



Heart of the Matter

A Christian Community Building Households of Faith

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November 2011

Fr. Thomas Saucier, O.P., installed as pastor

By Deacon John Weaver

"My dear friends, because Bishop Gaydos is aware of your pastoral needs and is confident of Father Saucier's qualifications for the office of pastor, he has asked me to express, in his name, his pastoral concern for the people of this parish, and he commends Father Thomas Saucier to you as your new pastor."

With these ritual words, the Reverend Robert H. Fields addressed the faith community of Sacred Heart during the 8:30 a.m. Mass, Sunday Oct. 9. Father Fields, Dean of the Columbia Deanery, acting with the explicit direction of the Bishop of the Diocese of Jefferson City, the Most Reverend John R. Gaydos, formally began the installation of Fr. Thomas Saucier, O.P., as the pastor of the Roman Catholic Parish of Sacred Heart in Columbia, MO.

The ritual text continues; "Thomas, my brother, Father Simon Michalski, Father Patrick Tobin, Deacon John Weaver, and Deacon Bill Caubet will assist you in the pastoral care of the people of this parish. Share this ministry in a spirit of mutual trust, common prayer, and genuine concern.

Father Thomas, there is a Pastoral Council of this parish. It is the voice of your people and will assist and counsel you as you minister to this parish. Always be attentive to the needs they express.

Remember, my brother Thomas, always be a loving father, a gentle shepherd, and a wise teacher of your people, so that you may lead them to Christ who will strengthen all that you do."



Fr. Thomas Saucier, O.P., speaks his oath of installation, assisted by Deacon Bill Caubet, while Fr. Robert Fields looks on.

In response to the Dean's direction, Fr. Thomas offered a profession of faith (Nicene Creed), then continued his pledge of obedience and diligence with this oath: "With firm faith I also believe everything

contained in God's word, written or handed down in tradition and proposed by the Church, whether in solemn judgment or in ordinary and universal magisterium, as divinely revealed and calling for faith.

I also firmly accept and hold each and every thing that is proposed by the Church definitively regarding teaching on faith and morals.

Moreover, I adhere with religious submission of will and intellect to the teachings which either the Roman Pontiff or the college of bishops enunciate when they exercise the authentic magisterium, even if they proclaim those teachings in an act that is not definitive."

With Deacons Bill and John as witness, Fr. Thomas finalized the installation, signing each of the installation directives. Things soon became a bit less formal with hugs, handshakes, and applause all around.

The newly installed pastor addressed his assembly, thanking them for their trust and support, and reassuring them of his gratitude and future diligence. Finally, perhaps demonstrating his newly acquired pastoral concern, Father invited all present to share coffee, doughnuts, and bagels in the Activity Building after Mass.

In recognition of Fr. Thomas' appointment, *The Columbia Missourian* ran an Oct. 11 article highlighting Fr. Thomas and his now-assigned task as a pastor shared between St. Thomas More Newman Center and Sacred Heart. If you have interest in their reporting, follow this link: <http://www.columbiamissourian.com/stories/2011/10/11/catholic-churches-sacred-heart-and-newman-center-sharing-priests-adding-strain/>

MCC assembly through the eyes of a parishioner

By Christiane Quinn

What a beautiful day. Sunny, blue skies, and mid-70s. I am on my way to Jefferson City to attend the Missouri Catholic Conference (MCC) Annual Assembly 2011 in the State Capitol. The theme, "150 Years after the Civil War, the Same Question: How Do We Unite a Divided Nation?" makes you think, right? Me too.

I discovered this unique opportunity from a flyer given to my daughter by her Social Studies teacher. At this special youth and adult program, she would have the opportunity to participate in a "Mock Legislature" session. My daughter, Francielie, is attending sixth grade at Our Lady of Lourdes Interparish School (formerly CCS).

