



From the Heart

Ex Corde
Del Corazon
From the Heart



HEART OF JESUS, KING AND CENTER OF ALL HEARTS

A quarterly message
from
Sacred Heart Church
to all
of our members

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*From
the Heart*

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Pastoral Change at Sacred Heart

by FR. PETER KLEIN

Fr. John Sauer has been called to be the new pastor of Sacred Heart & Holy Trinity, effective May 29, 2008. Fr. Sauer is currently pastor of the Cathedral, a position he's held for 12 years. Until his coming to Owatonna, Fr. Sauer is on a sabbatical. He will be anxious to tell you all about it. He will come here fresh & enriched. His gifts & leadership should be very good for Sacred Heart & Holy Trinity.

At the time of my own call to serve as pastor of another parish, the bishop asked me to write up a description of Sacred Heart & Holy Trinity to include with the information to the priests of the diocese of the need for a new pastor here. The following is the summary (of Sacred Heart's part of the cluster) that was published among the priests.

Sacred Heart has 1,200 households. In this growing community it is a growing parish (averaging annually over the last ten years 65 new parish household registrations, 63 baptisms, & 12 participants in the RCIA process). The parish has a Hispanic component (20% of its baptisms) & a history of ministry to Hispanics, including a 1:00 Sunday bi-lingual Mass.

The staff includes a parish administrator, an administrative assistant, & until recently a deacon (the search for a replacement has begun). It has a pastoral care team with a parish nurse. The Parish Council is in the process of re-structuring, aligning with all the various parish committees, organizations, & ministries in order to be more effective & accountable to the parish. Sacred Heart needs a pastor willing & able to collaborate with this staff, another Catholic parish in town, & the staffs of two schools

The liturgical life includes the active participation of many members including a music ministry at all Masses.

Sacred Heart has put a priority on life-long faith formation. For example, the Bible Timeline Bible Study & a Theology of the Body seminar are being offered & the Call to be Catholic lecture series is in its 4th year. The parish has an interest in Generations of Faith, having started to blend it with the traditional program in 2005. This parish cluster currently has 3 participants in the Pastoral Institute, 2 from Sacred Heart (1 in the pre-diaconate program) & 1 from Holy Trinity.

The 2006 initiation of Stewardship as a Way of Life, including a parish survey, continues to inspire the parish. The survey responses continue to drive parish planning & daily life. In Lent 2008 the parish will conduct its 3rd annual time-talent-treasure commitment renewal.

An active Social Justice Committee sponsors various projects through the year. Sacred Heart was very involved with building houses in Haiti & now is in the 3rd year of a sister relationship with a parish in Tanzania that includes regular communication & mutual visitation. Sacred Heart has a tradition of responding to a large number of requests for help at the

— Continued on Page 3

Season of Lent



The Acts 4:32* Fund: A First-Year Success Story!

by JOE STILES

One of the tangible benefits of having many parishioners commit to “stewardship as a way of life” is that it allowed the parish in 2007 to establish the Acts 4:32 Fund as a tool to make Catholic education affordable to all parish children—regardless of their parents’ income.

In its first year, the Fund was able to allocate about \$41,000 to assist some 20 Sacred Heart families meet tuition expenses at St. Mary’s School (SMS). This means that over 40 children (about 17% of our parish’s population at SMS) are attending SMS this year who otherwise would probably not have been able to do so.

This is a great success story!

Our parish is committed to assisting parents to fulfill their role as the primary educators of their children in matters of faith. On the financial side, we do this two ways.

First, to help keep tuition costs reasonably affordable for all parents, the parish makes a sizeable annual contribution (over \$400,000 this fiscal year) directly to SMS and to the Religious

Education Program (REP).

Second, there is the more targeted approach of the Acts 4:32 Fund, which provides tuition assistance for either SMS or for REP to those parents most in need.

Parishioners who practice “stewardship as a way of life” — i.e., who regularly attend Sunday Mass and who generously volunteer their time and talent in parish ministries — are eligible for Fund disbursements. They must complete a one-page Application/Request form and meet with the pastor to discuss their financial needs.

To qualify for Fund disbursements, applicants agree to make a substantial financial sacrifice of their own (generally 5% or more of their household income) to cover at least a portion of tuition costs.

Parishioners’ privacy and confidentiality are totally respected during the application/disbursement process.

