

### PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Fr. Buersmeyer's article, *Pastor's Perspective*, appears on Page 6.

### PERENNIAL EXCHANGE NEXT SATURDAY

September 26 from 9:30 a.m.—Noon. Make plans with a friend to be here on the 26th of September.

### MCREST PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Join us next Sunday, September 27 for the all-you-can eat pancake breakfast which will include pancakes, sausage, fruit, juice and coffee. The breakfast runs from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### HARVEST SOCIAL OCTOBER 2

Save the date! Join in the fun as we celebrate the fall season with a chili cook-off, bonfire, and dancing for all ages. Tickets now on sale.

### FLU SHOT CLINIC COMING

Get your flu shot here on October 18, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### 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](http://www.ssjohnandpaul.org). Please visit our website weekly to keep abreast of what's new and noteworthy.

## This is Registration Weekend at SS. John & Paul Parish



If you've been attending Mass here but are not yet a registered member and would like to be, this is your chance to officially become one. Take a few minutes after mass and join us in the Activities Center where you can register, receive a welcome packet plus important information on our parish, including the G.R.A.C.E. program.

## G.R.A.C.E.

### Growing Responding As Catholics Everyday

—THIS WEEK—

SEPTEMBER 20, 22, 23, 25 — 6:00-8:30 p.m.

*Catechetical Area:* **Growing as Sacramental People**

*Theme:* **Confirmation: A Sacrament of Initiation**

*Event:* **Fall Confirmation**

- What is the Church's understanding of Confirmation?
- Explore Confirmation as a sacrament of initiation.
- Discover how Confirmation leads us to use the gifts the Spirit has given us and to see the fruits as a result of the gifts.

*Menu:* **Burgers, Salad, Drink**



**Here's what's  
happening  
this week!**

**Monday, September 21:**

- \*NO Mass at 7:00 p.m.
- \*11:30 a.m. Senior Cards
- \*7:45 p.m. Adult Bells

**Tuesday, September 22:**

- \*NO 9:00 a.m. Mass
- \*6:00-8:30 p.m. G.R.A.C.E.  
religious formation for all ages

**Wednesday, September 23:**

- \*NO 9:00 a.m. Mass
- \*6:00-8:30 p.m. G.R.A.C.E.  
religious formation for all ages

**Thursday, September 24:**

- \*7:00 p.m. Adult Choir

**Friday, September 25:**

- \*6:00-8:30 p.m. G.R.A.C.E.  
religious formation for all ages

**Saturday, September 26:**

- \*8:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Group
- \*9:30 a.m.—Noon Perennial Exchange
- \*3:00 p.m. Confessions
- \*5:00 p.m. Mass

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**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.

**G.R.A.C.E.**  
**Growing Responding As Catholics Everyday**

**CONFIRMATION**

Our G.R.A.C.E. theme for this month is Confirmation. We will look at symbols, rituals, and hear about the gifts and fruits of the Spirit. The fruits of the Holy Spirit are the effects of the Spirit's gifts to us. Just as a tree produces fruit when properly nourished and cared for, people who utilize the Spirit's gifts show concrete evidence of their faithfulness. See how many of the gifts and fruits you can unscramble to form the correct word on the space given below it. The hint box below lists all of them for you.

GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT	FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT
mswodi _____	eovl _____
dutdnegarsin _____	yoj _____
tghri tjnumegd _____	eeapc _____
reuocag _____	cntpeeia _____
gwleodkn _____	ssneikd _____
eeeerrcnv _____	ygntsreeoi _____
rwndeo dna eaw _____	ffsstaieuln _____
	nsseeeltgn _____
	fsel-ooltnrc _____

**HINT BOX**

love	wisdom	wonder and awe
joy	generosity	patience
courage	knowledge	kindness
right judgment	self-control	faithfulness
peace	gentleness	understanding
	reverence	

**G.R.A.C.E.****2009-2010****Religious Formation Program**Parish Formation 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.

### Early Childhood Program begins Sunday, Oct. 4 during the 9:30 a.m. Mass

If you have a child ages 3 1/2 yrs. (*3rd birthday must have been by April 1 of this year*) or a child in Kindergarten you may register him/her for the Early Childhood Program. The fee is \$25 per family. Call the Religious Formation office to register (586-781-9488) or stop in the office.

