

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Our parish picnic is Sunday, June 29. Come and enjoy food, fun, and the company of fellow parishioners.

BLOOD DRIVE

Donate blood at the blood drive being held June 22 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

ELIJAH CUP

Hosting the Elijah Cup this week is Ann Agosta at the 11:30 a.m. Mass. We need families for the coming months. The sign up binder is on the table near the oils in the back of Church.

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.



Mass for Graduates Class of 2008 June 8, 2008 9:30 a.m.

SS. John & Paul will proudly acknowledge all our graduating seniors—high school and college—at a Graduation Mass on Sunday, June 8, at 9:30 a.m. The mass will be followed immediately by a breakfast for the graduates and their families in the Activities Center. Invitations have been mailed out, so if you did not receive one and would like to attend, please call the parish office. We'll have much to celebrate and would like to include you in the festivities!

June Prayer Theme:

“Living Our Future: Our Tradition of Youth Ministry”

This month of June, as we continue to reflect on our 175 years as a local church, we rejoice in the gift and blessing of ministry for and with youth and young adults. We especially rejoice with the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO), as they celebrate their 75th anniversary. As we reach out to young people and affirm their gifts and recognize their needs, we are truly living the future!

Loving Father of the human family, you sent Your only Son to live among us, growing and maturing in the town of Nazareth. Although the story of those years is hidden from our eyes, let us recognize the beauty and wonder of growing in age and grace, wisdom and strength.

Shine upon the youth of our local church. Open their hearts to Your Word and help them to know how to put their faith into action through worship and service. May we do our part as witnesses who encourage and inspire them.

We ask all this, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Here's what's happening this week!

Monday, June 2:

- *7:00 p.m. Mass
- *11:30 a.m. Senior Cards

Tuesday, June 3:

- *Mass at 9:00 a.m.
- *6:30 p.m. Scripture Study

Wednesday, June 4:

- *Mass at 9:00 a.m.

Thursday, June 5:

- *7:00 p.m. Men's Club

Saturday, June 7:

- *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.

Spring Clean-Up 2008

A big green thumbs up to all the people who helped at the 2008 Spring Clean Up! Twenty people, including many of our teens, braved the rainy and cool weather to lay landscape fabric and spread mulch. This year's project was a huge undertaking for the parish since *thirty-three yards* of mulch was needed for spreading on the islands and around the trees. Thirty three yards of mulch equates to 6 pallets of mulch, with 76 bags on each pallet—that's a lot of mulch!!

Thank you to everyone who showed up to lend a hand, especially Chuck Kaniuk who spent one full day removing the old mulch from the islands in preparation for the clean up day. Many hands really do lighten the load and because of your help the grounds look fresh and new.



CSA 2008

Total as 5/25/08: \$159,615.00
 Diocesan obligation: \$ 86,485.00
 Return to parish: \$ 73,130.00

* * * *

Participating Families: 411

Gifts: 397

Participation
 Percentage: 35.9%

Average
 Gift: \$86,485.00
 \$402.05

Highlight of Worship Commission Meeting

May 14, 2008

- ◆ We are continuing to work on a color scheme for walls, tile and carpeting in the upcoming renovation.
- ◆ Attendees at the Vicariate Leadership meeting discussed the presentations of Bishop Flores and Dr. Cooney-Hathaway.
- ◆ The parish feast day of SS. John and Paul and the parish picnic will be celebrated on June 29.
- ◆ A new Sacristan and several new altar servers have been added to the ministries.

**2008-2009
Religious
Formation
Program**

G.R.A.C.E.

Parish Formation Program
For All ages

September—May
6:00-8:30 p.m.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

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

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

**Register Now!!
For the 2008-09 G.R.A.C.E.
Program**

If you did not receive a registra-
tion form in the mail or you are new to the
parish, you will find 4 various forms in the
rack outside the Parish Office:

- (1) For G.R.A.C.E. families with
children grades 1-8;
- (2) Adults without children;
- (3) High School Teens grades 9-12;
- (4) Sunday morning Early Childhood
ages 3 1/2-5 years,

Also registration for the Summer
Son Shine vacation bible school is being
accepted now. **Please return the form(s)
by June 15th.**

**Summer Son Shine
*Rainforest
Adventure***



**Monday thru Friday
July 14—18, 2008
9:00 a.m. to 12 Noon**



The Rainforest needs many helping hands for:

Group Leaders - Assistant Leaders

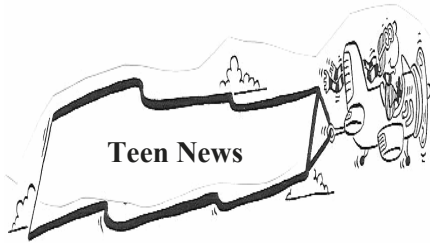
Crafts - Storytelling - Games

Snacks - Science Experiments

If you can help out in ANY WAY, please sign up on the board in
the hallway. You will receive a call by the 1st of June.

