



Parish Periodical

From the Pastor's Desk...

by Father John

Rumor has it that there is an ancient Chinese curse: "May you live in interesting times." The summer has indeed been interesting. The maintenance staff has long been aware that the school basement floods whenever we have a gully-washer. With good advice from the diocesan superintendent of buildings, we decided to implement Steve Henry's plan to replace some basement windows with glass brick and to reroute the drainage pipes from the window wells. Before we could do so, Nature showered her blessings on us, and we had a few more summer floods. They were messy rather than damaging, God be praised, the work is finally finished. We don't want to add waders to our school uniforms!

Just before I spent the Fourth of July weekend with my sisters in Chicago, Ryan Schwieterman, our still new principal, alerted me that Bishop Watterson High School wanted to hire him as an assistant principal. Two years was far too short a time for us to enjoy his energy and enthusiasm, but God had other plans. As always, those plans included sending us unexpected blessings. Susan Gruber, whom many families may remember from the time she spent teaching here, heard about our plight and offered to serve as an administrator while we continue searching for a new principal. It's hard to find a good quarterback two weeks before the end of the regular season. It's harder to find a good principal a month before the school year. Susan's willingness to come to our rescue allows the parish the time to do a thorough search when good applicants start coming into the market.

Because of the parish's generosity to last year's BAA, the parish received a substantial refund; and this allowed us to spend a bit more than usual on summer repairs and maintenance. Bob Mahler (who, it pains me to report, has taken a job elsewhere: it's a job he'll really like working for people who really need him, but losing him is the pits) worked more hours, and Dave Savely devoted his summer to the effort. Steve Henry reports that we got LOTS accomplished, but there is a long list of chores that still need tackling.

On a brighter note, the Alpha team worked long and hard getting ready for our fall session of the program. There are ninety-eight participants; and when we add the fourteen hosts and helpers, that nearly maxes out the space in which we will be meeting. The team is already brainstorming about different timing for the program next year. At the same time, the parish is pressing forward with offering the first session of Walking with Purpose for women after the first of the year.

So it has been an interesting summer. Seldom has anything gone according to plan, but God has been blessing us in unexpected ways.



Fall 2016 Newsletter

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Pastoral Assistant's Update

by Sr. Barbara Kolesar



Things have not slowed down much for me but I am happy and I am still able to get around and do my job so I am grateful.

Our new servers have had a couple of times to serve Mass during the summer months. They served with experienced servers for the first time at daily Masses. Now you will be seeing them serve on the weekend Masses and during the week as well.

A BIG THANK YOU to the Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers and Servers who showed up for their assignments or who got a substitute during the summer months. It is very

much appreciated when you do this. Please keep doing this in the future, too.

I thought you would enjoy the Parable of the Pencil which I received in a Slovak publication and now I am sharing with you.

One: You will be able to do many great things but only if you allow yourself to be held in God's hand. Allow other human beings to access you for the many God given gifts you possess.

Two: You will experience a painful sharpening from time to time, by going through various problems in life, but you need to experience those problems to become a stronger

person.

Three: You will always be able to correct any mistakes you might make. Mistakes are often our very best teacher if we are willing to learn from them.

Four: The most important part of you will always be what's on the inside.

Five: On every surface you walk through, you must leave your mark. No matter what the situation, you must continue to always do your best. Let your actions always speak louder than your words.

I hope you have enjoyed this and God bless all of you.

Sister Barbara

Maintenance Message

by Steve Henry



Water will no longer enter the school through the window wells or windows on the northwest corner/side of the building! A long overdue (and costly) project to address this was completed recently, including replacing the windows with glass block, and rerouting drain lines. Also, the roof over the main entry to the school was resurfaced, due to leaks from cracks and splits in material. The letters were removed, cleaned, repainted, and replaced over the summer. School hallways,

office, restrooms, nurse office, and entries got fresh coats of paint, and the floors fresh coats of wax. A new drinking fountain was installed to replace the one in the main hall (which was quite outdated), so the school is in pretty good shape due to all the efforts put into it this past summer. And I don't know if anyone has noticed, but the parking lot and driveways been resurfaced a bit! And yes, those are speed bumps!