### CLW Leaders Needed (Children's Liturgy of the Word) for the 9:30 / 11:30 a.m. Masses

CLW leaders are people who lead the children out of Mass at the beginning to hear the Sunday readings at their own level. Leaders read the Sunday readings to the children, lead them in a 10 minute discussion about the readings. Following the format of the liturgy they will end by leading them through the prayers of the faithful and afterwards return them to church for the remainder of Mass. Leaders receive a book with the Sunday readings, questions to ask and the prayers of the faithful for the Sunday.

- **CLW leaders are scheduled ONE Sunday a month.**

Call Linda Bauer 586-781-9488.

**Leadership Report**

On September 9, Parish Council, Commissions, and Committees gathered for prayer followed by a short presentation on the importance of adult formation which led to a brainstorming session on ideas for Wisdom Byte topics. Then all committees and commissions met in their groups to discuss monthly agendas. This is what each section reported on what excites them about their present work agenda and what feedback they need on any issue:

- **Worship**—Excited about the modifications made to the sanctuary area. Would like help with implementing another area for announcements to be read or guest speakers to present so as to keep ambo for Liturgy of the Word only.
- **Christian Service**—Excited about MCREST sign ups and the Pancake Breakfast. Would like help with re-wiring of outlets in activities center.
- **Hospitality/Evangelization**—Excited about the Parish-wide fall social planned for Friday, October 2nd. Would like help promoting the social.
- **Stewardship**—Excited about completion and progress of Stewardship Commission Goals since 2/2009.
- **Formation**—Excited about the beginning of a new GRACE year. Would like more people to help with dinner time at GRACE.
- **Vocations**—Excited about the response of the retirement years program. Would like help with continuing the Elijah Cup custom.

**A Standing Invitation**

As the summer season starts to wane and we begin the fall season and all that it brings, we begin to get back into routines that we may have gotten away from. Children get back to school, sports programs start up anew and lives get busier. That same thing often takes place in our faith lives. Over the summer we have God there and present in the back of our minds but as the calendar gets to the months with "r", we tend to begin focusing a bit more on how God is a part of our lives and we spend a bit more time listening to God's call and direction in our day to day lives.

As we celebrate the recent ministry recognition and sign up weekends, we are reminded that spending time in prayer is a very important part of strengthening ourselves for ministry. The men's prayer group has been an excellent way to accomplish this. We talk about how the weekly Sunday scriptures can help us to do ministry and live out God's call in our parish life, but also in our day to day work and home lives. There are no requirements to participate except to have an open heart and, if so moved, to share. Please consider joining us. We meet on the second and fourth Saturday of each month at 8:00 A.M. in the activities building. We keep the time limited to an hour so we can get to whatever weekend activities may be waiting for us. We are also planning on having our second annual day of reflection at the Capuchin retreat center next Spring.

The next few sessions will take place on Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>, October 10<sup>th</sup>, and October 24<sup>th</sup>. The sessions are always listed in the parish bulletin and the entire schedule is posted on the bulletin boards in the back of church. We look forward to seeing all of the regulars and hopefully some new faces this year.

Another group in the parish has been developing a ministry which provides monthly prayer and activity sessions for people of all ages with special needs. We meet the first Saturday of each month. Please let anyone you may know that might be interested to join us. The sessions are open to people of all faiths with the understanding we approach prayer from a Christian tradition. Our first session this year will be Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00 P.M. Please let people that may be interested know of the event and if you're so inclined, please come and help us out. We are especially in need of volunteers for the first session in October. We never know from month to month the number of attendees so the more volunteers the merrier, just in case.

This is a wonderful parish community to be a part of. Thank-you so much for all that you do. Blessings and peace to you all!

Deacon John

## Highlights from the Worship Commission Meeting September 9, 2009

- **Evaluation of the Outdoor Mass** — Good turnout with approximately 325 people in attendance. Baptisms were also a part of the mass. Need to work on sound system.
- **Church Modification** — Newly tiled sanctuary complete - updated future plans for completion of the sanctuary area.
- **Lector and Communion Ministers** — Training session to be scheduled.
- **Music Ministry** — A new cantor is being trained. Al is trying to organize a Bell Choir Church Day, involving Bell Choirs from other local churches, all denominations would be invited.
- **Ministry Sign-up Weekend** — Need more ministers, especially at the 11:30 mass.
- Fr. Dave reviewed several liturgical guidelines that are being considered.



