping on the west side of the church building once the intersection is completed.

As we move into the fall and winter, in addition to our ongoing programming, we plan to offer new adult education opportunities focused on prayer and the spiritual life.

As you may have read in diocesan publications, Bishop Morlino has stressed a renewed awareness on reverence at Mass that I think we can build upon as a parish community.

Pray for me and 25 other pilgrims as we begin our trip to Italy on Sept. 6.

Thank you for all you do in support of St. Bernard's. As always, feel free to contact me about any parish issues or concerns. My door is always open! I will see you at the parish picnic! Fr. Brian

Cover story

Jordan Zoroufy's family attended St. Bernard parish for many years, but recently moved to La Crosse to pursue other opportunities.

Jordan's father, Hussein, was a catechist, and his mother, Tammy, was the point of contact for the Living Rosary.

We wish them much happiness in their new home and pray that God will continue to bless them.



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The Bee

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The Bee is a quarterly publication of St. Bernard Catholic Church.



Parish picnic at Lakeview Park

Please join us for the St. Bernard parish picnic on Sept. 17 at Lakeview Park, 6300 Mendota Ave., in Middleton.

Mass will start at 11 a.m., followed by lunch from 12-1:30 p.m., in the pavilion.

Family activities and games will be available for all ages. So, bring your appetite and your lucky bingo partner, and let's have a great time together!

Living Rosary to hold rosary, benediction in October

Members of the Living Rosary will gather to pray the rosary and adore Christ in Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 1 p.m., Oct. 6 in the church.

The group will pray the Sorrowful and Glorious Mysteries of the rosary followed by a benediction and blessing of religious articles with Fr. Brian.

In addition to this celebration, available group members pray a rosary in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel 30 minutes before every funeral or memorial service held at St. Bernard. However,

all are invited to join Living Rosary members in praying the rosary for the repose of the soul of the deceased and their family. You don't need to be a member of the Living Rosary to join us for this rosary.

For about 90 years, group members have recited a decade daily — almost completing five 20-decade rosaries each day!

To become a member of the Living Rosary, you must commit to pray your decade every day and contact Diane Zander at 608-831-5167 or euzan@chorus.net.

will work with the nurse, and others are social workers and English teachers.

"Whatever their skills are, we tap into that," Zoroufy said.

Along with the volunteers, Zoroufy lives at the orphanage with Monsignor Hirsch and 64 students, who are divided into eight families, each with their own mother and father.

They start the day at 6:30 a.m., with Mass. "The kids always ask, 'What can we do for the people who help us?' And we tell them that they can't really give anything, but 'You can show up to Mass every day and you can pray for them.' So that really gets the kids motivated and they are there pretty consistently," Zoroufy said.

After breakfast, the school day begins and the administrative staff starts their work. When the school day ends, everyone spends time with the kids.

"I can honestly say that there are never two days that are exactly the same," Zoroufy said. "There are things that come up with homework and doctor appointments ... it's not really a 9 to 5 thing, but that's the part that I love."

The orphanage was started by Father Joseph Walijewski, a priest in the Diocese of La Crosse, who received \$50,000 from Pope John Paul II during a papal visit to Peru.

Father Walijewski was the director until 2000. He spent 35 years serving the poor of South America, and in 2013 his sainthood cause was launched in La Crosse.

Along with Monsignor Hirsch, who was appointed the promoter of justice in the cause of Father Walijewski, Zoroufy has gathered testimony from people who knew this humble priest.

"It has been an interesting process to hear what people have to say about him," he said. "The more that we hear these stories, the more that we are convinced that he is an incredibly holy man."

Like Father Wiljewski, Zoroufy said he loves working with the children.

"At the start, the thing that attracted me most was my interactions with the kids, how genuine they were and how they found joy and perseverance in what we could consider devastation," he said. "That was intriguing to me at first, and I think that is why I was interested in going down and spending more time."

"We tell long-term volunteers ... your first week or first month is all hugs and kisses ... happy and joyful. After they break down that first barrier with you, you really learn about their lives and the hardships that they have had to go through and the suffering that they have, and there is nothing that you can do for them except suffer with them."

Zoroufy said every volunteer has that moment when they are interacting with the kids, and one of them starts to talk about their home life.

"You have some hard days and you hear some tough things from the kids. You go visit their families and see what they come from and that is sometimes heartbreaking, but you realize that they have to succeed in their world."

"As much as we want to, no amount of money is going to give them the world that they deserve. To make sure that they



Monsignor Joseph Hirsch is the director of the Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II orphanage in Lurin, Peru.

can thrive in the world that they have is the end all and be all of our mission."

After they graduate, Casa Hogar has a full-time staffer and a social worker, who make sure the students have what they need to continue their education or find a job.

"Instead of just making sure that they survive, we can give them every tool that they need to thrive in the world," Zoroufy said.

In March, flooding in Peru made international news. The "uncharacteristic" rain destroyed streets, bridges and homes throughout the region, but Casa Hogar was spared.

In addition to sorting donations and handing out sandwiches, the children packaged bags of rice and milk and also made rosaries to sell.

"I was absolutely impressed with the work that they were doing," Zoroufy said. "Now the scary part is rebuilding, getting people back on their feet. There is no water, fungal infections are spreading and mosquitos are spreading dengue fever."

