

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

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PARISH WIDE

LENTEN OUTREACH

Personal hygiene and non-perishable food collections during Lent. (page 5)

FAMILY EASTER EVENT

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SPRING SCRIPTURE SERIES

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ECHOES OF FAITH CLASSES

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"LET'S TALK"

About the Hunger Games Sunday, April 15 (page 4)

SHREDDING DAY FOR SENIORS

Free paper shredding for Macomb County Seniors, Thursday, April 5 (page 5)

MACOMB HABITAT HOMEOWNERS WANTED

Macomb Habitat for Humanity is accepting homeowner applications for 2012 build season (page 5)

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.sjohnandpaul.org. Please visit our website weekly to keep abreast of what's new and noteworthy.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 1

Mass on Saturday at 5:00 p.m.
Sunday at 8:00, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.
With Palm Blessing and Procession

MONDAY, APRIL 2

Mass at 7:00 p.m.
Individual Confessions
5:00-6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 3

Mass at 9:00 a.m.
Communal Penance Service with Individual Confession
at 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

Mass at 9:00 a.m.
All Day Adoration
Individual Confession from 5:00-6:30 p.m.
Benediction at 7:00 p.m.

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 5

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 p.m.
Prayer Service at 9:30 p.m.
10:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 6

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion with Veneration of the Cross at 1:00 p.m.
Preceded by Stations of the Cross at Noon.

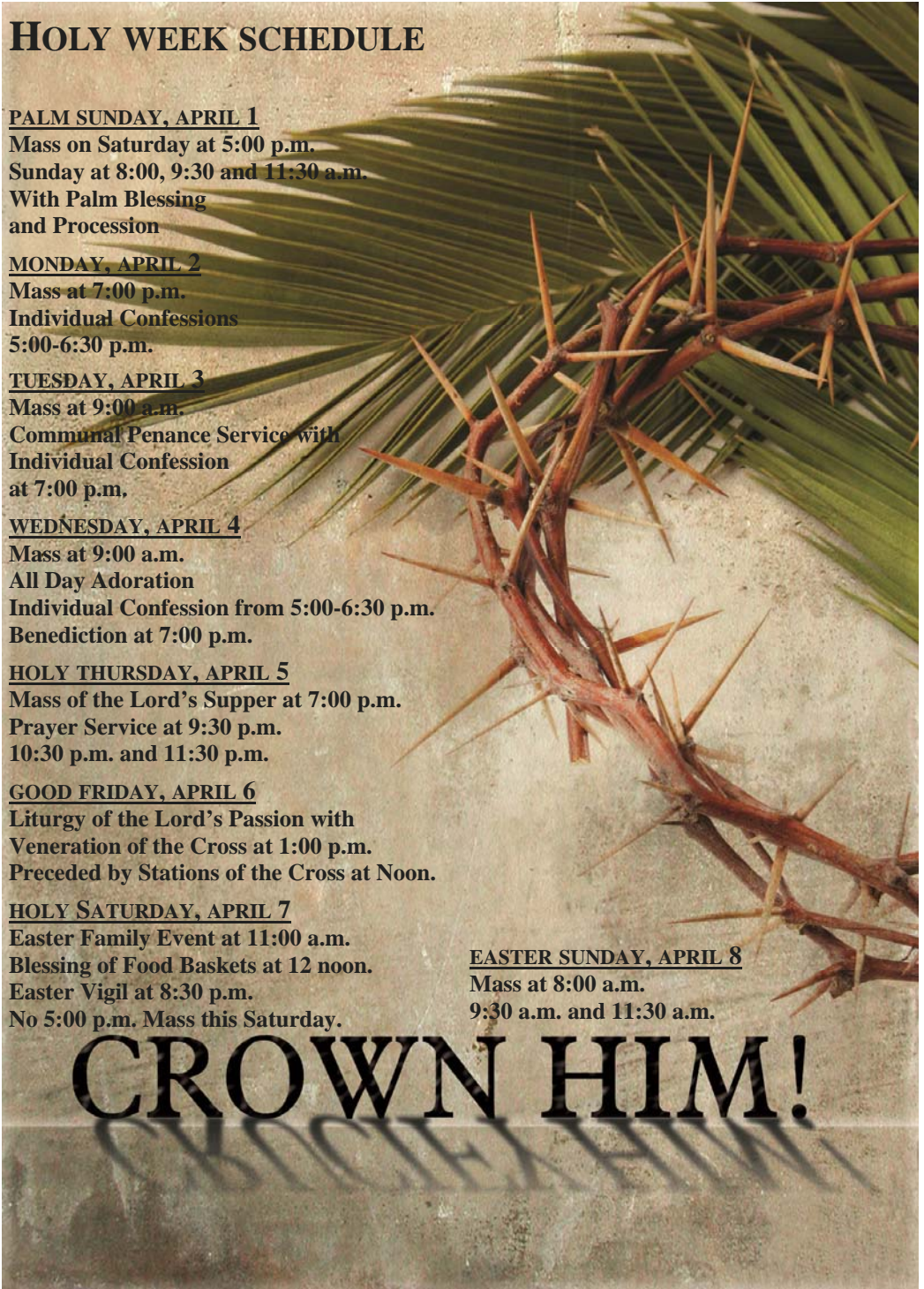
HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 7

