

St. Joseph Church Parish Newsletter

February 2012

Volume 1, Issue 1

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A word from Father Matthew.....

My coming to St. Joseph Parish in Alliance has been described by some as a "**Polish Invasion**"! This new priest comes in and starts c h a n g i n g

things...stirring the pot and upsetting the applecart. I ask that you be patient because there is a "method" to my "madness"! The changes I have made are just part of a five year plan I have to strengthen our present programs create new ministries to serve our parish community and share the message of the Gospel with others in the community of Alliance.

I urge you to read over this first issue of "**The St. Joseph Parish Newsletter**" and learn about the ministries available and the new programs beginning. We plan to issue a parish newsletter twice a year to keep you updated on activities and ministries in our parish.

I have enjoyed my first six months as your pastor. The welcome I have received has been overwhelming and I appreciate the kindness you have shown me. In my first six months I have established some new ministries and revamped existing ministries. We revamped our Bereavement Ministry which you can read about on page 8 and we are beginning a new Ministry in April designed to welcome back non-practicing Catholics who have wondered away from the Church entitled "Catholics Returning Home."

Since I am all about keeping our buildings in tip-top shape, you will notice some extensive renovations and updates being made in our buildings. I do not believe in putting a "band-aide" on a problem. I feel it is important to fix things thoroughly and professionally the first time so it does not cause additional damage. On pages 3, 4 & 5 you can read about the renovations to the Schwartz Center and Rectory that we are in the process of

completing.

The renovations to the Schwartz Center, particularly the installation of an elevator and renovation of the first floor kitchen will open the door for us to use Finnigan Hall for more parish functions such as Dinners, Reverse Raffles, Nite at the Races etc. It will also allow us to rent this room for Baby Showers, Rehearsal Dinners, Wedding Showers and small events. This rental capability will allow us to generate more income for our parish.

It is important that all people be provided the same opportunities regardless of a physical handicapped. For this reason I am passionate about making sure handicapped accessibility is available to our parish office, church and community buildings. For this reason we moved the parish office to the Schwartz Center, which you may read about on page 3, and I am pushing for the renovations to the Schwartz Center.

Because I believe in keeping our staff, parishioners and the belongings of the church safe, we have installed an alarm system through **Carnation Security** which allows video surveillance of our parking lot, church court yard and the Schwartz Center. We have also installed motion detectors in all offices at the Schwartz Center and the main entrance door.

Communication is of great importance and the phone system we had upon my arrival was outdated. We upgraded to a new phone system which gives all staff voice mail capability and allows me to be contacted in the even of a life and death emergency.

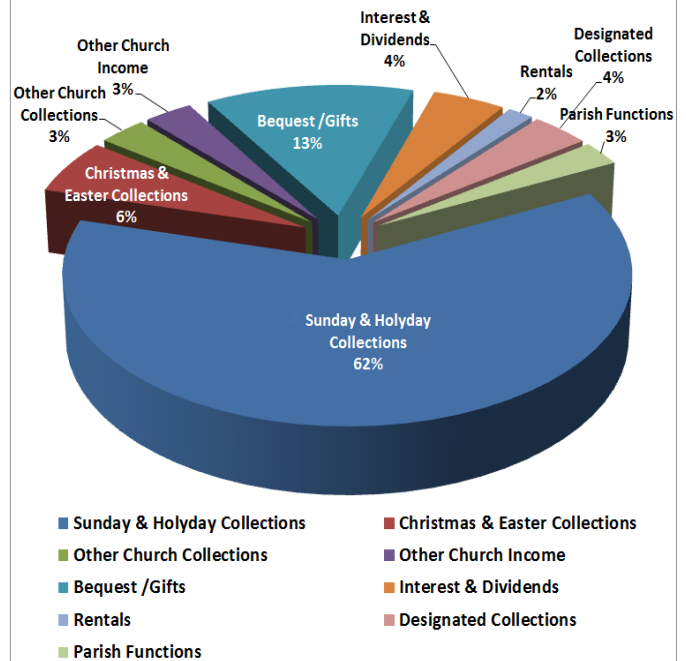
I am excited about my priestly ministry here and I look forward to getting to know you all as we travel on life's spiritual journey together. Our next newsletter will be published in August. If you have suggestions or you would like to submit an article to the parish newsletter, please contact our Pastoral Assistant, Sandy McCready.

