

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Fr. Buersmeyer's weekly column appears on page 6.

WELCOME MCREST GUESTS

We are hosting 30 guests this week — providing food and shelter for them. Join us for a prayer service on Wednesday, Dec. 10, at 9:00 p.m. as we prayer for and with our guests.

DAY OF ADORATION

The day of adoration on Dec. 8 begins after the 9:00 a.m. Mass and continues throughout the day. Benediction will be at 6:30 p.m.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION HOLY DAY — DECEMBER 8

Masses for this holy day will be at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

CALLING ALL INTERNATIONAL SINGERS

Would you like to sing a verse of "Angels We Have Heard On High" in a foreign language of your choice on Christmas Eve? See page 7.

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB

See what's "New and Noteworthy", read past issues of our bulletin, find links to other sites. Go online and see for yourself—
www.ssjohnandpaul.org.
Please visit our website weekly to keep abreast of what's new and noteworthy.

*Prepare
the way
of the Lord!*

Is 40:3



Here's what's happening this week!

Monday, December 8:

- *Immaculate Conception — Masses for the holy day will be at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- *All day adoration beginning after the 9:00 a.m. Mass and continuing until 6:30 p.m.
- *6:30 p.m. Benediction
- *7:45 p.m. Adult Bells

Tuesday, December 9:

- *Mass at 9:00 a.m.
- *5:00 p.m. Jr. Choir
- *5:45 p.m. Jr. Bells

Wednesday, December 10:

- *Mass at 9:00 a.m.
- *9:00 p.m. Prayer Service with MCREST guests

Thursday, December 11:

- *7:00 p.m. Adult Choir

Saturday, December 13:

- *8:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Group
- *3:00 p.m. Confessions

Regular Parish Office Hours

- Mon. - Wed. — 9 :00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
- Thursday — 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Friday — 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Saturday—12:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- Sunday — 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



Immaculate Conception December 8, 2008

Masses for the holy day will be at
9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

—All Day Adoration—

The Blessed Sacrament will remain on the altar throughout
The day beginning after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

6:30 p.m. Benediction



Second Week of Advent

Vocation Committee Invitation: “Advent”-ure As Families Toward “Christ”-mas Presence

It is the Vocation Committee’s mission to remind us that our baptism calls us to become Christ-like. During Advent, we have the opportunity to consciously affirm this calling. The first week was dedicated to husbands and fathers to take this “Advent”-ure toward “Christ”-mas Presence. This week, wives and mothers have this same opportunity to consider ways to make the next few weeks an “Advent”-ure.

Reflect on your traditions. Allow the past to inspire the present according to the needs and values of your family. Do you or members of your family have excess or unreasonable expectations? Talk about them. Can you make time to plan some surprises? Bake something together? Bring home something special, unusual? Cuddle together? Make up or read Christmas stories, old and new? Make an Advent calendar? As a family, paint or color cards for residents in a nursing home? Mom can get things like these organized best.

Jesus was asked who would qualify for Heaven. His answer: Those who feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, or shelter the homeless. These are part of daily family life. Mothers are a major part of this in families. Enjoy your Christ-like role.

A MOTHER’S PRAYER

May your presence, most loving Jesus, ever bless our home and fill it with the virtues so perfectly practiced by your own Holy Family at Nazareth. Protect us from all dangers. Bless our endeavors. Keep our family always in the spirit of love, peace and happiness. Amen

God Bless and Happy “Advent”-uring



We welcome the following families who registered with us during the month of November, 2008:

- Kenneth and Carol Malek and their children Jessica and Daniel;
- Antoinette LoSardo and Lauren;
- Laura Safie

We are please to have you as part of our parish family!

2007-2008 Religious Formation Program

G.R.A.C.E.

Parish Formation Program
For all ages

September—May

EARLY CHILDHOOD

3 1/2 to 5 yrs. old
Sundays 9:30 a.m.
October—April

For more information on either programs above, or for any other adult formation or preparation for sacraments please call the Formation Office at 586.781.9488.