Applications must be received by April 15 for SMS families and by August 1 for REP families. For more details, contact the parish office (451-1588).☪



**“Now the company of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things which he possessed was his own, but they had everything in common...and distribution was made to each as any had need.” – ACTS 4:32-35*

Become a Gift Bearer

by PAULA TRENDI

Have you and your family ever wanted to bring up the gifts during Mass? Do you enjoy helping with the liturgy, but don’t want to stand up and read, or sing, or usher? Now is your chance to help with an integral part of the liturgy that doesn’t take much preparation or a large time commitment on your part.

Beginning on April 1, 2008, Sacred Heart will be changing the way we find gift bearers for all the Masses. This change will free up the volunteers who are currently handling the gifts and allow others the opportunity to participate. Here’s how it will work.

Each weekend, a binder will be placed on the podium at the south wing entrance with a few months’ worth of weekend Masses listed.

If you and/or your family would like to bring up gifts for a particular Mass,

write your name and phone number in the space provided.

If someone has already scheduled the date, such as a baptism, the office will have that name entered on the form.

As Mass begins, the ushers will check the book to make sure someone has volunteered to be a gift bearer. If not, they will find someone who is at Mass.

What happens if there is a baptism, wedding anniversary, or other special reason a family wants to bring up the gifts? In the event the office was unaware of the event one month prior, we will call the family who has volunteered on the Friday before and let them know that there is a special event and ask them if there is a different weekend they would like to bring up the gifts.

As with all new things, this change will take some getting used to. But we



are confident this change will run smoothly and allow more parishioners to participate in the liturgy.☪



Catechism In Stone

by KYRO R. LANTSBERGER

Heritage Area – Sacred Heart’s History

“It brought a lump into my throat to see the old church we worked so happily to build burning up before my eyes.” These words of James Lonergan, a member of the founding congregation of Sacred Heart, were in response to a 1901 fire which completely destroyed the church structure. Another fire with equally catastrophic results occurred within years. In 1922 the congregation again had to rebuild from the ashes.




It is said that if our vision is far reaching, it is because we stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before.

Tucked into a corner of the narthex is a small area dedicated to the history of Sacred Heart. Catholics in Owatonna have seen many buildings rise and fall, but all built on the foundations of faith and frontier spirit. The sacrifices and strivings of our local fathers and mothers in faith are a testament to the power of perseverance and resolve. The heritage area in the narthex contains items used in worship, biographies, and



Sacred Heart's Heritage Area

information about the Catholic settlement of the area. It is said that if our vision is far reaching, it is because we stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before. 



ALESSANDRO

Jeremy Stanbary performed his riveting one-man drama, *Alessandro*, at Sacred Heart on February 10. The play depicts the startling and miraculous conversion of Alessandro Serenelli, while in prison for his brutal murder of Maria Goretti, in the first decade of the 20th century. Maria, canonized a saint in 1950, endured a martyr's death rather than allow Alessandro to violate her purity.

The play was sponsored by the Social Justice Committee. Funds raised support the parish's Caring Hands for Tanzania project. This is the second one-man play that Mr. Stanbary has performed at Sacred Heart. In 2007, he presented his world-famous *Lolek*, which depicted the fascinating and inspiring story of the young John Paul II. Mr. Stanbary's Epiphany Studio Productions is based in Minneapolis.

Pastoral Change

— Continued from Page 1

door, collaborating with the Steele County Foodshelf & maintaining a Good Samaritan Fund. The parish participates with the local ministerial association in a jail ministry.

There are two thriving parochial schools, each with a pre-school, in this cluster: St. Mary's (K-8, 368 students), supported by both Catholic parishes in Owatonna, & St. Isidore School (K-5, 15 students), Holy Trinity parish. St. Mary's is at a critical point in planning for renovation, rebuilding or, possibly, purchase of & move to a portion of Owatonna High School. A significant capital campaign will begin soon.

The property has been well-maintained. The church, its interior repainted & re-lighted in 2005, has a narthex & parish center attached. A major technology upgrade in the rectory was done in 2006. A 1st phase of rectory renovation was done in 2006, moving the residence to the renovated 2nd floor. A major expansion of the 1st floor & grounds, with financing partly in place, is planned.

'Priests for Life' Message Gets Widespread Attention

Less than two weeks before the 35th anniversary of the Supreme Court's infamous Roe vs. Wade decision, which legalized abortion in all states, over 1,000 Owatonna Catholics heard a powerful pro-life message from Fr. Peter West.