Financial Report submitted by Joseph E. Keffer, Bookkeeper

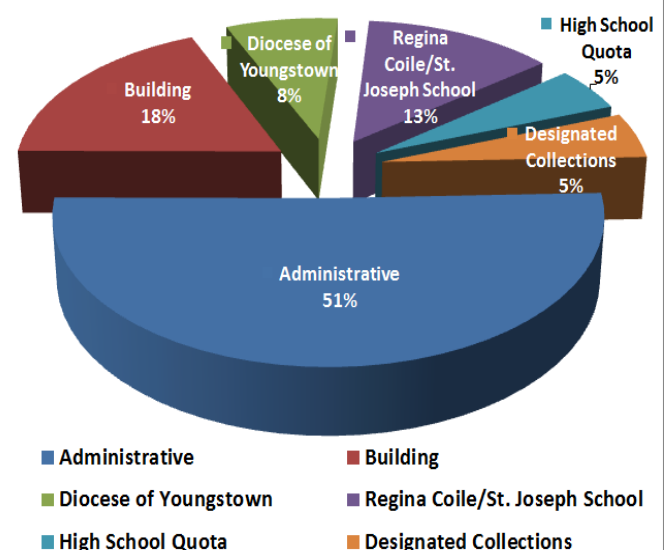
St. Joseph Church Income		
Type of Income	(A) Proposed Budget 2011-2012	(B) Actual from 7/1/11 to 12/31/2011
Sunday and Holyday Collections	279,000.00	\$127,581.89
Christmas and Easter Collections	27,000.00	\$15,023.00
Other Church Collections	14,000.00	
Other Church Income - Gross (candles, votive lights, religious articles, pamphlets, etc.)	14,000.00	\$10,249.32
Bequests, Gifts, Etc.	60,000.00	\$50,580.00
Interest, Dividends and Gains/Losses	20,991.60	
Rentals & Other Misc. Income - Gross	7,500.00	\$880.00
Designated Collections	17,000.00	\$4,704.00
Parish Functions	12,000.00	\$2,048.00
Total Income	451,491.60	\$211,066.21

St. Joseph Church Expenses		
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE:	(A) Proposed Budget 2011-2012	(B) Actual Amount Spent from 7/1/11 to 12/31/11
Clergy and Religious Salaries	13,000.00	\$5,565.07
Lay Salaries	87,635.00	\$33,922.60
Rectory Expense	9,000.00	\$4,645.51
Office Expense	14,000.00	\$3,803.39
Payroll Taxes and Fringe Benefits	31,083.00	\$6,850.08
Transportation and In-Service Expense	2,300.00	\$390.00
Priests' Reimbursed Expenses	2,000.00	\$1,000.00
Sanctuary Expense (includes flowers)	13,000.00	\$4,890.72
CCD and Adult Education (does not include salaries)	9,000.00	\$3,033.35
Catholic Exponent Expenses	4,700.00	\$2,418.65
Miscellaneous Administration	600.00	\$515.00
Stewardship Expenses	0.00	
BUILDING EXPENSE:		
Utilities	35,000.00	\$15,132.01
Ordinary Building Maintenance & Security	13,000.00	\$8,764.00
Insurance	20,000.00	\$5,392.17
Taxes	850.00	
PAYMENTS TO OTHERS:		
Assessments to Regina Coile School	48,000.00	\$0.00
Taxes to the Diocese of Youngstown	28,379.64	\$14,088.63
High School Quota	18,344.40	\$4,764.67
Designated Collections	19,000.00	\$4,704.00
Totals	368,892.04	\$119,879.85

Proposed Budget 2011-2012 Income (Column A)



Proposed Budgeted Expenses 2011-2012 (Column B)



A Word About our Church Finances by Rev. Matthew Mankowski, Pastor

As we approach the half mark of our fiscal year, our income appears to be in line with our proposed 2011-2012 budget. The stewardship of giving at St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church continues to be strong.

Changes in the parish community are expected with the change in pastor leadership. I am happy to announce that our parish census is rising.

Our big parish fundraiser of the year, "The Lucky Lottery Calendar" is not reflected in the "Other Parish Functions" income on the chart on page 2 as the payouts finished on December 31, 2011 and the profits of this fundraiser was not added to our general fund until after the first of the year.

The total profit from our Lucky Lottery Calendar was \$7,110. We sold a total of 367 calendars. I would like to personally thank all the sellers who made this fundraiser possible: **Paul Bankovich, Emma Beach, Cathie Bixler, Helen Bosick, Nancy Burkey, Jim Edwards, Becky Egli, Lori Gaspark, Judy Gatts, Larry Gatts, Dick Glasser, Nan Gwin, Norm Haidet, Patty Hampu, Sandy McCready, Barb Rogel, Nancy Saunier, Edie Scaia, Sam Scaia, Joan Smith, Bruce Snyder, Marlene Snyder and Anna Mae Welsh.** This fundraiser would not have been a success without the hard work and dedication of our sellers. We will begin promoting this annual fundraiser again on July 1, 2012 and our goal is to sell all 500

calendars by October of this year. If you would be interested in helping with this fundraiser, please give the parish office a call.