**G
R
A
C
E**

**January 11, 13, 14, 16
6:00-8:30 a.m.**

Theme:
Year of Paul

Event:
**Weekly readings
of the Letter of Paul**



Children's Christmas Day Mass at 11:30 a.m.

Bring your family as we come together for the joyous celebration of the birth of our Savior. All children arriving will be asked if they would like to take part in the spontaneous reenactment of the Nativity during the Gospel reading. The Children's Choir and Bell Ringers will also be present to help in our celebration.

What a wonderful way to begin this special day to help our children remember and experience the true meaning of Christmas day.



Looking for Christmas Help

**1) Sunday, December 21
after the 11:30 a.m. Mass**

Lunch will be provided.

We need help with putting up the many pre-lit Christmas trees in the sanctuary of the Church.

**2) Tuesday, December 23
after the 9:30 a.m. Mass**



On this day we will need help decorating the rest of the church.

Sign up
for either of these on the
bulletin board in the hallway.



During this 2nd week of Advent ...

...At the end of each night look back over the day and give thanks for the moments of deep breath that opened a space for more trust and confidence in God's fidelity to us. No matter how difficult the challenges we face—from the growing realization of our personal sinfulness, to any experience of emptiness or powerlessness—we can give thanks for the two candles that faithfully push back the darkness. And, we can give thanks for the graces given us to believe that "our God will come to save us" because we were given the courageous faith to desire and ask boldly...

***Come, Lord Jesus! Come and visit your people.
We await your coming. Come, O Lord.***

Grade 1-6 Age Specific Winter Session #1

Monday, January 26, 4:45-6:00 p.m. OR
Tuesday, January 27, 4:45-6:00 p.m. or 6:30-7:45 p.m.

Winter Dates: February 2/3, 23/24, March 2/3

Retirement Fund for Religious *Share in the Care*

About 58% of women and men religious are past age 70; 7% are past age 90. More than 4,900 need skilled nursing care. Even at advanced ages, many work in compensated or volunteer ministry that benefits others. Religious institutes are financially autonomous and responsible for the support of their members. Income sources include compensated ministry, government benefits, and investment return. Most elderly religious receive, on average, a Social Security benefit of just \$4,402 per year (the average U.S. beneficiary receives \$12,948 annually). Community living provides some economies of scale, but health care and living costs in most religious communities far exceed income.

Please use the envelope you received today and *Share in the Care*. Deposit your envelope in the regular collection next weekend.

How the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 Can Benefit You and the Parish

Helpful Tips on how you can realize Tax Benefits by Making a Direct Charitable Distribution from your IRA

If you are over the age of 70-1/2, you must take a required minimum distribution from your IRA. Normally, this money is taxed as ordinary income. However federal legislation enacted on October 3, 2008 permits you, for the remainder of 2008 AND throughout 2009, to make a direct gift from your IRA to the parish or other qualified charity. This gift counts toward fulfilling your required minimum distribution.

For each of the years 2008 and 2009 you can exclude up to \$100,000 from your gross income for distributions made directly from your traditional IRA to a qualified charity. For married couples, each spouse can make a distribution from his or her IRA under the same provisions

The distribution must be from your IRA, not a 401(k) or other retirement plan. However, consult with your financial or tax advisor about the possibility of transferring funds from one of these other plans to establish an IRA with the distribution to charity coming from the newly established IRA.

The IRA distribution must be a direct charitable gift and not a distribution to a donor-advised fund, a charitable remainder trust or for a charitable gift annuity.

If you would like to take advantage of these income tax savings and support the parish, please review the following tips on how to handle your charitable gift correctly:

- ◆ Contact your IRA custodian or representative *before* making a gift to arrange for the proper transfer of funds from your IRA to the qualified charity. The check that is issued from the IRA must show that it is made *payable* to the charity.
- ◆ If you have elected to have income tax withheld from your normal IRA distributions, advise your IRA administrator not to withhold taxes from distributions to charity.
- ◆ While this topic is fresh in your mind, ask your attorney and financial advisor how to make the parish a beneficiary of your will, trust or IRA.

