

### **PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE**

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

### **BLOOD DRIVE**

Make an appointment to give the gift of life on February 28 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Activities Center. See page 5.

### **BUCK\$ FOR BAGS**

SSJP will sponsor a weekly food drive to benefit the food pantry at St. Aloysius' Canticle Café. See page 5.

### **LENTEN SOUP FRIDAYS**

Join us for our annual "soup Fridays" during Lent at 6:00 p.m. on March 5 and March 19. See page 5.

### **LENTEN *LIFT***

March 11-14 —our Lenten experience for 2010! Hear Timothy Radcliffe, John Thorne and the United In Christ Choir, and Msgr. John Budde.

### **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.

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

**Growing Responding As Catholics Everyday**

**FEBRUARY 21, 23, 24, 26 — 6:00-8:30 p.m.**

*Catechetical Area:*

**Living a Catholic Moral Life**

*Theme:* **Being Truthful**

*Event:* **Lent**

*Menu:*

**Meatless Mostaccioli**

*February's goal:*

- To comprehend the foundational Catholic teaching on the 8th Commandment and its implications for applying this moral teaching to daily life
- To value and appreciate the significance of Catholic teaching on honesty and integrity in all aspects of life
- To live the 8th Commandment by becoming people of honesty and integrity in every act, deed, and dealing.

Visit our website at: [www.ssjohnandpaul.org](http://www.ssjohnandpaul.org)

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

### Monday, February 22:

\*7:00 p.m. Mass  
\*7:45 p.m. Adult Bells

### Tuesday, February 23:

\*9:00 a.m. Mass  
\*6:00-8:30 p.m. G.R.A.C.E.

### Wednesday, February 24:

\*9:00 a.m. Mass  
\*6:00-8:30 p.m. G.R.A.C.E.

### Thursday, February 25:

\*7:00 p.m. Adult Choir

### Friday, February 26:

\*6:00-8:30 p.m. G.R.A.C.E.

### Saturday, February 27:

\*8:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Group  
\*9:00 a.m. CPR/AED Training

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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.



Please take notice of the bulletin board in the social hall. The teens wanted to thank you for your support of the pancake breakfast.

## Contribution Statements for 2009

Statements have automatically been sent to those families who have contributed \$250 or more during the 2009 calendar year. If you did not contribute \$250 or more during the year and would like a statement, please call the parish office at 586.781.9010 and we will gladly send you one.

# G.R.A.C.E.

Growing Responding As Catholics Everyday

The Eighth Commandment teaches us not to bear false witness against our neighbor. How do we align our lives with the truth? What are ways in which we can integrate this moral teaching into all areas of our life—personal, familial, and social? Do we act with honesty and integrity? These are important questions as we examine truthfulness in this month's G.R.A.C.E. sessions.

## Word Search

Find these words associated with keeping the Eighth Commandment.

**HONESTY**  
**TRUTH**  
**INTEGRITY**  
**LOVE**

**IMITATE CHRIST**  
**BEAR WITNESS**  
**IN GOD'S IMAGE**

**NEIGHBOR**  
**HUMAN DIGNITY**  
**SELF RESPECT**

Q	Y	Y	F	T	D	K	H	O	B	A	P	E	T	Y	E	R	O	I	B
P	N	O	Y	F	U	L	A	N	S	I	V	S	A	V	V	D	S	G	I
P	E	U	T	R	U	T	H	S	E	O	I	S	O	P	A	E	F	M	Y
G	I	R	S	J	Q	F	E	D	L	R	J	E	S	U	L	E	H	E	T
E	G	D	E	U	F	W	O	R	H	O	S	P	A	F	W	P	C	D	I
A	H	H	N	S	X	R	J	C	O	N	U	L	R	P	O	K	E	I	R
S	B	D	O	T	D	A	E	S	K	E	O	E	O	I	Y	B	R	T	G
T	O	F	H	Y	S	T	E	W	F	M	S	I	P	R	Y	D	L	A	E
F	R	U	L	R	A	I	R	U	A	P	R	P	T	R	L	G	I	T	T
Y	E	G	F	T	R	A	M	A	E	Z	O	K	O	M	J	B	O	I	N
I	R	S	I	E	T	U	D	C	E	G	A	M	I	S	D	O	G	N	I
N	O	M	T	O	V	E	T	W	F	C	G	D	U	D	L	I	K	N	A
A	I	S	B	E	A	R	W	I	T	N	E	S	S	E	J	K	M	A	H
H	Y	A	U	D	P	N	W	Q	H	W	O	U	Z	C	D	L	U	Y	E
M	O	J	Q	N	A	H	U	M	A	N	D	I	G	N	I	T	Y	S	B



G.R.A.C.E.