I would also like to thank **Jim Morrow** and his "crew" for organizing the concession once again at the Alliance Carnation Days in the Park in August. This concession sold meatball sandwiches and pies to patrons and raised \$1,263.00 for our church. Your dedication to your parish is overwhelming.

Since costs continue to rise, I would like to add more annual fundraisers. Fundraisers help to build community and get parishioners more involved. If you have a fundraiser suggestion, please feel free to contact the parish office with your ideas.

Our Parish Office Has Moved!

Our Parish office officially moved to the first floor of the Schwartz Center in December of 2011. Our office staff had outgrown the office space at the rectory and the entrance stairs were impossible for those with disabilities to maneuver. A handicapped accessible ramp was built by our maintenance men: **Tom May, Mike Johnson and Howard Henderson** so those unable to maneuver stairs may enter from the High Street entrance.

An old storage room was converted into our Parish Secretary's office and a receptionist window was built to accommodate those visiting the parish office.

Our Director of Religious Education shares an office with the Parish Bookkeeper located at the front of building facing Linden Street. The office across the hall houses our Pastoral Assistant/Office Manager and our Pastor. Father Matthew has retained his rectory office but meets with

those with disabilities at the Schwartz Center office.

Very little renovations were needed in order to accommodate the parish offices. Painting, installation of cabinets and shelving was completed by our most talented maintenance men. Additional electrical lines were installed by **Pauli Electric of Alliance** and new carpet was installed in the parish secretary and Pastoral Assistant/Office Manager's office by **Elite Flooring of Alliance.**

A new phone system was installed by **PTNE Telecom** which is user friendly and gives the option to leave voice mail. The new phone systems also give the user the option to reach Fr. Matthew in



the event of a life or death emergency.

On February 3 an alarm system was installed in the Schwartz Center complete with three cameras, a door release button and motion detectors. Special care and consideration was given to those who use the adoration chapel and alarm partitions were put in place to allow for movement in the hallway leading to the restrooms. If you have a key to the Schwartz Center and have not received an alarm code, please contact the parish office as soon as possible.



Above: Religious Education & Bookkeeper's Office

Renovations to the Schwartz Center

The St. Joseph Schwartz Center has been the “jewel” of our parish for many years and has served us well. The Schwartz Center currently houses our Parish Office, The St. Dominic Adoration Chapel, PSR Classrooms, St. Joseph Parish Library, a small meeting room and Finnigan Hall. Although our Schwartz Center is a beautiful building, there are many stair levels that are barriers to our elderly and those with physical handicaps and there is no handicapped accessible bathroom in the building at all. There is handicapped accessibility to St. Dominic Chapel which allows those in need of aide to enter for adoration and when our parish office moved to the Schwartz Center, our maintenance men **Tom May** and **Mike Johnson** built a handicapped accessible ramp on the High Street entrance of the building. This makes the building handicapped accessible to the first floor, but does not solve the problem of getting to the second floor. The lack of handicapped accessibility to our second floor hurts our ability to rent Finnigan Hall for added parish income and it also limits parishioner participation in parish events.

Our goal is to make our parishioners' vision for the Schwartz Center a reality in 2012. The funds for the renovations to the Schwartz Center were previously earmarked through our Buildings and Grounds fund and do not affect the “General Operating Fund” of St. Joseph Church. In August of 2011 we entered into an architectural contract for services with Architect, **Peter R. Pano**. Mr. Pano prepared plans for an elevator to be built on the outside of the Schwartz Center building which would open up to the first and the second floors. The elevator will open up to the Parish Library on the first floor and directly into Finnigan Hall on the second floor.

The second plan for the Schwartz Center is to renovate the 1st floor kitchen and build a handicapped accessible bathroom in the Finnigan Hall on the 2nd floor. The planning for this renovation is being managed by parishioner, **Joe Laure** of **Accent Home Improvements**. Plans have been drawn up for a complete remodel of the 1st floor kitchen to make it more user friendly with new appliances, cabinets, counter tops and flooring. Our hope is with the renovations to the kitchen combined with our handicapped accessibility modifications, we will be able to use our Finnigan Hall more for parish functions and as a source of rental income. The renovations to the Schwartz Center will serve the parishioners of St. Joseph Parish for many years to come.