For more information about how you and the parish can benefit from an IRA charitable giving rollover, please contact the parish office at 781.9010.

These helpful tips are only for your information on this change in the IRA law and are not to be considered as legal, tax or financial advice. You should consult with your legal, tax and financial advisors to implement the benefits of this new law and related matters.



The teens are selling poinsettias for the holidays this weekend. All proceeds go to help support teen events. Please support our teens! Thank you.

Attention All 9-12 Graders

- **LAST CALL** for any teen wanting to go to RAINBOW. If you did not receive a packet and would like one, or if you have questions regarding the conference please call Mrs. Peters at 586-781-9488.
- The teens will gather and serve the meal and do the clean up for the MCREST Dinner on Sunday, December 7 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. All teens **MUST have a permission slip signed** before you can attend this event. Please call Mrs. Peters if you should have any questions.
- 9-12 grade Christmas Gathering will be held on Sunday, December 21 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Bring a friend and join us!
- A very special thank you goes out to Lynn Kelemen, Lea Schmidt, Susan Avolio, Donna Parrinello, Lisa Trombley, and Diane Hepner who all gave up their time to help drive and chaperone the WIND conference on Saturday, Nov. 22. We had 40 of our teens attend the conference at Sacred Heart, Dearborn where they attended workshops, listened to a keynote speaker, interacted with teens from many other parishes, and attended mass. It was a fun and rewarding day for all of us. Thanks again to all who made this wonderful day possible.



Matters!

Our host week is here!!

Just a few items to share about this week:

All choir activities and daily masses will remain unchanged. We do ask that when attending practice or mass, please use the EAST church doors. All MCREST volunteers have been asked to use this door to enter as well. The WEST doors will be used for our MCREST guests ONLY. Signs will be posted for your convenience. Thank you for your cooperation!

Blood Drive Results

Thanks to the donations of parishioners and neighbors, our recent blood drive was another success. We were able to collect 43 units of blood, potentially helping up to 129 patients in local health care facilities. Although these patients and their loved ones will never know who to thank for this “gift of life”, we do, and we thank you most wholeheartedly!

Special thanks to our coordinator, Mary Adkins, who also prepared a delicious lunch for the Red Cross staff, including our own Eddie Ghidoli and Monica Payne, and our other volunteers as well.

Finally, thanks to all the bakers who provided the delicious homemade cookies and brownies for our donors. They were a big hit!

Our next blood drive will be Sunday, March 15, 2009 from 8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. Please mark your calendars!

**United Way
Get Help—Call 2-1-1**

United Way 2-1-1 is an information and referral resource linking callers to more than 5,000 health and human services, as well as volunteer and donor opportunities across southeast Michigan.

United Way 2-1-1 is available 24 hours per day, seven days a week throughout Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

United Way 2-1-1 features:

- Child, youth and family services
- Access to food, shelter and clothing
- Physical and mental health care services
- Employment and job training assistance
- Help for seniors, the disabled, non-English speaking and others

United Way 2-1-1 is a service of United Way for Southeastern Michigan, in partnership with Common Ground Sanctuary, Macomb Crisis Center, Neighborhood Service Organization, The Information Center and the Detroit Public Library.



Soup Kitchen News

Thanks to everyone who participated and donated food in October. Once again, the soup kitchen volunteers outdid themselves. We served a delicious spaghetti lunch.

Our next meal will be served on Tuesday, December 16, 2008. We will serve a spaghetti lunch with salad and fresh fruit. **Donated items should be delivered to the parish kitchen no earlier than Sunday, December 14th. Please mark your bags SOUP KITCHEN.** Please call Pat Sagert (586.781.7035) or Barbara Jarzembski (586.336.1450) to see what is needed.