Easter Family Event at 11:00 a.m.
Blessing of Food Baskets at 12 noon.
Easter Vigil at 8:30 p.m.
No 5:00 p.m. Mass this Saturday.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 8

Mass at 8:00 a.m.
9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

CROWN HIM!



PARISH NEWS

Here's what's happening this week!

Monday, April 2:

- *11:30 a.m. Senior Cards
- *5:00-6:30 p.m. Individual Confessions
- *7:00 p.m. Mass
- *7:45 p.m. Adult Bells
- *8:00 p.m. Contemporary Ensemble Rehearsal

Tuesday, April 3:

- *9:00 a.m. Mass
- *5:00 p.m. Junior Choir and Bells
- *7:00 p.m. Communal Penance Service With Individual Confession

Wednesday, April 4:

- *9:00 a.m. Mass
- *All Day Adoration
- *5:00-6:30 p.m. Individual Confession
- *7:00 p.m. Benediction
- *7:30 p.m. Adult Choir

Thursday, April 5:

- *7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper
- *9:30 p.m. Prayer Service
- *10:30 p.m. Prayer Service
- *11:30 p.m. Prayer Services

Friday, April 6:

- *12:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross led Our by teens
- *1:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
- *Office Closes at Noon

Saturday, April 7:

- *11:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt
- *12:00 p.m. Blessing of Food Baskets
- *8:30 p.m. Easter Vigil
- *No 5:00 p.m. Mass
- *Office Closed

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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 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Sunday — 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

** Please Note that the Parish Office will close at Noon on Good Friday and will reopen at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 10. Tuesday, April 10 and Wednesday, April 11 the office will close at 4:30.*

Easter Egg Hunt

Join us on Saturday, April 7 for the annual Family Easter Event. We will begin at 11:00 a.m. and end at 12 noon. We will listen to a story, decorate a bag, have a snack, and hunt for Easter Eggs outside. We will meet in the church to begin our activities. Please bring your own basket to collect eggs. This event takes place rain or shine! Everyone is welcome. This year we are asking for donations of vegetable seeds for the Community Garden. We plan on raising vegetables for donation to the Samaritan House. If families could bring one packet of vegetable seeds to the Easter Event, it would be helpful, though it is not a requirement for participation. Here are the vegetables we aim to grow: zucchini, summer squash, peppers, potatoes, green beans, onions, pumpkins, beets, radishes and cucumbers. Thank you for your help.



A Call To Community



Welcome To All Who Enter Our Doors This Easter Season

We delight in seeing and greeting everyone during this joyous Easter Season. To those of you who have been unable to be part of this community recently for whatever reason, we are happy that you have chosen to celebrate with us. Looking ahead, we are hosting a Registration Weekend on May 12 and 13 after all masses. If you have missed being part of a community who worships, socializes, and serves together, you are invited to join us. Maybe you have been attending SS John and Paul but have yet to formally register as a parishioner. Maybe you have recently moved here. Maybe you have some questions about the Catholic Church or are interested in becoming Catholic, we want to meet you. Perhaps you have left church because of issues that made it hard for you to remain in community, we want to help you address your concerns. Members of the Hospitality/Evangelization committee will be available to talk to you about our programs and opportunities or to answers any questions or concerns you may have.

Please join us for a great outreach program happening here soon: "Reconnect" on Wednesday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m. here at SSJP:

This is an evening geared towards Catholics who are not connected to a parish or have left the Church for any reason.

"Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you."

~Romans 16:16~

SPRING SCRIPTURE

There will be two new Scripture series beginning in April

The first series will be on Tuesday evening and will study the Book of Revelation, which is the last book of the Bible. It is one of the more difficult books of the Bible because of its unfamiliar and extravagant symbolism which is unfamiliar to today's reader. The Book of Revelation cannot be adequately understood except against the historical background that brought about its writing.