Residents are still bringing their five gallon buckets to Casa Hogar for water. "This is another instance in which we could have shut our doors, but instead our staff, kids and volunteers really kicked it into gear. Tough times are still ahead, but the people see hope."

"At the end of the day if we can give them a little hope, we are doing the right thing."

Our History

Cemetery started in 1890, dedicated in 1899 for parishioners

Excerpt from “100-year History of St. Bernard Parish” researched by Lorena Gordon:

“St. Bernard parish either acquired a cemetery shortly after it built a church (in 1889) or obtained the burial sites of early parishioners. According to older people in the community, the original burial sites were cared for by the individual families.

“One story tells that at one time the cemetery was overrun with snakes in the long grass and that the burial sites were free in the beginning for that reason. Actually, there were no records of charges for burial lots until many years later.

“The first person to be buried in St. Bernard Cemetery was Fred W. DuFrenne, parish secretary, who died July 18, 1892 at the age of 57.

“In the Dec. 14, 1900 edition of the Middleton Times Herald, the following notice appeared. “The opening of the new cemetery will be celebrated in the Catholic Church by the celebration of a Midnight Mass on New Year’s Eve.” Was this the consecration of the cemetery or had it been enlarged? Care of the area was evidently sporadic. Church records



show that the men of the parish gathered on many occasions over the years, to “clean up” the cemetery.

The first person to be buried in St. Bernard Cemetery was Fred W. DuFrenne, parish secretary, who died July 18, 1892 at the age of 57.

“It was voted, in 1916, to erect a small building at the cemetery “for storing the necessary tools and accessories for all work in the cemetery.” This building was removed a few years later when the cemetery was enlarged to the north in 1918.

“While it had been enclosed with a fence in 1927, it again needed attention in 1939. At this time, trees were removed, ground leveled and a fence either extended or replaced. Much of this work was done by James Dumphy, John Hilgers, John Kessenich Jr. and Sr., and George and Henry Ziegler. A Cemetery Association was formed in 1942.”

Three St. Bernard parishioners listed on Vietnam memorial

By Ellen G. Krenke

Three Army veterans, Pvt. Dennis M. Stopplesworth, Spec. Duane L. Richard and Staff Sgt. James G. Hildebrandt, who are buried in St. Bernard Cemetery, are listed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial wall.

Stopplesworth was an infantryman assigned to B Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division.

The battalion’s operations log for June 20, 1970 identifies Stopplesworth by name and states that he was accidentally killed at an aircraft landing zone about eight miles from Djamap Airfield in Cambodia.

He was 21.

Mark Magnuson posted on Stopplesworth’s page on the virtual wall: “Dennis was a classmate and good friend.”

According to a news article published at the time, Stopplesworth attended St. Francis Xavier Catholic School in Cross Plains and graduated from Middleton High School in 1967.

He attended the University of Wisconsin for two years and was a part-time employee of the Bruce Company in Middleton. He enlisted in June 1969.

Richard was trained as a helicopter



Stopplesworth



Richard



Hildebrandt

repairman, but was a gunner on a UH-1H Huey helicopter of the 335th Transportation Company, 123rd Aviation Battalion, 16th Aviation Group that left the Ky Ha helipad at Chu Lai, Vietnam on Feb. 10, 1970 on a courier run to Danang.

The helicopter was one mile south of Danang’s main airfield, when it experienced a tail rotor malfunction.

The narrative on the memorial’s virtual wall at www.virtualwall.org, describes what happened to the helicopter as it lost air speed and altitude:

Fire broke out immediately upon impact. Vietnamese civilians attempted to extinguish the fire with pails of water.

Several military personnel arrived at

the crash site within minutes and immediately took control of security and extinguished the fire with hand-held fire extinguishers.

They also assisted in removing personnel from the helicopter. There were no survivors of the crash.

Along with Richard, there were three other crew members and eight passengers on board the helicopter.

He was 20 years old.

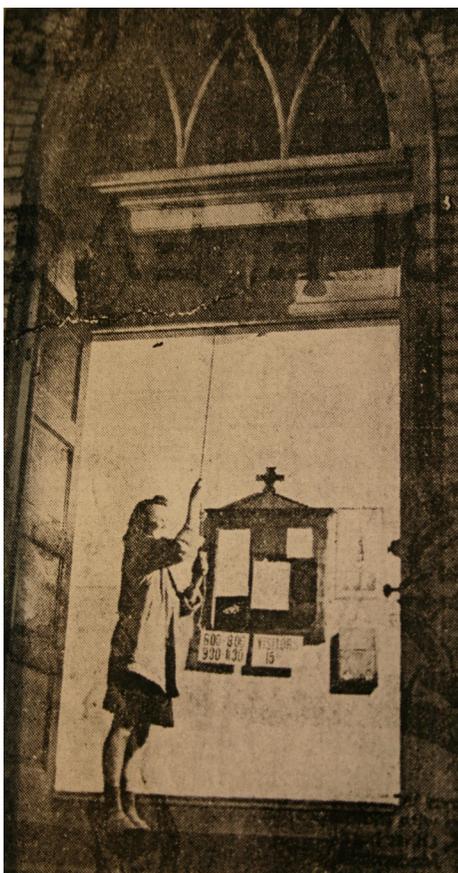
According to a casualty file summary available on the internet, Hildebrandt’s death was “booby trap connected” and occurred on July 18, 1968 in Quang Nam, South Vietnam.