The Soup Kitchen team meets at 8:30 a.m. SHARP the day of the lunch at SS. John & Paul and leaves via car-pool to the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen at 8:45 a.m. God bless you for your continued generosity.



Help at Home

If you or someone you know is in need of periodic assistance in order to remain living at home alone, please call SS. John & Paul’s chapter of Macomb County Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers. Volunteers help with errands, light occasional housekeeping, home repairs, transportation and respite care. Please call the church office at 781-9010 to request assistance from MCIVC. Your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Pastor's Perspective

*DEATH AT A STORE

The death of a worker at a store in New York on the Friday after Thanksgiving gives new meaning to the term "Black Friday." Uncontrolled behaviors often result when people turn into crowds and then into mobs. "Nice" people end up doing things that should make them cringe. Even after the death of the worker, when police were trying to clear the store and were telling people that someone had died in the opening rush, a number of people bitterly complained that they were being inconvenienced, after spending so many hours outside waiting for the store to open. You were part of, even if unwittingly, the death of another human being, and you complain about being "inconvenienced"! Wow.

If Thanksgiving stands as a symbol for much of what is right about America—crossing barriers of race, religion and ethnicity, spending time with family and friends, openness to guests—Black Friday stands as a symbol for what is truly wrong with us as a society. Our desire for consumer goods at a bargain, even if it means trampling an anonymous person to death, captures the worst of who we are. Because of that desire for manifold and cheap goods, we fail to take care of the basic health needs of each American, or to create better paying jobs and support the ones that are already there—it costs us too much. The cheaper television, PlayStation, electronic game, to say nothing of cheaper clothes and everyday items are more important to us, it seems, than respecting lives, protecting lives, and promoting the dignity of life.

Perhaps the collateral killing of many innocent civilians in other countries or the death of 4000 plus of our own young men and women in a tragically flawed war is not sufficient to wake us up, though it should be. Perhaps the life of an unborn child and the loss of millions of such lives is not sufficiently powerful enough to get us to stand up and take notice that we have strayed far from being a people to

admire, though it should. Maybe the tragic death of a worker by the anonymous trampling of the American consumer can jolt some sense into us. Where it fits, let's recognize ourselves in that image of the madly-rushing American consumer and resolve to resist it.

We stand on a precipice as a nation and a world in this 21st century. We must do better than we are doing. That is why I have great hope for the current teens through twenty-somethings. Many of them see clearly that the pursuit of wealth and goods comes up empty. Many of them recognize that the richest life is one that engages them in making a difference in this world, not just getting ahead in it. My prayer is that they can teach all of us to step back from the edge of destruction we seem to be on as a society.

This Advent let us all pause and take a step back. Create time and a space in our day and in our heart to quiet down, reflect, affirm what is truly important and relax about that which is not important. Let's simplify our Christmas celebrations by reducing the number of gifts and instead spend time with people and show each other care and respect.

*FEASTS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

We celebrate two feasts of Mary this week. The first, this Monday, December 8th, is the feast of the Immaculate Conception, which celebrates the triumph of God's grace over sin. Even though Original Sin marks us all, God can "write straight with crooked lines." Mary's genetic heritage, her tribal and ethnic situation, her surroundings and limitations throughout her life from the moment of conception on, do not confirm a tendency to sin, but rather perfectly prepare her to be, when the time came, the mother of Jesus. Grace is stronger than any distortions caused by sin.

As symbol for the Church, that means God's grace can overcome the distortions sin causes within our Church

and allow it to be the vehicle of God's merciful love and grace. As image of what we are capable of sharing in, the Immaculate Conception gives us assurance that our baptism in Christ can provide a way of life that is stronger than our sinfulness or the sin and evil caused by others.