Jesus said to those who believed in him, "If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."



John 8:31-32



*Refrain: Lord, help us walk in your light*

Gracious God, may we be witnesses to your truth. Help us to be honest in our interactions with others.

*Refrain*

Help us to avoid making rash judgments and to learn the art of speaking well of others.

*Refrain*

Send the Holy Spirit to strengthen us so we are able to stand up for ourselves and others when honesty and reputation are on the line.

*Refrain*

Guide us so we walk without blame, doing what is right, speaking truth from the heart.

*Refrain*

God of truth, bless us with integrity, so that we shall never be far from you. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

Amen



**Winter Age-Specific Sessions  
Grades 1-6 — Session #7**

**Monday, March 1  
4:45-6:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, March 2  
4:45-6:00 p.m. or 6:30-7:45 p.m.**

**REQUIRED PRAYER PER GRADE LEVEL FOR WINTER SESSION**

- Grade 1: The Our Father
- Grade 2: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Sign of the Cross
- Grade 3: Apostles' Creed
- Grade 4: Act of Contrition
- Grade 5: Ten Commandments
- Grade 6: Apostles' Creed, Act of Contrition, Ten Commandments

These prayers will be heard on an individual bases during the winter session.  
Please help your child to memorize them.

**Celebration of the  
Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**FOR: All 2nd - 6th Graders who have  
already received their First Reconciliation**

**WHEN: During their age-specific sessions on:**

**Monday / Tuesday  
March 1 & 2**

Please help your child prepare by using the examination of conscience you received in the mail or your child brought home.

**First Eucharist Preparation  
Parent/Child Session #3**

**Wednesday, March 17 or  
Thursday, March 18  
6:30 p.m.**

Please call 781.9488 to sign up for the evening of your choice.



- **Grade 9-12 Youth Group Meets**  
Sunday, February 28, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Please bring a friend and join us. This would also be a great time to bring back your permission slips for the retreats!

- **St. John Vianney will host the N.E.T. Retreat March 12 for all 9-12 graders**

This wonderful Lenten experience will begin at 4:45 p.m. and end at 10:00 p.m. Cost is \$5.00. We will meet here at 4:30 and carpool over to St. John Vianney. Please don't miss this wonderful way to have fun and boost your faith this lent. Permission slips will be mailed with the Subiaco retreat forms. If you have any questions please give Mrs. Peters a call.

- **Attention all 9-12 Graders**

**Save these dates: March 19, 20, & 21** for the Subiaco Weekend Retreat. You will enjoy a lot of laughs, meet teens from other parishes, and enjoy some relaxation. This is guaranteed to be one of the most wonderful experiences you have ever had. All permission slips will be mailed this week. If you did not receive one and would like one, please give Mrs. Peters a call at 586-781-9488.

- **Gr. 7-8 Age Specific Session**

**Grade 8 — Saturday, March 13.** Meets at the church from 10:00 a.m. until 12:15. **Grade 7 — Saturday, March 13.** Meets from 2:30 p.m. until approximately 4:45 p.m. All teens and their parents are encouraged to attend the 5:00 mass or the 11:30 Mass with their families so that they can enjoy the rest of the mission with Msgr. John Budde. Any questions call Mrs. Peters at 586.781.9488.

- **Future Confirmation Candidates**

A letter has been sent to all future candidates regarding an informative meeting on Confirmation. If you have completed your two year preparation, you should have received this information. There are two dates for the meeting: **March 10** at 7:00 p.m. and **March 16** at 7:00 p.m. You and one of your parents only need to attend one of the meetings. Please call Mrs. Peters at 586.781.9488 to reserve your spot for one of these meetings.

## Adult Confirmation

We will be beginning a series of meetings to prepare adults for the Sacrament of Confirmation. These sessions are for those who for whatever reason have not been previously confirmed but are baptized Catholic and have been practicing their faith.

Confirmation will take place at this year's Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 3. The alternate date would be Pentecost Sunday, May 23. If you are interested in being part of this group, please call JoAnne at the parish office at 586.781.9010.

