

Baptism of the Lord

Liturgy Schedule

Monday, January 12, Weekday

Heb 1:1-6/Mk 1:14-20

7:30 AM Communion Service

Tuesday, January 13, Weekday

Heb 2:5-12/Mk 1:21-28

7:30 AM Minnie Hernandez, Anniversary

Wednesday, January 14, Weekday

Heb 2:14-18/Mk 1:29-39

9:30 AM Leo May, Anniversary

7:00 PM Devotions to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

Thursday, January 15, Weekday

Heb 3:7-14/Mk 1:40-45

7:30 AM Victims of Violence and Abuse

Friday, January 16, Weekday

Heb 4:1-5, 11/Mk 2:1-12

7:30 AM Priests and Deacons of our Diocese

Saturday, January 17, St. Anthony

Heb 4: 12-16/Mk 2:13-17

4:30 PM Bill Patrick, 22nd Anniversary

January 18, Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/1 Co 4 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

7:30 AM Andrew & Esther Breimayer

Betty Spitzley, Month Mind

9:30 AM Reynold Martin; Bill Curns, Anniversary

Mary Schrauben Stapleton, 7th Anniversary

11:30 AM For the People

ALTAR APPOINTMENTS – January 17 & 18, 2009

LECTORS

4:30 PM Joyce Kransz

9:30 AM Laura Goostrey

7:30 AM Gary Fedewa

11:30 AM Randy Pung

Altar Servers

4:30 PM Mackenzie Smith, Tangela Willemin

Cody Cathcart, Royce Cook

7:30 AM Matthew Thelen and Taylor Wilcox

9:30 AM Adam Gunderman, Brittni Wilcox

Danielle Simon, Brandon Fandel

11:30 AM Anna Bosworth, Jennifer Bosworth

Joshua Schneider, Randy Gensterblum

GREETERS

4:30 PM Sandy & Tom Meitler, Jim Wlodarczak

7:30 AM Freda Bauer and Arlis Quinn

9:30 AM Eric & Mary Berry, Connie Mallek

11:30 AM Kurt Thelen, Bill Pintal, Andrea Pung

Sponsor of the Week

The Spirit of Justice

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

The last line of today's gospel refers to the first line of today's first reading. When Jesus was baptized, a voice proclaimed, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." Isaiah opens his prophecy today with the voice of God proclaiming, "Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased."

Oh, to bring God pleasure! What marvelous joy!

Isaiah envisions that God takes joy in the chosen one. God's choice of a people started the whole story of salvation. When the covenant worked well, the chosen people responded like good servants, stewards of the word of God. When Israel was pleasing, God put upon the people the spirit. That spirit helped them bring forth justice to the nations.

For Christians, all the baptized are God's chosen people, those chosen by God for union with Christ. Upon us God has given a Spirit, to help us bring forth justice to the nations. God's Spirit is anxious to use you to make the world a fairer place.

Have you opened your heart? Can you hear God speak of you, "Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased"?

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Sunday Offering Report

July 1, 2008 through January 4, 2009

December 28, 2008:

Envelope Collection	\$14,747.00
Non-envelope collection	335.00
Children/Youth	16.70
Total	\$15,098.70

New Year's Day Collection \$2,411.00

Weekly Parish Ministry Needs	\$ 17,980.00
Our Gifts for January 4,	14,219.20*
Our Gifts – Fiscal Year to Date	500,696.28
Parish Needs – Fiscal Year to Date	485,460.00
Over/(Under) – Fiscal Year to Date	15,236.28

*Includes Children/Youth envelopes 26.62

Church Cleaning for January –

District 2 is in charge.

The Healing Ministry Prayer Group normally meets the second Thursday each month. Because of a scheduling difficulty we will meet on the third Thursday, (January 15) for this month only.

Catholic Order of Foresters Adult Christmas Party hosted at Jerry's Restaurant on Saturday, January 17, 2009 at 5:30 PM. Please RSVP to Carolyn Manning at 647-6474.

January 11, 2009

NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH...

- SUN** RCIA, 9:30 AM
Baptisms, 1:30 PM
Knights of Columbus Bingo, 2:00 PM @ KC Hall
Jr. High Youth Ministry, 4:00 PM
High School Youth Ministry, 6:30 PM
- MON** Eucharistic Adoration, Noon to 5:00 PM
Liturgy & Worship Committee Meeting, 6:30 PM
Faith Formation Classes meet in church, 6:30 PM
Bell Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 to 8:30 PM
- TUES** Pro-Life Rosary following Mass in the Chapel
Prayer Shawl Ministry, 116 Blossom Dr., 1:00 PM
Finance Commission Meeting, 7:00 PM
- WED** Eucharistic Adoration, Noon to 7:00 PM
Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM
- THUR** Healing Prayer Ministry in the Chapel at 7:00 PM
- FRI** Third Friday Communion Calls
- SAT** Men's Group, 6:30 AM
Rosary in the Chapel, 7:30 PM
Reconciliation, 3:00 PM
COF Adult Christmas Party, 5:30 PM at Jerry's
Restaurant
- SUN** RCIA, 9:30 AM
GIFT, 1:00 PM in the Parish Hall

