

### PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

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### PARISH WIDE

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#### 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.

## Holy Week Schedule

### PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 1

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

### MONDAY, APRIL 2

Mass at 7:00 p.m.  
Individual Confessions from 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 Confessions 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 12 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.

### Church Cleaning for Easter

Sunday, April 1 at 12:30 p.m.  
(after the 11:30 a.m. Mass)



~ Lunch provided ~



We need lots of help with the overall cleaning of the church, including all of the chairs. Many hands will be needed. We ask for One Hour of your time. Why not come as a family and give us a hand. Please sign up on the poster in the hallway so that we may have an accurate count for the lunch order.

## Outdoor Stations of the Cross

Friday, March 30  
beginning at 7:00 p.m.  
at the Capuchin  
Retreat Center



Dress for the weather!

The only way we will not be outside is if it is raining profusely.

The Capuchin Retreat Center is located at 62460 Mt. Vernon Road about 1/3 mile North of 28 Mile Road.

PARISH NEWS

Here's what's happening this week!

Monday, March 26:

- \*7:00 p.m. Mass
- \*7:45 p.m. Community Garden Mtg.
- \*7:45 p.m. Adult Bells

Tuesday, March 27:

- \*9:00 a.m. Mass
- \*9:45 a.m. Lenten Book Discussion
- \*5:00 p.m. Junior Choir and Bells

Wednesday, March 28:

- \*9:00 a.m. Mass
- \*6:30 p.m. VBS mtg.
- \*7:00 p.m. 8th grade Confirmation Candidate Make-Up Mtg.
- \*7:00 p.m. Cantor Mtg.

Thursday, March 29:

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

Friday, March 30:

- \*7:00 p.m. Outdoor Stations of the Cross at Capuchin Retreat Center

Saturday, March 31:

- \*12:30 p.m. English as a Second Language
- \*3:00 p.m. Confession
- \*5:00 p.m. Mass

\* \* \* \* \*

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.

Happy Birthday Father Ron



Celebrating Father Ron's Birthday after the 9:30 a.m. Mass March 18.



Community Garden Meeting



Monday, March 26 7:45 p.m. (after 7:00 p.m. Mass)

This is the first meeting to plan our garden for 2012. We grow organic vegetables for donation to our local food pantries. Please consider being part of this great parish project. Many volunteers are needed throughout the planting, growing, and harvesting times. This is a wonderful service opportunity for people of all ages and families.

Even if you are unable to attend this meeting, watch the bulletin, the web-site, and bulletin boards for opportunities to help with the SSJP Community Garden. Questions? Call Bridget or Paula at 586-781-9010

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.



**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.

**Early Childhood  
Sunday Program**

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

**Children's Liturgy Of The Word**

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

**Looking Ahead...**

As my first year as coordinator starts winding down I am looking with excitement to next year. As a staff we have already been talking about our topics for next year's monthly GRACE sessions and several of us will begin working on re-vamping our age-specific program.

I am also looking forward to my second Vacation Bible School, SKY: Everything is Possible with God, in July. There is so much going on as we wrap up our year; just one more GRACE monthly session in April, and the time is flying by.

I would like to invite you, over the next several months, to really think about getting involved in one of the many formational programs in the parish. You won't regret it!

Peace and Joy,  
Kathryn



**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](http://www.ssjohnandpaul.org)



Many thanks to all the Catechists and assistants who shared their time, talent, and faith with the children in our GRACE age-specific program.

Your dedication and support are greatly appreciated. I look forward to our next year together.

Peace and Joy,  
Kathryn

**VBS Planning  
Meeting For All  
Interested in Helping**

Wednesday, March 28  
at 6:30 p.m.

SKY: Vacation Bible School  
Everything is Possible  
With God

July 16-20, 2012



**GRACE REGISTRATION**

Registration forms will be available at the April sessions for anyone who would like to register for next years GRACE Gatherings.

This will include the following areas of our GRACE programs:

- ◆ Early Childhood
- ◆ Age-Specific GRACE sessions
- ◆ Monthly GRACE sessions



**Echoes Of Faith**

The next Catechist Formation will be held April 18, at 6:00 p.m. The topic is Prayer and Spirituality.