## Perennial Exchange

Gardeners, the Perennial Exchange is finally here! Plan on being at the pavilion on Saturday, Sept. 26, from 9:30 a.m. to noon to meet fellow gardeners and see what grows in their garden. Bring any perennials, herbs, shrubs or trees that you would like to swap in a **labeled** container (pot, bag, milk jug) and be prepared to come away with new additions for your flower beds. Start dividing and labeling your flowers this week and make plans with a friend or neighbor to be here on Sept. 26. See you then!!



## Whole Parish Social



### Harvest Social Friday, October 2 — 6:00-10:00 p.m. Outside by the Pavilion (Weather permitting)

Join in the fun as we celebrate the fall season with a chili cook-off, bonfire, and dancing for all ages!

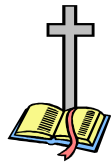
Check the bulletin board for details on how to enter your chili for a chance to win the grand prize of a SSJP apron and a chance to have your recipe published in the Sunday bulletin!

Tickets go on sale after mass September 19-20 and September 26-27 or purchase them in the parish office. Tickets are \$25 per family (price includes children under 12 years; \$5 extra for each youth age 13 and up); \$10 per adult. Ticket price includes dinner, beer, wine, pop, and dessert.

Bring in non-perishable food food pantries and receive tickets this social will get a chance to



items for donation to the local to judge the chili. All attending taste some of the chili.



## Fall Scripture Series — The Gospel of Luke “The Good News of God’s Mercy”

*This series will help us to focus on the mercy of God depicted in Luke’s Gospel. Luke helps us to see God not as a passive spectator, but as a being who is pursuing a plan, a being who loves, a being who takes the initiative.  
Are you prepared to meet this God?*

These session will be offered at two different times: **Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.** (If you need to switch times because of scheduling conflicts, please feel free to do so). **The first session will be on Tuesday, September 15** followed by these dates: September 29, October 6, October 13, October 27, November 3, November 10, November 24. The books for this series are \$8.00 and can be purchased at the parish office.

## YOU are invited to become a part of **MUSIC at SS. John & Paul**

*Please consider joining one of our fine singing or ringing groups!*

### ADULT CHOIR

Rehearsals on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.  
beginning Sept. 4

### JUNIOR CHOIR

Rehearsals on Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m.  
beginning Sept. 15 (No rehearsals during the weeks of G.R.A.CE.)

### TEEN BELLS

Rehearsals on Saturdays at 3:00 p.m.  
beginning Sept. 19

### JUNIOR BELLS

Rehearsals on Tuesdays at 5:45 p.m.  
beginning Sept. 15 (No rehearsals during the weeks of G.R.A.CE.)

**For more information call Al Eppens at 586.781.9010  
or e-mail at [ajeppens@netscape.net](mailto:ajeppens@netscape.net)**



**MCREST  
Pancake Breakfast**

SS. John & Paul will hold a Pancake Breakfast in the Social Hall on Sunday, September 27 from 8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. to benefit MCREST (Macomb County Rotating Emergency Shelter Team). This breakfast will be part of the MCREST Kick-Off Weekend on September 26 and 27. The all-you-can-eat breakfast will include pancakes, sausage, fruit, juice and coffee. Free will donations will be accepted.

We are in need of many helpers to ensure this breakfast will run smoothly! If you would like to help, please look for sign up sheets in the hallway to the Activities Center or call the parish office.

**Bakers Needed!**



SS. John & Paul will be providing and serving dinner for the MCREST guests of Grace Lutheran in Romeo on Tuesday, September 22, 2009. We are in need of

cakes and pies to complete our meal. If you would like to donate, please leave your name with the parish office and have your dessert here at SS. John & Paul by 1:00 p.m. on September 22. We thank you in advance for providing a sweet ending to our dinner!