The second feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Friday, December 12, is especially meaningful to those of Mexican descent, but resonates with anyone who has experienced powerlessness. Appearing in the image of a native woman, a queen who honors the culture of her people but who is pregnant with the one who will fulfill all expectations, Mary as Our Lady of Guadalupe gives hope in the midst of the temptation to discouragement or even despair. God knows our situation and is faithful. God will not abandon us. He will share our condition and see us through to the end.

*END OF LIFE ISSUES (CONTINUED)

Remember that the judgment of what is ordinary versus what is extraordinary treatment is traditionally one made by the patient (or proxy, if necessary) in a specific situation. Treatments are not labeled "ordinary" or "extraordinary." Rather, in a given situation, this specific treatment is judged morally ordinary or morally extraordinary. In that sense, something as ordinary as water can become extraordinary, if the body is shutting down and no longer assimilating it. Something as high-tech as heart by-pass surgery can become ordinary in situations where age and circumstances make it a prudent thing to do.

The moral decision of ordinary or extraordinary involves weighing the reasonably hoped for benefit against the reasonably foreseen burdens, which include pain and suffering, cost (financial, emotional and spiritual), and wider burdens on family and community. If there is no reasonable benefit or, if the burdens will outweigh such a benefit in the reasonable judgment of the patient, then the treatment is considered extraordinary and therefore optional. If there is a reasonable benefit and the

burdens are not so serious as to make the treatment unreasonable, then it is considered ordinary treatment and therefore mandatory. So, in short, ordinary in the moral sense means proportion between benefit and burden and equals obligatory. Extraordinary in the moral sense means disproportion between benefit and burden and equals non-obligatory but allowed.

What about so-called permanent vegetative state situations? Because the permanently unconscious person has no underlying fatal illness, to discontinue feeding and nutrition or not to start it would lead to a person's death by dehydration in a few days. But, if truly in what is called a permanent vegetative state (and that has to be looked at carefully), there is no hope of recovery and all the physical life of the person is operating on reflexive, lower brain activity. They are not dead but they are not rationally interacting with the world either. In the past the debate among moral theologians was not about medically assisted help in such cases but about whether **any** nutrition and hydration was obligatory, although most would have judged it morally obligatory to give the usual food and water to the extent that the person was able to receive it. In turn, most theologians would accept a person's (or proxy's) judgment not to start any assisted feeding or hydration in these situations. They pointed out that dehydration is not an unusual way for the body to shut down in many cases and that our faith allows us not to hold onto physical life at extreme costs. In other words, most theologians accepted a person's or proxy's decision that medically assisted nutrition and hydration was extraordinary means and therefore optional but not obligatory.

In recent years, the Vatican and various bishops have been taken a different approach, due in great part to highly publicized cases such as the one of Terry Schiavo and the fear that we are becoming too complacent toward the spread of euthanasia. Pope John Paul II addressed the subject in March of 2004 and then the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith answered two questions from the U.S. Catholic

Bishops' Conference in 2007. Specifically with respect to permanent vegetative state cases, Pope John Paul II said:

"I should like particularly to underline how the administration of water and food, even when provided by artificial means, always represents a *natural means* of preserving life, not a *medical act*. Its use, furthermore, should be considered, in principle, *ordinary* and *proportionate*, and as such morally obligatory, insofar as and until it is seen to have attained its proper finality, which in the present case consists in providing nourishment to the patient and alleviation of his suffering."

Please note that he is talking about proxy situations where a person has not expressed their own considered judgment ahead of time. In effect, what is being said is that since the assisted nutrition and hydration is keeping a person alive (no matter the condition of the person's brain cortex or hope of rational, personal interaction), there is always a reasonable benefit in such cases. The only burden allowed to outweigh such a benefit is if the treatment itself is causing undue suffering or the person is finally nearing their natural death anyway. Other parts of the recent teaching on this issue rule out the financial costs to family or society or other family burdens as sufficient to outweigh the benefit. The one exception made is for those in areas where such advanced medical intervention is not available.