He enlisted as a light weapons infantryman of the 11th Light Infantry Brigade. He was 21.

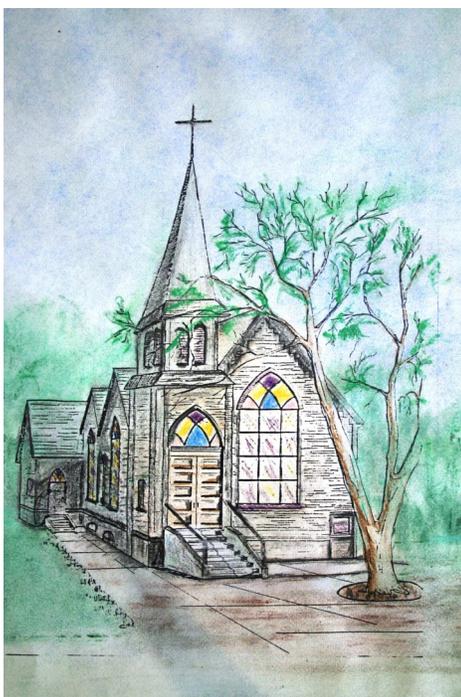
The Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., includes the names of over 58,000 servicemen and women who gave their lives in service in the Vietnam Conflict.

Our Church

For whom the bell tolls: Leola Adler, female sexton for parish



Leola Adler is shown here in a State Journal photo ringing the bell at 7 a.m., at the old St. Bernard Catholic Church.



This is a sketch of the first St. Bernard church by Berdetta (Betty) Hurtgen, a former parishioner and teacher at St. Bernard School.

In a State Journal article (date unavailable) titled, "It's a woman's job," Robert W. Luebke profiles Leola Adler, a female sexton at St. Bernard:

"More than 20 times each week, Leola Adler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John J. Adler, 2021 Hubbard Ave., tugs at the rope of the big steeple bell. Leola is up early each day to sound the village out of its slumber at 7 a.m., back at noon and again at 6 p.m. For Sunday services, she tolls at five different times.

"Miss Adler became sexton last February, taking over from her brother, Don, when he married and moved away. She rarely misses; but admits that the cold dark mornings frequently see her rushing to her "work" looking quite unlady-like in slacks and neglected hair.

"Usually the bell responds smoothly to Leola's gentle tug; recently, however, when she pulled too hard the rope gave away ending the toll abrupt and short. Leola remarked, "We've got a new rope now. Things will go smoothly again."

"Sometimes the Rev. F.A. Mack, pastor of the church, takes over for Leola giving her a short vacation."

Adler's daughter, Peggy Miller, who still lives in Middleton, said her mother was very proud to serve the church as bellringer, because the Catholic faith was very important to her family.

Bell moved from old church to new church

In 1889, the construction cost of the old church was about \$2,800. Unfortunately, there is no record of the original cost of the bell.

However, in the 1907 inventory of the church's personal property, it was noted that the "bell rope" was valued at \$200. There is no mention of the bell's value. Or maybe the entry should have been: bell and rope.

The 1910 records show John Esser was the sexton at St. Bernard.

"At that time, the bell was rung three times a day for the Angelus, at 6 a.m., noon and 6 p.m.

"It also rang for each death in the parish followed by a slow toll for every year of the person's life," according to the "100-year History of St. Bernard Parish" researched by Lorena Gordon.

"The young people assigned the chore of ringing the bell would love swinging up and down with the rope and would try to have the bell turn completely over the top as it swung to and fro. They also told of relieving the bees of the honey in the bell tower."

The last Mass in the old church was held on April 15, 1958.

Before it was demolished, the stained glass windows and all religious artifacts were moved to the school basement.

The cornerstone and the bell, which was shipped out to be refurbished, were also saved.

The St. Raphael bell tower or campanile was also rebuilt.

It was the first one in the Madison area and would have the original 70-year-old, 1,300-pound, three-foot high

bell mounted in the top of the belfry.

A 16-foot iron cross was placed above it.

The shrine is a symbol of the bond between St. Bernard parish in Middleton and the Cathedral of St. Raphael in Madison.

The tower is the work of Fred "Fritz" Carpenter of Stefan Mittler Monuments of Madison, whose statues, relief carvings

"The young people ... told of relieving the bees of the honey in the bell tower."

mosaics, windows, and lettering can be found in many churches in Dane County.

At some point over the next few years, the rope was replaced by a chain and cable, which would swing the bell.

About 20 years ago, a crack was found at the top of the original bell.

A representative from Verdin Bells and Clocks of Cincinnati recommended that the bell be stabilized, and an electronic hammer be installed.

The bell now rings at noon and 6 p.m., and five minutes before each Mass on the weekend, except the 7 a.m. Mass, because "nobody likes to be woke up by the church bells before 7 o'clock on Sunday," said Tom Theis of the parish maintenance staff. He also tolls the bell for funeral Masses.

Our Community

Knights of Columbus host Fr. Pat Higgins golf invitational



Knights of Columbus members look through photographs and other items from the council's history after a recent meeting and potluck.

St. Bernard's own: Knights of Columbus #4549

By Ed Brummel

I would like to take a few minutes to introduce you to your Knights of Columbus council.

You've seen the logo, the share rosaries, the guys working during the various charity activities - but who are they?

Our council is one of 15,000 around the world, and we have more than 120 members here at St. Bernard.