**MCREST Kick-Off**

MCREST is a Macomb County non-profit agency consisting of a center for intake, assessment, referral and support for homeless men, women and children. MCREST offers a safe emergency shelter within area host churches and an opportunity to choose a path that could enable them to become self-sufficient. Our parish will be hosting 30 guests from **December 6-13, 2009**. Our guests will be working or looking for work so that they can save to rent a home.

Our guests arrive each evening at 6:00 p.m. and leave the next morning by 8:00 a.m. As hosts we will provide most of their daily needs such as meals, showers, laundry, a bed and transportation. It will take many volunteers to properly host our guests and meet these needs. MCREST is an opportunity for us to put the word of God into action by serving others in need. For the past two years, our parish answered the call and did an incredible job in hosting our guests. We need everyone to again step up and assist in this year's MCREST week by volunteering.

The MCREST Kickoff Weekend will be on **September 26-27, 2009**. Volunteer Sign-Up posters will be posted after all the masses. Please contact the team leaders on this page if you are interested in volunteering.

<b>Team/Committee</b>	<b>Team Leaders</b>	<b>Contact Numbers</b>
<b>Bakers</b>	Gloria Pagliarella	586-336-9446
<b>Breakfasts</b>	Cathy Radtke Sue Keller	248-656-8392 248-651-3411
<b>Concierge/Counselor</b>	Agnes Owens	586-336-3272
<b>Customs/Sunday Search</b>	Michael Bouthillet	586-336-9989 or cell 248-431-5257
<b>Dinners</b>	Bev Huellmantel Pat Fields	586-786-9625 586-781-4069
<b>Housekeeping</b>	Mimi Gendreau	248-652-3799
<b>Intake</b>	Mimi Gendreau	248-652-3799
<b>Laundry</b>	Mary Adkins	586-752-6804
<b>Lunches</b>	Connie Delcourt	586-752-6611
<b>Medications</b>	Peggy Benson	586-677-6629
<b>Hospitality</b>	<b>Need Leader</b>	
<b>Pat Down</b>	Michael Bouthillet	586-336-9989 or cell 248-431-5257
<b>Guest Assistance/ Nighttime G. A.</b>	Larry Delcourt Matt Mollon John Wright Rob Ozella Judy Sabina	586-752-6611 586-781-0766 248-670-7114 586-336-7227 586-786-1967
<b>Showers</b>	Pat & Clem Chargot	586-752-3955
<b>Sunday Break Down</b>	Suzanne & Jim Reilly Pat & Tom Dobbs	248-656-6074 586-781-3564
<b>Telephones</b>	Larry & Shirley Zellen	586-752-5166
<b>Transportation</b>	Bill Huellmantel Tom Klakulak	586-786-9625 586-781-9338
<b>Volunteer Registration</b>	Penny Grover	586-677-1609

**Save the date!**

**Flu Shot Clinic Coming  
Sunday, October 18  
9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.**

## Pastor's Perspective

### \*Monthly G.R.A.C.E. Focus: The Sacraments

As we enter our new season of whole community and intergenerational catechesis, we will once again focus the whole parish—adults and children—on the seven core catechetical areas that give a foundation for all the other formation that we do as Catholics. Adults please note: these seven gatherings during the year are for all of you, not just for families with school-age children. Adults with school-age children please note: these gatherings are not optional; they are part of the child's faith formation at the parish, including any sacramental preparation. All please note: these seven gatherings are just one aspect of the formation for the year. There are a number of age-specific and sacramental preparation sessions that will also take place. For a fuller calendar go online to [www.ssjohnandpaul.org](http://www.ssjohnandpaul.org) and click on "Faith Formation", then on "G.R.A.C.E."

The first of our monthly gatherings begins today (Sunday) and is repeated throughout the week. The catechetical area is "Growing As Sacramental People." The seven sacraments are core to Catholic identity and Catholic Christian living. Each year we take some aspect of them as one of the monthly topics. This time we will take the specific theme of Confirmation and explore its history, its meanings, its symbols and how it affects our ongoing Christian life. That learning will then help us as we prepare to celebrate as a parish our young adults' upcoming Confirmation on November 21 with Bishop Flores.

Join us. You have four options for the evening to attend—Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Friday. Even if you haven't attended before, you are welcome. We begin with a brief dinner that is served between 6:00 and 6:15 p.m. And even the dinner has a faith formation component, so include that as part of your evening! If you can't, then be here by 6:20 as we enter into the evening's topic. We conclude by 8:30 p.m.