Please call Ms. Bauer @ 781-9488
or email: lbauer@ssjohnandpaul.org





◆ **Cedar Point Trip for all Teens and Altar Servers**

The Cedar Point trip has been booked for June 26, 2008. The bus is filling up...get those permissions slips in ASAP. Permission slips are available in the parish office. Call Mrs. Peters at 586.781.9488.

◆ **Reminder to all Confirmation Candidates**

Have you called to set up your Confirmation interview yet? If not, please call ASAP for June 12 time slots. They are filling up fast!

The first Confirmation candidate session will be on Saturday, June 12, beginning immediately after the 5:00 p.m. Mass. All candidates need to attend this session. The session will run until approximately 8:15 p.m. Any questions, call Mrs. Peters 586.781.9488.

◆ **Attention all 8-12 Graders**

We will gather for a fun-filled youth group night on Sunday, June 1, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Agenda for the evening will include:

- (1) Planning for the Cedar Point event
- (2) Planning for the Road Rally in July
- (3) Planning a "special event" helped planned by Teens in August

Don't miss this wonderful evening of fun, food and friendship. **Please wear appropriate clothing for outside events. Please bring your softball bats, gloves, etc. We will also have hot dogs, chips and ice cream! As always, bring a friend.**

A Special Thank You

To the parishioners of SS. John and Paul,

Your generosity at my bake sale last weekend was simply overwhelming. While counting up the final amount of money that I raised, I was actually moved to tears. Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine that I would come up with enough money to cover my entire trip to Philadelphia.

Thanks to all of you, I will be able to travel to and from the conference, stay on location, and eat more than just granola bars and dollar menu items. I'll be able to voice my opinion as a young adult Catholic and participate with so many others as politically and morally conscious Americans.

I promise to return with a summary of events, an extreme amount of pictures, and a surplus of interesting stories.

Once again, thank you. You are all angels.

God bless,
Pam Hester

Women's Spring Tea — May 18, 2008



A grand time!





Soup Kitchen News

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

Our next meal will be served on Tuesday, June 17, 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, June 15th. Please mark your bags SOUP KITCHEN. Please call Pat Sagert (586.781.7035) or Barbara Jarzemski (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 carpool to the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen at 8:45 a.m. God bless you for your continued generosity.

Health Ministry Team Seeks Volunteers!

The Health Ministry Team of SS. John & Paul is looking for nurses, doctors, respiratory therapists, physical therapists, LPNs, occupational therapists, or anyone who is able to administer blood pressure screenings. Blood pressure screenings are held monthly. Time commitment would be about 1/2 hour each time. If you would like to donate your time in this way, please call the parish office.

The Health Ministry Team is always happy to accept new volunteers. Although medical training is needed for blood pressure screenings, you need not have a medical background to help out in other areas of Health Ministry!

Biking & Roller Sports Family Safety Day

Bring your bike or in-line skates and come for a spin with Henry Ford Macomb Hospital as they host a day of fun and education on Sunday, June 29 from noon to 3:00 at Stony Creek Metropark.

Biking and in-line skating accidents are a major cause of injuries for both adults and children. Join Emergency Center staff to learn how you and your family can enjoy these activities safely. The day will include:

- Refreshments
- Helmet fitting
- Stretching techniques
- Bike rodeo
- First aid tips
- Ask an ER doctor
- Ask a family medicine physician
- Ambulance tours
- Health information
- Giveaways
- Of course, riding and skating along the bike trail



The Safety Day is free, but it costs \$4.00 to enter Stony Creek. For more information, call 586.263.2410.

FOOD DRIVE NEXT WEEKEND JUNE 7 & 8



Please bring your unexpired, non-perishable food items to church next weekend. Personal hygiene items, paper products, cleaning supplies and sugar free food items are always needed.

