

Saint John the Evangelist Journal

December 14, 2014



Third Sunday of Advent





Some Notes from Fr. Dwight's Desk.....

Annual Retirement Fund for Religious Collection

Senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests (Franciscan and Dominican sisters, brothers and priests are examples of this group) spent years working in Catholic schools, hospitals and social-service agencies, often for little or no pay. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate savings for retirement and elder care. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious collection helps provide prescription medications, nursing care, and more for more the more than 35,000 elderly religious and their religious communities who are assisted by this collection each year. Please give generously to those who have given a lifetime.

Eucharistic Adoration for the Fridays of Advent

Having the opportunity to spend some quiet time with the Lord in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is very much in keeping with the quiet and reflective season of the season of Advent. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be available each Advent Friday from the conclusion of the 9:00 AM morning Mass until Benediction at 5:00 PM. Adoration will take place in the chapel unless otherwise noted.

Parish Books of Intercessions

At each Mass, we remember a variety of different needs in our world, lifting them up to God in the Prayers of the Faithful. At weekday Masses, we are able to do this in a slightly different way which allows many in the assembly to voice their needs in a spontaneous manner. All of us have prayer intentions we would like to have remembered each day, and so in order to accomplish this we have two new Books of Intercession available in which you may feel free to write particular prayer needs so that they may be remembered at each Mass. One Book of Intercessions is located in the Sacred Heart devotional area in the main church, while the other is located on the standing desk outside the chapel in the stone church. Prayer intentions written in both books will be remembered collectively at each Mass.

Area Communal Penance Services

One of the ways we can prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ at Christmas is through the Advent celebration and reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession). The sacrament of Reconciliation is available on Saturday afternoons, 3:30 Pm to 4:30 PM. As in years past, we will also partner with two other area parishes for communal penance services:

Tuesday, December 16, 7:00 PM at Holy Redeemer Parish in Burton

Wednesday, December 17, 7:00 PM here at St. John the Evangelist

Thursday, December 18, 7:00 PM at Holy Family Parish in Grand Blanc

Looking Ahead to Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses

This year's Mass schedule for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be pretty much the same as in years past. Note that the second Mass for Christmas Eve is now scheduled for **6:30 PM**, in order to allow a little more time for the parking lot to clear and refill between the first two Masses of Christmas Eve. Hopefully this will alleviate some of the congestion we have experienced in years past.

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Mass

6:30 PM Mass (Children's Mass)

Christmas Day

12:00 AM Midnight Mass

9:00 AM Mass

11:00 AM Mass

As you make plans to attend Mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, make sure those plans also include an invitation to family or friends to join with us for these beautiful celebrations.