Dates: April 17, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, 12

Time: 6:30-8:00 pm

The second series will be on Wednesday morning and will study the Gospel of John. John's account of Jesus is both simple and profound. His focus on the human, earthly life of the Word of God, and God's ultimate offer of divine life to humans is sometimes so big that we cannot comprehend it. This series takes us into the depth of the divinity of Jesus and opens doors to see him in new ways.

Dates: April 18, 25
May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Time: 9:30 a.m.



Books will be available in the parish office, the cost is:

\$13.00 for Revelations;

\$8.00 for Gospel of John

G.R.A.C.E.

**Growing Responding
As Catholics Everyday**

For: Adults, Senior Citizens,
Married without children,
Single Adults,
Families

Next Session
April 22, 24, 25, 27

**Grades 1-6 Age-Specific
Fall Sessions**

Monday or Tuesday Afternoon:
4:45-6:00 p.m.

Tuesday Evening: 6:30-7:45 p.m.
Next Fall

**Early Childhood
Sunday Program**

Held during the 9:30 a.m. Mass
(for late 4 and 5 year olds)
No EC on GRACE weeks
Last session April 1

Children's Liturgy Of The Word

During 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Masses
(for Grades 1 on up)

FAITH FORMATION

G.R.A.C.E

Growing Responding As Catholics Everyday

—Next Session—
April 22, 24, 25, 27
6:00-8:30 p.m.

Theme: Making Each Day Prayerful and Holy
Catechetical Area: Prayer and Spirituality

This month's goal is:

- To expose participants to the rich Catholic traditions in daily prayer
 - To understand the value of the discipline of daily prayer
 - To build daily practices in our lives

April Menu:
Chicken Strips and
Cheesy Potatoes



Visit our website at: www.ssjohnandpaul.org

**G.R.A.C.E—Open to all
Parishioners—Walk-ins
Welcome!**

Our monthly G.R.A.C.E Program is for All people. If you have never attended please consider coming to our next session. You can pick from four nights to attend—just come and sign in. Spend some time learning more about your faith and getting the encouragement needed to live that faith on a daily basis.



**SKY: Everything is
Possible with GOD**

Coming this Summer
Vacation Bible School
July 16 through 20
9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon

Lent/Easter

Lent is coming to an end. Hopefully we have spent this time opening the windows of our hearts, minds and bodies to the potential for new birth and of rejuvenating our tired spirits.

We look forward to Easter with joy and hope for all it promises.



First Communion



Please pray for the young people of the parish who will be making their First Communion between Easter and Pentecost.

Echoes Of Faith

The next Catechist Formation meeting will be held Wednesday, April 18 at 6:00 p.m. We will finish our discussion on Liturgy and Sacraments.

Please R.S.V.P. to Karen at kpeters@ssjohnandpaul.org or Kathryn at klocke@ssjohnandpaul.org or call either of them at 586-781-9488.

Lesson Planning

For the GRACE monthly sessions will take place on Wednesday, April 18 at 7:15 p.m.



TEEN NEWS

Attention all 9-12 Graders:

- ◆ Our next 9-12 grade teen meeting will be held on April 15 from **6:30-8:30 p.m.** Bring a friend and join us.
- ◆ Save the date-**All Teens And Altar Servers**-June 26 for **Cedar Point!** Permission slips will be coming out soon and seats are given on a first come first serve basis. Plan ahead and be watching for more information about this wonderful day of adventure.

Attention All Future Confirmation Candidates:



- ◆ Please remember that you **Must** be present for the 5:00 p.m. mass on April 21 to be presented to the community as a candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- ◆ Please remember to get in your baptismal information (pink sheet) to the office **No Later than April 1** so that invitations can go out to your sponsors. The candidate/sponsor evening will begin directly after the 5:00 mass which will include a light meal. If there are any parents that would like to help in serving the meal and doing the simple clean up, please call Mrs. Peters at 586-781-9488. Your help would be greatly appreciated!

“Let’s Talk” About The Hunger Games



**Sunday, April 15
5:00-6:30 p.m.**

Calling all 6-12 graders and their parents (and anyone else who would like to join the conversation) to discuss this book/movie.

- Is it ever right to kill others to save my group/community?
- What does this book/movie have to say about society’s values?
- Is there anything that you want to talk about?

Pizza and pop will be served. Teens are invited to stay for Youth Group immediately following “Let’s Talk”.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Graduate Studies in Theology for Ministry or for Teaching

SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary offers theological education for ministry and for teaching. Selected courses are offered day and evening and on line this spring. You will enjoy the welcoming environment of the seminary, individual attention of faculty and librarians.