### \*The Sacrament of Confirmation

In our Catholic Tradition the sacrament of Confirmation historically developed along two separate tracks. The most ancient practice, which is still kept by the Eastern rites of the Church, is to fully initiate a Christian in one celebration—whether infant, child, youth or adult—through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and first Eucharist. So important is this tradition that the western, Roman Catholic (Latin-rite) Church we are part of re-instituted that practice forty or so years ago with the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. In it, anyone who has "reached the age of reason" (in practice about seven years old or second grade), if they are to be baptized, they are also to be confirmed and then receive first Eucharist. This allows Eucharist to stand more clearly for what it is: the final sacrament of initiation and a sign of full involvement in the community of faith. Thus every Sunday Eucharist becomes an affirmation and living out of that reality of full communion.

As mentioned, the Eastern rites have kept this practice for everyone baptized. They prefer the term "Chrismation" rather than "Confirmation" because it is experienced not so much as a separate sacrament but as a moment within the one sacrament of initiation, when the sacred chrism—the perfumed oil blessed on Holy Thursday—is poured or smeared over the newly baptized as that outward sign of the new life of the Spirit that occurs in baptism. Then the newly baptized and chrismated (confirmed) infant, child or adult is brought into the eucharistic assembly and partakes in holy communion for the first time. The focus is on the continuous process of entry into the community, taking on fully a new life, no matter one's age or station in life. As a result, whether a bishop or priest is presiding, the same ritual occurs.

However, in the Roman Catholic Church we are part of, which follows what is called the Latin-rite (not because the prayers must be said in Latin, but to distinguish it from Eastern rites like the Byzantine and others), a different practice developed. Although the history is quite complicated and different areas of the west could have

slightly different practices, in general the special post-baptismal chrismation was assigned to the bishop as a way to visibly emphasize the unity of the local Church, gathered in the name of the Lord, with the bishop present as one of those key symbols of unity.

The chrismation is not just an affirmation of and an experience of receiving the Holy Spirit in any way whatsoever, but of receiving the Spirit for the good of the whole Church. The Spirit of God "blows where it wills," and so can "anoint" people with its gifts in many ways, not just in Confirmation. But in Confirmation/Chrismation that gift of the Spirit is specifically for the building up of the Church in its ongoing living out the mission and ministry of Jesus. All baptized and confirmed Christians are given gifts of the Holy Spirit that allow the diversity of their lives to contribute to the unity of the Church as the body of Christ and to its carrying out in this particular time and place the mission Jesus has given the Church. In that sense, each newly baptized person has unique and essential roles to play in the Church. Growing and journeying in faith, letting the Spirit of God take our "natural" selves (our genetic, social, ethnic, culturally shaped selves) and mold that into bearing fruit for the good of the Church is to live a baptized and confirmed Christian life.

In the western Church the bishop was considered, under non-emergency circumstances, a key symbol of this. As a result the ancient practice of baptism, chrismation and first Eucharist all in one celebration began to change, when the Church grew larger and more spread out and the baptism of infants became more the normal practice (5<sup>th</sup> century on). If a family was unable to make the journey to the bishop's town, then the presbyter (priest) of the village or town in the outlying area would preside at the baptism of the infant and do a post-baptismal anointing with oil, in order to signify that the Holy Spirit has indeed been received in baptism. But, the child was not considered fully initiated nor "fully" chrismated. That awaited the visit of the bishop, who would try to get around to all the outlying areas during the course of a couple of years.

As a result, in the western Church, a separate moment of chrismation became very important and took on the name “Confirmation.” In those early middle ages it was still usually done while the child was quite young, and would include a first Eucharist, often by letting the child suck the consecrated wine off the tip of the finger. But as time went on, it became more common to delay Confirmation and first Eucharist until ages 10-14. Notice, however, that there was still the experience of first Eucharist as completing initiation. Confirmation came before first Eucharist.

This order of the sacraments effectively changed when Pope Pius X at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, concerned that people were not receiving communion regularly, made it clear that Catholics who had “reached the age of reason” may and even should begin receiving communion at that age. As a result, we have the pattern that most of us went through and perhaps thought was a long tradition, even though it has not been: baptism as infants, first communion around second grade, and Confirmation after that, often between 10-14 years old.