Anyway, here we go on this gorgeous morning with a delightful couple from Our Lady of Lourdes. I offered to car pool in my registration because it is a good way to meet new people. The conference provided eight morning and nine afternoon workshops for adults, and a free lunch. The topics covered in the workshops included a variety of issues: health care, law, policy organizers, human trafficking, education, pornography,

Medicare, Catholic press, the Joplin tornado, and abortion, just to name a few. But if you like history, you would have had a hard time to pick just two, since they were all concurrent. The common theme was the Civil War, and we could learn directly from "Mr. Lincoln" or from other experts on the subject of abolitionism, slavery, and African Americans in the Civil War. It was informative to learn about those folks and what they did to reach their goals. Of course, some of them were radicals, but all were looking for justice and equality in the context of their time. An interesting part was to listen to quotes from more than 150 years ago that sound remarkably similar to some of the issues in today's news.

My daughter came out excited from the Mock Legislature session where she was able to "vote" and discuss current issues such as Cyber-bullying (SB 818), Religious Freedom in Schools and Public Places (HJR 2), and Payday Lending Reform (HB 132). Those are all real issues from the state capital. At the same time I came out with a wonderful list of reading suggestions and with an increased knowledge about the

life of African Americans in Missouri during and after the Civil War. It was explained to us how the African American population, our neighbors, ended up living where they are today in Missouri due to the Civil War.

To finish the day we were blessed to attend a liturgy at which presided not only The Most Reverend Robert J. Carlson, Archbishop of St. Louis, but also by the three Missouri Bishops (from the dioceses of Jefferson City, Kansas City-St. Joseph, and Springfield-Cape Girardeau), the Auxiliary Bishop of St. Louis, and the Bishop Emeritus of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. Can you believe it? I've only seen that many bishops at one Mass when I went to visit the Pope.

Well, by now you are probably wondering why I wrote this article. The answer is a question for you: Where were my fellow parishioners from Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Columbia? Where were my daughter's classmates from OLLIS? I could not find them and she couldn't either. My daughter already told me that she wants to come back next year. I want to come back too. And maybe some of you can join our car pool on a beautiful, sunny Saturday, Sept. 29, 2012.

Birthdays

- Nov. 1 Louis Corwin, Linda Garner, Teri Keene, Leo Modaff, Emmalee Riney
- Nov. 3 Laura Beth Cox, Elizabeth Duncan, J.D. Krueger, Judy Morris, Silvia Onate, Katherine Quinn
- Nov. 4 Terrance Grus, Miriam Hankins, Mary Ann Tveitnes
- Nov. 5 Andrew Cox, Olivario Delgado, Linda Doles, Carry Pudenz, Broderick Ruprecht, Steve Teson
- Nov. 6 John Frymire, Esmeralda Loreda, Debany Ramirez
- Nov. 7 Eddie Dotson, Jay Ludlam, Rhys McCracken, Jill McIntosh, Julie Schelich
- Nov. 8 Penelope Heidy, Tami Herman, Emily Peurrung, Anne Quick, Rebecca Sinele, Esther Steinhoff, Rebecca Terry, Nohemi Trujillo
- Nov. 9 Mark Evaniak, James Farnell, Leslie Frymire, Mary Manulik, Madge March-Riley, Melissa Renfro, Maria Rogel, Tita Rogers-Shaw, Rachel Scheffer, Maria Valdivia
- Nov. 10 Isabella Dupree, Christopher Schappe, Tyva Sprouse
- Nov. 11 Allison Anderson, Norbert Richardson
- Nov. 12 Susan Adams, Debbie Bietsch, Cheli Haley, Lucas Whitworth
- Nov. 13 Jayne Burkett, Luis Robledo, Adrienne Stolwyk
- Nov. 14 Allan Bohr, Paul Chitwood, Paula Chitwood, Quinn Cunningham, Maria Mendez-Alegria, Braeden Songer, Yolanda Tobar
- Nov. 15 Marie Dishaw, Cindy Gardner, Meron Ghidey, Erin Green
- Nov. 16 Sandy Arens, Vincent St. Omer
- Nov. 17 Raphiell Freelon, Justine Morris, Pete Szkolka
- Nov. 18 Esperanza Gomez, Delaney Hague, Jack Langen, Ryan Naugle
- Nov. 19 James Brown, Joseph Fulca, William Brent McHugh
- Nov. 21 Sheryl Orscheln, Joseph Priesmeyer
- Nov. 22 Miriam Oguejiofor
- Nov. 23 Hector Barraza, Gloria Elliott, Helen Girard, Karen Harris, Jeff Mitchell, Carrie Tyler
- Nov. 24 Cecelia Cordray, Kelly McGuire
- Nov. 25 Donna Richardson, Janette Trujillo, Deacon John Weaver
- Nov. 26 Josephine Blanchard, Avery Lynn, Faustino Vazquez, Henry Wachholz
- Nov. 27 James Farnell, Brian Kimes, Rosa Lopez
- Nov. 28 Abigail Mayhan
- Nov. 29 Jennifer Brown, Alexander Cotter, Pablo Grimaldo, Susan O'Neill
- Nov. 30 Kathy Singleton