Check the web: www.sscms.edu, or call Sr. Karen Shirilla at 248-683-0312 for more information about the spring schedule: May 14 – June 29, 2012.

Registrations are accepted the week of April 9. Tuition scholarships are available.

Sr. Karen Shirilla

Capuchin Retreat Center

62460 Mt. Vernon Rd.
Washington

Fr. Ron Smith presents "Francis and Healing" on Saturday, April 14 from 1:00-4:15 p.m. at Capuchin Retreat Center. St Francis of Assisi wanted to reach out and bring healing to the world in all of its brokenness. To register for this program contact Rose Ann Miller at 248 651-4826; or check us out on-line at www.capretreat.org.

For anyone struggling with any addiction, Fred Cavaiani will facilitate a "12-Step Spirituality for AA, Al-Anon and others Retreat Weekend" April 13-15. Enjoy the beauty of Spring on the 95 acres of Capuchin Retreat Center as you heal during this very special retreat weekend. To register for this program contact Rose Ann Miller at 248-651-4826.

Plan a Spring Dinner Date on with your Spouse on Sunday, April 22 from 4:30 - 8:00 p.m. on the Grounds of the Capuchin Retreat Center. Fred Cavaiani will present a program following a wonderful, candle-lit dinner. To register for this program contact Rose Ann Miller at 248 651-4826; or check us out on-line at www.capretreat.org.

A Driving Need

Hundreds of older and disabled neighbors in our community need help getting to doctor appointments, the grocery store or other essential errands. Being able to get food and medical care can make it possible for them to remain in their homes for as long as possible.



The Macomb County Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers program is in need of volunteers who can provide transportation in the local area. We especially need drivers who are available during daytime business hours—mornings and afternoons. If you have just a couple of hours a month that you can give to someone in need, you can make a huge difference in the life of a struggling neighbor. Please call Connie today at 586-757-5551

St. Augustine Good Friday Fish Fry

68035 Main St. Richmond, MI
Friday, April 6, from 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Adults: \$9.00
Seniors: \$8.00
Kids 6-12: \$5.00
Under 5: Free

- Baked or fried fish with French fries or baked potato,
- Cheese Pizza and fries,
- Coleslaw, Rolls and butter. Beverage included. Deserts available.

Thank you for your continued support of St. Augustine School.

Divine Mercy Sunday

St. Andrews in Rochester
April 15, 2:00 p.m.

Monsignor Jeffrey Monforton will be speaking. For more information contact St. Andrews at 248-651-7486

CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Parish Wide Lenten Outreach

This Lenten season, SS. John and Paul will sponsor a collection of personal hygiene items for the **Agape Center and Samaritan House**. Food stamps and Bridge Cards do not cover non-food items, so those struggling to make ends meet often go without these things. Some suggestions for donations are:

- *Shampoo and Conditioner*
- *Feminine hygiene items*
- *Toothpaste/toothbrush*
- *Deodorant (men's and women's)*
- *Body lotion*
- *Razors and shaving cream*
- *Diapers (all sizes)*
- *Soap/body wash*



A second collection is for non-perishable food for **St. Christine's** food pantry in the Brightmoor neighborhood of Detroit. We have been to the soup kitchen there several times now and they have expressed a great need for the following items for their food pantry:

- *Canned fruit*
- *Canned spaghetti, Spaghetti's or Ravioli*
- *Canned meat (Spam, chicken & dumplings, etc.)*
- *Boxed Macaroni & Cheese*
- *Hamburger Helper*
- *Canisters of dry, non-dairy coffee creamer*



Two labeled bins for you to deposit your donations will be located in the hallway to the Activities Center for the entire Lenten season.

We will be in need of drivers to take donations to the St. Christine food pantry. It is located on Fenkell (Five Mile) between Lahser and Telegraph. Please call the office if you can help in this way.

Help Fight Senior Hunger

The Macomb County Community Services Agency (MCCSA), Senior Nutrition Program (Meals-on-Wheels) is inviting you to join other volunteers in fighting senior hunger by delivering meals to senior citizens in our community.



Volunteers are asked to drive a lunch route, approximately 1—1 1/2 hour twice (2X) a month. Drivers use their personal automobile. Mileage is reimbursed. The meals are delivered daily, Monday through Friday.