Fr. McGivney founded the KCs in 1882 to teach us how to be faithful protectors and humble men of God.

We have the highest rated life insurance company, which was established to take care of Catholic widows and orphans. We publish the world's largest Catholic family magazine, "The Columbian," and the Knights of Columbus have given billions of dollars and millions of hours to charity.

SVdP reaches out to community members in need

By Barb Roberts

Recently, our St. Bernard Conference of St. Vincent de Paul partnered with Middleton Outreach Ministry to assist a homeless woman with a stay at a local motel to give her respite while searching for a place to live.

She had been evicted from her apartment along with her older autistic son. It is exceedingly difficult to find adequate rental housing in this area.

Our monies are used in situations of need like this or sometimes helping with a car repair, so someone can get to work.

There is need all around our community and when it comes before us we assist

What we really are is a bunch of guys, who are committed to supporting the St. Bernard's community, our families and our priest.

Some of us are organizers who come to all the meetings and run a host of great programs.

Most of us are the behind the scenes workers. We are ushers, servers, choir members, religious education teachers and parish council members.

We help where ever we are needed, and we get back much more than we put in.

Thank you for your continued support. Together we can ensure a better world for our families.

with a home visit in friendship and charity to determine what it is we can offer our neighbors in need.

On Sept. 30 and Aug. 1, we will host an "Invitation to Serve."

This is an effort to both recruit members and educate parishioners about our mission and why we have responded to the call to be a Vincentian.

We have plans to speak at Mass and host an informational time after each Mass in the parish center. Refreshments will be served.

We hope to see you there.

Knights of Columbus Council #4549 will hold their annual Fr. Pat Higgins Invitational at 9 a.m., Sept. 25 at Pleasant View Golf Course in Middleton.

Funds raised from this event will help the Knights of Columbus continue their support of charities in our community.

The cost is \$75 per golfer, which includes 18 holes of golf, a cart and buffet lunch at the clubhouse.

Registration starts at 8 a.m., followed by the shot gun start at 9 a.m., the social hour at 1:30 p.m., and lunch with awards and a raffle at 2:30 p.m., in the clubhouse.

Reservations must be received by Sept. 18. All checks should be made payable to Knights of Columbus Council #4549.

For more information, contact Ron Braem at 831-6658 or rsbraem@tds.net or Wayne Dohse at 836-3902 or cddohse@tds.net.

Fr. Brian to speak on Oct. 24



Fr. Brian will be the featured speaker at the Knights of Columbus meeting on Oct. 24 in the parish hall.

His presentation will start at 7:30 p.m.

Everyone in the parish is invited to attend. Refreshments will be served.

Luke House needs volunteers, donations

We are in great need of a few new monthly contributors for a gallon of milk, bags of chow mein noodles, bottles of red french dressing and someone to make the "Luke House" casserole.

If you can help with any one of these items or would like to volunteer with our group, please contact Althea Burrier at 608-833-0350 or aburrier4@yahoo.com.



'The Beacon' opens in October, needs volunteers, donations

In October, Catholic Charities will open "The Beacon," a homeless day resource center in Madison.

At "The Beacon," Catholic Charities will help homeless individuals and families meet many of their basic needs as well as providing opportunities for employment, addiction services, mental and physical health treatment, case management and housing.

There are two ways in which you can join Catholic Charities to help accomplish their mission:

Volunteering Positions available:

Laundry Services
Shower Services
Computer Lab Assistant
Child and Family Advocate
Guest Advocate
Welcome Center Greeter
Repair and Maintenance

Each of the above jobs is available to sign up for as little as one four-hour shift a month or several shifts weekly. We will train and support you while working on-site.

Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age and complete an application, background check and brief orientation.

Can you speak Spanish? We would appreciate talking to you about volunteering so that our non-English speaking guests can feel at home and welcome when they come to "The Beacon."

If you are a veteran and want to volunteer to help fellow veterans experiencing homelessness, we would be very happy to talk to you!

In-kind specific donation drives of these items:

Laundry Soap

Razors
Deodorant
Travel Size Shampoo and Conditioner
Travel Size Soap
Shaving Cream
Travel Size Hand and Body Lotions
Combs
Brushes
Toothbrushes
Toothpaste
Bath Towels
Washcloths
New Socks
Feminine Hygiene Products
Baby Diapers (all sizes)
Baby Wipes

We will not be able to collect clothing or shoes or any items NOT on the list above at this time.

Please contact Tami Fleming at 608-826-8022 or tfleming@ccmadison.org for more information.

CMC: Making a difference one person at a time in Madison

By Sammie Schaefer and
Laura Green

The Catholic Multicultural Center (CMC) is dedicated to helping our brothers and sisters in need by serving the whole person.

To do this, the CMC provides a variety of services and amenities to best meet the needs of our community.

Some services help people meet their basic needs, such as a food pantry twice a week, a personal essentials pantry, a free meal every day and shower and laundry facilities.

Other programs are educational, such as English as a Second Language, citizenship and Spanish classes as well as youth activities.

Employment programs at CMC include its culinary job training enterprise to extensive employment search assistance.

The center also hosts immigration legal services and community engagement pro-

grams, such as neighborhood Care for Creation projects and a culinary garden.

These services all depend upon community support and the generosity of volunteers sharing their time with the center.

One of our volunteers is Louise Smith, who helps out at the front desk each week.