What this change in practice did, however, is disconnect Confirmation from first Eucharist and made Confirmation rather than first Eucharist the final sacrament of initiation. But, if the weekly, key sign of being initiated into the Catholic Church is the full participation in the Eucharist (and receiving communion as part of that), then why Confirmation? Moreover, if the Holy Spirit indwells in a special way in every baptized person, why the need for another sacrament of the Spirit? As a result, the Catholic Church’s catechesis in the west tended to follow the pattern of the mainline Protestant churches, where Confirmation was emphasized as a personal acceptance of the faith that one was baptized into as a child. In Confirmation, it was said, we now own the faith that are parents committed us to.

The problem with the scenario above is that it takes what is a free gift of God, a God who chooses and desires us to be part of his people, and makes it about our choice of God, not God’s

choice of us. Moreover, in too many cases Confirmation becomes an exit out of the practice of the faith. Parents are heard to say “Well, I did my job, now they are on their own to practice the faith.” Or some young adults say “Well, now I can decide whether and how to practice the faith.” Of course it is a given that we have freedom to choose to practice or not and how to practice faith. But it is too often seen as similar to joining a club or not. That misses the point. It is more like a decision to breathe good air or bad air. We will live for quite a while either way, but over time it makes a difference in the quality of our lives what kind of air we breathe.

We miss the point of Confirmation if we lose its meaning as God’s invitation to us, as one of the sacraments of initiation, and as intimately tied to baptism and to the weekly Eucharist. It is God’s invitation to us. God’s invitation! God is inviting us to “breathe with God.” The ancient word for spirit is the same for breath. To be confirmed and to live out confirmation is to allow our lives more and more to “breathe in sync” with the Spirit of God, taking those natural gifts and molding them into a mature personality that shows forth those “fruits of the Spirit.”

In the Confirmation prayer we name seven traditional gifts of the Spirit named in the passage from the prophet Isaiah (11:1-3): wisdom, understanding, right judgment (counsel), fortitude (courage), knowledge, reverence (piety), wonder and awe (fear of the Lord). Though symbolically seven to signify fullness, in fact the gifts of the Spirit are innumerable. They are the gifts God has given each person for the building up of the Church to live out the mission and ministry of Jesus. They are not simply personal gifts but church or ecclesial gifts. They need to be lived in the Church and through the Church.

And so the integration of these gifts into one’s life is not automatic. If they are lived out within the faith community, centered on weekly Eucharist, then those gifts become more and more second nature to us and allow what the tradition calls the “fruits of the spirit” to shape our character. Again, traditionally the church has used a

passage from Scripture (Paul’s letter to the Galatians chapter 5) to name nine such qualities: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. But, again, these nine do not exhaust the meaning of “fruits of the Spirit”. They represent a person whose life is as open as possible to the Spirit of God in each situation; whose desires and natural talents have been integrated into a mature Christian character and personality. It is a never-ending process, begun at baptism, reinforced at Confirmation and supported each time we come before the altar in Eucharist.

Come and explore more about Confirmation this week at G.R.A.C.E.

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#### **\*Priests’ Convocation**

Every two years the archbishop gathers the priests of Detroit together for a priests’ convocation up in Boyne. We will be gathering this week to hear some inspiring talks (one hopes!) but also to spend time in more relaxed settings so as to get to know each other better. And, unfortunately this time, we will also have to discuss with the archbishop the finances of the diocese and how that will affect the diocese and its parishes.

During this week, those priests who for whatever reason do not attend will be asked to cover for emergency anointings and funerals. However, if possible, we will be asking families to wait till Friday and Saturday to have a funeral, when priests will be back in town. The parish staff will do their best to reach a priest but, if one is not available, do know that our pastoral staff is ready to pray with families or to lead a non-Eucharist prayer service for a funeral if necessary.