Please R.S.V.P. to Karen or Kathryn  
[kpeters@ssjohnandpaul.org](mailto:kpeters@ssjohnandpaul.org)  
[klocke@ssjohnandpaul.org](mailto:klocke@ssjohnandpaul.org)  
586-781-9488

**Lesson Planning**

for the GRACE monthly sessions will take place on 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 March 25 from **6:30-8:30 p.m.**

### Attention All 7-12 Graders

- ◆ If you will be here for Good Friday, **we really need you!** We are looking for teens that will help us with the Good Friday Stations of the Cross. We will have a practice on **March 25 from 5:00-6:30 p.m.** A light dinner will be served and then youth group will begin right after the practice of the stations. Please check your calendars and let me know if you will be here and are willing to help



To Nicole McFalls and Ben Sobanski who gave up their weekend to drive and chaperone this wonderful retreat. We shared the St. Benedict Retreat Center with 54 others from four other parishes. The weather was perfect and a Great Time was had by all. Thank you to our awesome teens for making this such a wonderful experience! We are truly blessed to have you in our parish family!

Mrs. Peters



Free time down at the lake



### Attention All Grade 8 Future Confirmation Candidates



If you missed the Tuesday, March 6 Parent/Teen Orientation for Confirmation, then please attend the makeup meeting on Wednesday, March 28 at 7:00 p.m. This will be the only makeup session there is, so please make sure one parent and your future candidate attends this session.

Any questions please give Mrs. Peters a call at 586-781-9488.

### Group shot in front of the Monastery Sign



### Getting Ready for next activity



Teens enjoying the ice breakers

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### 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

### Saint Augustine School's Kindergarten Round-up Tuesday, March 27, at 9:30 a.m.

Children and Parents who are interested in enrolling in St. Augustine School's 2012-2013 Kindergarten class are cordially invited to an informational morning where you can meet the staff, take a ride on a school bus and receive advice from school and health care professionals about starting school. Please call 586-727-9365 for reservations. St. Augustine's is located at 67901 Howard street in Richmond. Refreshments will be served.

### Free Electronic Recycling

Saturday, March 31,  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Did you know that on the last Saturday of the month from now until November, Shelby Township offers free electronic recycling for residents and neighboring communities.

The following items are accepted: *TV's, Monitors, Computers-including parts, Wires, Stereos, Printers, Game consoles, VCR's /DVD players, Hand held electronic devices, etc.*

The event is held at the township grounds, located on Van Dyke just south of 24 Mile Road.

## 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.

### Confident Caregiver Workshop Offered

A Free six week workshop series designed to help those caring for relatives with Alzheimer's disease, dementia or memory loss will be held in Clinton Township at the Macomb County Department of Senior Citizen Services Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m.—noon, beginning May 22. The workshop is sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging 1-B and the Alzheimer's Association. Please call 800-852-7795 to register.

### Project Rachel

Project Rachel began over fifteen years ago as an outreach of the Catholic Church to women, men and families who have been affected by abortion. The Church is a place of healing. It speaks the truth about abortion to men and women contemplating this action. 'Don't do it! It is wrong and it will hurt you and the baby, but it also speaks the full truth: 'If you have had an abortion, God's mercy is great enough to forgive that, too.' For information, Call 888-722-4355. All calls are confidential. Project Rachel is sponsored by the Archdiocese of Detroit.

### The Agape Center of North Macomb Vicariate

The Greek work AGAPE means "Love which is of and from God". God's love is displayed most clearly at the cross where Christ died for us. In the same way, we are to love others sacrificially. The building on St. Clement of Rome Parish property houses the North Macomb Christian Service Office and Hispanic Ministry. It is the place from which we, as a vicariate community, reach out to the needy. The essence of AGAPE love is self-sacrifice. This essential trait of AGAPE is experienced daily as volunteers spend hours to serve others with their time and talent, as farmers share their harvest, as persons from vicariate parishes donate food to stock the pantry shelves. The North Macomb pantry cares for hundreds of people who are unemployed or underemployed. Emergency food and personal items are provided.