Above: Present First Floor Kitchen of the Schwartz Center.

Below: Outdated commercial stove in the first floor kitchen.



Right: Outdated refrigerator in first floor kitchen.



The Rectory Make-Over

The St. Joseph Rectory was built in 1907 and although it is a beautifully built home, it is in dire need of renovations for both safety and comfort. An independent insurance adjuster from Nationwide recently inspected the rectory, at our request and was alarmed by the outdated electrical wiring present in the home. The home has over 4489 square feet of living space and none of the electrical outlets in the home were grounded. In some areas there were actually exposed, bare and worn wires. This was an dangerous, fire hazard and needed to be updated immediately. We entered into a contract with **Pauli**

Electric, Inc. of Alliance, to re-wire all three levels of the rectory and get the building up to code at an estimated cost of \$13,064. Paulie Electric began work in December of 2011 and should be finishing up by the end of February.

There is no central air conditioning in the living quarters of the rectory and we have been relying on single window air conditioning units which are costly, ineffective and a security risk. The cost for new duct work; installing a drop ceiling to accommodate the duct work plus the cost of the actual central air conditioning units were estimated at \$16,725. We opted to install a drop ceiling to accommodate the duct work needed because to run ductwork

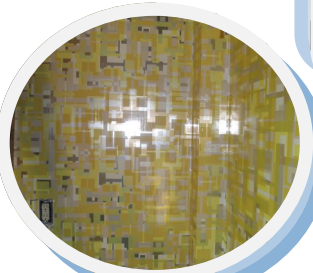
through the existing walls would have proven too costly. We contracted with **Hill's Heating and Cooling of Alliance** to install the air conditioning units and our parishioner, **Joe Laure of Accent Home Improvement** to manage the installation of the drop ceiling.

The carpet throughout the home was very old. The newest portions of carpet, located in the living and dining rooms, were over 25 years old. The carpet in the bedrooms were vintage 1972. As you well know, even carpets well maintained last only about 10 years. Although new carpet may be a quicker solution we decided to install a wood laminate in the living room, dining room and two bedrooms on the second floor. The management of this portion of the renovation is **Joe Laure of**

Accent Home Improvements and the floor is being purchased through **Elite Flooring of Alliance**.

Since the rectory was built in 1907 the layout was such to accommodate servant preparation rooms. As a result, there were small rooms attached to the dining room, kitchen and two bedrooms. We contracted with **McCaulley Building & Home Improvement of Canton**, to remove some of the walls surrounding these small rooms to create bigger living spaces and eliminate non-functional areas. There are also two small bathrooms located on the second floor which are located next door to each other. We remove the wall between these two bathrooms and create one larger bathroom. McCaulley's estimated the cost of this work at \$6400. They began work in December and will finish up their work following the completion of the electrical and plumbing work. The workmanship of the McCaulley's crew has been phenomenal. Their eye for detail and keen craftsmanship created a finished product that kept the original integrity of the home in tact.

Moving walls and relocating radiators became quite a job during this renovations so we



Left: Shows vintage 1970's Wallpaper present in bathroom.



Right & Below: Shows damage to existing Walls



Above: Widening of entry way from dining room to former servant's ready room

enlisted the help of **LPM Mechanical** to move several pipes throughout the home and aide with the plumbing in the upstairs bathroom.

Because some of the walls and ceilings have been damaged over the years, all walls and ceilings throughout the entire rectory are being repaired and painted by our maintenance team: **Tom May, Mike Johnson and Howard Henderson**. Our maintenance team has also been installing dry-wall in some of the rooms and finishing the bathroom on the third floor that has been inoperative for over 20 years.

We are hopeful that all renovations will be done by March so that Fr. Matthew can move out of the maid's quarters over the garage and begin living in the rectory. These renovations and updates were essential for the safety of anyone who lives in this home and will accommodate future priests for years to come. All renovations were approved by Bishop George Murry of the Diocese of Youngstown and are being funded by the Building and Grounds fund and partially by a recent bequest from the estate of **Mary Mustica**.



Above & Right: Two bedrooms on 2nd floor that have been opened up.



St. Joseph Gallery Choir, submitted by Bruce Snyder, Director of Music

The Gallery Choir is a group of dedicated singers who provide special music for St. Joseph Church.

In addition to their musical talents the members are united in friendship and spiritual togetherness.

The choir has been singing for the 10:45 a.m. Mass since August. They also pro-

vided special music for the Christmas Midnight Mass and are preparing to do so for Holy Week.