You are invited to learn more about the Meals-on-Wheels mission. For more information and to sign up for a great and rewarding volunteer opportunity, please call Macomb County Community Services Agency, Senior Nutrition Program at 586-469-5228 or sign up online at: www.macombcountymi.gov/mccsa

Macomb Habitat: Homeowners Wanted

Macomb Habitat for Humanity has 12 homes planned without an assigned family for the 2012 build season. Homeowner applications are assessed monthly and meetings are held quarterly, with the next one in mid-June.

There are four criteria used in selecting homeowners: 1) Ability to pay; 2) Need; 3) Willingness to partner; and 4) Ties to Macomb County.

Applicants must be able to place a down payment of \$1,000 on the home and first year of insurance, approximately \$800. They must be able to afford monthly payments of approximately \$450—600. They must be currently living in substandard housing (unhealthy or unsafe, with friends or relatives, mortgage out of reach or housing costs too high for income). Homeowners must also take classes in budget and finance and homeowner education. They must also volunteer 250 hours of sweat equity. Please call 586-263-1540 for more information on how to apply.

Soup Kitchen News

On the third Tuesday of every other month (February, April, June, etc.) a group of six SS. John and Paul parishioners leave for the Mt. Clemens Salvation Army Soup Kitchen to prepare and serve a hearty spaghetti lunch, complete with a green salad and a fruit salad, for approximately 100 people. **Our next lunch will be served Tuesday, April 17, 2012.**

If you would like to volunteer for this worthwhile endeavor, either in the preparation (we especially need strong men), or as a donor of the food that is served, please contact Kathy Mollon at 586-781-9010, Pat Sagert at 586-781-7035 or Barbara Jarzembki at 586-336-1450. **If you have been contacted about donating food items, please return the call so we know all needed food items have been accounted for.**



We thank you for your cooperation and support!

Shredding Day and Unused Prescription Disposal

Free paper shredding for Macomb County senior citizens will be available on Thursday, April 5 from 9:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m. at 21885 Dunham Road, Clinton Township. Many people have had their identity stolen and financial information compromised. Now is your chance to protect your information. If you are over age 60, gather your papers and Absolute Shreds of Auburn Hills will shred them in seconds while you watch! There is a limit of 4 boxes/bags of personal information per household.

Also, if you have any unused or outdated medications, bring them as well. A Macomb County Sheriff deputy and the Macomb County Environmental Health Department will be on hand to dispose of any unwanted medications. For more information, please call 586-469-6313.

Pastor's Perspective

*Passion (Palm) Sunday

The official title for this weekend is Passion Sunday, which we more popularly call Palm Sunday, due to the blessed palms we receive. On the front of the bulletin you will see the artwork for this Sunday: a palm branch under the corner of a crown of thorns. The words at the bottom read "Crown Him" but with shadowed, mirrored words saying "Crucify Him". That captures perfectly the tenor of this feast. The very same people (us!) who are excited about the Lord and what he means for us and the nation, raising palm branches and singing "Hosanna to the son of David, our king" quickly turn into that angry mob yelling "Crucify him!" How can we hold within ourselves both such joy, hope and goodness and such pettiness, anger and meanness? Yet we do. And often at the same time. The fact that we humans did and would again crucify the Son of God (make no mistake, we would all be complicit in it in some way) is the ultimate symbol of sin gone wild. It erupts in violence against the innocent, even if the innocent is the very gift of God in human form. As such, the cross needs to be the symbol of the end of all violence. Either we see the dead end that violence always leads to or else we open up the destructive force of violence unleashed and untamed and swallow many more innocent victims.

When we talk about surgical strikes, about limited nuclear war, and think that will lead to peace, we kid ourselves. When we insist on capital punishment and the suffering of those who have done great violence to others, we hurt ourselves. When we ignore the violence of our urban areas and think "it is not my problem" or that we should not spend tax resources on changing such environments, we are complicit with that violence. Violence begets violence. The only end to violence is when people are willing to not return violence for violence and to offer another alternative. That is never easy, whether on an individual or community level. But if we don't strive for that, we so quickly become identical to the very mob that would crucify Jesus, finding some excuse or explanation that tries to

exonerate us from responsibility. We deceive ourselves.

What to do? Unite ourselves to the full reality of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection. Let it transform us and give us strength to let go of revenge and offer forgiveness. Let us meditate on the two passion narratives this week—the one from Mark's gospel today and the one from John's gospel on Friday—and say "no" to violence in any form. Interestingly the gospel of John is perhaps the most difficult one to read in this regard because we see scattered throughout it the term "the Jews" used in a very negative, pejorative way. But Jesus and the disciples were all Jews and so that negative use of the term doesn't make sense in the context of Jesus' day. It comes from the time when the gospel was written, and there had been an angry split between Jewish Christians no longer allowed in the synagogue and the Jewish leaders who did not accept the Christian interpretation of the Messiah (Christ). We need to hear in the term "the Jews" not some justification for a negative attitude toward Judaism and Jewish people (as happened in most of our Christian history) but the sad understanding that even the earliest Christian community did not really embrace fully or understand fully the implications of our Savior's death.