## Lose Something?

The Lost and Found boxes are overflowing! If you've misplaced something, it might be in our Lost and Found box. One of the ushers will show you to the Lost and Found box after any Mass on the weekend. Or stop in the office during the week and check the box. Unclaimed items will be given to one of the charities within the next few weeks.

## Stewardship



### Lent — A Stewardship Reflection

Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving – these are traditional Lenten practices. But they also help us prepare for good stewardship. God has given us everything we have, and the Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving can provide a scorecard of our use of these gifts – and new insight on how to use them in the future. Lent is a 40 day opportunity to learn how to live your life as a steward of God's gifts by giving sacrificially of your time, talent and treasure.

Time is one of God's most precious gifts. Prayer provides a way to give back to God some share of the time that He gives to us. Make time for more prayer this Lent by reading Scripture daily (on our website at [www.ssjohnandpaul.org](http://www.ssjohnandpaul.org) or in the bulletin), attending daily Mass, praying the Rosary, or attending Stations of the Cross.

Fasting, the voluntary abstinence of food or detaching oneself from material goods, helps us realize just how abundantly we have been blessed. Voluntarily doing without something we like reminds us of its value and prevents us from taking it for granted. Easy ways to fast include: making simpler meals, reducing the amount of time spent on the computer or television, or resolving to change a bad habit. Gratitude for God's gifts is a foundation to stewardship, and fasting – even if for a short time – reawakens us to the great generosity of God.

Sharing out of our sacrifices brings many blessings. Almsgiving allows the poor to be fed from our hunger and the needy to be helped by the generous giving from our abundance. Almsgiving can be defined as doing a good deed and takes many forms. Perhaps we could volunteer at a soup kitchen, help at a homeless shelter or add our voices to the Easter choir. Maybe we could contribute the cost of that daily cup of coffee or can of soda to purchase something for our monthly food drive.

May the traditional Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving help us realize how very good God has been to us and inspire us to share our many blessings with others.



**Blood Drive  
February 28**

**8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.**

**Sign up or call the parish office to  
make an appointment 586.781.9010**

**Help Save A Life This Lent**

Our next American Red Cross blood drive will take place on Sunday, February 28 from 8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. Among Red Cross donors in a given year, 18% donate occasionally, 38% are first time donors and 43% are repeat and loyal donors. How often do you give? Have you ever given? Can you spare one hour? Please prayerfully consider donating the “gift of life” during this season of Lent.

In the interest of moving donors in and out of the drive in a timely fashion, those who make appointments will be given priority over walk-in donors. All potential donors are encouraged to sign up for a specific time and appointments will be honored up to ten minutes from the scheduled time. After that, presenting donors will be welcomed as walk-ins.

To donate, you must be at least 17 years of age, weigh 110 pounds, and be in general good health. You can schedule an appointment by calling the parish office or by visiting [www.givelife.org](http://www.givelife.org) and entering our sponsor code, ssjpch.



**Cookies  
Wanted!**

We are in need of homemade cookies for donors at our upcoming blood drive. If you can donate two dozen cookies, please bring them to church by 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, February 28, 2010. We thank you and our donors thank you!



**Parish-Wide Lenten Project:  
*Buck\$ for Bags Food Drive for Canticle Café***

This Lenten season, SS. John & Paul will sponsor a *weekly* food drive to benefit the food pantry at the St. Aloysius Parish’s Canticle Café. The Canticle Café is located at 1209 Washington Blvd. in Detroit. It’s mission is to welcome all who enter treating them with dignity and respect, offering friendship, assistance when in need and “a respite from the hardships of poverty, homelessness, loneliness and fear.”

Here is how “Buck\$ for Bags” will work. Each of the six weekends of Lent we will have grocery bags available in the hallway to the Activities Center with a list attached of requested items. SS. John & Paul will match each filled bag that is returned with one dollar. Each week, a food delivery will be taken to the pantry at the Canticle Café and, at the end of Lent, a check will be sent in the amount of the number of donated bags. Bags will be available beginning February 20—21 through March 27—28. For more information on the Canticle Café, please visit [www.CanticleCafe.org](http://www.CanticleCafe.org).



**Re-Dedication & Transformation:  
*A Lenten Experience***

Come share a soup dinner and join Brother Al of the Canticle Café on a Lenten musical discovery on Friday, March 5 at 6:00 p.m. The season of Lent provides a rich variety of purposes, practices and images that can help us not just to survive the difficult times in our lives, but to transcend them and let them transform us into a new creation. It’s a time for us to rededicate ourselves to our faith!

