



JULY 26, 2009

**THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH...**

**MON** Eucharistic Adoration, Noon to 5:00 PM  
**WED** Eucharistic Adoration, Noon to 7:00 PM  
**SAT** Rosary in the Chapel, 7:30 AM  
Reconciliation, 3:00 PM

**Pray Shawl Ministry**

So far we have made 175 prayer shawls. We are running out of yarn. We could use donations of more yarn. Please donate in quantities of 12 to 16 ounces of the same color or you may make a cash donation to buy more yarn.

Dolores Rutherford, 116 Blossom Dr., Portland  
Phone 517-647-5977



**K of C Summer Picnic**

Family fun on August 16 at the K of C Hall. Activities begin at 12:00 (noon). There will be games for kids and Bingo and Euchre for the Adults. Hot dogs, brats and refreshments will be available. Questions? Call Steve at 647-7741.

**John Angotti Live – Thursday, August 27**

Bring your chairs and come to this FREE outdoor concert to be held at St. Gerard Church in Lansing from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. They will collect a free will offering for the band and to raise money for the St. Gerard Youth to attend the National Catholic Youth Conference this fall.

John Angotti is a full time music missionary who travels throughout many parts of the world providing inspirational music and witness to all ages. He is a graduate of West Virginia University and the U.S. Military School of Music and was a member of the U.S. Navy Band where he was the lead vocalist.

Noelle Garcia, former St. Patrick Youth Coordinator, will also be singing.

What is the Church's teaching on family size? If a couple, after prayerful discernment, find that they have reason to avoid pregnancy, it should be done in a manner that respects the way God created fertility. At the same time a couple ought to work to alleviate the problem that made them unable to accept the gift of new life. For more information contact Tony or Stephanie (989) 593-2798 or visit [www.ccli.org](http://www.ccli.org)

**St. Patrick Athletic Association Note**

Everyone is welcome to attend the next Athletic Association meeting scheduled for Sunday, 8/2/09 at 9:00 am, in room 202. Please enter the school using the center doors along West Street. This is a great time to join or just check us out as we begin our new school year.



We are sending another report to the CSA office. As of July 16, 496 parishioner families have pledged \$99,452.87. That amount is 88% of our goal of \$113,612.

Mike Johnson, Business Manager

**Director of Religious Education (full-time)**

St. Michael Parish is seeking a full-time Director of Religious Education. Responsibilities include religious education and formation for grades 1-8, sacramental preparation for first reconciliation and first Eucharist, and coordination of Children's Liturgy of the Word. Seeking a faith-filled Catholic with related educational background and experience, along with gifts of collaboration and creativity. Position description available at [www.stmichaelgl.org](http://www.stmichaelgl.org) Please submit resume with cover letter **by July 29** to: DRE Search Committee St. Michael Parish, 345 Edwards St., Grand Ledge, MI 48837

**Catholic Order of Foresters Family Day**

This year COF Family Day is Air Zoo in Portage MI. This is the web site [www.airzoo.org](http://www.airzoo.org)...please review it. Lunch as a group will be at 12:30 pm. The menu is Kitty Hawk's Famous Pulled Pork and grilled chicken breast with coleslaw, potato salad, baked beans, chips, dinner rolls and beverage. I need to know who is going to join us for lunch by Aug. 7th The cost is \$5 per person. Admission is Free! Rides are between \$2-\$4, unlimited \$12.95. You may get your ride tickets there. There is a free guided tour if any one is interested but I would have to know by July 31st.

Tami Rademacher – [tami-n-curt@charter.net](mailto:tami-n-curt@charter.net)



*Some people complain because God put thorns on roses, while others praise Him for putting roses among thorns.*

## KING'S KORNER

The following is an excerpt from an interview with Rick Warren (*author of 'Purpose Driven Life' and pastor of Saddleback Church in California*). I found it inspirational and so I thought I'd pass it on to you...

"People ask me: What is the purpose of life? And I respond: In a nutshell, life is preparation for eternity. We were not made to last forever, and God wants us to be with Him in Heaven. One day my heart is going to stop, and that will be the end of my body, but not the end of me.

"I may live 60 to 100 years on earth, but I am going to spend trillions of years in eternity. This is the warm-up act - the dress rehearsal. God wants us to practice on earth what we will do forever in eternity.

"We were made by God and for God, and until you figure that out, life isn't going to make sense. Life is a series of problems: Either you are in one now, you're just coming out of one, or you're getting ready to go into another one.

"The reason for this is that God is more interested in your character than your comfort; God is more interested in making your life holy than He is in making your life happy. We can be reasonably happy here on earth, but that's not the goal of life. The goal is to grow in character, in Christ's likeness.

"This past year has been the greatest year of my life but also the toughest, with my wife, Kay, getting cancer. I used to think that life was hills and valleys - you go through a dark time, then you go to the mountaintop, back and forth. I don't believe that anymore.