Pray for our Seminarians

Our diocese has been blessed with 10 seminarians currently studying for the priesthood. To show our support for these men, Bishop Hurley asks us to pray for them. *Specifically, this week we are asked to pray for Charles Schwartz of St. Francis Xavier Parish, Grand Rapids.*

FESTIVAL OF TABLES

*A fun event for women of all ages!
Imagine a room full of beautifully decorated tables
at the Knights of Columbus Hall;
a fabulous, sit-down luncheon, prepared with generous amounts
of TLC and served by your table hostess;
followed by an inspiring talk by Pastor Marilyn from
Portland's Congregational Church.
The women of St. Patrick's are sponsoring this event
with the proceeds benefitting the Portland Ministerial Association.
You're invited to host (decorate) a table or enjoy as a guest!
Saturday, February 7, 2009 from 10:30 a.m. till 1:00 p.m.
Tickets are available for \$12.00 at the Parish Office during
regular business hours. Call Sue at 566-8010 if you
would like to host a table or order tickets by mail.*

Ever wonder what it would be like to enter into the actual presence of Jesus, Himself? Why not stop wondering and try Eucharistic Adoration?

The Church teaches that the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the prayer of the whole Catholic Community. God's people gather together at the Liturgy to hear God's Word and reflect upon it, to be fed by the Eucharist, and to be sent forth to live as disciples of Jesus. Everyone has a part in this prayerful celebration.

One of the special ways that young Catholics are traditionally invited to participate in the Mass is through service as an Altar Server. This ministry allows them to have a very active role in the Mass, our first and greatest prayer. The young people of our parish are invited to serve when they are old enough and strong enough to handle the book of prayers, the cross, and the sacred vessels. For our parish, this is the second half of Fifth Grade.

Altar Servers are "Guardians of the Sacred." They must commit themselves to **weekly** attendance at Sunday Mass, to training, to attendance at Continuing Formation meetings approximately 3 times a year on Saturdays, and faithful service whenever they are scheduled or volunteer.

Training for new Altar Servers, 5th Grade or older, will be held on four Saturdays: January 24 & 31, and February 14 & 21 from 10:00am until 12:00pm (noon) in the Church. Attendance at these sessions is mandatory. Register for training by completing the form and returning it to the **Parish Office** no later than **Monday, January 19**. If there are any questions, please contact Deacon Don @ 517-647-6505 x-409.

Deacon Don F. Sobolewski

Name: _____

(Please print.)

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

School: _____ Grade: ____ Age: ____

Server's Signature: _____

PARENT/: _____

LEGAL GUARDIAN SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED

Please circle at least **TWO** Masses you are able to serve:

Saturday: 4:30 Sunday: 7:30 9:30 11:30

NOTE: There will be no sign-up forms distributed through St. Patrick School, Religious Education, or GIFT.

St. Patrick, 140 Church St., Portland, MI

January 11, 2009

King's Korner

Table Games Gathering...I'd like to THANK the Hospitality Committee for coordinating the Table Games event that took place this past Sunday in the Parish Hall. The room was nearly full of men, women, teens, and children eager to play their favorite game or learn a new game. There were about 25 different games to choose from. The food was great too! Perhaps the best part of this event was that it was FREE – just a time to get together, do some community building and have some FUN! In fact we had so much FUN that many were asking if we could do this again. The answer is **YES!** Stay tuned, we're looking at a possible date in March.

Fr. Larry

2009 Winter Gala - St. Valentine's Ball Update

The Winter Gala committee is seeking individuals or businesses to make donations (\$, gift certificates, or goods) to the Winter Gala to be used for door prizes and drawings. If anyone would like to make a contribution either personally or on behalf of your business, please contact any of the committee members below.

Also, they're seeking volunteers to help sell tickets and promote the Gala. If you are interested in volunteering for this, or for other positions including cooking an appetizer or snack, welcoming guests and taking tickets, selling raffle tickets at the Gala, serving dessert, and more please contact any of the committee members

***Tickets will be on sale in the Gathering Area of Church after all masses on **January 31st and February 1st**. This will be your **LAST CHANCE** to purchase tickets at church before the event so plan ahead and bring your checkbook January 31st or February 1st to secure your 2009 Winter Gala - St. Valentine's Ball seat!

Gala Tickets are **\$50 each** or **\$90 for a pair**. Presale Raffle tickets will also be available for \$10 each or 3 for \$25 (need not be present to win). The Winter Gala will be on **Valentine's Day (February 14th) starting at 5:30 with dinner served at 6:30**.