Crown him or crucify him.
Those are our options which we live out by the choices we make each day.

*Holy Week

The schedule for the week is on the front page. Our children are on spring break from school and so a lot of families are travelling. If you read this, remember to include Holy Week in your travels. I mention an article below about raising children in the Catholic faith and one of the important points made by the author is the value of constancy in practicing the faith. If vacations mean vacations from Eucharist or prayer or Good Friday or Easter, then what have we taught our children? You are never that far from a Catholic parish. Let it be part of the vacation experience to join in another Catholic community.

For those who are sticking around town, join us for the Tuesday night communal penance with individual confession. Several priests will be joining me that evening. If you have the time, stop in on Wednesday and take a quiet prayer break in the church, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on the altar. We end that day of adoration with a Benediction service at 7:00 p.m. And, if it is at all possible, do yourself and your family a favor and participate in the three central "Triduum" celebrations: Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, and the Easter Vigil at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday. The timing of the Easter Vigil is later so as to at least be at dusk leading into darkness, when we light the Easter fire and listen to the wonderful story of salvation through our Scripture readings, allowing the Easter (Paschal) Candle's light to be our focus in an otherwise darkened church. At the Easter Vigil we celebrate the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist as we fully initiate several adult members of our community.

The point of all these celebrations is not to pretend we are re-enacting them with Jesus for the first time. His Last Supper, crucifixion and death, and resurrection have happened. We enter into rituals that connect us to those events so that we might better embrace the awesome mystery of what Jesus did for our salvation and to grasp a bit more clearly the wondrous reality that we can share in that gift of life every time we gather for liturgy.

We often have a wrong idea about what "holy" means. "Holy" means to be whole and complete but also to be set apart by and for God. Holy Week becomes "holy" for us when we intentionally take the time to journey with the faith community, as it sets itself apart from the regular rhythms of the week. To connect our lives to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ is what makes our lives ultimately healed and whole. We have been using the theme "dare to be holy" throughout the Lenten season. This week is a culmination of all that we have tried to focus on and do. Be part of it. Dare to be holy, set apart to be made whole, by joining in the holy week celebrations.

*Bringing Up “Catholic Children”

An article by Elizabeth K. Cahill, “Children of God”, appeared in the February 27th edition of *America* magazine, a Jesuit-sponsored journal devoted to Catholic views and concerns. In that article she describes the challenges she and her husband faced in raising their children Catholic. She draws upon an idea that comes out of the Second Vatican Council, which calls the Christian family a “domestic Church”. Where two or more are gathered in the name of Jesus, he promises to be present. As ministers of the sacrament of Marriage to one another, Christian husbands and wives mediate the present of Christ to each other and their children in a way analogous to the gathering of the larger faith community on Sunday and the role of the ordained priest. She highlights four “practices of the domestic Church” she found essential in their Catholic parenting over the years.

(1) **Constancy.** By that she means regular patterns of meals and time together, at which prayer is part of the pattern; Sunday Mass together whether at home or on vacation; night time rituals before bed; etc. Do not underestimate the importance of constancy, even if children chafe a bit at some of the routines. It has to be the adults who provide that constancy. If they do not, then they undercut everything else they are saying about the importance of faith.

(2) **Involvement.** She looks back at the many, varied ways the family got involved in the parish, whether in liturgical ministry, catechetics, helping with Christian Service projects, and so forth. All of that connected the family and the children to the parish faith community.

(3) **Intellectual engagement with the best of the Catholic Tradition.** This means that there were resources out in the open (Catholic magazines, books, and so on); commitment to learning more about the Catholic faith; a willingness to allow and engage questions. This was not a “believe it because I am telling you” approach but a willingness to explore together aspects and questions of the faith, even if they might have disagreements.

(4) **Honesty.** Not afraid to acknowledge, talk through, and pray

about the Church’s imperfections and its own internal injustices (such as still not embracing a full role for women); but the amazing good that the Church has been and does as well.

Those were her four practices for bringing up children in the Catholic faith. Not bad. What would yours be? It is for articles like this that I would encourage families to subscribe to a few intellectually engaging Catholic magazines like *America*, *Commonweal*, *Faith*, or *U.S. Catholic*. I would also add a fifth point to her other four: (5) parents who are willing to learn more about and grow in their own faith throughout their lives.