This year the Gallery Choir is working hard preparing the music for our first ***Passion Cantata and Candle light Service*** which will be held on **Wednesday, April 4, 2012 at 7 p.m.** at St. Joseph Church. This beautiful Cantata depicts in mu-

sic, song and prayer the last days of Jesus' life. Please bring your family and friends to this free event. There will be a "free will" offering during this service. All proceeds will benefit the St. Vincent DePaul Society.

The Gallery Choir welcomes new singers. We do not require that a member read music well but that he or she has a

pleasing voice. Our rehearsals are **Wednesday evenings, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** in the church choir loft.



The Funtastics Club, Submitted by Marlene Snyder

The objective of this organization is to provide recreation, companionship, stimulating programs and information for its members in a Catholic Environment. Membership is open to all Catholics 50 years of age or older, or those younger with a strong interest in the Funtastiks Club.

The officers are: **Bruce Snyder**, President; **Larry Gatts**, Vice President; **Jean Popovich**, Secretary; **Mary Alice Antonini**, Treasurer; the Standing Committee Chairmen are: **Pat Buck**, Sunshine Chr.; **Elda Gallina**, Hospitality Chr; and **Marlene Snyder**, Publicity. Meetings are held at 1 p.m. in the Schwartz Center usually on the third Tuesday of the month. Members enjoy two breakfast meetings at various restaurants twice a year, and a Christmas Dinner is held at the Alliance Area Senior Center in December. Call Bruce Snyder, at 330-823-1643 for more information.



St. Joseph Parish School of Religion, Submitted by Lynn Raber

The St. Joseph Parish School of Religion (PSR) represents Grades 1-8. Classes are held from 9-10:30 a.m. on

Sundays in the Schwartz Center. We are currently using the "Christ Our Life" Curriculum.

The PSR program is designed to assist families of children attending public school in their religious education. The curriculum presents the teachings of the Catholic Church in age-appropriate materials. Classes begin at the beginning

of September and continue until the first week in May.

Our Second Grade made their First Reconciliation on January 21st and are eagerly awaiting their First Communion on Sunday, April 29th at 10:45 a.m. Mass. May Crowning will be May 6th at 10:45 a.m.

Youth Masses are held every three months with all grades participating as readers, greeters, ushers and gift bearers. The little ones also entertain us with a song!

The Youth group has combined with St. Ann Church. They meet bi-weekly on Sundays from 12:30p.m.—2:30 p.m. alternating between the two parishes.

Most recently, our PSR

Students presented a Christmas Play prior to 4 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass and then participated in the Christmas Liturgy. Our students did a wonderful job and we are proud of their hard work.

For more information about our PSR program, please contact Lynn Raber at our parish office.





Faith in Action

Faith in Action is a local organization within St. Joseph Parish. Our mission is to respond to the gospel call to build the Kingdom of God here on earth by reaching out and serving as Christ's hands and feet in our community. We have modeled ourselves after The Prayer of St. Teresa of Avila, "Christ Has No Body".

We are a faith-based ministry rooted in scripture for the purpose of acknowledging our gifts and sharing our talents filled with gratitude for what we have been given. **It's all about serving others – at no cost.**

Faith in Action is willing to seek and obtain help for anyone in the community in their time of need— some tasks that we have completed using the talents of our parish members have included writing correspondence, filling out paperwork, completing minor home repairs, moving furniture, performing seasonal chores, providing shopping assistance and transportation, and making Christmas ornaments for our PSR students. In the community at large, Faith in Action works in the Community Food Pantry and aides in delivery for Meals on Wheels. If you are in need of any of

these services (or even on that is not mentioned here), please do not hesitate to call on us for help. We will do our best to help you.

"As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. Now the body is not a single part, but many." (1 Corinthians 12:12-14)

Because we have recently reorganized, we would like to invite you to consider becoming part of this ministry by:

- Promoting St. Joseph Faith in Action with your family and friends.
- Helping to identify those in need of assistance.
- **Offering your time and talents to help others.**

Anyone needing help or desiring to become part of this ministry is encouraged to contact **Terri Bishop** (330) 823-4512, **Linda Schneider** (330)-823-8623 or the Church Office (330)-821-5760).



Faith in Action Committee Members made and distributed these ornaments to our PSR students



Catholics Returning Home by Sandy McCreedy, Pastoral Assistant

Do you know someone who has left the church? Most of us do not have to look very far to find non-practicing Catholics in our circle of family and friends. May of us are concerned about these loved ones however we don't know how to help them. Obviously, most of them are searching, but how can we help them find their way home?