Fr. West, a priest from the archdiocese of Newark, NJ, and an associate of Priests for Life (Staten Island, NY), preached the homily at all the weekend Masses at Sacred Heart on January 12-13. Also, on Sunday afternoon, he spoke to about 120 people at St. Joseph's Church, as a part of "The Call To Be Catholic" lecture series.

Those who didn't hear Fr. West speak in person may well have gleaned some of his message from a front page article that appeared in the January 15 edition of the Peoples' Press.

Fr. West, a pro-life activist since 1986, reminded his listeners that the Catholic Church supports a broad range of life issues, including abolition of the death penalty and concern for the poor and helpless. Priests for Life, however, focuses especially on the most fundamental and significant of all life issues—bringing an end to legalized abortion.

One shocking statistic cited by Fr. West: "In

one year in the U.S. we lose more unborn children to abortion than American soldiers killed in all of our wars put together."




For women and men who have participated in an abortion, Priests for Life offer a message, not of condemnation, but of forgiveness and healing.

At "The Call To Be Catholic" event, Fr. West challenged members of the audience to do what they can in 2008 to elect pro-life public officials and to avoid supporting candidates—especially those who call themselves Catholic—who advocate for abortion rights. For additional guidance on how to vote, he suggested a careful reading of the U.S. bishops' November 2007 statement, "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship." You can find this statement at

<http://www.usccb.org/bishops/FCStatement.pdf>

Priests for Life, founded by Cardinal O'Connor in 1993, has a core mission to provide encouragement and support to their fellow priests in their ministry involving the defense of all human life, from the time of conception to natural death.

Fr. West was invited to Owatonna to be a featured speaker for "The Call To Be Catholic" lecture series, now in its fourth year. This successful program is sponsored by five Steele County parishes, the Diocese of Winona, and the Gainey Center of the University of St. Thomas. 



Fr. West

SMS Purchase of OHS Site? – A Step Closer

by JERRY KENT

On behalf of the St. Mary's School community, I would like to thank the leadership of Sacred Heart Parish for their support of our decision to pursue the purchase of a portion of Owatonna High School to address our current and future facility needs.

The Sacred Heart Parish leadership undertook a very thorough and contemplative study of this option. They received and studied a considerable amount of information and opinions on this option. Many of them took the time on a Saturday morning to tour OHS and see for themselves the exact space we would be purchasing and occupying.

In my view, that "extra effort" paid off as they thoroughly discussed this option and, in the end, agreed to support the leadership of St. Mary's School (building committee, school board, and administration) in the pursuit of the OHS option. We fully understand that we have a long way to go to bring this option to reality, specifically getting a bond referendum passed. However, it is our belief that with the Catholic community working together as one unified group, our chances of that happening is greatly enhanced.

Why purchase OHS, you may ask? Why not stay at our current site and remodel and add-on? There are too many reasons and explanations to list them all here, but I would like to highlight two of the more significant ones:

Better Space

By moving to the OHS facility, St. Mary's School will be acquiring quality educational space designed for today's teaching methods. Some of the benefits of this option include teacher prep areas, large, well-designed classrooms, a small-group presentation room, combined offices for school administration and REP, as well as use of the band and choir rooms - and a theater! Additionally, we would be acquiring considerable green space – the purchase includes the football field and track as well as use of the tennis courts and practice fields.



Cost

The results of our feasibility study conducted by professional fundraising consultant Andy Currie, showed that we could expect to raise between \$2-\$3 million in a fundraising campaign. Combined with the money we currently have in the bank for the building fund, this will give us about \$4.5 million with which to work. For that price, we can purchase the OHS site, relocate our school there, and have all of our facility needs addressed for the future. If we stay at our current site, the most we would be able to accomplish initially is to renovate our facility and not add any new space. That means that additional campaigns would have to be conducted over the next ten years to complete our current site plan.

Our plan over the next three

months is to continue providing information to people on the benefits of this move, including holding informational meetings and tours of the OHS facility. We hope that you will take advantage of these opportunities to learn more about this option and why we feel this plan is the best available option to secure Catholic education in Owatonna for years to come.