Our High School youth group after serving dinner to the homeless at the Van Buren Center.

Voice of Youth
by Maggie Weeks

September marked one year of serving at Our Lady of Peace! Having the opportunity to create and build a youth ministry program has set me into full research mode. My findings have challenged me to separate from preconceived, “this is the way everyone does youth ministry” and finding what is actually helping our young people stick with the faith.

The Fuller Institute’s research found only 40 – 50% of students stick with their faith after attending youth group. They have found intergenerational relationships are a key factor. By exposing high school students to people in the community of all ages, it prevents their faith from becoming a box only to open at Mass on Sunday. It begins to stick with them throughout their busy lives. We will, of course, still have fun youth group nights. Youth group is a great way to introduce youth to adults via our Core Team. Going forward, though, I am also exploring how to find ways to integrate our youth into already existing programs within the parish so we can foster those intergenerational relationships by every means available. Stay tuned for events in the bulletin!

I am passionate about this so if you would like to read more, visit the parish’s youth ministry page:
<http://olp-parish.org/youthministry>

Bookkeeper’s Broadcast
by Tom Kasberg

The end of summer brings much energy, excitement and work. Just as summer’s heat wanes, much work around new staff and school related activities heats up. The return of the students brings such life to grounds and to the weekly All School Mass. Tuition, Home & School, Athletics as well as this fall’s ALPHA program and “Be a Man” offering all require support for the parish business office.

Over the summer, many projects were completed including the new Audio Visual equipment in the school cafeteria, school sign, parking lot, and much more.

We were blessed with fantastic weather during the community building Parish Festival. Thank you to the committee and all the volunteers who make the event so successful.

The BAA goal has been met and the potential rebate is \$19,576.12. Hopefully this record setting rebate opportunity will continue to grow via increased and new pledges. Thank you for your continued support of the parish and its mission. Along the same lines, paper work for last years’ grants needs to be completed and this year’s grant applications are due soon.

This fall, the parish directory and fiscal year-end report will be coming as well as some new signage (watch the bulletin for more information) and many exciting possibilities continue to be researched.

It is such a blessing to be a part of, and support, such a vibrant and growing parish.



Musical Notes

by Nathan Medley

After a restful and inventive summer full of exploration, our musical season is in full swing again with new additions and enlightening projects. If you are interested in participating in any aspect of music making at Our Lady of Peace, please email Nathan Medley at nathan.medley@gmail.com. We run on a rolling basis and there is no window to join. Here is an overview of this year's offerings:

Our Lady of Peace Choir—Provides choral music for the 10:00 mass on Sunday morning. Rehearsals are on Wednesday night's from 7:30-9:00.

Praise Band—Singers and a band lead a more contemporary style of music for the 11:30 Mass using jazz, gospel, and other contemporary tools. Rehearsals are on Thursday's from 5:30-6:30.

Choristers—Open to all Kindergarten-8th graders, this group is divided into K-2 and 3-8 and meets for training every Tuesday from 2:45-5:00.

OLP Sacred School Choir- This group of 5th-8th graders meets twice a month during the school day to provide music for the Wednesday all-school masses.

****NEW IN FALL 2016****

KIDZ PRAYZ- This auditioned group of OLP students meetings two times a month during school, exploring praise music through expanded instrumentation and providing the music for all-school masses two times a month.

JR. Cantor Program—An auditioned group of talented OLP students cantor for the All-School Masses, learning the skills of psalmody and leading a large group.

Funeral Choir—For funeral rites this group of active parishioners assist in supporting the liturgy and our community. The tag line is "you don't be able to sing, you just have to be willing"

****RESIDENCIES****

PANIS—An all-male singing group specializing in medieval, renaissance, and baroque music for voices.