Specific items requested for the month of June are:

Sugar, Flour, Hamburger Helper, Corn, Green Beans, Juice, Powdered Milk, Coffee, Tea, Pancake Mix, Maple Syrup, Cereal, Canned Chicken or Turkey, Soup, Rice, Mac and cheese, Kleenex, Feminine Pads, Tampons, Shampoo and Toilet Paper

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Pastor's Perspective

*Teaching Mass Follow-Up

Thank you for your participation at last weekend's "Teaching Masses." I know it can be uncomfortable doing things a bit differently. But every once in a while it is good to take what is done routinely and examine how we are doing it and why. You are always welcome to raise your hands in prayer, whenever the presider does, though many are uncomfortable doing so, but it is not called for as a routine gesture. However, the deeper bow at the creed and after the consecration of the bread and wine, and the slight bow before stepping forward to say "Amen" to receive communion are normal, expected gestures at every Mass. I encourage you to enter into these as a way to non-verbally but actively participate.

Think once again about the movement and flow of the Mass.

The Lord invites us to gather in his name as one people and we accept that invitation. We start as a diverse group who has had many life experiences since the last time we gathered, and the Lord wants to re-form us anew as one body. This gathering movement ends with the Opening Prayer.

Before we are truly able to pray as the body of Christ, **we need to be filled by God's own Word** and so we listen and reflect as the Liturgy of the Word is proclaimed. We then tentatively voice that Word within us by first professing the Creed and then interceding for others, as Jesus does.

Having received God's Word we are now truly able in this church, at this time and place, to be the body of Christ in prayer and so as **we give God thanks through the Eucharistic Prayer**. Christ now becomes present not just in and through us, not just in his Word, not just in and through the priest, but in and through the bread and wine we offer on the altar.

But this is not the end or high point. Rather, now that Christ has become present in all these ways and in particular in the sacrament of his body and blood, **we need to receive that communion** so that we can be the body of Christ not just in this church but throughout the week in all facets of our lives. We say "Yes" to that gift with our "Amen" at communion, remembering that it is not our individual gift alone but rather the collective gift of all who have participated.

We are then sent forth or dismissed from the church to be the body of Christ in daily life. We need to presume that situations will arise in the week ahead which will call for us to be the bread broken or blood poured out for others, that is, to be the gift of Christ's risen presence to others.

We then re-gather the next week and bring all that has taken place in our lives and allow that to be the "stuff" which the Lord takes and re-forms into his body yet again. The Eucharist is a wonderful gift. Let it become the rhythm or pattern for how we approach all of life.

*Catholic Social Teaching

Two weekends ago one of our college students, Pam Hester, held a fund-raiser in order to be able to attend the Catholic-sponsored "Convention on the Common Good." The purpose is to take Catholic Social Teaching, developed over the last 120 years in response to issues that have arisen in our modern world, and apply it to our current U.S. situation. Out of that dialogue they will come up with a "platform" to be given to each political party at their conventions this summer, with the goal of persuading the parties to deepen or broaden their own political platforms in a way that is just and moral on all levels. Her need for our help—and your generous response—is an opportune time to think through some of the issues that lead toward or away from the true common good.

As the election season heats up you will be seeing many such attempts to educate people on what are the key issues and what Catholic social teaching has to say about them. These issues include addressing poverty, justly dealing with immigration, moving toward peace in the Middle East while addressing concerns for security and dealing with terrorism, limiting abortion, proper separation of Church and state with the protection of conscience, embryonic and adult stem cell developments, the integrity of the family and a proper understanding of marriage, and much more.

Here in Michigan the Michigan Catholic Conference, funded by the seven Catholic dioceses (Detroit, Lansing, Saginaw, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Gaylord, Marquette), acts as a clearing house for information and a public lobby for social issues that have a moral dimension on which Catholic teaching has a view. You can access all their material at www.micatholicconference.org, and we always have a link to that site on the parish website under "Other Links." Over the course of the summer, before everything gets focused on voting for one person or another, I want to highlight some of this information from the Michigan Catholic Conference and Catholic social teaching in general, pertaining to the above issues. This week let's take the overall issue of poverty.

Before addressing some ways to address the deep cycles of poverty in our Michigan situation, it is good to think about the extent of that poverty. The table below comes from the Michigan League for Human Services' *The Changing Face of Poverty* (2007) and is re-printed in the Michigan Catholic Conference's FOCUS publication (volume 36, number 1). Since the last complete figures were for 2006, given the difficult months since, it means that today's figures would be even more daunting:

	2001	2006
Family poverty rate	7.9%	9.6%
Homes earning between \$10,000 – 19,000 and spending more than 30% of income on housing	74.6%	84%
Homes earning between \$20,000 - \$34,999 spending more than 30% of income on housing	34.5%	54.3%
Single-mother families living in poverty	33%	39%
Michigan children in poverty	14.2%	17.8%
Children under 18 in poverty by race	White	18%
	Hispanic	30%
	African-American	41%

There are other statistics that could be used as well to give a “face” to the challenge of poverty in Michigan. We have witnessed a cycle of foreclosures greater than nearly any other state, related to the loss of jobs and changing employment conditions. Michigan had 450,000 fewer people covered by private health insurance plans in 2005-2006 than in 2001-2002, a staggering change. Clearly there are interlocking realities that cause the growth of poverty in the state: racially-charged realities, changing economic conditions, housing crises, health care coverage, stresses on two parent families and growth of single parent families, and much more.