Clearly there is a concern to not lose respect for the dignity of the human being, even under the condition of what is called a permanent vegetative state. She or he is a human being who deserves full human respect. And, since there is no underlying cause of death present, the person will die of dehydration and so the implication is that someone who refuses to provide such treatment for such a permanently unconscious patient is doing or at least bordering on "euthanasia by omission." Next time I will offer some thoughts on this change in what had been a long Catholic

tradition not to categorize morally ordinary or extraordinary ahead of time. For now, just note that Pope John Paul II was talking about a very specific set of cases, not making a general rule. He was looking at permanent vegetative state cases where people had not indicated beforehand what they clearly and reasonably wanted done. More next time.

We hear the familiar "Prepare the way of the Lord" in this week's readings. Let us continue to create a space for Advent within our lives this season, which will enable us to better prepare not just for Christmas Day, but for any way in which the Lord wants to break into our lives.

Fr. Buersmeyer

From the Music Desk...

Calling All International Singers



You may recall from last year's Christmas Eve Midnight Mass that we invited people from within the parish to sing the first verse of the carol Silent Night in various foreign languages. Several gifted singers graciously participated, and the response from those present was extremely positive.

This year we will again present a Christmas carol in a variety of languages, with some changes. We will be using the hymn "Angels We Have Heard On High" which is #504 in the hymnal. Singers are invited to sing verse 1 in a foreign language and then everyone will join in on the refrain. This will allow for more participation while reinforcing the universal nature of our Catholicism.

I already have volunteers for verses in Portuguese and Latin. Please consider adding your own language to our celebration of Christ's birth. You may contact me at the church 586.781.9010 or on my cell 586.419.8586. I hope that we will have the widest variety of regions and cultures represented.

Stewardship

Time
alent
reasure

November 22-23, 2008

Weekly budget.....\$11,700.00
 Offertory\$9,634.00
 No. Sunday envelopes used302
Total offertory\$9,634.00

Other Monies / (# Envelopes)

Capital Imprv. / (4)\$80.00
 Children's Env. / (1)\$3.00
 CCHD / (1).....\$25.00
 Holy Day / (1)\$5.00

November 29-30, 2008

Weekly budget.....\$11,700.00
 Offertory\$9,717.28
 No. Sunday envelopes used271
 ESO (30th of month).....\$2,452.00
 No. ESO33
Total offertory\$12,169.28

Other Monies / (# Envelopes)

Capital Imprv. / (4)\$65.00
 Children's Env. / (5)\$38.30
 CCHD / (2).....\$50.00
 Year End / (5)\$280.00

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YTD as of 11/30/08

YTD Budget.....\$250,100
 YTD Offertory\$239,887
 Shortage-\$10,213

Did you know that last year we spent \$32,300 on land improvements to the property? Last year we landscaped the entrance to the Activities Center, bought mulch for the islands, re-stripped and patched 14,000 sq. ft. of the parking lot. Thank you.

Wedding Banns

Raechel Ann Grabski and Shane Lloyd Fockler — December 20, 2008

Meijer Rewards Update

We received a check from the Meijer Community Rewards Program for \$295.42 for purchases made in September and October. Sixty-nine parishioners are enrolled in this fundraising program with all proceeds earmarked for future landscaping needs, including new banners. Since April 2004 we've earned over \$9,000! Thank you for using this fundraising opportunity to benefit the parish.

Just a reminder that effective May 1, 2007, Meijer changed the way Community Rewards are earned. Rewards will only be earned by purchases made with a Meijer credit card, cash or a PIN-based debit card. Rewards will not be earned for purchases paid by personal check or non-Meijer credit cards as was allowed when the program began.

Anyone that is currently enrolled in this program will have to re-enroll if they are interested in earning Meijer Community Rewards under the new guidelines. Our organization number is 617883.

Please know that we are not expecting or encouraging anyone to apply for a credit card in order for the parish to receive rewards. We are grateful for your support of this program.