As baptized, practicing Catholics we have a precious gift of faith and love from the Lord that needs to be shared with our non-practicing brothers and

sisters. First, we need to pray for them. Secondly, we need to extend a personal invitation to them to come home to the Catholic Church. Most non-practicing Catholics are waiting for an invitation to return. Many mistakenly think they are excommunicated and are not welcome to return for a variety of reasons.

Many non-practicing Catholics carry a tremendous amount of guilt and misinformation about the Church so they are afraid of approaching the Church for fear of being rejected. You can make a tremendous difference in someone's life simply by reaching out to them and telling them that we miss them and would like for them to come back to our Church family.

Here at St. Joseph Church we have a special program to help non-practicing Catholics return to the Church called Catholics Returning Home. The next series begins Wednesday, April 11, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the Schwartz Center. This is a six week series with the first session lasting about 1 1/2 hours and the remain sessions lasting no more than an hour. The following is an outline of the session subjects:

- 4/11: Welcome "Why am I Here?"
- 4/18: "Stories of Faith from Catholics Returning Home" video and sharing
- 4/25: The Church Today: Changes Since Vatican II
- 5/2: Explanation of the Mass,
- 5/9: Explanation of Reconciliation

5/16: The Creed: What Catholics Believe

Please pass this article on to anyone who might be interested. For more information about Catholics Returning Home, call Lynn Raber or Sandy McCreedy at 330-821-5760.

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, leaves the 99 sheep to seek the one that is lost. And, when he finds it, he brings it home, and calls everyone in heaven to rejoice more over the one repentant sinner than over the 99 who have no need of repentance

St. Joseph Bereavement Ministry

On November 29, 2011 parishioners from St. Joseph and St. Ann Churches came together for instruction and training to form two separate bereavement ministries, one for St. Joseph Parish and one for St. Ann Parish.

The St. Joseph Bereavement Ministry is made up seven parishioners who have paired up to form three teams.

When a parishioner passes away, the assigned team goes out to

the home of the grieving loved one, prays with them, presents them with our St. Joseph Bereavement Booklet and guides them through the process of planning a funeral Mass or Service. They also keep in touch with this individual or family through cards of support, phone calls and prayer throughout the first year after their loved ones death.

We are presently revamping our policies

and procedures concerning funeral luncheons. Presently, we have five volunteers to work our funeral luncheons. To avoid "burn out", we would like to get a few more volunteers so we can form two teams.

It is our goal to relieve as much burden from the grieving family as possible.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the St. Joseph Bereavement Ministry or assisting

with Funeral Luncheons for the grieving families, please contact the parish office.



The Liturgy Committee



On February 7, 2012 we had our first meeting of the St. Joseph Liturgy Ministry.

The purpose of the Liturgy Ministry is to work with the Pastor to implement diocesan and universal liturgical Policies. This committee recommends and coordinates a schedule for worship services and provides appropriate environmental background in the church. They assist

the Pastor in meeting the spiritual needs of the parish.

Fr. Matthew was impressed with the parishioners who worked so hard preparing our church for the Season of Advent and Christmas so he formed a Liturgy Committee consisting of the following individuals: **Lori Gasparik, Dan Skivlocke, Peter Todd and Angela Zubar,** three of whom managed the deco-

rating of the church for Christmas. Plans are on the way for the season of Lent and Easter. If you are interested in serving on the Liturgy Committee or if you would like to volunteer to help with decorating the church at Christmas and/or Easter, please contact the parish office.



All pictures were taken courtesy of Mike Skolosh of Skolosh Photography.



St. Joseph Church on Christmas Eve 2011



Ministry of Hospitality, Submitted by Marv Bixler

The Ministry of Hospitality began in April of 2008. This ministry is made up of greeters whose goal is to provide a friendly welcome and a recognizable face to all who come to our church. We can provide basic information and answers to some questions, such as where to find the cry room, restrooms and confessional. If we don't know the answer to the question, we try to find out and if possible we give them the answer to their question as they leave church. We have a guest book at the back of the church for visitors to sign. Presently we only have six greeters which doesn't allow us to be at all doors and Masses. We would like to have more volunteers so we are able to minister at all Masses and every entrance to the church. If you would like to serve your parish as member of the Ministry of Hospitality, please contact the parish office. If you are new to our parish, this is a great way to meet members of your parish family!