| Mass Intentions for the Week | December 20 & 21, 2014 | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| | Mass | Lectors | E. M. | Usher | Servers |
| Monday, December 15, Advent Weekday-Nm 24: 2-7, 15-17a Mt 21: 23-27 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer 9:00 a.m. Lucille Rodgers - Fritz & Phyllis Balmer | 5:00 pm Sat 12-20 | Guilbault, R Dorland, P Dorland, S | Grayson-Elton, D Fay, K Tryles, S Eisenbeis, D LaGuire-Quinn, D Monahan, R Medich, K Husse, J | Alger, T Verhelle, D Verhelle, T Nitoski, D Lueck, J | Kenrick, Hunter & Olivia Hering, Heidi |
| Tuesday, December 16, Advent Weekday-Zep 3: 1-2, 9-13 Mt 21: 28-32 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer - Chapel 9:00 a.m. Fr Francis Murray - Fr Dwight | | | | | |
| Wednesday, December 17, Late Advent Weekday-Gm 49: 2, 8-10 Mt 1: 1-17 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer - Chapel 8:30 a.m. Lucille Rodgers Rich & Mary Ann Dixon 7:00 p.m. Communal Penance Service - Church | 8:00 am Sun 12-21 | Murphy, T Jewell, R | Arthur, M Arthur, T Metcalfe, D Metcalfe, R Archambault, C Spaniola, J Varcoe, L VanGilder, N | Porritt, J Patthanach-Aroenphon, O Nagy, S Zonca, J Bommarito, D | Olkowski, Mark & Katie Paulik, *Hannah |
| Thursday, December 18, Late Advent Weekday-Jer 23: 5-8 Mt 1: 18-25 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer - Chapel 9:00 a.m. Virginia Hogan Helen Dawson & Celia Adams | 10:00 am Sun 12-21 | Faricy, L Faricy, T | Smith, A Spelman, J Frakes, J Erber, A Erber, J Bieling, B Liedel, M Brant, S Yelen, A Bradburn, K Dudek, J Laue, K | Wagner, G Wagner, D Cannazzaro, M Redden, B Runci, D Tatro, R | Kehoe, Ben & Patrick Wilhoite, Sydney |
| Friday, December 19, Late Advent Weekday-Jgs 13: 2-7, 24-25a Lk 1: 5-25 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer - Chapel 9:00 a.m. Rita Gifford - William Moilanen 2:00 p.m. Mass at Caretel Mary Jo Ancick - her Family | | | | | |
| Saturday, December 20, Late Advent Weekday-Is 7: 10-14 Lk 1: 26-38 | | | | | |
| Fourth First Sunday of Advent Is 61: 1-2a, 10-11 1 Thes 5: 16-24 Jn 1: 6-8, 19-28 5:00 p.m. Steven Schaefer - his Family | 12:00 pm Sun 12-21 | Sulfaro, L Sulfaro, S | Newblatt, T Kelly, C Logan, M Logan, E Logan, S Schneider, M Buchanan, Katherine Dziadzio, J | Langeway, C McDonald, S Cooper, S Kruse, S Glinke, T Rheingans, J | Crantas, *Jake, Jenna & Jessica |
| Sunday, December 21, Fourth Sunday of Advent 8:00 a.m. Alec Gomez - his Family 10:00 a.m. Ingrid Velthoven Fred Velthoven & Family 12:00 p.m. Jennie Purzycki & James West Roger & Lisa Packard 6:00 p.m. People of the Parish | 6:00 pm Sun 12-21 | Jankowski, L Thayer, M | Killian, J Champlin, C Carino, F Carino, Kendall Carino, Kristie Stilson, D Stilson, N | Gilbert, M Darling, E Darling, S Beste, Margaret Hubert, M | Murlick, Macrae Keeley, Jacob & Nathan |
| <i>The Sanctuary candle will burn this week in church in memory of the Joe Nagy.</i> | | | | | |
| <i>The Sanctuary candle will burn this week in chapel with special intentions of Kathryn Delagol.</i> | | | | | |



from Fr. Jim....



Worship

Third Sunday of Advent



Today, the Third Sunday of Advent, we celebrate Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word meaning "rejoice." St. Paul is very emphatic in our second reading, telling us to "rejoice always." This Third Sunday of Advent is set aside as a special time of rejoicing because Christmas is drawing near, and that can only mean one thing: Jesus is near!

Each and every Christian is called to be filled with joy. Not necessarily a feeling of happiness in the way that the world would describe it, but an authentic joy, contentment, and peace of knowing that we are loved by God and that He is near us. So many of the saints throughout history have shown us this joy and peace that surpasses all human understanding. For example, St. Maximillian Kolbe rejoiced by singing and praising God in a Nazi starvation bunker in the midst of a concentration camp. According to the world he had no cause to feel any sort of joy, but he recognized that God was with Him and that was all that mattered. In the end, as St. Augustine says to the Lord, "Our hearts are restless until they rest in You." Only God can bring us true joy and fulfillment.

Here in Fenton we will probably not find ourselves in such dire circumstances as St. Maximillian Kolbe, but our call to rejoice always is no different than his. In every situation or circumstance in which we find ourselves we are called to rejoice. Not necessarily because we feel good, but because we know we are loved by God and that He is near us. This joy should be something that exudes from us and should be evident to all those we meet.

To stress this point I'll share a brief story. My freshman year of college I was blessed to be able to play for our University's baseball team, while at the same time being in the seminary. I hadn't told anyone on the team that I was studying to be a priest, but always tried to let the joy and love of Jesus shine through me to them. At a certain point, I began to invite some of my teammates to a special Mass we were hosting at the seminary for athletes. When one of them discovered that I was a seminarian, he looked at me with a sudden look of understanding and said, "I knew there was something different about you." My teammates were able to see the light and joy of Christ shining through me, and many of them did begin to come to our athletes Mass. Jesus wants to shine through you as well, to give you a joy, love, and peace that cannot be contained, that must be shared, and will be noticed by those around you. So as we celebrate this Gaudete Sunday, rejoice in the Lord for He is near, and allow Him to shine in and through you.

Tim Garback.....

3rd Sunday of Advent

"My soul rejoices in my God."

Father, may we pray without ceasing, and give thanks always.

Amen!

A special thanks to our Cantors, who sang at the Immaculate Conception liturgies.