There is no simple solution to such an enormously complicate situation, but there are some successes. In its 2006 paper *Poverty in America*, Catholic Charities USA points out the success of the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), which was implemented in 1975 and gives a credit to low income families, even if they are not paying much in taxes. It is an example of why a “flat tax” is not a morally sound solution for fixing the tax system, even though many people call for just such a thing. The EITC has proven itself to be the most effective tax policy in lifting millions of children in families from the poverty level. Beginning this year, Michigan now has a state EITC, joining over 20 other states in such a move, which lower income families need to be aware of when they file tax returns next year.

One of the striking figures in the table above is the racial-ethnic differences in children in poverty. Again, there are interlocking reasons for such a reality, but Catholic Charities USA in its *Poverty and Racism: Overlapping Threats to the Common Good* strongly supports five target areas: 1) improved fair housing laws; 2) increased federal help for affordable housing; 3) stronger laws to punish predatory lenders; 4) criminal justice reform that addresses the already huge yet growing numbers of people incarcerated; 5) comprehensive immigration reform that addresses security concerns and yet opens up significant opportunities to get undocumented workers and families on the path to lawful citizenship.

Catholic social teaching makes clear that, although giving money and other charitable goods is an essential part of being a fully alive and loving human being, it is not enough, when addressing these larger social ills. We need system-wide and structurally deep changes that do not put the poorest among us at a disadvantage for education, health care, and participation in the wider culture. How parties and candidates address such issues is one of many key elements in forming our consciences as responsible Catholic citizens. More in the weeks ahead.

***Priest Jubilarians**

Last Tuesday the priests of the Archdiocese of Detroit celebrated our annual jubilarian day. Because many of you have moved into the area from other parishes in the Detroit area, below is a list of the priests with their jubilarian years. Congratulations to all of them. May God continue to bless them.

25 Years

- John Esper
- Zbigniew Grankowski
- Charles Morris
- Stanley Pachla
- Randall Phillips
- Joseph Plawecki
- Robert Wojciechowski

40 Years

- Timothy Babcock
- Arthur Baranowski
- Richard Cassidy
- Jack Fabian

50 Years

- Bishop Moses Anderson
- Thomas Byrne
- John Gagala
- Leo Sabourin
- Donald Walker

60 Years

- Paul Berg
- Fabian Slominski

65 Years

- Jerome Herman
- William McGoldrick
- Thomas Villerot

70 Years

- James Hayes

May we remain persevering and courageous in the face of all the daunting challenges of life.

Fr. Buersmeyer

FLOWER: Families Live Out the Word in Everyday Routines

“Be like the wise one who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house. But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock.”

The mission of all parents, grandparents, guardians, and caring adults is to pass on a solid foundation on which our children and young people can build their lives. We plant seeds and often we are unsure of how or even if they take root. But we persevere, especially through the turbulent teen years.

We know of the rains, floods, and winds that can buffet the lives of our children and youth. We know that we cannot always hold their hand or be with them—there will be times when they have to make decisions on their own. We prepare them with a foundation of faith, integrity, and love.

As we encourage, support, and challenge them, we provide the rock that will sustain them in joy and struggle.

Wedding

Congratulations to Jacqueline Daris and Mark Gai married May 31, 2008.

Stewardship

Time
alent
reasure

May 24-25, 2008

Weekly budget.....\$11,600.00
 Offertory \$8,271.00
 No. Sunday envelopes used236
 ESO (30th of month).....\$2,292.00
 No. ESO.....36
Total offertory\$10,563.00

Other Monies / (# Envelopes)

Capital Imprv. / (8)\$680.00
 Children’s Env. / (3)\$3.25

YTD Budget.....\$587,433.00
 YTD Offertory\$573,115.00
 YTD Shortage-\$14,318.00

Because of your generous response to CSA 2007, in April we received a refund of \$19,841 which was deposited into our Archdiocesan savings account. Thank you for your pledges and payments to CSA.