AGAPE Center offers the following programs for those in need:

- **North Macomb Vicariate Pantry Schedule of Service**  
 Monday: 9:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday: 9:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.  
 Thursday: 9:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.—7:00 p.m.
- **Commodity Program**—Income eligible individuals and families receive monthly food at no cost through the emergency food assistance program.
- **Mount Clemens Medical Outreach Clinic**—Second Thursday of each month: 7:30 a.m.—12:00 Noon. The mobile clinic provides medical care for residents of Macomb and St. Clair counties who are without medical insurance benefits and do not have the financial resources to pay for service. First come, first served.
- **Hispanic Ministry**—Coordinator, Sr. Valerie Knoche, IHM. Ministry to spiritual and material needs of the Hispanic community, 586-336-6842 or 810-656-3282
- **Recovery, Inc. Support Group**—Thursday: 12:00 Noon—1:30 p.m. People from all walks of life come to recovery meetings because they share a common problem-nervous symptoms and fears. Contact: Kay Maniscalco at 586-623-2717
- **Romeo Alcoholics Anonymous Group**—Meet each Wednesday: 8:00 —9:30 p.m. and Sunday: 6:00-8:00 p.m. Contacts: John 810-459-0315 and Jeff 586-383-0991

Reach out



# Pastor's Perspective

## \*Fifth Sunday of Lent and Scrutiny #3

On this fifth Sunday of Lent we celebrate the third and final scrutiny for those preparing for full initiation at Easter. That is why the 9:30 a.m. Mass had the special gospel reading about Jesus' reviving Lazarus from the tomb. The candidates for initiation are asked to see their decision as a new life, a new beginning. If there is anything that might block that from happening—any attitude, fear, pattern of behavior, etc.—then now is the time to let that go. This year, the regular gospel for the day that the other Masses heard proclaimed would actually have worked almost as well. Some foreigners come up and ask Philip "Sir, we would like to see Jesus". What keeps us from seeing Jesus present in our lives? In others? In those in need? In the Eucharist? In the community of faith? Want to see Jesus? Then, as Jesus goes on to say, be like the grain of wheat that falls to the earth and dies so that it might bear much fruit. Want to see Jesus? Not only be like Jesus toward others, but as the body of Christ, be Jesus for others.

## \*Parish Pastoral Council

The Pastoral Council has approved a few minor changes in the Constitution/Operating Procedures. Before they are finalized it is required that the whole parish be notified and have a chance to review the suggested changes. There is a link to the document on the parish's homepage under "New and Noteworthy". If you have any suggestions to give, send them to Deane Maue, our Council president. His email is listed on the document and his phone number is on page 9 of this bulletin.

## \*Passion (Palm) Sunday March 25

Next Sunday we celebrate Passion Sunday with the blessing and distribution of palms. Weather permitting, we will begin with the blessing and procession with palms outside. The gospel

for the day is the Passion Narrative according to St. Mark the Evangelist. As in the past, there will be missalettes in the seat holders so that everyone can participate in the reading of the passion narrative. Rather than spending all sorts of money on new missalettes for Holy Week this year—since the readings and order of service is the same even with the new English translation of the Roman Missal—we will use the ones we have. But do note: the new translation of prayers and responses is not in those missals.

## \*Holy Week

Palm Sunday begins what is traditionally called "Holy Week". In one way it is not the best title for the week, because it groups together what are really three different liturgical seasons (Lent, Triduum, and Easter, see below). On the other hand it is a good reminder that as Lent closes we need to become very intentional about our connection to the community of faith and there are opportunities each day of Holy Week to do so.

The need to be intentional about connecting to Catholic prayer and worship is especially true for our families with children. The spring break week corresponds to Holy Week this year. I am sure that means many families might do some travelling. Please include Mass on Palm Sunday and Easter as well as participation in the Good Friday Liturgy (and Holy Thursday evening if at all possible) as part of that week, even if you are on the road. Such intentional decisions to make room for (or to dismiss) Catholic prayer and worship form our children for life. Set the example by bringing prayer into your Holy Week.

Here at the parish, as you look at your schedule for the week of April 1<sup>st</sup>, you are encouraged to connect to the following:

March 31/ April 1: **Passion Sunday Masses with Blessing of Palms and Proclamation of the Passion Narrative:** regular schedule of Saturday 5:00 p.m., Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.