Readings for the Week of December 7, 2008

Sunday, December 7:

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

Monday, December 8:

Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday, December 9:

Is 40:1-11; Ps 96; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday, December 10:

Is 40:25-31; Ps 103; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday, December 11:

Is 41:13-20; Ps 145; Mt 11:11-15

Friday, December 12:

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Ps 1; Lk 1:26-38 or 1:39-47

Saturday, December 13:

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday, December 14:

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Pray for our sick

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Mary Angelosante | Agnes Mehlick |
| Alana Aynse | Adele Miller |
| Jennie Barla | Linda Murphy |
| Rita Bayer | Samantha Nelson |
| Mary Burcar | Leo Osantoske, Sr. |
| Bill Cauley | Carl Pallas |
| Ralph Cleary | Ken Petty |
| John Patrick Cuttle | Alex Polzin |
| Timothy J. Cuttle | Doris C. Procopio |
| Gloria Dean | Dorothy Puffpaff |
| Chris Del Pappa | Anthony Randazzo |
| Lauren DeNio | Pat Rea |
| Morris Duhaime | Marie Richard |
| Antoinette Errante | Theresa Romero |
| Jack Gehrholz | Albert Sabbe |
| Geri Hammer | Sylvia Schult |
| Lora Hardin | Bill Shevela |
| Ruth Hunsucker | Jeff Simpson |
| Yolanda Kaufman | Camille Smith |
| Molly Keffalo | Michelle Smith |
| John Kerr | Tommasina Smith |
| Leonard Koskodan | Mary Sorrow |
| Daryl Kraemer | Steven St. John |
| Hayden Kroll | Ken Stempien |
| John LaCroix | Barbara Supina |
| Mrs. Fred LaRose | Charlie Trombly |
| Vito Loconte | Elva VanDamme |
| Fr. Jerry Machlik | Richard Waluk |
| Jacob Main | Betty Waligore |
| Bernice Mayer | Patricia Wyatt |
| Antoinette McBain | Edward Ziolkowski |

Pray for our military



| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Noel & Greg Ales | Jonathon Krusinski |
| Nick Bassett | Chris Krusinski |
| Augie Biache III | Teija Kinnunen |
| Mike Boback | Paul McGowan |
| Steven Chauvin | Matthew McLocklin |
| Andrew Eppens | David Newberry |
| Eric Eppens | Ryan Ribant |
| Tony Gentilia | Thomas Schmidt |
| Michael Kaminski | Vincent Titeriga |
| David Krzycki | Daniel Trendell |

Sponsor of the Week

This week's sponsor is **J & J Roofing**. Please see their full ad on the back of the bulletin. And remember to patronize all of our sponsors because they make this bulletin possible!



Eucharistic Prayer Requests

Saturday and Sunday December 6-7, 2008

Clemente Truden by A. Truden
 Frances Meschini by L. Maniaci Family
 Rosalia Cilluffo by A. Truden
 Maria Shkreli by P. Dutchik & K. Waligore
 Louis Ranelli by Wife
 Pauline Otto by P. Otto Family

Monday, December 8, 2008

Kathleen Thomson by Chmielewski Family
 Irene Deutsch by H. Deutsch

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

JoAnne Pantek by Pompa Family

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Ben Payne by D. Peters Family

Saturday and Sunday December 13-14, 2008

Linda Mongovan by Beil Family
 Frank Martino by Family
 Arthur Donovan by Wall Family
 Ben Payne by G. Peklo Family
 Rose Killewald by Family
 Ovilio & Elizabeth DeCarolis by Family