Readings for the Week of June 1, 2008

Sunday, June 1:

Dt 11:18, 26-28, 32; Ps 31; Rom 3:21-25, 28; Mt 7:21-27

Monday, June 2:

2 Pt 1:2-7; Ps 91; Mk 12:1-12

Tuesday, June 3:

2 Pt 3:12-15a, 17-18; Ps 90; Mk 12:13-17

Wednesday, June 4:

2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12; Ps 123; Mk 12:18-27

Thursday, June 5:

2 Tm 2:8-15; Ps 25; Mk 12:28-34

Friday, June 6:

2 Tm 3:10-17; Ps 119; Mk 12:35-37

Saturday, June 7:

2 Tm 4:1-8; Ps 71; Mk 12:38-44

Sunday, June 8:

Hos 6:3-6; Ps 50; Rom 4:18-25; Mt 9:9-13

Pray for our sick

Mary Angelosante	Bernice Mayer
Jennie Barla	Antoinette McBain
Rita Bayer	Agnes Mehlick
Jean Brudzinski	Karen Mehlick
Mary Burcar	Trudy Mehlick
Bill Cauley	Adele Miller
Ralph Cleary	Samantha Nelson
John Patrick Cuttle	Brent Newsom
Timothy J. Cuttle	Denise Olejniczak
Chris Del Pappa	Leo Osantoske, Sr.
Lauren DeNio	John Pakledinaz
Art Donovan	Carl Pallas
Morris Duhaime	Ben Payne
Antoinette Errante	Ken Petty
Jack Gehrholz	Alex Polzin
Geri Hammer	Doris C. Procopio
Lora Hardin	Dorothy Puffpaff
Ruth Hunsucker	Anthony Randazzo
Dorothy Janowski	Pat Rea
Janet Johnson	Marie Richard
Yolanda Kaufman	Theresa Romero
Molly Keffalo	Mary Ruppert
Patrick Kelly	Albert Sabbe
John Kerr	Sylvia Schult
Leonard Koskodan	Jeff Simpson
Daryl Kraemer	Camille Smith
Clement Kraemer	Michelle Smith
Hayden Kroll	Tommasina Smith
John LaCroix	Mary Sorrow
Fred LaRose	Steven St. John
Mrs. Fred LaRose	Barbara Supina
Vito Loconte	Charlie Trombly
Fr. Jerry Machlik	Richard Waluk
Jacob Main	Betty Waligore

Pray for our military



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

Sponsor of the Week

This week’s sponsor is **Brio Tuscan Grille**. 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

May 31-June 1, 2008

Frances Meschini by J. Giorgi Family
Jane Payne by M. Payne
Winnie Blay by L. Arnold Family
Pat & Tom Dobbs (40th Anniv.) by Fam.

Monday, June 2, 2008

John Sokolowski by L. Bauer

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Tim Cuttle by D. Procopio-Cuttle

Wednesday, June 4, 2008

Anna & John Szopjak by Family

Saturday and Sunday

June 7-8, 2008

Clemente Truden by A. Truden
David Hernacki by B. Bohls
Arthur Payne by M. Payne
Norman VanDenBrouck by Family
Nick & Karen Rokich by R. Nauts Fam.
Merle & Tina Newberry (50th Anniv.)

Liturgical appointments for June 7-8, 2008				
Mass	5:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	11:30 a.m.
Celebrant/ Homilist	Fr. Buersmeyer	Fr. Sayes	Fr. Buersmeyer	Fr. Buersmeyer
Lectors	G. Pagliarella P. Brunet	G. Bawol J. Sova	J. Golochowicz S. Pospiech	V. Klapiec J. Marino
Communion Ministers *Captain	F. Perna* M. Klakulak T. Klakulak I. Stavenow B. Conlon	B. Huellmantel* J. Fannon K. Fannon A. Ferrario E. Sova	L. Zellen* S. Zellen J. Sabina J. Sabina C. Seidel R. Seidel P. Kuligowski	P. Dutchik* M. Bonaudo B. Hellebuyck M. Catalano S. Catalano
Altar Servers	D. Pointe E. Bytner	—Open—	M. Compeau J. Gumbleton	C. Bousho C. Sabath
Greeters	A. Polizin E. Polzin	J. Fannon K. Fannon	A. Lanni A. Lanni	C. Avolio S. Avolio
Ushers	Team #2 M. LaRaia M. Hendershot J. Krieg M. Macha	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. Klapiec R. Kopera J. Kretchman K. McBride J. Pyke D. Waligore
Collection Counters	Team #5 — Pat Fields, Jim Banaszek, Lillian Horn, Jim & Marcia Finn, Roberta Mathie, Pat Orczykowski			