- April 2, Monday, **Individual Confessions** 5:00- 6:30 p.m. and **Evening Mass** at 7:00 p.m.
- April 3, Tuesday **Morning Mass** at 9:00 a.m., **Communal Penance Service with Individual Confession** at 7:00 p.m.
- April 4, Wednesday **Morning Mass** at 9:00 a.m. followed by **All-day Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction** at 7:00 p.m., **Individual Confessions** 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.
- April 5, Thursday evening **Mass of the Lord's Supper with Washing of Feet and Procession with the Blessed Sacrament** at 7:00 p.m.; quiet prayer in the chapel of repose (Activities Center) from after Mass until midnight with very brief prayer services at 9:30, 10:30, and 11:30 p.m.
- April 6, Friday, noon Stations of the Cross led by our teens; **1:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion with Proclamation of the Passion, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion.** NB: the 1:00 p.m. liturgy is the one that all should try to participate in.
- April 7, Saturday, blessing of Easter baskets at 12 noon; **Easter Vigil Mass with Service of Light, Vigil of Readings, Initiation Sacraments, and Eucharist at 8:30 p.m.** This is the central worship event of the Church's entire year. If you have not participated in the Easter Vigil before, consider coming this year. No 5:00 p.m. Mass that Saturday.
- April 8, Sunday, **Easter Masses with Renewal of Baptismal Promises** at 8:00, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

## \*Sacrament of Penance

You will note in the above schedule that there are several opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance). There are extended individual times on Monday and Wednesday and a communal celebration on Tuesday evening. There will be several priests present for the Tuesday service. I will put on the website homepage a suggested "Examination of Conscience", along with a reminder of the steps involved in individual confession for those who would like to use it to prepare for this sacrament.

### \*The Holy Triduum and Lent

You will also note that the three central celebrations of our entire Church year take place on Holy Thursday evening, Good Friday afternoon, and Holy Saturday evening. Called the “Sacred Triduum” (from the Latin for ‘three days’), the Christian community renews its identity as a community of faith identified by its connection to the paschal mystery of Jesus Christ.

On Holy Thursday, tabernacles are emptied of all the Blessed Sacrament. In effect, the Church is signaling that unless we are willing to gather at the Lord’s invitation as a community of faith that evening, and remember what Eucharist truly means (we read John’s account of Jesus washing the feet of the disciples and invite all to have their feet washed as a sign of being open to the Lord and willing to serve others), there will be no extended real presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament for the future.

Because of their role at liturgy as liturgical ministers, in addition to the general invitation to everyone to be present Holy Thursday, we make a special request for all choir, cantors, greeters, lectors, communion ministers, sacristans, and altar servers to be present. Our presence that evening is a way to renew our commitment to being active, consciously participative, engaged members of this worshipping community when it gathers for Eucharist.

Catholics have traditionally set aside the hours from noon to 3 p.m. on Good Friday for quiet time, prayer, and participation at the Church’s liturgy. We have a wonderfully meditative Stations of the Cross led by our teens at 12 noon that day. If you can come early to be present for that, please do. However, the main liturgy that day begins at 1:00 p.m. Following the ancient custom of not celebrating Eucharist on Good Friday as we remember Christ’s death on the cross, we gather for prayer, the proclamation of Jesus’ passion and death according to St. John, formal intercessions for the whole world, veneration of the cross and communion.

Due to the size and weight of our crucifix we are not able to make it available for direct touch during the

adoration. However, I think it is a wonderful focus for meditation. If you’ve never taken a close look at it, you might want to do so sometime. There is a good picture of Jesus’ face on the website that is worth contemplating. The Scripture passage we asked the artist to use for inspiration is the one from Luke 23:46 where Jesus says “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit” and then he dies. We asked the artist to capture the combination of agonized suffering yet peaceful entrustment of his whole being to God the Father.

The Church’s own official directives for the Veneration of the Cross on Good Friday prefer that a simple, plain cross be used for the veneration, rather than a crucifix. So, perhaps it is serendipitous that it is not feasible to make the main crucifix available for direct veneration. It allows that crucifix to be a visual focus and then for each of us to come up and touch or kiss a simpler cross. As we do so, we can connect all that we are, especially the situations that demand we carry our own crosses, to this once-for-all sacrifice of Jesus for us.