*Changing Lives Together

A few people have asked how we are doing with our major capital campaign, Changing Lives Together. They haven’t seen anything in the bulletin for a couple of months. Please note that there is a weekly update on our parish webpage at ssjohnandpaul.org and you can always contact the parish via phone or email. After five months of weekly updates in the bulletin, we sent another reminder letter to all those we had not yet heard from at the beginning of February. We will now back off a little until the fall. Each fall, during the three years of the campaign, we will contact new parish members as well as the parishioners who have not yet responded, and we will send all parish members an update. If another 150 or so parish members respond during the three years, we will be able to achieve our goal. Our goal is \$1.66 million. Currently we have received pledges of about \$1,340,000 from 440 people and approximately \$410,000 has already been paid.

A second question arose when I mentioned in a recent bulletin that, after we build the Parish Center, we will still have the \$1 million debt to pay, which was incurred when the extra 11 acres of property was bought in 2001. That is not new information. It has been part of all the material that was given out, when conducting the campaign. We had asked the diocese to reconsider the amount, because we believed that the pastor at

the time and the archbishop (or his advisors) at the time paid an excessive amount for that land. But the parish did sign off on that loan and we always knew it was our debt to pay. The only thing that has changed is that we have exhausted our appeals and the debt stands as it always did: \$1 million with no interest to be paid until a phase one project for a new building is constructed. After that, interest kicks in and we will probably have 10 years to pay off that debt. But to emphasize: NONE of the Changing Lives Together money has been or will be used to for debt payment. ALL of the Changing Lives Together monies that come back to the parish will be used for the new Parish Center.

A third question has been the status of the Prayer Garden, which will include memorial bricks and other memorial items connected to different levels of giving during Changing Lives Together. A committee has been meeting and working on a design for the area in front of the church to be re-shaped as a prayer garden. They are in the early stages of that work. The goal is to have the beginnings of that prayer garden in place sometime this fall. For those whose pledges are paid in full and have reached a given memorial level, you will be contacted about the wording you want to put on the memorial brick/item. Again, none of the Changing Lives Together monies are being used for this prayer garden. That comes out of the yearly operating budget.

Because so many attend the Easter Masses, we will put another update on Changing Lives Together next week as well. Thank you to all who are faithfully paying their pledges or have completed their pledges.

Fr. Buersmeyer



Passion Sunday

Eucharistic Prayer Requests

Saturday, March 31, 2012

5:00 p.m.—
 Anna Kaltz by Herbert Kaltz
 Anna Kaminski by Fran Tasky

Sunday, April 1, 2012

8:00 a.m. —
 The Parishioners of SS. John and Paul

9:30 a.m. —
 Catherine and Albert Puzzuoli by
 Joanne Vrana Family
 Donna Baran by Lil Horn
 Helen C. Peters by Mary Myler

11:30 a.m. —
 The Parishioners of SS. John and Paul

Monday, April 2, 2012

7:00 p.m. —
 The Parishioners of SS. John and Paul

Tuesday, April 3, 2012

9:00 a.m. —
 The Parishioners of SS. John and Paul

Wednesday, April 4, 2012

9:00 a.m. —
 Les Kaminski by Mary Jo Kaminski

Thursday, April 5, 2012

7:00 p.m. —
 The Parishioners of SS. John and Paul

Saturday, April 7, 2012

8:30 p.m.—
 For all Living and Deceased
 Relatives and Friends of SS. John
 and Paul Parishioners

Sunday, April 8, 2012

8:00 a.m. —
 For all Living and Deceased
 Relatives and Friends of SS. John
 and Paul Parishioners

9:30 a.m. —
 For all Living and Deceased
 Relatives and Friends of SS. John
 and Paul Parishioners

11:30 a.m. —
 For all Living and Deceased
 Relatives and Friends of SS. John
 and Paul Parishioners

A Reminder

Please mark your envelope before dropping it into the collection basket. It simplifies the work of the counters who volunteer their time each Sunday. Unmarked envelopes must be marked by the counters as they open them so that your donation can be recorded by our parish secretary. Thank you.



STEWARDSHIP

Gratefully Received On March 24-25, 2012



Weekly budget \$11,100.00
 Offertory \$10,175.81
 No. Sunday envelopes used 288
 ESO (March 30) \$2,497.00
 No. ESO 26

Other Monies / (# Envelopes)
 Capital Imprv / (1) \$25.00
 Children / (7) \$58.00
 Easter Flowers / (13) \$270.00
 Cath. Relief App. / (59) \$2,358.00

YTD as of 03/31/12
 YTD Budget \$467,184.00
 YTD Offertory \$470,381.00
 Overage \$3,197.00

"I will be their God and they shall be my people ..."