Tuesday Evening Bible Sharing, Submitted by Bill Schneider

Bible Sharing is held on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Schwartz Center. We explore the scriptures for each Sunday's Mass. The study and discussions follow a study guide called "Bringing Home the Word." As we study, we read the Sunday readings and discuss the content, review some reflection questions, and share thoughts and actions we might take to keep the Gospel message at the

center of our daily lives and relationships.

How do Scripture, trust, and worship fit into our plans for the next Sunday's Liturgy? Sharing comes from the heart and discussion comes from the head. We compare our experiences from this past Sunday's Mass and think about what it really means for each one of us in our own daily life. These are just a few of the ways we share Scripture. It is hoped

that Bible Sharing will help our understanding and appreciation of the Mass and our lives.

Our Bible sharing group is not intended to be the final word in our progress in learning to know God better through studying and meditation on his Word. There is always room for more. Bible sharing is open to all. Why don't you consider giving us a try some Tuesday evening? We would love to see you!



"As we study, we read the Sunday readings and discuss the content, review some reflection questions, and share thoughts and actions we might take to keep the Gospel message at the center of our daily lives and relationships."



St. Joseph's Library

The St. Joseph Library founded in memory of **Anuziata Strizzi** is located on the first floor of the Schwartz Center and available to all St. Joseph Parishioners. Parishioner **Christine Hilliard** is our parish librarian and keeps our library organized and up to date. Our library is filled with books, movies, DVD's, tapes. New books are ordered on an annual basis. Parishioners may visit our library Monday—Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. If you would like to make a donation towards the maintenance of this library or if you would like to volunteer to help our librarian, please contact the parish office.

The Wheels on the Bus Go Round and Round submitted by Larry Gatts

The Saint Joseph Church bus was purchased in late May 2009. The bus was purchased as a service for our parishioners who were unable to come to Mass. With some minor repairs, sprucing up and lettering we were up and running for Mass that fall, with the first mass run in October.

For the first adventure, the greatest need seemed to be for the 4:00 p.m. Mass on Saturdays. We began with one Mass per week-end but discovered the need was larger than expected. A couple of months later we began serving our parishioners

for the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sundays. There has been many times where we needed to do two runs on Saturday, also. On Saturdays we usually always had a full bus, carrying eleven passengers. The bus holds eleven passengers, plus the driver and a helper. It is also wheelchair accessible and has the capacity to carry two wheelchairs at a time with the use of the lift. At this time we have a roster of seven parishioners for Saturday, with a couple additions occasionally. On Sundays we serve five parishioners sometimes six.

The bus has

served many purposes besides getting our parishioners to church. It has been used to take parishioners to the church picnic, to Tetelestai, to stand for 'Right to Life' in front of the abortion clinic in Youngstown and Planned Parenthood in Canton. It has also been used to take different groups to outings such as the youth ministry group, the Funtastiks, Regina/St. Joseph students to their service project and by St. Ann's youth ministry group.

George and Mary Weber, co-chairmen, with my wife **Judy**, and I take care of scheduling all

trips. Our goal is to serve God through service to you, St. Joseph parishioners.

If you have a time in which you need our service, please feel free to contact **George and Mary Weber** (330) 823-9279 or **Larry and Judy Gatts** (330)823-9629, (330)-704-2969, (330)-704-4606 or the church office (330)-821-5760).

We are also looking for drivers and helpers especially for the week-end Masses. We always try to have two people on board, the driver and a helper, to be of better service to you, our parishioners.

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration is held in the Schwartz Center St. Dominic Chapel from Monday 9 a.m. through Thursday midnight.

WHAT IS PERPETUAL ADORATION?

Perpetual Adoration is a Eucharistic devotion whereby members of St. Joseph Parish unite in taking hours of adoration before the Most Blessed Sacrament during the day and throughout the night, from Mondays at 9 a.m. through Thursdays a midnight.

HOW DOES ONE SPEND AND HOUR BEFORE JESUS EXPOSED IN THE

BLESSED SACRAMENT?

This hour Jesus wants you to spend with Him is spent any way you want. You may bring your own prayer books, use the books in the chapel, read the Bible, pray the rosary, or just sit and relax and enjoy the sweet peace that comes from simply being in the Presence of God. You may feel that you can't pray well. Don't let this discourage you. The mere fact that you take time out at a specific time each week to spend an hour with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament pleases Him very much and is in itself a prayer of great faith. Please remem-

ber that Perpetual Adoration is a not just for a day, a week, a month, or a year. Rather, it is for always. It is not temporary, but ongoing, lasting, permanent.