Brother Al will have his little wooden cart in tow with “Friar Lights”, recycled candles made from leftover church candles, and CDs of his music for sale. All proceeds go to the Canticle Café. Please mark your calendar and join us for this evening of musical reflection and fellowship.

**Lenten Soup Fridays**

Please join us for our annual “Soup Fridays” during Lent. This year’s schedule is as follows:

- **Friday, March 5, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.** After dinner, Brother Al from St. Aloysius’ Canticle Café will lead us in a musical Lenten reflection.
- **Friday, March 19, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.** Our meal will be followed by Stations of the Cross.

We are in need of donations of meatless soup and bread for both our soup nights. Please call the parish office if you are able to help out. You can also sign up on the poster in the hallway to the Activities Center. Thanks and hope to see you there!



**Income Tax Preparation**

Beginning in February and through early April, Samaritan House will offer both Federal and Michigan Income Tax preparation to individuals with a gross income of \$20,000 or less and families with a gross income of \$42,000 or less. This is a cooperative effort between the IRS, Samaritan House and Accounting Aid Society. Appointments are necessary. Tax preparation days are Thursdays and Saturdays. For additional information, please call 586.677.7590.

## Pastor's Perspective

### \*First Sunday of Lent

In today's first reading from Deuteronomy we hear perhaps the oldest creed in the Bible: "*You shall declare before the Lord your God, 'My father was a wandering Aramean who went down to Egypt...the Egyptians maltreated and oppressed us...we cried to the Lord...he heard our cry...brought us out of Egypt with his strong hand...he gave us this land flowing with milk and honey.'*" Notice the style of this creed. Not statements of doctrine but a narrative of faith that each man, woman and child of Israel was to recite each year at the harvest. Connecting themselves to the original story of the origins of becoming the people of God, they became part of that story. Their personal life story became woven into the larger community's life story.

On this first Sunday of Lent we are reminded, then, to do the same. Our personal journeys as individuals and families have meaning in and of themselves, it is true. But do they have the meaning God wants to give them? Are they connected to the story of God's people, or do they remain more isolated, individual, only our own? Lent is a communal season which invites us to once again intersect our personal life story with the great story of faith in Jesus Christ we will celebrate in the Great Triduum (Three Days) of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter.

We ask those who will be fully initiated at Easter to let this season of Lent be an extended spiritual retreat, filled with prayer, fasting, letting go of anything that would keep them from trusting fully in God and sharing life in Christ so that they can claim the Holy Thursday-Good Friday-Easter story as their own. We ask those who are fully initiated but who have found their lives complicated and wounded by serious sin to use this season to become reconciled to God and his people so that they can once again fully celebrate in their own lives that same story. How can we not all, then, take on the same spirit of the season, undertake some type of fasting, penance, and prayer, so that our lives intersect more fully with the events of Christ's death and resurrection as well?

The story of our life needs to intersect with, be connected to that great story of salvation now brought to completion in Jesus Christ and lived within the people of God: "*...he gave us this land of milk and honey but we turned from him...he guided us with his word through the prophets but we ignored him...he did not abandon us to the power of sin and death but helped us to seek and find him yet again through his Son, Jesus Christ...who proclaimed the in-breaking of God's kingdom...who healed the sick...who forgave sinners...who broke apart that which was evil...who suffered for us...who died for us...who was raised to life by the power of God the Father...who has made us his people through water and the Spirit...that our lives might share in the same mission and ministry of proclaiming, healing, forgiving, resisting evil... accepting the crosses and deaths that come from such a life...always trusting in the hope of resurrection.*"

In some way, connected to certain people or situations, our lives can become more part of that great story of faith this Lent. In the end it is not about us but about what God is able to accomplish in and through us, when we say yes to being part of God's people. Lent is a great way to visibly live as part of that people by taking on some type of penance and prayer. Don't go overboard. But don't be an isolated, individual Christian either. We belong to God most fully because we belong to God's people. Please join in the parish's Lenten journey, especially our Fridays, our special "Lenten Lift" weekend of March 11-14, and our times for the celebration of the sacrament of reconciliation. Check out our parish website for all details.