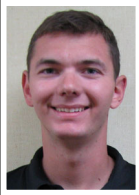
7:00 a.m. Vicki Williamson
8:30 a.m. Helene Paulik
7:00 p.m. Kirk Johnson

You are much appreciated!

We are STILL in need of **Ushers/Ministers of Hospitality** at the 12 Noon Mass. Please see or call **Clem Langeway** (629-1434) for more details.

Pax Adventus,
Timothy J. Garback
Director of Music Ministries/
Liturgy
tjgarback@hotmail.com



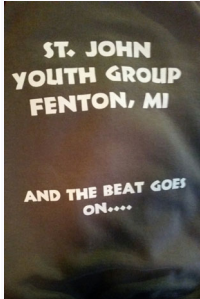


Coordinator of Youth Ministry



Director of Religious Formation

Kyle Ulrich.....



SENIOR HIGH

WINTER RETREAT



Adopt a family gifts are being delivered soon. Please turn in wrapped and labeled gifts to the RFP office!

Youth Group Dates!

JR High December 17th January 14th & 28th
SR High December 17th January 14th, 21st, 28th

March for Life is now going to be a group going through the Diocese of Lansing. Contact Adam Jankie in the Diocesan offices for more info.

Helene Paulik.....

Rejoice always.

Pray without ceasing.

*In all circumstances give thanks,
for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.*

I Thessalonians 5:16-18



NO RFP Classes Now through January 4th

RFP Classes resume January 6th, 2015

Parent Child Reconciliation Retreat Saturday, January 10th from 8:45-11:30

PRACTICE FOR THE CHRISTMAS PLAY (6:30 Christmas Eve Mass):

All children who have signed up to participate in the play at the children's Christmas Eve 6:30 PM Mass must come to a rehearsal on

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20th 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 NOON

Blessings as we wait in hope & joy!

**Helene Paulik
Director of Religious Formation**



Director of Adult Education

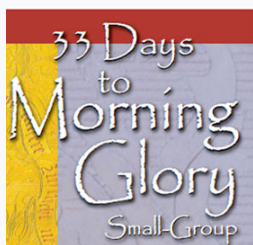


OUTREACH

Dan Medich.....

As we light the third candle on our Advent Wreath, I'd like to look at one gift that, we as parents, give to our children. The gift that they will have their entire lives and beyond. They receive it from us every day; FAITH! The gift of faith that, along with the Holy Spirit, we help develop and nurture in them. Everything we do and say, in front of a child, is a teaching moment. So, let's let them see us living that faith!! I pray that each of us, our families and our community take that to heart. I pray that we are open to receive the wonders and graces given to us through the sacraments and I pray that we know that all blessings flow from Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ whose birth we await. Advent blessings to you all!

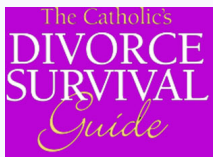
Jesus Others and then Yourself



Join us on [Tuesday, 1/06/14], as we begin a **33-day preparation for Marian Consecration**. Each day we'll individually follow four great Marian giants: St. Louis de Montfort, St. Maximilian Kolbe, Blessed Mother Teresa, and Pope John Paul II. They'll teach us the secrets to drawing closer to the Heart of Jesus

through the Heart of Mary. In our weekly meetings, [Tuesday from 1-3:00PM] we'll share our insights within our small group and then watch a 30-minute video. The video by popular author and speaker, Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC, brings our individual reflections and group experience into a clear and live-able focus. If you want to transform your relationship with Christ, this is a perfect New Year's Resolution. See the ad in the bulletin and contact **Christine Champlin (810) 986-9466 prior to 12/22/14.**

NEW! Catholic's DIVORCE HEALING Program – Starting



January 22nd, 2015. We are pleased to announce the beginning of an exciting, new DVD ministry to men and women who have suffered from divorce: The Catholic's DIVORCE SURVIVAL Guide. The 12-week program features 30-minute DVD shows each week that cover

topics of shock, denial, anger, grief, guilt, forgiveness, money, the courts, the kids, the ex-spouse, annulment, dating, sexuality, spirituality, remarriage or staying single, and much more. Whether you got divorced ten days ago or ten years ago, the program offers valuable insight for everyone. See ad for more information or Contact Dan Medich Jr. 248-982-5355 or danmedichjr@gmail.com.

Maureen Ottney.....

More Poverty Brings More Hunger

When we go to the supermarket and see aisle after aisle of all kinds of food we may be tempted to forget those who really can't just go and buy whatever they want.