Louise assists in operating the personal essentials pantry, signing people up for the food pantry, facilitating the shower and laundry services, and most importantly, greeting every guest or volunteer who comes to the desk with a warm smile and words of welcome.

She fulfills a very important role at the center, and her time is much appreciated by staff and guests alike.

In addition to volunteering, Louise also comes to the CMC to enjoy the daily free meal.

"The meal is a Godsend,



especially to those who can't cook or don't have the means to cook," she said.

Louise also feels that attending the meals helps her within her volunteer work, because she gets to mingle with the guests she's assisting at the desk each day and "be one of them."

A meal is served at the CMC from 4-5 p.m., Monday thru Friday and 11 a.m., to noon on Saturday and Sunday.

It takes over 220 helping hands cooking and serving each month to run the meal program.

St. Bernard serves one of these free meals each month: "Meatloaf Monday," which attendees rave about.

John said he stopped in for the free meal one Mon-

day and forgot it was Meatloaf Monday. He said it was a very happy coincidence and "the servers were nice, helpful and polite."

Another Meatloaf Monday attendee, Elvin, said, "All the servers were very nice and made sure everyone had gotten enough to eat."

The Catholic Multicultural Center would like to thank all volunteers from St. Bernard parish and is grateful for all of the support from the community, which allows the CMC to make a difference one person at a time.

If you are interested in volunteering or contributing to the CMC, please contact Laura Green at 608-441-1180 or Laura@cmcmadison.org.

Our people

Laufenberg: A gentle spirit, a big smile and a true love of God

By Ellen G. Krenke

When asked about the characteristics of good pastoral associate, Kevin Laufenberg pretty much describes himself.

"I think they have to be a good listener," he said. "And compassionate and have a gentle spirit ... and a big smile ... and a true love of God!"

All of those things belong to Laufenberg, who has been the pastoral associate here at St. Bernard for the last five years.

"And have a good prayer life too," he added quickly. "I just think you have to have a regular prayer life in this business."

Laufenberg has been involved in "this business" since he was a kid. As a member of St. Mary's of Woodland, he was an altar server, a choir member, the organist -- and the youngest parish council president in the parish's history. He was 17.

"Technically, you were supposed to be 18 years of age, but father OK'd it," Laufenberg said. "It was a small parish. You knew everybody and everybody knew you ... and the ones that you didn't know were probably related to you."

"And there wasn't a whole lot that you needed to do ... I had to run the meetings and set the agenda, but there were no major projects during that time."

After the parish council meeting at the church, the council would reconvene at the local tavern, which was owned by a parishioner. "At the time, my dad was also on the council, so I went with him," he said with a smile.

Laufenberg credits his parents with his love for the church. "My mom ... was always a very, very faithful person. (For) my mom and my dad ... church always came first in their life. So I think that provided the foundation."

During his sophomore year at Mayville High School, Laufenberg transferred to St. Francis Seminary in Milwaukee. After one year, he decided that the seminary was not for him.

He graduated from high school in 1979 and went to work for Tab Products in Mayville for about seven years.

Laufenberg continued to feel a tug toward the priesthood and returned to St. Francis as a seminarian. Again he stayed for about a year. He then decided to finish his degree in theology at Marian College in Fond du Lac.

After graduation in 1992, Laufenberg returned to St. Francis to work on a master of arts in pastoral theology.

"Growing up in a small parish I thought the only way that you could work for the parish full time ... was just to become a priest or a nun," he said. "In the seminary, I was taking classes with all these lay people who were pursuing working for the church in a full-time position ... coming from a small parish I never knew anything about lay people working for the church as a career. Everybody just volunteered."

Once he received his master's degree, Laufenberg worked at St. Peter in Beaver Dam for 10 years and at St. Victor in Monroe for 10 years.

When his mother became ill, he applied for the job here at St. Bernard to be a little closer to her. Unfortunately, she passed away just before he started the job in 2012.

At St. Bernard, Laufenberg is responsible for marriage preparation, the library, visiting the sick at home or in the hospital, RCIA, adult confirmation, individual religious education preparation, coordinating the ministers for the weekday Masses and assisting Fr. Brian.

He said the biggest part of his job is visiting the sick and homebound. During these visits, Laufenberg prays with the parishioner and offers Communion. He also coordinates the parish volunteers, who visit with the homebound.

Laufenberg said his job is never monotonous. "I like that you



Kevin Laufenberg provides individual religious education preparation to two young parishioners.

get to meet a lot of people, and you get to be involved in their lives in a lot of different ways," he said.

The hardest part of the job, Laufenberg said, is ministering to parishioners who are dying and their families. "You never know if you are saying the right thing or doing the right thing, but everyone is always grateful. It's just hard to see that."

"I've been doing it for such a long time, you kind of get a little bit used to that, but it doesn't make it any easier."

Laufenberg said his faith also helps him through these situations. "(It) truly makes it easier ... because of believing so strongly about a better life after death ... and not to look at it mournfully, but to look at it joyfully as a changing of life ... not an end to it."

St. Bernard has been a big change for Laufenberg, because "I'm used to the close-knit small parishes where everyone knows each other," he said. "Here at St. Bernard even though it's a large parish ... it has a small town feel and a small church feel. The people seem to know each other. There are a lot of people who are related to each other. At the same time, there is a lot of vibrancy because you have a lot of younger families moving into the area."