"Rather than life being hills and valleys, I believe that it's kind of like two rails on a railroad track, and at all times you have something good and something bad in your life. No matter how good things are in your life, there is always something bad that needs to be worked on. And no matter how bad things are in your life, there is always something good you can thank God for.

"You can focus on your purposes, or you can focus on your problems: If you focus on your problems, you're going into self-centeredness, which is my problem, my issues, my pain. But one of the easiest ways to get rid of pain is to get your focus off yourself and onto God and others.

"When I get up in the morning, I sit on the side of my bed and say, God, if I don't get anything else done today, I want to know You more and love You better. God didn't put me on earth just to fulfill a to-do list. He's more interested in what I am than what I do. That's why we're called human beings, not human doings."

"In happy moments, PRAISE GOD.  
In difficult moments, SEEK GOD.  
In quiet moments, WORSHIP GOD.  
In painful moments, TRUST GOD.  
In every moment, THANK GOD."

*Fr. Larry*

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## Notes from Our Neighbors

**Beginnings and Beyond “B+”** is August 5-8 at the diocesan Conference Center, to **inform, update, and energize** your parish RCIA team, parish musicians, and staff. This is brought to you by the North American Forum on the Catechumenate, and sponsored by the diocesan Offices for Worship and Catechesis. More info and to register: [naforum.org](http://naforum.org) or call the diocese 616-246-0588 (Jean) secretary, Office for Worship. This is a unique opportunity for those in a 6-state area—all meals included in registration! “B-plus” means emphasis on adults and children alike.

### Attention Mid-life Singles:

If you are looking to grow in your faith life, meet new friends, and feel like you belong, a REFLECT Singles Retreat is for you! Singles (ages mid-30s to mid-50s): register today for a life-changing weekend retreat at the St. Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt, Mich. (10 mi. north of Lansing) on August 14-16, 2009. Cost is just \$135, which covers meals, lodging, and materials. Take a chance and get involved... you won't regret it! Call 989-450-0993, visit [www.reflectsingles.com](http://www.reflectsingles.com), or e-mail us at [reflectsingles@yahoo.com](mailto:reflectsingles@yahoo.com) for more details.

### Making Memories Summer Bash

Ionia County Community Mental Health offers this program for Adults with Dementia or Alzheimer's, August 17 thru August 21, 2009, 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Free lunch provided. Location: Easton United Methodist Church, 4970 Potters Road, Ionia. Limited to the first 50 individuals. To register, or if you have questions, contact Forget-Me-Not Wraparound Coordinator: Becky Flint at 375 Apple Tree Drive, Ionia or phone 616-527-1790. Registration information needed: Caregiver Name, Older Adult Name, Address, Phone Number, E-mail, schedule option: half or full day.

### Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program

This exercise program is a fun and invigorating recreational exercise program, led by specially-certified instructors, for anyone who is limited by impaired joint motion and/or strength. The goal of the program is to:

Increase joint flexibility	Enhance personal growth	Increase strength and endurance
Decrease pain and stiffness	Improve posture	Improve performance in daily activities

Classes are held Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:00 AM at the Ionia Commission on Aging, 115 Hudson Street, Ionia. Suggested donation is \$1.00 per attendee. Please call 616-527-5365 or 888-527-5365 for more information.

**Catholic Scout Retreat- at the Franciscan Life Center** in Lowell, Aug. 7-9. Programs include: Rosary Patch series, Footsteps of the Saints, other Catholic scouting emblems, and training for adult leaders on Catholic Awards. Scouts/Venturers-\$20.00 for the weekend. Scouts under 11-\$5.00, Saturday only, unless accompanied by a parent. Meals included. Registration deadline- July 31. For more info or registration, call Scott Harvey at 364-9086, or email [scottharvey@prodigy.net](mailto:scottharvey@prodigy.net).

### Business Manager

Grand Rapids Catholic Secondary Schools is seeking a full-time Business Manager to support their financial and administrative needs. Requires a bachelor's degree in accounting, finance, business administration or a related field preferably with a MBA or CPA and 10 years experience in financial and operational management. View full description and requirements at [www.dioceseofgrandrapids.org/schools/schooljobs.html](http://www.dioceseofgrandrapids.org/schools/schooljobs.html). Please e-mail cover letter, resume, and salary requirements to [dogrhr@DioceseOfGrandRapids.org](mailto:dogrhr@DioceseOfGrandRapids.org) by 7/31/09.



The TK III Golf Outing is Saturday, August 15, at the Portland Country Club. There will be a 9:00 AM shot gun start. The cost is \$200 per team entry fee. Last year we donated over \$1,000 to the Relay for Life and raised funds for St. Patrick School's football team. Please help support our football program and help raise funds for the American Cancer Society. For more information please contact the Portland Country Club at 647-4521.

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**Mail entry form and \$50 deposit to PCC, P.O. Box 336, Portland, MI 48875**

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