– Jerry Kent, Administrator 

Remember
\$crip
to support
St. Mary's School

REP/CYO Program

Sacred Heart
Church

CALENDAR

march

- 1 Lenten Soup Supper 12 noon
- 3 Pinochle Club 1p.m.
- 3 St. Mary's Guild 1:30p.m.
- 3 Social Justice 6p.m.
- 3 Gospa Prayer Group 7p.m.
- 3 Theology of the Body 7p.m.
- 4 Live Stations 8a.m.
- 4 Respect Life Team 12 noon-1p.m.
- 4 Rectory/Office Renovation 7p.m.
- 5 Confirmation Practice 5:30p.m.
- 6 St. Blanche Guild 1p.m.
- 7 Confirmation 7p.m.
- 8/9 Food Shelf Basket
- 8/9 Women's Council Bake Sale
- 9 The Call To Be Catholic 3p.m. (St. Joe's)
- 10 Guild of St. Theresa 1p.m.
- 11 Finance Council 7p.m.
- 14 Retreat Team 8:30a.m.
- 14 Stations of the Cross 5:30p.m.
- 15 Lenten Soup Supper 12 noon
- 17 Gospa Prayer 7p.m.
- 17 Theology of the Body 7p.m.
- 18 Parish Council 7p.m.
- 19 Catholic Daughters 7p.m.
- 20 Holy Thursday Mass 5:30p.m.
- 21 The Lord's Passion 5:30p.m.
- 22 Easter Vigil Mass 8p.m.
- 23 **EASTER**
- 29/30 Food Shelf Personal Care Items

april

- 1 Respect Life Team 12 noon
- 1 Rectory/Office Renovation 7p.m.
- 3 St. Blanche Guild 1p.m.
- 5/6 DOC 3p.m.
- 7 Pinochle Club 1p.m.
- 7 Social Justice 6p.m.
- 7 Theology of the Body 7p.m.
- 7 Gospa Prayer Group 7p.m.
- 8 Finance Council 7p.m.
- 12/13 Food Shelf Baskets
- 14 Guild of St. Therese 1p.m.
- 15 Parish Council Meeting 7p.m.
- 16 Catholic Daughters 7p.m.
- 19 Volunteer Appreciation Gathering 6-8p.m.
- 21 Gospa Prayer Group 7p.m.
- 21 Theology of the Body 7p.m.

may

- 1 St. Blanche Guild 1p.m.
- 5 Pinochle Club 1p.m.
- 5 Gospa Prayer Group 7p.m.
- 5 Theology of the Body 7p.m.
- 6 Respect Life Team 12 noon-1p.m.
- 6 Rectory/Office Renovation 7p.m.
- 7 Bridge Marathon 10:30a.m.
- 9 Bridge Marathon 6p.m.
- 10/11 Food Shelf Baskets
- 12 St. Therese Guild 1p.m.
- 13 Finance Council 7p.m.
- 17 Fr. Klein Farewell 2p.m.
- 17 Fr. Klein Farewell Potluck 6p.m.
- 19 Gospa Prayer 7p.m.
- 19 Theology of the Body 7p.m.
- 20 Parish Council Meeting 7p.m.
- 21 Catholic Daughters 7p.m.

SACRED
HEART
CHURCH
COMMITTEES
&
MINISTRIES

REGULAR
WEEKLY
EVENTS

- Monday** Bible Timeline 8a.m.
- Tuesday** Mom's In Touch 9a.m.
- Wednesday** Men's Bible Study 6-7a.m.
Bible Study 9a.m.

- Thursday** Eucharistic Adoration 8a.m.-Midnight
Legion of Mary 8a.m.
Mom's In Touch 8a.m.
- Friday** Jr. Legion of Mary 2:30p.m.

MITI: Moms In Touch International • DOC: Disciples of Christ • SHCCW: Sacred Heart Council of Catholic Women

CALENDAR

march

- 1/2 REP Rite of Affirmation all grades 4p.m. & 11p.m. St. Joseph's
5p.m. & 9a.m. at Sacred Heart
- 4 Live Stations 7-8 grades 8:10a.m. S.H.
- 5 DOC Jr High 6:30p.m.-8p.m. St. Mary's Gym
Confirmation Practice 6p.m. S.H. & 8p.m. St. Joseph's
- 6 REP Board Meeting 7p.m.
- 6 St. Mary's Jr. High Pop Fiesta 5p.m.
- 7 Confirmation grade 10 7p.m. S.H.
- 8 Confirmation grade 10 10a.m. St. Joseph's
- 9 DOC Jr. High 11-4p.m. St. Joseph's
- 9 St. Mary's Music Boosters KC Breakfast
- 10 St. Mary's Home and School 7p.m.
- 12 Live Stations grades 1-6, 9-10, 3:45 / 6:45p.m.
- 12 Butter Braid Orders to be picked up 4-6:30p.m. St. Mary's Cafeteria
- 13 SMS Jr. High Play
- 14 SMS Jr. High Play
- 14 Retreat St. Mary's grade 6, 8a.m.-12p.m. S.H.
- 16 Live Stations 6:30p.m. St. Joseph's
- 17 SMS School Board Meeting 7p.m.
- 19 First Eucharist workshop 3p.m & 7p.m. St. Joseph Nazareth Hall
DOC for Jr. High 6:30-8p.m. St. Mary's Gym
Retreat Team Senior High 8:15p.m., Rm 211
- 21 SMS No School – Good Friday
- 24-28 SMS No School Spring Break
- 25/26 REP No Classes Spring Break
- 31 Infinia Bingo 6:45-7:45p.m.