OLL Interparish School News

By Raelene Head

Can you believe that three months of school have already passed? Every year it sure seems to go by faster and faster. The kids have been busy at school. Grades Two-Eight spent a week taking the Stanford test to measure how they are doing. You should see results shortly, as they usually are back around the first quarter grading time.

Parent teacher conferences were Oct. 27th and 28th. This was a time to meet with each teacher and get some great feedback on how each student is doing. If you have concerns that will take longer to discuss in a 15-minute time frame, please feel free to arrange another time to meet with the teacher. They try hard to keep on schedule and keep others from having to wait.

If you are interested in some delicious popcorn, the Cub Scouts from Pack 6 will be selling popcorn after Masses at each church the weekend before Halloween (Oct. 29-30). Popcorn will be available to take with you so you don't have to wait to get it. Popcorn can make a great Christmas gift for that hard-to-buy-for person. You will also be able to donate popcorn to our Troops. The money the scouts raise from selling the popcorn helps to fund many of their activities and the summer camp. Take a moment to see what they have. Pack 6 is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council 1529 and the kids all go to OLLIS.

Mike Smith was elected by the school board to fill Kevin Marberry's

vacated spot, according to the Constitution and By Laws of the school board. Mike has been a member of OLL for 17 years and has two children currently enrolled at OLLIS, one graduate of OLLIS, and one not yet in school. He will serve the remainder of Kevin's term. The next school board meeting is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 24, 7 p.m., in the meeting room in the OLL parish office.

Anyone interested in supporting our Catholic youth in sports are welcome to come out and cheer them on. The OLLIS website, www.CCSK8.org, lists the schedule. There is a small entrance fee, with a reduced cost for seniors and students. With concessions available, it is lots of fun to help cheer the kids on.

Upcoming activities:

- Nov. 1 All Saints Day
- Nov. 2 All Souls Day
- Nov. 5 Bellamine Speech Meet
- Nov. 8 Home and School meeting, 7 p.m., Flanagan Hall; babysitting available by eighth graders
- Nov. 9 Faculty meeting, 2 p.m. dismissal; Tiger's Den available
- Nov. 10 First Reconciliation for second grade, 7 p.m., Our Lady of Lourdes Church
- Nov. 18 No classes – Diocesan Religious Education Institute
- Nov. 23-25 Thanksgiving Break – no classes
- Nov. 29-30 Health screenings

Tuesday, Nov. 1, All Saints Day, is a holy day of obligation. Masses at Sacred Heart will be at 7 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. This is a time to remember those who now enjoy eternal peace in God's presence, the end we all hope to achieve. Let us ask these saints to pray for us as we continue to strive to follow Christ's example of love.

Remember to enter the names of your loved ones in the Book of Remembrance. This will be located in the vestibule as you enter church, and will be carried up to the altar along with the gifts at the Offertory.

Wednesday, Nov. 2, is All Souls Day. Sacred Heart celebrates this with a beautiful Mass of Remembrance. After the homily, the names of those departed since last November will be read. A family member or friend will come forward to light a candle in their memory. Following this, all present are invited to come forward to light a candle in memory of their loved ones. If you have never attended this, consider making this a habit to begin this year. It is a beautiful and moving service, and allows each of us a moment to specifically remember our loved ones.

Heart of the Matter

Sacred Heart Parish, Columbia, MO
 Pastor: Fr. Thomas Saucier, O.P.
 Associate Pastor: Fr. Simon Felix Michalski, O.P.
 Associate Pastor: Fr. Patrick Tobin, O.P.