Church pantries have been assisting families in need for many years. The Churches have been able to do this because parishioners are very generous. They do remember the ones in need.

Our St. Vincent de Paul workers will be receiving food on Saturday, December 20th between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

The foods needed are:

- Beef stew
- Vegetable soup
- Pork & beans
- Mac & cheese
- Toilet paper

Thank you and God bless you from all St. Vincent workers.

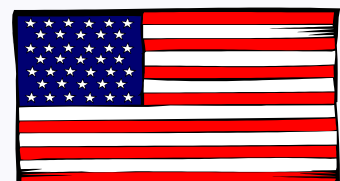


St. John School "Education in Faith"

Veteran's Day Visitors



In honor of Veteran's Day, St. John School hosted a few very important visitors. Members of the Army Reserves visited with our Junior Kindergarten and Second grade classes. Students were very excited about the opportunity to explore the military vehicle.



Our Parish Life Together

Events for the Week

Monday, December 15,

- 10:00 a.m. **AA Meeting** - A Room
- 7:00 p.m. **RCIA** - Founder's Hall
- 7:00 p.m. **Bible Study** - Grand Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Men's Fellowship - A Room

Tuesday, December 16,

- 8:30 a.m. **Rosary** - Chapel
- 9:40 a.m. **Novena** - Chapel
- 10:00 a.m. **AA Meeting** - A Room
- 12:00 p.m. **Kinship Support Group**
Conference Room
- 3:30 p.m. **Bible Study** - Conference Room
- 6:30 p.m. **Women's "CRHP"** - Founder's Hall
- 7:00 p.m. **Men's "CRHP"** - A Room
- The following **Knights of Columbus** meetings will take place in the St John Knights Hall:
- 7:30 p.m. **Rosary**
- 8:00 p.m. **Auxiliary**
- 8:00 p.m. **Council**

Wednesday, December 17,

- 10:00 a.m. **AA Meeting** - A Room
- 10:00 a.m. **Bible Study** - Activity Center
- 4:00 p.m. **Youth Choir** - Church
- 5:00 p.m. **Open Gate Garden Club**
Activity Center
- 6:00 p.m. **ID 916** - Chapel & Founder's Hall
- 7:00 p.m. **Charismatic Intercessory Prayer Group** - Chapel
- 7:00 p.m. **Bell Choir** - Church
- 7:00 p.m. **"CRHP" Continuation**
Conference Room

Thursday, December 18,

- 9:00 a.m. **Endow Women's Group**
Founder's Hall
- 10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. **AA Meeting** - A Room
- 10:00 a.m. **Bible Study** - Conference Room
- 7:00 p.m. **Knights of Columbus Assembly**
Conference Room
- 7:00 p.m. **Adult Choir** - Church

Friday, December 19,

- 10:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. **AA Meeting** - A Room
- 10:00 a.m. **Bible Study** - Conference Room
- 6:30 p.m. **Knights of Columbus Bingo**
St John Knights Hall

Saturday, December 20,

- 3:30 p.m. **Confessions** - Church

Sunday, December 21,

- 8 & 10:00a.m. **NO** coffee & donuts following 8 & 10a.m.
Masses-Grand Hall

Financial Barometer

for Week of December 6 & 7, 2014

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Envelopes Used..... | 811 |
| Envelopes..... | 21,625.00 |
| Loose..... | 1,611.00 |
| E-Tithing..... | 22,298.54 |
| Total..... | 45,534.54 |
| Budget..... | 30,420.00 |
| Under/Over Budget (+)..... | 15,114.54 |
| Deficit for Current Year..... | 56,736.41 |

Offertory Observation...

All of the people in today's readings - the prophet Isaiah, the Virgin Mary, St Paul, St John the Baptist-seemed to understand clearly and rejoice in what God was calling them to be and to do. Do I?

Today, the special collection for the Retired Religious will be taken up during all the Masses.

Next week, the collection to support the St Vincent de Paul food pantry will be taken during the second collection at all of the Masses.

Marriage Banns

II Jamin Littell & Melissa Mora

Vocation Views...

Lasting joy is a hallmark of a Christian. Where can you bring joy this week? Find your strength in God's promise.