### \*February G.R.A.C.E.: Being People of Truth

Our catechetical area for this month's whole community G.R.A.C.E. sessions is Catholic Moral Life. The specific catechetical topic within this broad area is the Eighth Commandment and Truth-telling. Our 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment says: "*You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*" The interpretation of that

commandment has a long history among the Jewish and Christian traditions. It is a particularly easy commandment to make exceptions and excuses for why we did not or could not follow it. On the other hand, there are those who 'speak the truth' only with the intent to show someone up, belittle, gossip, or otherwise hurt. Is that really telling the truth? Many (most?) of us use small 'white lies' in social settings as an everyday part of courtesy. Is that a violation of truth-telling? Come and join us this week on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Friday—you pick the night—for a deeper look at the Catholic understanding of the Eighth Commandment and Truthfulness.

### \*Some Historical Background on the Catholic Understanding of Truthfulness

The original context of the eighth commandment was the keeping of right relationships (justice) within the community. Disputes were resolved on the testimony of others. To bear false witness and to make false accusations was to destroy the fabric of society, a grievous sin against the neighbor and the whole people. Quite often the eighth commandment was viewed only within the limited context of the tribe/community, however. Anyone outside that circle was not necessarily owed the justice of truth in all situations.

The classic passage from the New Testament on truth is from John's Gospel (John 8:32): "*If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.*" In fact, the last line about the truth setting us free has become a slogan for nearly anyone and everybody, including advertising and comedians. However, in the early Church that passage exerted a huge influence on many Christian thinkers. The most influential among them was St. Augustine in the 5<sup>th</sup> century. He and others believed that speaking any falsehood was wrong, even if it could save your life. Truthfulness was radical and absolute. There was no proportionate reason for ever speaking a false statement.

For Augustine in particular the duty of telling the truth was sacred, no matter what. Augustine's reasoning centered on God. God is truth. Therefore anyone who speaks the truth is speaking something of God. Anyone who does not speak the truth is marring the very image of God within them, even if it there might be grave consequences for so speaking. In practice, of course, such radical truth-telling was not the norm and later theologians tried to think through all the variations of what it meant to speak a falsehood versus morally telling a lie.

St. Thomas Aquinas accepted the grounding of all truth in God and so something was 'truly true' to the extent it conformed to the end or purpose God intended. But his use of Aristotle's philosophy allowed him to distinguish the fullness of truth, which rests in God, and the human grasping of that truth. For human beings, truth is the appropriate conformity of the intellect to the reality in question [*veritas est adaequatio intellectus et rei*, *Summa Theologiae* I.16.1.] This opens up two avenues that make the Catholic tradition on truthfulness more complex. In the first place it has to be a reasonable and appropriate understanding of the situation or reality in question.

A child sees her parents arguing and says "Mommy, daddy, you are really angry at each other." The parents say "No, we aren't; we just don't agree on something." Which is the truer statement? It will depend on which is the more reasonable interpretation. In many cases the parents' response is quite truthful, even if the argument is very heated. The argument is not and will not lead to being really deeply angry at the person, only upset about the situation. In some cases, the child's perception could be the more truthful, if indeed the parents are in a very hurtful relationship and are expressing their anger not at some issue but at the person themselves.

Secondly, Aquinas' approach allows us to take into consideration what is the proper end intended by both God and the human actors in the situation. We are not allowed to do just anything to achieve a good end. For example, if something is by its very nature everywhere and always morally evil (intrinsic evil), then no intended end can

justify it. Augustine would have put all false statements in such a category. But Aquinas' thinking can be interpreted as offering a bit more nuance. Human intention does play a role in turning falsehoods (false statements) into lies (morally wrong actions). And some falsehoods might not be lies.

For example, a dad is on a nature hike with their child and sees a rattlesnake and that the child is near it. He doesn't want to startle the child and so tells the child to slowly take a step in a certain direction. The child asks "why" and the dad says because he is playing a game with them and wants to see if they can do everything perfectly. If so they win the game. There is a certain falsehood—about playing a game, no game here, just serious business—but it is not a moral wrong (a lie), using Aquinas' reasoning. The statement was a reasonable conformity to the overall truth of the situation, and the dad's intention was not any falsehood but the protection of the child.