Because there is no Eucharist on Good Friday, the communion we received at this liturgy is consecrated at the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord’s Supper on the prior evening.

The Easter Vigil then brings it all to a culmination. It is the traditional time for fully initiating new adults into the Catholic faith community and so a time to celebrate all three sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist, in the order in which they were traditionally celebrated. As a celebration of initiation, even if no one is coming into the Church in a given year, we are all asked to renew our baptismal vows and to be intentional about our core identity as baptized and confirmed Christians. As a Service of Light we begin outside with a blessing of the fire and candle and process into the Church where all candles then receive a light that first comes from the Easter (Paschal) Candle and an ancient hymn of rejoicing in Christ as our Light is sung out. As a Vigil celebration the Church encourages the reading of several extra Scripture passages that evening, ones that lay out for us some key moments in the whole

history of God’s desire for us to be saved. We listen to those readings in near darkness, allowing the light of the new Easter Candle to turn our minds and hearts toward Christ as our light. Then we once again sing out our “Alleluias” (absent for the whole of Lent) as the Easter gospel of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is proclaimed, the climax of the entire history of salvation.

Yes, it is a longer Mass. But so what? It is a joy to be part of it. If there was one way I would try to connect both children and adults to the core of who we are as Catholic Christians, it would be getting them to participate in this Easter Vigil liturgy. Join us this year.

The Sacred Triduum is a mini-liturgical season all to itself, a transition between the 40 days of Lent and the 50 days of Easter. Officially Lent fasting and penance ends on Holy Thursday. Then a new, special fast begins that goes from Holy Thursday evening through the Easter Vigil. [NB: Good Friday fast for everyone over 17 and under 59 and abstinence from meat for all over 13 are the only required parts of this fast. But let younger children share in the abstinence from meat. And adults are encouraged to extend the fast till after the Easter Vigil as a way to be in solidarity with all those preparing for initiation at the Easter Vigil.]

It is most interesting that the three most important liturgies of the entire Church year are not placed as obligations upon Catholics like Sundays and holydays are. They are something to be embraced willingly. Unfortunately, however, when something is not obligated, Catholics tend to see it as “optional”. That is what happened to Friday abstinence from meat all year long. It is still officially on the books and encouraged, but it is not obligated. Because it is now seen as optional, most of us ignore it. Please don’t ignore the Sacred Triduum, these three holy days. Let Holy Thursday evening, Good Friday afternoon, and Holy Thursday Easter Vigil be a mini-retreat for you by attending all the liturgies. It will make a difference in how you see and experience yourself as a Catholic.

**Fr. Buersmeyer**

## Eucharistic Prayer Requests

### Saturday, March 24, 2012

5:00 p.m.—  
Jay Nelson by Nelson Family

### Sunday, March 25, 2012

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

9:30 a.m. —  
Bernice Mayer by Banas Family  
Sharon Maiuri by the Ushers of SS. John and Paul  
Donna Baran by Hammer Family

11:30 a.m. —  
Antonio Catenacci by J. Catenacci  
Catherine Puzzuoli by Joanne Vrana Family  
Robert Leadley by Mollon Family

### Monday, March 26, 2012

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

### Tuesday, March 27, 2012

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

### Wednesday, March 28, 2012

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

### 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

## Remember SS. John and Paul Parish in Your Will

Only you can divide your property as you want it divided. A bequest to SS. John and Paul Parish can be a living memorial, benefiting many generations to come. Such a bequest is exempt from estate and inheritance taxes. Consult your attorney and tax advisor for information on how to save money on taxes and support the parish at the same time.

## OTHER NEWS

### Gratefully Received On March 17-18, 2012



**Weekly budget** ..... \$11,100.00  
Offertory ..... \$9,669.00  
No. Sunday envelopes used..... 283

### Other Monies / (# Envelopes)

Capital Imprv / (3).....\$46.00  
Children / (7).....\$14.50  
Easter Flowers / (6) .....\$285.00  
Lenten Book / (2) .....\$15.00

*“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*

## Scholarships Available

The Knights of Columbus are currently accepting applications for College and Catholic Education Scholarships. Applicant must reside in Romeo Community School district to qualify for College Scholarships. Additional information and applications are available in the Parish office. Please stop by and pick up an application today.