..... -Jeremiah 31:33

What does it mean to be God's people? It means that first we recognize that everything we have and everything we are truly belongs to God. It also means that we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for the world just as God cares for us.

Stewardship

...a way of life

Share time and talent

Sacrificial Giving

Joyfully accept His gifts

Pray and give thanks

OTHER NEWS

Easter Vigil Candidates

Please pray for our Candidates who are preparing for Full Initiation into the Catholic Church at this year's Easter Vigil Service, Saturday, April 7 at 8:30 p.m.

- Colleen Jacks, who will receive the sacraments receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation
- Herb Jankowsky, who will receive the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation.
- Brandon Jack who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation
- Mary Myler, who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation

Tax Help

From the IRS government website. If you have an AGI less than \$57K, there are numerous companies where you can free file your Federal taxes. For information and help,

Go to: <http://apps.irs.gov/app/freeFile/jsp/index.jsp?ck>

Pray for our Sick

Sally Jenkins	Kylie Rodda
Matthew Zurek	Michalene Grifka
Drew Pointe	Michelle Gregorich
Douglas Wolfbauer	Michelle Wheaton
Ron Moscow	

Sponsor of the Week

This week's sponsor is **Concraft Incorporated**. 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
April 1, 2012**

Sunday, April 1

Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16; Ps 22; Is 50:4-7;
Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

Monday, April 2

Is 42:1-7; Ps 27; Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday, April 3:

Is 49:1-6; Ps 71; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday, April 4:

Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69; Mt 26:14-25

Thursday, April 5:

Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9; Ps 89;
Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21
Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116; 1 Cor 11:23-26;
Jn 13:1-15

Friday, April 6:

Is 52:13—53:12; Ps 31; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9;
Jn 18:1—19:42

Saturday, April 7:

Vigil: Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26□31a; Ps 104 or
33; Gn 22:1□18 or 22:1□2, 9a, 10□13,
15□18; Ps 16, Ex 14:15—15:1; Ex 15;
Is 54:5□14; Ps 30, Is 55:1□11; Is 12; Bar
3:9□15, 32—4:4; Ps 19; Ez 36:16-17a, 18□28;
Ps 42 or Is 12; 2-6 or Ps 51; Rom 6:3□11;
Ps 118; Mk 16:1-7

Sunday, April 8:

Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118; Col 3:1-4 or
1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7

Liturgical appointments for April 7 - 8, 2012				
Mass	8:30 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	11:30 a.m.
Celebrant/ Homilist	Fr. Buersmeyer	Fr. Sayes	Fr. Buersmeyer	Fr. Buersmeyer
Sacristan				
Lectors				
Communion Ministers	See Sign-Up Sheet			
*Captain				
Altar Servers				
Greeters				
Ushers				
*Captain				
Collection Counters	Team # 4: Tom Klakulak, Ron DiDomenico, Debbie DiDomenico, Mary Ann Klakulak, Joe Martino, Sue Martino, Larry Weathers, Marilyn Weathers.			

SS. John and Paul Parish Directory
7777 W. 28 Mile Road • Washington, MI 48094

Parish Office586.781.9010
Christian Formation Office.....586.781.9488
Fax.....586.781.7061
Parish Website.....www.ssjohnandpaul.org

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

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

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

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

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

Catholic Services of Macomb
 Contact at 586-416-2300 or www.csmacomb.org

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 Debbie Kennard
 dkennard@ssjohnandpaul.org
Business Manager.....Paula Klozik
 pklozik@ssjohnandpaul.org
Pastoral Associate.....Bridget Theodoroff
 btheodoroff@ssjohnandpaul.org
Pastoral Associate.....JoAnne Owens
 jowens@ssjohnandpaul.org
Coordinator of Faith Formation Kathryn Locke
 klocke@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 CoordinatorKathy Mollon
 kmollon@ssjohnandpaul.org

	CHAIRPERSON		VICE-CHAIRPERSON		SECRETARY	
PASTORAL COUNCIL OFFICERS	Deane Maue	586.992.9884	Martha Catalano	586.453.5759	Jeff Pyke	586.242.4114
FINANCE COUNCIL OFFICERS	John Krieg	586.786.9770	Chris McNeely	586.992.0378	Dan Zabkowski	586.786.6499