But no good deed goes unpunished, as the saying goes. Once you move something from a very clear cut, radical, black-white, absolute category, all shades of gray open up. The same thing happens with Catholic moral thinking on lying. Once you make the distinction that some statements might be false on one level but overall still serve the greater truth, all sorts of strange thinking erupts. In fact we owe one of our English words—jesuitical—to this debate. Certain Jesuits became known for their sophisticated thinking on matters of morality, including truth-telling. But their opponents coined the term to belittle that thinking, suggesting that Jesuits were only adept at finding ways to justify immoral actions. When you were justifying something as acceptable that should be considered wrong, you were being 'jesuitical.'

In the area of truthfulness one of these 'jesuitical' ways was to talk about "mental reservations." In that line of thinking one can at times withhold the full statement of truth but not be morally lying by keeping a "mental reservation" in one's own mind. That was one way to get around the seeming sinfulness of social niceties. "How do I look?" "Just fine," comes the verbal answer but mentally reserving the full statement

"but not today" or some such. But extended to more serious social interactions, such mental reservations could justify nearly any statement. Thus 'jesuitical.' But we shouldn't be too hard on the Jesuits. They were simply trying to bring some reflection to bear on what seemed obvious: that not every statement of the truth needs to be the full truth in all situations. That certain situations demand some type of dissembling. But how to explain it in a way that doesn't allow truth to go out the window?

The last piece of historical background comes from the last century, as Catholic social teaching focused on the dignity of the human person and developed more fully some of Aquinas' ideas. That opened up another line of thinking in the area of truth-telling. The issue, the end intended by God, is always the fullest dignity of the human persons involved in the situation. Are we serving that fuller end by our actions, including what we say? This re-positions some of the issues in a more reasonable way. Social niceties are not usually about falsehoods or truth-telling but about respecting the dignity of another person. If that dignity means telling them something that might seem hurtful, then so be it. But if that dignity means not telling them the full truth, so be it.

In this analysis the issue of truth-telling rests on the need for the truth and the right to the truth. Does this person(s) in this situation, for their human dignity, need the information or knowledge I can give them? [NB: it is not my subjective determination of their need that decides but an objective determination based on a reasonable and mature judgment. That means a willingness to seek help, if necessary, in forming such reasonable and objective judgments.] If so, they have a right to that truth and I have an obligation to share that truth. But if their dignity is not violated by not sharing the truth or the full truth, then it might be a situation where some dissembling is not truly a moral wrong.

Come and join us this week in our G.R.A.C.E. discussions on what truthfulness means for our moral life in light of the Catholic tradition.

**Fr. Buersmeyer**

## Electronic Offerings

Did you know that there are 2 ways to “electronically” support the parish? Both ways are easy and convenient for parishioners to use and benefit the parish by ensuring consistent giving.

Online baking is one way to electronically contribute to the parish. Online banking is created using a computer and your bank’s website. It’s very easy to do—just go to your bank’s website and follow the online banking directions. For most banks all you do is set the parish up as a “payee”, enter an amount, envelope number, frequency, and the rest is done for you. The bank mails checks to the parish as often as you designate which gets counted with the weekly offertory and then posted to your offertory account. If you choose to use this option, please let the office know so that we can stop mailing envelopes to you, which is a cost savings for the parish.

Electronic Sunday Offerings (ESO) is another way to consistently support the parish automatically. ESO is a pre-authorized payment plan where parish members authorize monthly or bi-monthly deductions to be made from their checking or savings account to the parish’s account. Transfers are done on the 15th or 30th of the month—you decide the dates and amounts and we do the rest. Transfers from your account will continue until you tell us in writing to stop. Right now over seventy parishioners use ESO as their way to contribute to the parish.

If either of these opportunities to support the parish appeals to you, you can download an ESO form from our website, [www.ssjohnandpaul.org](http://www.ssjohnandpaul.org), or pick up an ESO form from the literature racks or set the parish up for a weekly automatic donation using online banking. Thank you for considering one of these ways to contribute.

## Stewardship

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### Gratefully Received On February 13-14, 2010

**Weekly budget.....\$11,100.00**  
 Offertory .....\$9,758.51  
 No. Sunday envelopes used ..... 306  
 ESO (15th of month) .....\$2,772.00  
 No. ESO..... 38  
**Total Offertory .....\$12,530.51**

#### Other Monies / (# Envelopes)

Capital Imprv. / (8).....\$247.00  
 Children’s Env. / (4)..... \$5.60  
 Haiti Relief / (3) .....\$125.00  
 Church in Europe / (6).....\$35.00  
 Easter Flowers / (2) .....\$40.00

*“I have now brought you the first fruits of the products of the soil which you, O Lord, have given to me.” Deuteronomy 26:10*

This simple line from the Old Testament presents us with two challenges. First, do we bring God our first fruits—the best that we have to offer? Second, do we remember that everything we have has been given to us by God? We brought nothing into this world and we can take nothing from it. So why not share what we have while we are here?