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#### **\*Priests’ Retirement Collection**

The extra collection this week helps to offset the money the parish pays into the Detroit priests’ retirement fund. It is separate from the collection we do

*(Continued on page 8)*

*(Pastor's Perspective continued from page 7)*

in December for the retired religious. The parish is billed a certain amount and we will pay it out of our operating funds. But if you would like to donate specifically to the priest's retirement fund and in the process reduce the amount we will be paying out of operating monies, then give to this collection. In case, you are wondering, approved special collections like these are not "taxed" by the diocese. All monies go to the specific need.

**Fr. Buersmeyer**

## Stewardship

**T**ime  
alent  
reasure

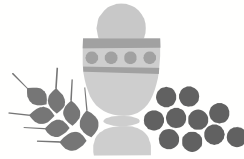
### STEWARDSHIP REPORT September 12-13, 2009

Weekly budget .....\$11,100.00  
 Offertory .....\$10,241.10  
 No. Sunday envelopes used.....309  
 ESO (15th of Month) .....\$2,702.00  
 No. ESO .....36  
**Total Offertory .....\$12,943.10**

#### Other Monies / (# Envelopes)

Capital Imprv. / (3).....\$45.00  
 Children's Env. / (2).....\$10.25

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus teaches us through His words and through His life that we are called to serve one another. We can serve through our sacrifices of time, talent and treasure. Sacrifice is not a word that many people like to hear. We think it means that we must give up something that we want. However, the literal meaning of sacrifice is "to make holy", from the words "sacer" = sacred and "facere" = to make. In other words, we make our lives holy by giving up some of our time, talent and treasure in the service of God and His Church.



## Eucharistic Prayer Requests

### Saturday, September 19, 2009

**5 pm —**  
 Olga & Camillo Recchia by Family  
 Robert Berlin by Harden Family  
 Ann Kaltz by H. Kaltz

### Sunday, September 20, 2009

**8 am —**  
 Joseph Orczykowski, Sr. by Family  
 Saveria Palazzolo by J. DiSanto Fam.  
 Vincenzo DiSanto by Family

**9:30 am —**  
 For the parishioners

**11:30 am —**  
 Diana Guindon by SSJP  
 Albert Sabbe by Family

### Monday, September 21, 2009

**9 am —**  
 NO MASS TODAY

### Tuesday, September 22, 2009

**9 am —**  
 NO MASS TODAY

### Wednesday, September 23, 2009

**9 am —**  
 NO MASS TODAY

### Saturday, September 26, 2009

**5 pm —**  
 Gina Horn by L. Horn  
 Sr. Conrad Kruesel by Dobbs Family

### Sunday, September 27, 2009

**8 am —**  
 Cecelia Ferrario by Family

**9:30 am —**  
 Dennis Weingartz by Reaume Family  
 Robert Arnold by M. Fleck  
 Deceased members of the Gielow and Hock Families by Gielow Family

**11:30 am —**  
 For the parishioners

## Pray for our sick

Mary Angelosante	Bernice Mayer
Jennie Barla	Rodney Mayer
Rita Bayer	Antoinette McBain
Shirley Blonde	Agnes Mehlick
Mary Burcar	Richard Metry
Charles Cappellano	Linda Murphy
Helen Chmielewiski	Lois Nelson
Caterina Cianferra	Samantha Nelson
Ralph Cleary	Eugene Ondrizek
Luigi Cocco	Leo Osantoske, Sr.
John Patrick Cuttle	Pat Palonis
Timothy J. Cuttle	Patricia Petriches
Gloria Dean	Frank Pochik
Steffany Jo Dean	Doris C. Procopio
Chris Del Pappa	Dorothy Puffpaff
Lauren DeNio	Mary Lou Puz
Vincent Eterno	Anthony Randazzo
Ann Filipowicz	Pat Rea
Blanche Fredal	Marie Richard
Danielle Giffin	Theresa Romero
Diana Guindon	Angelina Russo
Geri Hammer	Jeff Simpson
Lora Hardin	Michelle Smith
Lloyd Hunsucker	Tommasina Smith
Ruth Hunsucker	Mary Sorrow
Molly Keffalo	Steven St. John
John Kerr	Shirley Taylor
Hayden Kroll	Donna Theisen
John LaCroix	Jerry Thomas
Jillian Lentine	Richard Waluk
Vito Loconte	Betty Waligore
Fr. Jerry Machlik	Larry Weathers
Jacob Main	Patricia Wyatt
Marvin Mason, Jr.	