Coordinators of the St. Joseph Perpetual Adoration are **Marshall Scaia** and **Larry Gatts**. Division Leaders are:

- ♦ **Sheila Strawser** -- Midnight-5 a.m.
- ♦ **Margaret Bowman** -- 6 a.m. -- 11:00 a.m.
- ♦ **Mary Weber** -- Noon -- 5:00 p.m.
- ♦ **Betty Scaia** -- 6:00 p.m. -- 11:00 p.m.

Can you spend one hour with Jesus?



Adorers are needed on Tuesday evenings from 7-8 p.m. and 8-9 p.m. If you are interested in either of these hours, please call Betty Scaia.

If you would like to commit to spending an hour with Jesus, contact the division leader for the hour you desire.

Lenten & Holy Week and Easter Schedule for St. Joseph & St. Ann Parishes

Ash Wednesday: February 22, 2012

8:00 a.m. Serve at St. Joseph—Alliance

12:10 p.m. Service at St. Joseph – Alliance

7:00 p.m. Service at St. Ann - Sebring

Stations of the Cross:

Stations of the Cross will be held **Every** Friday During Lent at **St. Joseph in Alliance at 12:10 p.m.** and **St. Ann in Sebring at 6:30 p.m.**

Please Note: *The Stations of the Cross Service on Good Friday, April 6, 2012 will be held at 3 p.m. at St. Ann-Sebring only.*

Communal Penance Service

Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at 7 p.m.
at St. Ann Church

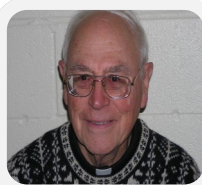
Simple Suppers held at St. Joseph Schwartz Center



Wednesday, February 29th at 6:30 p.m. —Guest Speaker **Bishop John Michael Botean** of the Byzantine Romanian Church will present a Program on **Dorothy Day.**

Dorothy Day, a staunch supporter of civil rights and an anti-war activist began her life of “voluntary poverty” on Staten Island. A convert to Catholicism, she was baptized at Our Lady Help of Christians Church in Tottenville in 1927. She has been nominated for sainthood.

Wednesday, March 7th at 6:30 p.m. —Guest Speaker Msgr. James Kolp



Wednesday, March 14th at 6:30 p.m. —Passion Shadow Play presented by the St. Joseph CCD Children

Pierogis

Homemade Pierogi's are for sale every Friday at St. Ann Church



Wednesday, April 4th at 7 p.m.
Passion Cantata and Candlelight Service At
St. Joseph Church – Alliance
Thursday, April 5th at 10 a.m.

Chrism Mass

At St. Columba Cathedral

Thursday, April 5th at 7 p.m.
Holy Saturday - Mass of The Lord's Supper
At St. Joseph Church – Alliance

Friday, April 6th Good Friday

12:10 p.m. Service at St. Joseph – Alliance
3 p.m. Stations of Cross at St. Ann - Sebring
7 p.m. Service at St. Ann – Sebring

Saturday, April 7th
Blessing of Easter Baskets
11 a.m. at St. Ann – Sebring
12 p.m. at St. Joseph - Alliance

Saturday, April 7th
Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil
4 p.m. at St Joseph – Alliance
7 p.m. at St. Ann – Sebring

Sunday, April 8th
Easter Sunday
9 a.m. at St. Ann – Sebring
10:45 a.m. at St. Joseph - Alliance

St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church

427 East Broadway
Alliance, OH 44601

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St. Joseph Catholic Church

St. Joseph Mission Statement:

*Guided by the Holy Spirit,
nurtured by the
Sacraments of Jesus
and inspired by the Holy Family,
we, the members of
St. Joseph Church,
commit ourselves
to growing the Family of God
both in our parish
and in the community
through sharing
God's Word,
worship and service.*

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday 4 p.m. & Sunday 10:45 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 8 a.m.

PARISH STAFF:

Rev. Matthew Mankowski, Pastor—Ext. 1104

Sandy McCready, Pastoral Assistant—Ext. 1103

Barb Rogel, Parish Secretary—Ext. 1101

Lynn Raber, Director of Religious Education—Ext. 1108

Joseph Keffer, Parish Bookkeeper—Ext. 1102

Bruce Snyder, Director of Music

Tom May, Head of Maintenance

Our Parish Office is located in the Schwartz Center behind St. Joseph Church. Handicapped accessibility is available from the High Street Entrance.

HOURS: Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.—4 p.m.

PARISH/CEMETERY PHONE: 330-821-5760

PARISH OFFICE FAX: 330-821-5783

PARISH E-MAIL: stjosephalliance@gmail.com

PARISH WEBSITE: www.stjoseph-alliance.org