## St. Mary’s Retreat House in Oxford

Please join us Palm Sunday weekend March 30-April 1 and reflect with us on “The Easter Hymn: God and Chaos” led by Fr. Larry Webber, OFM, Dap. Together we will give thanks for all the Special blessing God has bestowed upon us. No matter where you are in life, this weekend will inspire you and renew your faith.

For more information please call Ann Weingartz at 586-322-1925 or Yoland Norkiewicz at 586-566-9640

[www.stmarysretreathouse.org](http://www.stmarysretreathouse.org)

## 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 military



|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Donald Fannon    | Matthew McLocklin |
| Ronald Gendich   | Daniel Palmer     |
| Michael Kaminski | Martin Palmer     |
| David Krzycki    | John Palmer       |
| Paul McGowan     | Jesse Wright      |

## Sponsor of the Week

This week’s sponsor is **Century 21 Collins** 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  
March 25, 2012**

**Sunday, March 25**

Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33 or  
Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11 or  
Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

**Monday, March 26**

Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40; Heb 10:4-10;  
Lk 1:26-38

**Tuesday, March 27:**

Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102; Jn 8:21-30

**Wednesday, March 28:**

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3; Jn 8:31-42

**Thursday, March 29:**

Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105; Jn 8:51-59

**Friday, March 30:**

Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18; Jn 10:31-42

**Saturday, March 31:**

Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31; Jn 11:45-56

**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

| Liturgical appointments for March 31-April 1, 2012    |  |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| Mass  | 5:00 p.m.  | 8:00 a.m.   | 9:30 a.m.  | 11:30 a.m.  |
| <b>Celebrant/<br/>Homilist</b>                        | Fr. Sayes  | Fr. Buersmeyer  | Fr. Buersmeyer   | Fr. Sayes<br>John Wright  |
| <b>Sacristan</b>                                      | C. Klein   | B. Huellmantel  | J. Sabina  | S. Avolio   |
| <b>Lectors</b>  | M. Greenway<br>J. Schnepf  | G. Bawol<br>P. Grover   | S. Pospiech<br>P. Quayhackx  | J. Puzzuoli<br>M. Catalano  |
| <b>Communion<br/>Ministers</b><br><br><b>*Captain</b> | Deacon John<br>D. Pando *<br>C. Klein<br>A. Zotter<br>W. Zotter  | P. Sagert *<br>R. Sagert<br>J. Sova<br>M. Schimmel<br>M. Schimmel                     | K. Ozella *<br>R. Ozella<br>P. Partyka<br>F. Perna<br>B. Quayhackx<br>J. Sabina<br>J. Sabina | Deacon John<br>K. Puzzuoli *<br>K. O'Neill<br>F. Avolio<br>S. Avolio                    |
| <b>Altar<br/>Servers</b>                              | S. Zuehlk  | T. Sova   | M. Bouthillet<br>J. Drobek<br>A. Sebastian   | B. Bytner<br>G. McBride   |
| <b>Greeters</b>                                       | N. Maisel<br>S. Pewinski   | C. LaRose<br>J. Mulvaine  | M. Hoenle<br>B. Quayhackx  | Avolio Family   |
| <b>Ushers</b><br><br><b>*Captain</b>                  | Mike LaRaia *<br>Mark Hendershot<br>John Krieg<br>Dan Kennard  | Rick Giffin *<br>Ken Grunewald<br>Bill Huellmantel<br>Jim Rutkowski<br>Hilary Susalla | Bob Bucar *<br>Bob Cammarata<br>Jim Gerds<br>Jerry Pospiech<br>Bill Schultz<br>Tony Valente  | Kevin McBride<br>Cass Klapac<br>Ron Kopera<br>Dave Nelson<br>Jeff Pyke<br>Dick Waligore |
| <b>Collection<br/>Counters</b>                        | Team # 3: Sharon Bourgeois, Mike Adkins, Mary Adkins, Donald Byrne, Len Monfils, Jacqueline Monfils, Dick Podolski, 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

**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  
ajeppens@netscape.net  
**Christian Service Coordinator** ..... Kathy 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 |