In the future, Laufenberg said he would like to be a parish director running the day-to-day operations for a small parish that does not have a resident priest.

And if he does ever leave, he said he would miss the parishioners of St. Bernard, who have welcomed him since day one.

"I hope they will say that I was an effective minister," he said. "And that ... maybe they became closer to God through something that I did when I interacted with them."

After his move to Middleton, Laufenberg noticed a lot of familiar names around him. So, he looked into his genealogy and found that his great grandfather was born and raised on a farm

Rogan to receive Catholic Charities leadership award in November

Retired Army Col. Jack Rogan, a parishioner at St. Bernard, will be recognized as a Leadership Award recipient at the 22nd annual Catholic Charities Faith in Action Celebration to be held on Nov. 9 at the Madison Marriott West Hotel in Madison.

The Catholic Charities Leadership Award honors area Catholics, who consistently incorporate Catholic values in their leadership and enrich the lives of those around them.

Rogan, the oldest of seven children, was born to Irish parents in New York City in July 1926.

He gave up his seminary deferment to enter military service in 1945. Following the Japanese surrender, he transferred from the infantry to finance and spent the majority of his 25-year active duty career serving in various financial management positions. He was promoted to the rank of colonel in April 1968 and retired two years later.

After moving to Madison, Rogan served as state finance di-

rector for 13 years under five governors.

For more than 38 years, Rogan was a volunteer with the Catholic Diocese of Madison, serving as a member of the Diocesan Pastoral Council, Seminary Advisory Board, Saint Raphael Society Board and Diocesan Corporate Board.

He served a four-year term on the U.S. Catholic Bishops' National Advisory Council and is a member of the Order of St. Gregory the Great and the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.



Rogan

Angelic additions to the parish library

A bumper crop of books about angels was recently added to the parish library. Here is a list:

A Book of Angels by Sophy Burnham - An instant New York Times bestseller when it was originally published in 1990, this beautiful book not only tells the extraordinary true stories of present-day encounters with angels, but also traces the study of angels throughout history and in different cultures.

Hastening Angels by Winifred Bowers - This excellently written and researched book contains references to every mention of angels found in the Holy Bible. There are also lists of further reading for those who want to learn more about angels.

Angel Power by Janice T. Connell - Weaving her own personal angel experiences together with angel prayers and with true angel stories she has been told, the author teaches us to open ourselves to angelic guidance, support and protection.

Angels Everywhere by Lynn Valentine - Sometimes we are blessed by experiences that seem to defy logic. This book features true stories told by those whose lives have been touched by heavenly beings. It will renew your faith and open your eyes to the grace of God.

Where Angels Walk by Joan Wester Anderson - A heart-warming, spine-tingling, true account of people just like you. People who, in a time of need, found themselves in the loving presence of beings who led them out of the threatening darkness and into the light of hope. Defying explanation or description in our everyday terminology, the beings they encountered can only be called ... angels.

There's an Angel on Your Shoulder by Kelsey Tyler - From biblical times to the present, mankind has been fascinated by angels. In music, art, theater, and film, angels have enriched our lives and lifted our spirits with messages of faith, hope and love. Science has never been able to prove their existence. It is only through personal accounts of real-life angel encounters that we may learn the true meaning of this timeless phenomenon.

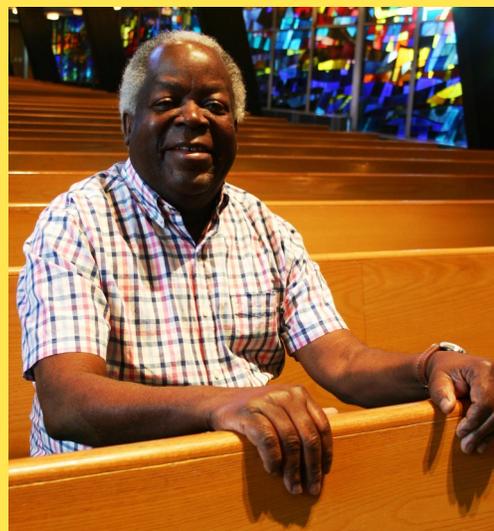
The current library hours are: 7-9 a.m., Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday and 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Sunday. To check out items, simply write the date, your name and telephone number on the card and place it in the tray on the desk.

At St. Bernard, Rogan served as parish council president (he implemented the parish council concept at St. Bernard) and served on the finance and social concerns committees. He also served as a lector, Eucharistic minister and cemetery advisory committee member.

Rogan married Ann Cogan in Kyoto, Japan in 1950, and they are the parents of nine children. Ann passed away in 2015, and Rogan is currently dedicated to writing their love story.

They were named "Family of the Year" in 2003 by the state Knights of Columbus. Rogan is a 4th Degree member of the Knights of Columbus. He is also a member and past president of the Madison Serra Club and was recognized as Serran of the Year in 2004.

In the Pews



Paul Wagabaza joined St. Bernard parish in 1980 after moving here from Uganda. He is an usher and choir member. In the Knights of Columbus, he is a past faithful navigator of the 4th Degree. He also has twice been a member of the parish council. Paul said St. Bernard is "a wonderful community of people, who are all very friendly and ready to help."

Telling your story releases the heaviness of grief

By Ellen G. Krenke

There is no way to help someone get beyond their grief.