## Eucharistic Prayer Requests

### Saturday, February 20, 2010

**5:00 p.m.** — For the parishioners

### Sunday, February 21, 2010

**8:00 a.m.** — For the parishioners

**9:30 a.m.** —

Rose Gandolfo by Family  
 Michael Bem, Sr. by Family  
 Alfred W. Eppens by SSJP Choir and Handbell Choir

**11:30 a.m.** —

Rita Bayer by Bayer Family  
 Bernard Darga by Martino Family  
 Ray Hoenle by M. Hoenle

### Monday, February 22, 2010

**7:00 p.m.** —

Gerardo Mazzitelli by Family

### Tuesday, February 23, 2010

**9:00 a.m.** —

Janet Delmonte by Greenway Family

### Wednesday, February 24, 2010

**9:00 a.m.** —

Cecelia Ferrario by Family

### Saturday, February 27, 2010

**5:00 p.m.** —

Charles Pomaville by P. Gresko  
 Edsel Knight by L. Horn  
 Alfred W. Eppens by LaRaia Family

**8:00 a.m.** —

For the parishioners

**9:30 a.m.** —

Ralph Fredal by Havener Family

**11:30 a.m.** —

Morris Duhaime by Family  
 Lorraine Darga by Martino Family

## Pray for our sick

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

## Pray for our military



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

## Sponsor of the Week

This week’s sponsor is **Joseph Giacherio, DDS**. 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 February 21, 2010

### Sunday, February 21:

Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

### Monday, February 22:

1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23; Mt 16:13-19

### Tuesday, February 23:

Is 55:10-11; Ps 34; Mt 6:7-15

### Wednesday, February 24:

Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51; Lk 11:29-32

### Thursday, February 25:

Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138; Mt 7:7-12

### Friday, February 26:

Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130; Mt 5:20-26

### Saturday, February 27:

Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119; Mt 5:43-48

### Sunday, February 28:

Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27; Phil 3:17—4:1  
or 3:20—4:1; Lk 9:28b-36

Liturgical appointments for February 27-28, 2010				
Mass	5:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	11:30 a.m.
<b>Celebrant/ Homilist</b>	Fr. Sayes	Fr. Buersmeyer	Fr. Buersmeyer	Fr. Sayes Deacon John
<b>Lectors</b>	S. Dickens J. Schnepf	J. Resutek E. Sova	L. Zabkowski D. Zabkowski	J. Marino T. McBride
<b>Communion Ministers</b>  <b>*Captain</b>	T. Klakulak* M. Klakulak F. Braun K. Braun D. Kennard	A. Weaver* C. Klein J. Fannon K. Fannon B. Huellmantel	R. DiDomenico* P. Fields T. Fletcher B. Gumbleton J. Krieg M. Krieg T. Maltese	Deacon John J. Gilbertson* J. Loeb P. Dutchik D. Jiannuzzi
<b>Altar Servers</b>	T. Schneider S. Dickens	G. Efthemiou	J. Ozella J. Anderson	M. Syty G. McBride
<b>Greeters</b>	G. Baginski R. Baginski	J. Rebar E. VanPamel	A. Sebastian K. Sebastian	D. Jiannuzzi R. Jiannuzzi
<b>Ushers</b>  <b>*Captain</b>	<b>Team #2</b> M. LaRaia* M. Hendershot J. Krieg R. Orlando	<b>Team #4</b> R. Giffin* K. Grunewald B. Huellmantel J. Rutkowski H. Susalla	<b>Team #6</b> B. Burcar* B. Cammarata J. Gerds J. Pospiech B. Schulz T. Valente	<b>Team #8</b> L. LePage* K. McBride C. Klapec R. Kopera D. Nelson J. Pyke D. Waligore
<b>Collection Counters</b>	<b>Team #5</b> — Pat & Joe Orczykowski, Jim Banaszek, Roberta Mathie, Less & Diane Quick			

## 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

<b>Weekend Masses</b>	<b>Weekday Masses</b>
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. 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 586.623.3238		
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		