Please Pray for Our Sick

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Geraldine Allen | Nora Francis | Keith McDaniel | Rose Sekulich |
| Donalda Bak | Annie-Laurie | Sharon McDonald | Emily Sharp |
| Mamie Berta | Gallagher | Chris Muehl | Irene Skerjance |
| Christian Brabb | Beth Grahl | Mike Murphy | Russel Stidham |
| Norman Brainard | Amanda Guy | Dan O'Rourke | John Squires |
| C. J. Callaghan | Rachel Hagan | Eleanor Pellegrino | Susan Tokarsky |
| Dave Callaghan | Walt Henry | Jim Perczak | Orpha Verhelle |
| Patrick Carmody | Toni Hodgkin | Anthony Polsinelli | Isabella Starrs Ward |
| Virginia Carmody | Lee Johnson | Suzanne Popovich | Virginia Westfall |
| Bridget Carrette | Michael Jozwik | Donna Potter | Jaymi Whalen |
| John Ciso | Jim Kielczewski | Paul Quinn | Eloise Wild |
| Erin Dagenais | Linda Lach | Matt Riegel Family | Cohen Witten |
| Mercedes Fisk | Rosalind Lee | Joyce Rolston | Becky Young |
| Marie Fox | Michael Lenze | Tom Runyan | |
| Daniel Foy | Jim Lueck, Jr. | Irv Schroeder | |
| Laura Foy | | Mary Schroeder | |

Prepare for the Coming of Christ !!

Advent

RECONCILIATION SERVICES

A reconciliation service including song, scripture readings, a short reflection, an examination of conscience and the opportunity for individual confessions.



Tuesday

December 16, 2014 | 7 PM

Holy Redeemer Catholic Church
1227 East Bristol Rd., Burton

Wednesday

December 17, 2014 | 7 PM

St. John the Evangelist
600 N. Adelaide St., Fenton



Thursday

December 18, 2014 | 7 PM

Holy Family Catholic Church
11804 S. Saginaw St., Grand Blanc



IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Michael John Sobanski, age 66 of Linden, died Monday, November 24, 2014. A Memorial Mass was celebrated on Friday December 5, 2014 at the Chapel with Father Dwight Ezop celebrating. Inurnment followed at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly.

Michael was born October 29, 1948 in Detroit, MI the son of Benjamin and Irene (Dzuirlikowski) Sobanski. Michael was a veteran of the U.S. Army and was honorably discharged. He then went to work in the tool and die industry as a machinist.

Surviving are: two brothers, Richard (Charlene) Sobanski of Linden and Stephen (Margaret) Sobanski of Romeo. Also nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Delores Beattie, age 88, died peacefully December 9, 2014 at her residence in Flint Twp. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Friday, December 12, 2014 with Fr. Jim Rolph officiating. She is the beloved wife of the late James L. Beattie. Surviving are her children, Colleen (the late Alex) Gundry, Michael (Susan) Beattie, James (Kay) Beattie, Pamela (Curt) MacNeill, Candace Pascuzzo, Debi (Mike) Calkins, Melissa (Greg Miller) Beattie, and Patty (Emanuel) Alfaro; several grandchildren, and great grandchildren; sisters in law, Joyce Weitzel and Rose Marie Stevens; and many nieces, nephews, and friends. She was preceded in death by her children, Freddy Beattie and Kathleen Drummond; and sister, Mercedes Ashley.

Rose Mary Metzger, age 71, of Dushore, PA passed away suddenly on Saturday, November 29, 2014 while on vacation in North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

A Memorial Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday, December 13th 2014 at with Fr. Dwight Ezop presiding. Interment will be in Michigan.

She moved with her husband several times in her life including three years in Sydney, Australia. Before retirement she lived in Horsham, PA and moved to Dushore, PA with her husband in 2005.

She was a loving spouse, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother and enjoyed being with her family.

Surviving: Spouse, Paul at home; Children: Pamela (Anthony) Sypula, Columbus, IN; Michael (Melinda) Metzger, Colorado Springs, CO; Matthew (Dawn) Metzger, Holly, MI; Six grandchildren: Three great grandchildren: Five Brothers and sisters; and also survived by many nieces, nephews and extended family.

Rose was predeceased by two grandchildren: Anthony and Ian and a brother and two sisters.

K of C Breakfast



Dec. 14, 2014

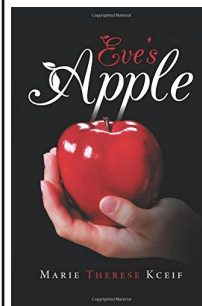
**after 8 & 10 a.m.
Masses**

EXTRAORDINARY SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

For the fall of 2015, Ave Maria University is offering *The Southeast Michigan Diocesan Scholarship* worth \$28,000 over 4 years! This is in addition to all other applicable institutional and federal aid. This generous scholarship will be awarded to the first 30 qualified students from the (arch) dioceses of Detroit, Lansing or Saginaw who are accepted to the University. For full details and requirements, visit www.avemaria.edu/scholarships.