"You can't help them," said Peggy Weber, a retired parish nurse, who has facilitated grief classes for children and adults since the 1970s. "But you can support them, because people grieve when and how they are able to.

"The problem is that so many people try not to grieve. They try to go around it. To do grief work is painful. It is hard and rough to think about the person who has died. It is hard and rough to think about all these different feelings ... guilt, regrets ... people tend to not want to do that.

"It takes a lot of energy and support and patience. That is what we try to teach: what grief is all about."

Weber will teach what grief is all about in three weekly sessions from 9:30-11 a.m., Nov. 1, 8, and 15 in the parish library.

Basically, grief is our reaction to change or loss of someone or something.

And in over 35 years of group work, Weber said she has seen the benefits of people coming together to deal with their grief.

"The support that they were able to give to one another is unbelievable, and the resiliency that they see in one another is very feeding to the soul, she said.

"When people are going through grief, they think they are alone. They have never felt like this before, and they sometimes feel like they are going nuts and crazy, because the feelings are so intense."

Weber said being able to verbalize those feelings makes it more real. "They get to tell their story as much as they

Book of remembrance

Traditionally, November is known as a month for remembering the deceased — family members, friends and parish members.

During this month, a special book titled, "The Book of Remembrance," is located on the Parmenter Street side entrance of church near the statue of Mary.

We invite you to write the names of your loves ones in this special book. They will be remembered in our parish prayer throughout the month.

want to tell it. And the more they tell their story, the more release there is of the energy ... of the heaviness of the grief."

In her curriculum, Weber encourages the group to understand the person who they are grieving for, the emotional and physical reactions of their grief and how best to use that energy.

"We really focus on the fact that we stay connected on a soul basis with that person," she said. "The soul never dies. We are soulmates. We stay connected to them."

Weber said the group also discusses the non-death losses that are attached to a death. "There are so many changes that happen in a person's life that people aren't aware of," she said. "A death is very sad and very hard to deal with ... (and) there are all these losses: the loss of companionship, the loss of money, you may have to move, the loss of a partner at the breakfast table.

"We normally plan for changes. We

really can't plan for many deaths."

Weber said it is important to remember the lessons that the person we are grieving for taught us. Who was this person for us? What is the gift that they gave us? What in their life am I going to incorporate into my life?

The importance of each day is another area to contemplate. "We all, when we have had a death, will realize the importance of each day, and the choices that we make. If it is important, we will want to put our time and energy into that person."

In her sessions, Weber said there are activities and a lot of sharing, but "nobody is ever made to talk if they don't want to talk. Some people come and sit and gently cry for three weeks. It is a safe environment to just come and be."

For more information or to register for these free sessions, contact Kevin Laufenberg at kevin@stbmid.org or 829-5879.

Weber said people who have participated in previous sessions are always welcome back to the group. "This is not a one and done," she said. "Because you continue to grieve, and they can support other people."

But if you are not ready to join the group, Weber has one piece of advice for you: "Be patient with yourself."



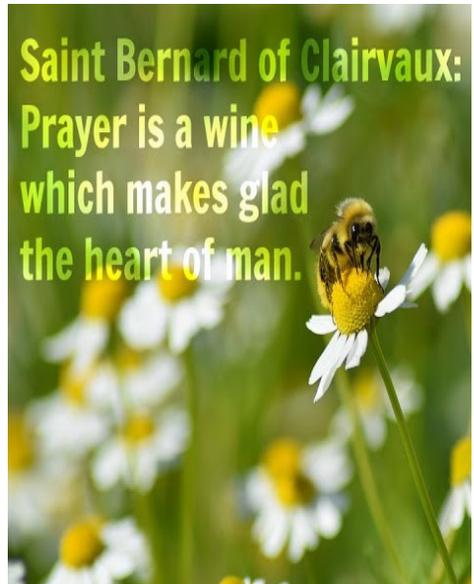
Remembrance Masses

Nov. 2 - All Soul's Day Mass and dinner in remembrance of those we have lost at 6 p.m.

Nov. 8 - Knights of Columbus Memorial Mass and dinner in remembrance of KC members we have lost at 6 p.m.

Both dinners will be held in the parish center.

Pictured at left: Two fire department members participated in the color guard for the KC Memorial Mass last year.



Our Children

Confirmation: Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit

By Kevin Sullivan

The celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation is an important moment in completing the process of initiation into our Catholic faith.

Recently, Bishop Robert Morlino asked that all parishes move toward the “standard” celebration of this Sacrament at age 15 or 16.

At 4 p.m., Nov. 19, our sophomores will have the opportunity to be confirmed at St. Christopher Parish in Verona.

As you may recall from your Confirmation, it is the bishop’s role to confirm the faithful. In the early church, most cities had their own bishop. It was common for an adult entering the faith to emerge from the waters of Baptism and immediately be confirmed by the bishop.

The Sacraments are linked. Both Baptism and Confirmation are all about receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit and being initiated into our faith. In both, there is anointing with oil and the support of a godparent or sponsor.

Throughout history, when bishops had more territory to cover, Baptism has been traditionally celebrated with infants, and Confirmation was held between the ages of 7 and 17 years.

With Confirmation being available to our students in the fall of their sophomore year, the bishop has asked that parishes make sure that there is ongoing religious education (RE) or faith formation for all students during their entire high school careers.

Confirmation is not something that students prepare for, receive and then opt-out of participation in our faith.