## Pray for our military



Noel & Greg Ales	Chris Krusinski
Nick Bassett	Teija Kinnunen
Augie Biache III	Matt Magiera
Mike Boback	Paul McGowan
Donald Fannon	Matthew McLocklin
Tony Gentilia	David Newberry
Michael Kaminski	Ryan Ribant
David Krzycki	Thomas Schmidt
Jonathon Krusinski	Vincent Titeriga
	Daniel Trendell

## Sponsor of the Week

This week's sponsor is **The Poljan Agency**. 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!



## Readings for the Week of September 20, 2009

**Sunday, September 20:**

Wis 2:12, 17-20; Ps 54; Jas 3:16—4:3;  
Mk 9:30-37

**Monday, September 21:**

Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Ps 19; Mt 9:9-13

**Tuesday, September 22:**

Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Ps 122; Lk 8:19-21

**Wednesday, September 23:**

Ezr 9:5-9; Tb 13: 2-4, 6-8, 6; Lk 9:1-6

**Thursday, September 24:**

Hg 1:1-8; Ps 149; Lk 9:7-9

**Friday, September 25:**

Hg 2:1-9; Ps 43; Lk 9:18-22

**Saturday, September 26:**

Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Jer 31:10-13;  
Lk 9:43b-45

**Sunday, September 27:**

Nm 11:25-29; Ps 19; Jas 5:1-6;  
Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

### Liturgical appointments for September 26-27, 2009

Mass	5:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	11:30 a.m.
<b>Celebrant/ Homilist</b>	Fr. Buersmeyer	Fr. Buersmeyer	Fr. Buersmeyer	Fr. Sayes
<b>Lectors</b>	B. Conlon N. Peters	S. Bawol P. Dobbs	P. Quayhackx P. Raleigh	M. Greenway S. Nelson
<b>Communion Ministers</b>  <b>*Captain</b>	A. Peters* K. Peters L. Foltran A. Zotter W. Zotter	T. Dobbs* G. Bawol E. Sova R. Sagert P. Sagert	T. Fletcher* M. Krieg J. Krieg J. Loeb T. Maltese A. Murray R. Newlin	V. Klapeck* C. Gregory D. Jiannuzzi S. Darga-Martino J. Martino
<b>Altar Servers</b>	E. Bytner V. Mangiapane	D. Krumholz	J. Drobek M. Compeau O. Becker	N. Delcourt S. Delcourt G. Gaglio
<b>Greeters</b>	M. Hendershot M. Hendershot	S. Boettcher T. Boettcher	M. Hosking N. Hosking	D. Jiannuzzi R. Jiannuzzi
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Team #1</b> D. Smith R. Pewinski J. Wright	<b>Team #3</b> B. Dale S. Krajewski A. Sova R. Chapman	<b>Team #5</b> L. Monfils M. Bayer B. Janowiak K. Partyka L. Keast M. Chmielewski	<b>Team #7</b> R. Kopera L. LePage J. Martino B. Jiannuzzi M. Bytner J. Gehrholz
<b>Collection Counters</b>	<b>Team #3</b> — Sharon Bourgeois, Mike Adkins, Donald Byrne, Len & Jackie Monfils, Dick & Pat Podolski			

## 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

<p><b>Weekend Masses</b></p> <p>Saturday at 5:00 p.m.                  Sunday at 8:00 a.m.,                  9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Weekday Masses</b></p> <p>7:00 p.m. Monday                  9:00 a.m. Tuesday                  and Wednesday</p>
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**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. or 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**..... Bridget Theodoroff  
 btheodoroff@ssjohnandpaul.org

Shannon Dickens 586.752.9495	PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL		Barbara Harden 586.781.2798
Mike Compeau 248.693.5845	Kathy Fannon 586.781.2933	Barbara Jarzembki 586.336.1450	Donna Michalski 586.752.7667
Rick Sabath 586.752.1874	Bill Gumbleton 586.336.4862	Margaret Schimmel 248.608.8791	Dave Nelson 586.419.2982
Howard Loyson 586.781.8305	Chris McNeely 248.563.1303	Martha Catalano 586.453-5759	Rachel Dickens 586.752.9495