Richard Celestina, Scott Ewing, Nathan Medley, Zachary Boor

Any Given Sunday—OLP's 'in-house' band with strong influences of gospel, jazz, minimalism, and eclectic alt-rock.

BACH Project- Once a month we highlight music for solo voice and obbligato instrument (s).



Sr. Martha's Musings

by Sr, Martha

I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and is settled into the routines which Fall brings.

We have had losses within our community during the time from July until now. Serena Serra, Bob Benkowski, Evangeline Groff, Dorothy May, Lou Rehak, Jeanne Young, and Benjamin Kehoe (grandson of Ralph & Elvira Serra). Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

In August, Nathan Medley and I, met with interested parishioners on additional music selections that could be used at funeral liturgies. These were presented August 21 after each of the masses. Nathan prepared a sheet with the selections and these were given to those who came. Nathan sang them for those who came. It was nice for all of us as we had our own private solo performance (with keyboard) and the joy of hearing Nathan sing.

The following day, I held a funeral planning workshop with those who attended on Sunday. They were given the funeral booklet which we give to families who have had a death in the family, and were able to work on selecting the readings they wanted, the music, and other items that are needed when planning for the funeral liturgy. We also talked about important things to note when you want to pre-plan your funeral with a chosen funeral home. Also noted were the pertinent details you must attend to after the death. Both Nathan and I were pleased with the response on both days.

Our Leisure Club will be meeting periodically throughout the year. The details will be in the bulletin. We hope they can come for the 8:30 Mass and then enjoy sweet treats and coffee together.

*Eternal rest grant
unto them,
O Lord, and let
perpetual light
shine upon them.*

*May the souls of
the faithful depart-
ed, through the
mercy of God,
rest in peace.
Amen.*

Mahler's Messages

by Debbie Mahler

It has been an exciting and busy time at the parish office with new programs beginning and the resuming of meeting schedules. One of my responsibilities is to keep the master calendar of parish events. You can access the calendar by going to our website at www.olp-parish.org. This calendar provides another form of communication to advertise parish activities and to assure groups that they have a reserved space in the meeting rooms or at church.



welcome

There are a few new staff changes at the office. For ten years Deb Colasurd has done a wonderful job publishing the weekly bulletin and arranging flowers for the altar for special occasions and the holidays. Due to Deb's busy work commitment she will be passing on the bulletin to parishioner, Frances Black. *Welcome to the staff Frances!*

The next Baptism Class is on Wednesday, November 9th at 7:00 pm in the old rectory. The class is mandatory for first time parents. At the class you will have the opportunity to register for the date you would like to have your child baptized. We celebrate baptisms on the fourth Sunday of the month after the 11:30 a.m. Mass. If you have previously attended the baptism class and have another child to register for baptism please call me at the parish office.

Ladies, we will be talking more in the coming weeks about an exciting new women's Bible Study called Walking with Purpose. To introduce the program and for an evening of fun there is a scheduled ladies social on November 7th, so mark your calendars so you won't miss out on this great opportunity.

School Scoop

by Susan Gruber

A New Year

The school year is off and running! We have five new staff members joining us this year.

Teachers have working hard together and the energy in the building is infectious. The middle school students are taking full advantage of a new FLEX period established just for them on Tuesday afternoons. The Tuesday middle school classes are only shortened by five minutes per class and the additional FLEX period has been added. Students are getting a chance to participate in choir, to study religion within popular music, 3D printing, journalism, debate, and one group is creating religious Jeopardy games to be used when Father comes to visit! We are looking for new and exciting offerings from parishioners throughout the year. What knowledge do you have to offer that would benefit our middle school students? Please contact Mrs. Gruber at 614-260-9546 to volunteer.