Confirmation is rather an important moment to celebrate and receive a very real and unique indwelling of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Upon receiving this gift, we are called to begin to live our faith in a concrete way in the world.

Knowing all this, it is the expectation of the parish that all high school students are involved in some form of faith formation no matter when they receive Confirmation.

Families and students who may not feel prepared for Confirmation may always defer and can work with the religious educa-



St. Bernard teens have a choice of attending a retreat at Durward’s Glen, pictured here, or Lake Waubesa before Confirmation.

tion office to prepare for the sacrament in the future.

Lastly, sacramental preparation is always in addition to grade-level religious education.

Students will participate in religious education and have additional work and meetings to focus specifically on the meaning and celebration of Confirmation.

If you are hoping to be Confirmed this fall: you should have successfully participated in ninth grade (or higher) RE last year, you should enroll in tenth grade RE, pick a sponsor, plan to be at the candidate-sponsor meeting and choose one of the two Confirmation retreats in which to participate.

All of this information can be found on the youth education page on the parish website or by contacting me.

Parishioner sees God in teens at ‘Love Begins Here’ week

By Bob Krenke

I recently spent a week chaperoning middle-schoolers from around the diocese at “Love Begins Here” in Montello.

The week is filled with prayer, camaraderie and service to the community.

And while service is obviously one of the pillars of the LBH foundation, I believe it is the entire package that makes the program so fulfilling.

Mass and time for silent prayer is a daily occurrence. The most spiritual events of the week are Confession and Adoration, which are usually held on Wednesday after the group has already put in several days of service work.

Many missionaries and chaperones said that they had never felt closer to God than at LBH, and I would have to agree.

Each night, the group spent time in reflection before the core group leaders opened the floor for the teens to answer



Bob Krenke, bottom left, was a chaperone for “Love Begins Here” in Montello.

the question, “Where did you see God today?” They amazed me with their thoughtful answers.

I watched as these teenagers worked hard all week, and their behavior and bearing was exceptional. I certainly saw God in these outstanding young people.

Parishioners at St. John the Baptist in Montello and Good Shepherd in Westfield look forward to this week each year.

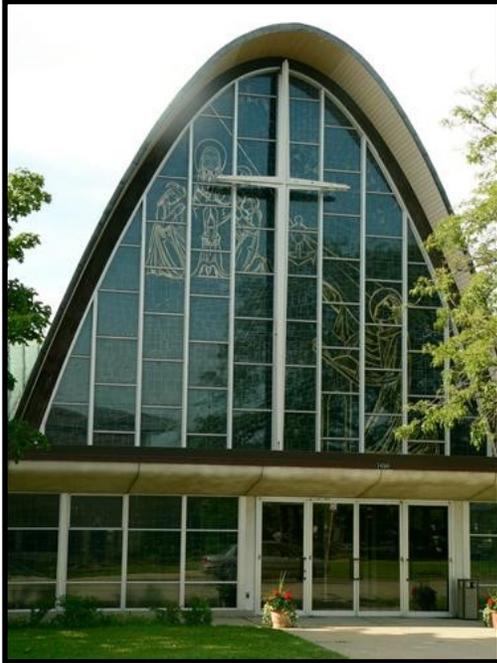
A parishioner at Good Shepherd, which is a very small church, was brought to tears as she shook hands with as many of the teenagers as she could. She said it was so nice to see her little church filled with worshippers outside of the holidays.

After this week of intensive service to others, some of the teenagers find it hard to follow through with their faith. Reflection is paramount to continue what is taught at LBH, said the core group leaders.

LBH is not easy – physically or spiritually. Nothing worth doing ever is. And that’s what makes it great. LBH re-energized me. These young adults re-energized me. God re-energized me, and for that I am truly grateful.

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“The Bee” is also posted on our Website at www.stbmidd.org. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact us at 608-829-5872.

Calendar of upcoming events at St. Bernard Catholic Church

September

- 4 - Labor Day
- 6 - Luke House Meal Program
- 7 - SVdP Meeting
- 12 - KC Officer's Meeting
- 14 - Rosary Makers Meeting
- 16 - Baptism Preparation
- 17 - Parish picnic at Lakeview Park
- 18 - CMC Meal Program
- 22-23 - Confirmation Retreat
- 24 - High school RE classes begin
- 25 - Fr. Pat Higgins Golf Invitational
- 26 - KC meeting with Tom Riley speaking

October

- 1-Candidate/Sponsor Meeting
- 4 - Luke House Meal Program
- 5 - SVdP Meeting
- 6 - Living Rosary Celebration
- 9 - First Reconciliation Meeting
- 10 - KC Officer Meeting
- 16 - CMC Meal Program
- 19 - Anointing Mass and Social
- 21 - Baptism Preparation
- 24 - KC Meeting with Fr. Brian speaking
- 26-27 - Confirmation Retreat

November

- 1, 8, 15 - Grief Support Group
- 1 - Luke House Meal Program
- 1 - All Saints
- 2 - All Soul's Day Mass and Dinner
- 2 - SVdP Meeting
- 8 - KC Memorial Mass/Potluck Dinner
- 9 - Rosary Makers Meeting
- 11 - KC Color Guard for Veterans
- 14 - KC Officer Meeting
- 19 - Confirmation at St. Christopher in Verona
- 20 - CMC Meal Program
- 23 - Thanksgiving
- 28 - KC Meeting