| Liturgical appointments for December 13-14, 2008 | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| Mass | 5:00 p.m. | 8:00 a.m. | 9:30 a.m. | 11:30 a.m. |
| Celebrant/ Homilist | Fr. Sayes | Fr. Sayes | Fr. Buersmeyer Deacon John | Fr. Buersmeyer |
| Lectors | S. Dickens F. Diebboll | G. Bawol J. Giffin | J. Golochowicz P. Gielow | S. Brunet L. Hester |
| Communion Ministers *Captain | M. Beaudin* B. Conlon L. Foltran L. Horn C. Klein | M. Capp* P. Dobbs T. Dobbs J. Fannon K. Fannon | Deacon John D. Zabkowski* L. Zabkowski C. Seidel R. Seidel S. Zellen L. Zellen | J. Schnepf* M. Catalano J. Gilbertson C. Gregory D. Jiannuzzi |
| Altar Servers | E. Bytner | T. Sova | O. Becker A. Kaniuk J. Gumbleton | J. Ozella |
| Greeters | L. Horn C. Klein | J. Fannon K. Fannon | R. Golochowicz Darcell Miller | D. Jiannuzzi R. Jiannuzzi |
| Ushers | Team #2 M. LaRaia M. Hendershot J. Krieg | Team #4 R. Giffin K. Grunewald B. Huellmantel H. Susalla | Team #6 B. Burcar B. Cammarata J. Pospiech B. Schulz J. Gerds | Team #8 L. LePage C. Klapec R. Kopera J. Kretchman K. McBride J. Pyke D. Waligore |
| Collection Counters | Team #2 — Trudy Amore, Marcia Capp, Jeanette Casteels, Katherine Doskocz, Bill Herman, Jerry Pospiech, John Sabina, Christine Winde | | | |

SS. John and Paul Parish Directory

7777 W. 28 Mile Road • Washington, MI 48094

Parish Office..... 586.781.9010
Christian Formation Office..... 586.781.9488
Fax..... 586.781.7061
Parish Website www.ssjohnandpaul.org

Weekend Masses | **Weekday Masses**
 Saturday at 5:00 p.m. | 7:00 p.m. Monday
 Sunday at 8:00 a.m., | 9:00 a.m. Tuesday
 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. | and Wednesday

Parish Registration
 New parishioners may register after each weekend Mass or Monday through Friday at the parish office

Sacrament of Reconciliation
 Saturday from 3:00-3:30 p.m. of after 5:00 p.m. Mass

Baptisms
 Please call the parish office for arrangements and parental preparation dates. Contact office at least 3 months prior to Baptism

Weddings
 Please notify office at least six months (one year if not registered) prior to wedding date to arrange for marriage preparation

Parish Staff
Pastor..... Fr. David A. Buersmeyer
 pastor@ssjohnandpaul.org
Weekend Assoc. & Founding Pastor Fr. Ron Sayes
Deacon John Wright
 jwright@ssjohnandpaul.org
Parish Secretary Mary Ann LaRaia
 mlaraia@ssjohnandpaul.org
Business Manager..... Paula Klozik
 pklozik@ssjohnandpaul.org
Pastoral Associate..... JoAnne Owens
 jowens@ssjohnandpaul.org
Coordinator of Faith Formation Linda Bauer
 lbauer@ssjohnandpaul.org
**Assoc. Coordinator of Faith Formation
 and Youth Minister** Karen Peters
 kpeters@ssjohnandpaul.org
Director of Liturgical Music..... Alfred John Eppens
 ajepens@netscape.net
Christian Service Coordinator Kathy Mollon
 kmollon@ssjohnandpaul.org
Pastoral Associate (in training) Bridget Theodoroff
 btheodoroff@ssjohnandpaul.org

Parish Pastoral Council

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Shannon Dickens 586.752.9495 | Pennie Grover 586.677.1609 | Barbara Jarzembksi 586.336.1450 | Bob Golochowicz 586.992.0696 |
| Mike Compeau 248.693.5845 | Bill Gumbleton 586.336.4862 | Howard Loyson 586.781.8305 | Margaret Schimmel 248.608.8791 |
| Rick Sabath 586.752.1874 | Chris McNeely 248.563.1303 | Jim Reaume 586.336.9816 | Bill Westrick 586.781.5370 |