Fundraisers

The pizza sale will kick off in October so look for those ready to sell! Pizza making day at OLP will be **NOVEMBER 11** in the cafeteria! Our annual magazine sale will be held in late November, just in time for Christmas orders. If you have magazine renewals due before that

time, OLP will still benefit if the order is placed online. If you need help doing it online, someone at the school will lend a hand. Please call the office or contact Mrs. Gruber.

Parish Beautification Day

Fall Beautification Day will be held on Saturday, November 5, from 8 AM to NOON. What do you notice around the church, school, convent or rectory grounds that needs attention? Is there something that you wish we would do? Volunteers will work around any of the parish buildings so sharpen your pencils and make us a list! Lists can be E-Mailed to sgruber@cducation.org or just call the office. If you would like to volunteer to help that day, please let us know.



Dialogue with the Deacon

by Deacon Jeffery Fortkamp

We are soon at the end of the Church's Year of Mercy – it concludes on November 20, 2016 (the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe). I have been sharing in the weekly bulletin, mini-reflections for the Year of Mercy from Our Sunday Visitor publications, which I hope that you have enjoyed.

I started in the last newsletter a two-part series on the Church's Works of Mercy. In the last newsletter, I highlighted the Spiritual Works of Mercy, which are acts of compassion by which we help our neighbors with their emotional and spiritual needs. For this edition, I will highlight the Corporal Works of Mercy.

The Corporal Works of Mercy are found in the teachings of Jesus and give us a model for how we should treat all others, as if they were Christ in disguise. They "are charitable actions by which we help our neighbors in their bodily needs" (USCCA). They respond to the basic needs of humanity as we journey together through this life. They include: feed the hungry, shelter the home-

less, clothe the naked, visit the sick and imprisoned, bury the dead, and give alms to the poor.

As I did in the last newsletter, I invite you to accept Fr. Kavanagh's invitation during our Parish Mission to pray over the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. Fr. Kavanagh's encouraged us to think of a specific person in our life as we prayed over each work of mercy. As you know Fr. Kavanagh, he had lots of stories to tell to help this practice come alive. I have included below from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops website the Corporal Works of Mercy and a brief reflection.

I invite you to pray over these works of mercy, and as Fr. Kavanagh invited us to do, envision with each work someone in your life who needs your work of mercy in their life. If this is our focus as a parish and this is what we "do" as a staff and parishioners, we will truly have an amazing parish.

The Corporal Works of Mercy

FEED THE HUNGRY

There are many people in this world who go without food. When so much of our food goes to waste, consider how good stewardship practices of your own food habits can benefit others who do not have those same resources. Two young girls receive food at an outdoor soup kitchen in Washington in late January, 2009. CNS photo/Jim West

GIVE DRINK TO THE THIRSTY

Many of our brothers and sisters in Christ do not have access to clean water and suffer from the lack of this basic necessity. We should support the efforts of those working towards greater accessibility of this essential resource.

SHELTER THE HOMELESS

A homeless man rests on a bench in Baltimore. CNS Photo/Bob Roller There are many circumstances that could lead to someone becoming a person without a home. Christ encourages us to go out and meet those without homes, affirming their worth and helping them seek a resolution to the challenges they face.

VISIT THE SICK

Those who are sick are often forgotten or avoided. In spite of their illness, these individuals still have much to offer to those who take the time to visit and comfort them.

VISIT THE PRISONERS

People in prison are still people, made in the image and likeness of God. No matter what someone has done, they deserve the opportunity to hear the Word of God and find the Truth of the message of Christ. Pope Francis blesses an inmate at the Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility in Philadelphia in September, 2015. CNS Photo/Paul Haring

BURY THE DEAD

Funerals give us the opportunity to grieve and show others support during difficult times. Through our prayers and actions during these times we show our respect for life, which is always a gift from God, and comfort to those who mourn.

GIVE ALMS TO THE POOR

Donate money to organizations that have the ability to provide support and services for those in need. Do research and find organizations that put people in need first, rather than profit.

Learn more: <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/new-evangelization/jubilee-of-mercy/the-corporal-works-of-mercy.cfm>