EVE'S APPLE

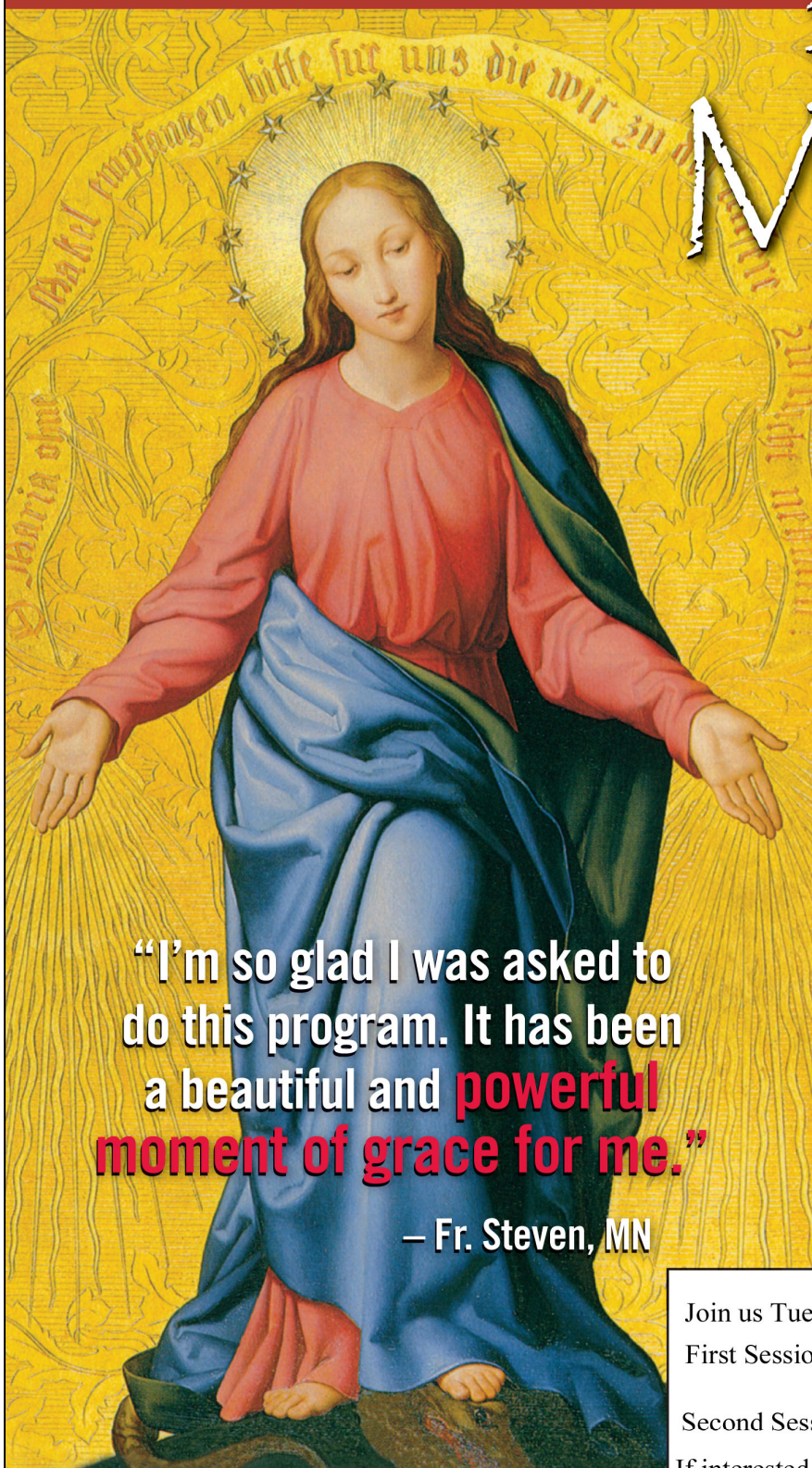
One of our parishioners (pen name: Marie Therese Kceif) has just published a book called "*Eve's Apple*". It is a conversion story of a woman's struggle through varied trials to embrace grace and guidance from our Lord while slowly recognizing her own rebellion. This is an intimate witness of how God gently guides one of His Eves into a slow freeing surrender of a Mary's trusting *yes*. This is a journey of hope, faith and relationship both back to our Lord and to His Holy Catholic Church. "*Eve's Apple*" has an imprimatur. You can find "*Eve's Apple*" (ISBN soft cover: 978-1-46241021-7 or ISBN Hard Cover: 978-1-4624-1023-1) on Amazon.com, Barnesandnoble.com or contact Tammy Junker at 810-629-4998 for a copy.