april

- 1 REP Classes resume grades 7-8
- 2 Evening of Reflection S.H. / REP classes resume grades 1-6 & 9-10
- 3 REP Board Meeting 7p.m. St. Joseph
- 5 DOC for Jr. High 3-9p.m. SHPC
- 6 SMS KC Breakfast
- 8 Last day for REP Jr. High classes
- 9 Evening of Reflection, St. Joseph
Totally Yours Senior High 8:15p.m. Rm 211
DOC Jr. High 6:30p.m.-8p.m. St. Mary's
- 11 SMS No School
- 12 SMS Night of Knights Auction
- 16 Mini Sessions grades 9-12, 6:30-8p.m. SHPC and St. Mary's School
- 19 First Communion practice 9a.m. St. Joseph
- 19 SMS Clean-athon/ Aluminum Can drive
- 20 First Communion Mass 11a.m. St. Joseph
- 21 SMS Home & School 7p.m.
- 23 Retreat Team 8:15 p.m. Rm 211
DOC Jr. High 6:30p.m.-8p.m. St. Mary's gym
- 26 First Communion practice 9a.m. S.H.
- 27 First Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. S.H.
- 28 SMS School Board 7p.m.
Infinia Bingo 6:45-7:45p.m.
- 30 End of Year Celebration all grades at Fairgrounds following Mass at St. Joseph.

may

- 1 REP Board meeting at 7p.m. St. Joseph
- 7 SMS K-5 Concert
- 14 SMS 6-8 Concert
- 17 DOC Jr. High 3-9p.m.
- 19 SMS School Board 7p.m.
- 21 SMS May Crowning
- 26 SMS NO School
- 30 SMS Tracjk & Field Day
- 31 Baccalaureate at S.H. 5p.m. Mass

ST.
MARY'S
AND
R.E.P.

MITI: Moms In Touch International • DOC: Disciples of Christ • SHCCW: Sacred Heart Council of Catholic Women

From the Heart

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Sacred Heart Pastoral Council Members:

Rich Gerts, Chair 507-835-3283
Bill Lawrence, Co-chair. 451-2075
Jennifer Buck, Secretary 451-4064
Ron Kubicek, Trustee. 444-4128
Cheryl Meger, Trustee 451-2363
Dave Effertz 446-0258
Tammy Ebeling 455-0155
Kathy Hoen. 451-8155
Gia Plate. 455-1680
Tom Schmitt 455-1333
Bob Seykora, Jr. 455-9726
Wayne Starman. 451-6796

E-mail addresses:

Fr. Klein: pastor@sacredheartowatonna.org

Parish Administrator (Paula Trenda):

paulat@sacredheartowatonna.org

Admin. Assistant (Teresa Klecker):

teresak@sacredheartowatonna.org



Bits and Bytes of Catholicism

by KYRO R. LANTSBERGER

Parents Guide to Entertainment

Family entertainment is an issue in many homes. Between movies at the theatre, the wide availability of DVDs, and online downloads, individuals and families find themselves facing a deluge of choices and options. The conventional film rating system of G, PG, PG 13, and R is often not specific enough to aid in making age-appropriate choices for family members.

The following websites have extensive movie review databases of particular use to parents in guiding family entertainment time. The USCCB maintains an extensive review at <http://www.usccb.org/movies/>. The St. Anthony Messenger has a similar list of reviews at www.catholicmoviereviews.org. Steven Greydanus, film reviewer for the National Catholic Register, maintains that publication's film review archive along with a number of movie and entertainment-related articles at <http://www.decentfilms.com/>. ☺

Send your newsletter articles & photos to: oneillgraphics@mac.com

Bulletin Announcements: bulletin@sacredheartowatonna.org

All bulletin materials are due by Monday, 12 noon for the upcoming weekend

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m