Contact Becca & Craig Fedewa at 517-649-8522 or Kelly Schrauben at 517-230-5287.

A reminder to all those interested in the Financial Peace Class.

Sign up and payment for class kits need to be in the Parish Office no later than Wednesday, January 14, 2009. Classes will begin Thursday, January 22, 2009 at 6:30 PM. If you have questions, please call Mike and Carole Beard at 647-7640 or the Parish Office.

NEW ADULT RETREAT! TEC has changed.

Could you use a retreat from the stresses of daily life in order to refocus yourself on Christ? Do you need to jump-start your faith? Are you looking for a way to deepen your faith while celebrating the joys of the Christian life? If you or someone you know can answer "Yes" to any of these questions, then TEC may be the right retreat experience for you.

The TEC retreat movement, formally known as Teens Encounter Christ, has now become Together Encounter Christ, providing a profound and joyful faith experience for adults 18 and older. This retreat, endorsed by the Diocese of Grand Rapids, is a three day weekend journey through the Paschal Mystery which offers many opportunities to evaluate, grow in, and expand your relationship with Christ. The weekend includes talks, time for reflection, as well as music and humor. At TEC, the message of Christ reaches not only the intellect, but also the heart.

The next retreat will take place **February 6-8, 2009**. If you are interested in attending, or have any questions, visit www.nextgenerationtec.com or contact Jane White at (616) 340-3725 or jane@nextgenerationtec.com.

FOCA (Freedom of Choice Act) would overturn the ban on Partial Birth Abortion and nullify state laws that protect infants who are born alive after failed abortion attempts. It would also invalidate all state laws related to pre-abortion counseling, parental notification for children under the age of 18 and restrictions on late term abortion. Let your representatives know **your** views on this legislation!

Attention Men of the Parish--

It is time to make your reservation to spend a quiet, restful and holy weekend at St. Lazare Retreat House in Spring Lake. During the weekend, plenty of free time is available as well as many opportunities to attend conference sessions and celebrate the Sacraments. Each person is assigned their own room and meals are provided. Call your Parish Captain, Bill Christian, at 647-6762, to reserve your room for the weekend of March 6, 2009. Space is limited so don't delay! Please check out the St. Lazare website at www.stlazareretreat.org to learn more about St. Lazare Retreat House as well as to see the schedule for the weekend.

The following classes are being offered at the Catholic Information Center, 360 Division Street S. Suite 2A, Grand Rapids

The Story of Stuff -- Wednesday, January 14, 7:00pm – 8:30pm

Obsessed with stuff? Ever wonder where all the stuff we buy comes from and where it goes when we throw it out? The Story of Stuff will take you on a provocative tour of our consumer-driven culture from the viewpoint of Catholic Social Teaching. It'll teach you something. It'll make you laugh. And it just may change the way you look at all your stuff. Presented by Cami Beecroft and Mark Mann. For registration information please call the Center at 459-7267 or register by e-mail at register@catholicinformationcenter.org. For a full listing of all classes please visit the Center at www.catholicinformationcenter.org.

The Holy Longing Study Group -- Thursdays, Jan. 15 and Feb. 19 (and ongoing 3rd Thursdays), 7:00pm – 8:30pm
Free Parking available in the lower level of the Cathedral Square Parking Ramp

In summer 2008, Mary Vaccaro led a two session course on Fr. Ronald Rolheiser's widely read book, the Holy Longing. At the request of the participants, we will be offering an ongoing study group to continue the discussion. Each month we will read and discuss one of the book's ten chapters. "This book is for those searching to understand what Christian spirituality means and how to apply it to their own lives." The group is open to new members. The Holy Longing is available for purchase at the CIC and at Schuler Books (in the Book Club section.) Both places offer a 20% discount. For registration information please call the Center at 459-7267 or register by e-mail at register@catholicinformationcenter.org. For a full listing of all classes please visit the Center at www.catholicinformationcenter.org.

Our Celebration of Christian Unity Week (January 18-25) will feature:

Happy Birthday, John Calvin! -- Tuesday, January 20, 7:00pm – 8:30pm

January 2009 marks the 500th anniversary of John Calvin's birth. Consequently, we are pleased to welcome Karin Maag, PhD, Director of the Meeter Center for Calvin Studies and Professor of History at Calvin College to present an evening on the life of John Calvin. Dr. Maag will lead us in an exploration of Calvin the man, the pastor and the theologian, emphasizing his impact on the historical development of Western Europe. There will be plenty of time for questions, discussion and birthday cake! For registration information please call the Center at 459-7267 or register by e-mail at register@catholicinformationcenter.org. For a full listing of all classes please visit the Center at www.catholicinformationcenter.org

Thank you to the Family of Fred May for designating our Parish Boiler Fund as a memorial at the time of Fred's death. Thank you also to those making donations to the fund in Fred's memory. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.