JOIN US FOR A

33 Days to Morning Glory

Small-Group
Retreat



“I’m so glad I was asked to do this program. It has been a beautiful and **powerful moment of grace for me.**”

– Fr. Steven, MN

Join us for a 6 week small-group retreat in preparation for Marian Consecration. This retreat is based on the popular book by Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC, *33 Days to Morning Glory*.

Gain new insights into Marian Consecration, learn how key saints and blessed lived it out, and how you can live it out as well.

Easy As 1-2-3!

- 1. Read**
Read the select readings in the retreat book.
- 2. Ponder**
Ponder the daily reading and questions in the *Retreat Companion*.
- 3. Meet**
Meet regularly with your group.

Join us Tuesday, January 6th 2015 at 2 different times,
 First Session 1:00 - 3:00pm in the Gospel Room
 or
 Second Session 6:00 - 8:00pm in the Gospel Room
 If interested contact Christine Champlin (810) 986 9466
 by Monday, December 22nd, 2014

The 33 Days to Morning Glory Retreat is brought to you by Hearts Afire: Parish-based Programs from the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception (HAPP®).



MARIAN FATHERS OF THE
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

THANK YOU.....

Many thanks to members of Knights of Columbus for manning the kitchen during the evening, to Amy O'Rourke and the beautiful voices of the children's choir, and to Tim Garback and our faith-inspiring choir. Thank you to our Patrick and Terry, our awesome custodial staff. You are always ready to help with smile.

Finally great gratitude is extended to our hostesses and their guests. Your generosity resulted in a collection of 400lbs of nonperishable donations to our St. Vincent DePaul pantry! You truly shared from your hearts with your guests and those in need.

Blessings to you and yours during this Christmas season!

The Parish Life Team

Two Marriage Enrichment Retreats Coming Soon.

Friday evening, January 16, 2015 from 5:30-9:15 pm entitled "Keys To a Loving Marriage: The Wisdom of St. Therese of Lisieux." Cost per couple is \$65 and includes dinner. The second is Saturday, January 17th from 9:30am-4:00pm entitled "To Love & To Honor: Practical Steps to a Joyful Marriage." The cost per couple is \$109 and includes morning snacks and lunch. Both retreats are at St Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt. To register and information go to <http://www.stfrancis.ws/> or 517-669-8321. Both retreats given by Tony Sperendi.

TOYS FOR GABRIEL TOTS

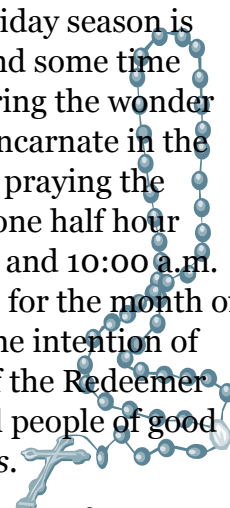


Many of our Gabriel families are looking for help with Christmas for their children. If anyone would like to share in the Christmas spirit, please consider contributing toys or gift cards to these families in need. Any contribution could be dropped off at the RFP building clearly marked for the Gabriel Project or call Carol at 248-467-4106. We can do the wrapping.

Thank you.

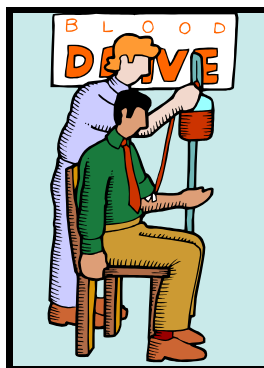
December Weekend Rosary

The hustle and bustle of the holiday season is upon us. Take a break and spend some time with your mother, Mary pondering the wonder of it all--God showing us Love incarnate in the infant born of Mary. We will be praying the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary one half hour before the 5:00 p.m., 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. weekend Masses. Our intention for the month of December will be the same as the intention of Pope Francis: "That the birth of the Redeemer may bring peace and hope to all people of good will." *You are invited to join us.*



HAPPY Advent!

BLOOD DRIVE



TUESDAY

January 6, 2015

Noon to 6 pm

Activity Center

MORE THAN DISCIPLES

Each of today's four scriptural roles--disciple, prophet, apostle, herald--forms a facet of our life in Christ as we live it day by day. Isaiah tells us that a prophet is anointed, as we were anointed at our baptism in water and the Spirit, to bring glad tidings and to promote God's reign of healing, justice, and peace. An apostle, like Paul, is one who is "sent." Each of us, in his or her own way, is sent by Christ to be a voice of rejoicing, to encourage prophetic voices in the world, and to make sure that the work of the Spirit thrives. John the Baptist shows us the job of the herald, making the Lord's way straight, announcing the coming of the Light of the world. Today we also hear from Mary, model disciple. Her song, the Magnificat, shows us the world we must believe in and work for: one in which God is praised, where God's favor is bestowed on the humble, where the hungry are filled and the rich are sent away empty, a world that continues to know and rejoice in the mercy of God that lasts for all ages.

Outreach Update

by Christine

help with the rent

diapers for the baby

car repairs



The Holiday Season is Upon Us

Gifts for the children

keeping the electricity on

Food for the table

Thank you!

Through the generous help of you, our parishioners, St. Johns Outreach has been able to help more families than ever this year. Our goal in gathering funds and resources is to never turn anyone away when they come to our Parish in need. You have helped that to happen this year.

You have enabled Outreach to be:

A hand up,

An escape from desperate circumstances,

A light at the end of the tunnel,

A saving grace in an otherwise hopeless situation,

A smile on a Mother's face,

Relief in the face of despair,

Comfort when it seems that all hope was lost .

With humble hearts, we would like to ask for your continued support this Christmas Season.

Bring some warmth into someone else's life today.

Make a donation to Outreach!

You may go to our website to make an online donation or to set up a recurring donation with an E-Tithing Form.

See the Outreach Newsletter at our website: www.stjohnsoutreach.com

The Outreach office is located in Fenton at 512 North Adelaide, right next to the St. John's rectory.

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Website: www.stjohnfenton.org
School Phone: 810-629-6551

The Pastoral Team

Pastor: Rev. Dwight Ezop
810-629-2251 (dmezop@gmail.com)
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Jim Rolph
810-629-2251 - (frjimrolph@gmail.com)
St. John School Principal: Kit White
810-629-6551 (kwhite@stjohnfenton.com)
Minister of Music: Timothy Garback
810-629-2251 (tjgarback@hotmail.com)
Outreach Coordinator: Maureen Ottney
810-629-1817
Coordinator of Adult Formation: Dan Medich
248-982-5355 (danmedichjr@gmail.com)
Coordinator of Youth Ministry: Kyle Ulrich
810-938-9411 (kyle61fenton@aol.com)
Director of Religious Formation: Helene Paulik
810-629-1850 (hpaulikdre@dphome.net)
Baptismal Prep.: Deacon Terry & Mary Carsten
810-397-8703 (deaconcarsten@gmail.com)

Parish Support Staff

Business Manager: Anthony Delecki
810-629-1850
Bookkeeper: Danielle Sphar
810-629-2251
Parish Secretary:
Tricia Jorgensen
(tjorgensen@stjohnfenton.org)
810-629-2251
Parish Secretary:
Mary O'Connor Gorzenski
(mgorzenski@stjohnfenton.org)
810-629-2251

RFP & School Support Staff

RFP Secretary:
Carol Beck
(cb4rfp@aol.com)
810-629-1850
School Office Manager:
Angie Haiss
(ahaiss@stjohnfenton.com)-810-629-6551
School Secretary:
Andrea Kehoe
(akehoe@stjohnfenton.com)-810-629-6551

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.
**Sundays: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.,
12:00 p.m., & 6:00 p.m.**
Weekdays: 9:00 a.m.
Holy Days: See Parish Bulletin

Confessions

Saturdays: 3:30 p.m.—4:30 p.m.
Also, anytime by appointment.

Baptism

Baptism is usually celebrated on the third Sunday of the month. Parents must call Deacon Terry and Mary Carsten to register their child before the last day of the month prior to their selected date. Their number is 810-397-8703.

Marriage

Please contact the Parish Office at least nine months prior to wedding date, if possible.

Anointing of the Sick

This sacrament offers the Lord's healing strength and peace to anyone who is seriously or chronically ill or hospitalized. Please call the parish office if you wish to have someone receive this sacrament.

Rite of Christian Initiation

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation) is for anyone interested in joining the Catholic Church or for any adult who has not received the Sacraments of Confirmation or Eucharist. Please call 810-629-1850.

Facilities

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St. John School—810-629-6551
RFP Office—810-629-1850
Powers High School—810-591-4741
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