Editor: Mary Kay Head
 Layout: Richard Clawson
 Send comments to: HeartNewsLine@aol.com
 or 1115 Locust St., Columbia, MO 65201

Articles in *Heart of the Matter* that address Church teachings or articles of faith are expressions of the author's opinion unless specifically noted otherwise.

Ounce of Prevention

Hospice and palliative care

By Tammy Reeder, Sacred Heart Health Ministry Committee

Because November is National Hospice and Palliative Care (NHPC) month, we thought it would be a good idea to bring some basic information to you about palliative and hospice care. In 2007, President George Bush designated November as National Hospice Month. Palliative care describes the work of Hospice and you might hear the terms used inter-changeably. People often ask me just what "palliative" care is.

The focus of palliative care, like hospice, is based on comfort and symptom management. They both strive to address and treat the physical, emotional, spiritual, intellectual, and social aspects of a person and his/her family. Healing comes in many forms. Quality of life is improved by treating pain and other symptoms such as shortness of breath, nausea, fatigue, appetite, and sleep issues. Palliative and hospice care also include social workers who can connect the patient to community resources which provide a variety of services.

Palliative care is based on need, not prognosis

Palliative care can begin prior to hospice services. It is appropriate for those with life-limiting illnesses such as cancer, heart and lung disease, dementia, Alzheimer's, and other debilitating illnesses, when cure is not an option. It does not mean that one cannot receive treatment. For example, cancer patients can still receive chemotherapy and/or radiation, but the focus is to provide relief from pain and other adverse symptoms caused by the tumor. Palliative care is especially vital and helpful because it begins early in the course of a serious illness and, there-

fore, symptoms and problems can be better anticipated, prevented, and treated.

Hospice services can begin when life expectancy is six months or less. It is best to sign up earlier rather than later. Keep in mind that everyone's circumstances are individual and "six months" is only a guideline; many people live longer than that. Hospice provides 24-hour, seven-days-a-week service. Information about local hospice organizations can be found in the yellow pages or on the internet. Columbia is fortunate to have the MO Palliative Care program through the University of Missouri, started by Dr. Clay Anderson and Mary Cunningham APN. Contact information can be obtained through the University or Ellis Fischel Cancer Center.

The Gospel of Jesus is lived out in the philosophy of hospice and palliative care through demonstrations of love, care, compassion, empathy, respect, and value for the dignity of human life.

One's end of life journey is individual; time is precious and hospice and palliative care can provide support and meaning during this time of reflection, struggle, and resolution. May God grant us all a peaceful death, fully ready to commend our spirit to Him who is rich in mercy, grace, and compassion.

Your Sacred Heart Health Ministry Committee would like to hear from you regarding this article, previous articles, or something you would like us to address in upcoming articles. Address your comments to the Health Committee, c/o Heart of the Matter. The email address is HeartNewsLine@aol.com. Or, you can drop your comments off at the parish office or in the collection basket. We want to address and serve your needs.

"The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting. It has been found difficult; and left untried."

-- G. K. Chesterton, *What's Wrong with the World*

Please patronize our advertizers. They help make Heart of the Matter possible.

Knights of Columbus Council 14414

The Sacred Heart Knights of Columbus Council #14414 held our monthly social meeting Oct. 5 at D & D Bar & Grill. We held our business meeting Oct. 19 in the Gathering Space.

Members of our council helped Butch Johnson with grounds work around the church Saturday, Oct. 8th. During the weekend of Oct. 7-9 we cooperatively participated in the annual Tootsie Roll Drive with Council 1529. The Handyman Ministry helped parishioners paint exterior walls of their home, repaired a lawn mower for another parishioner, and replaced an electrical switch for a community

member.

Coming Up

- Nov. 2 Social meeting, 6:30 p.m., Gathering Space; view episode 2 of *Catholicism: "Happy are We, The Teachings of Jesus"*
- Nov. 16 Business meeting: Rosary, 6:40 p.m.; meeting, 7 p.m.; Gathering Space
- Nov. 19 Grounds work on the parish campus

For information or to join Council 14414, contact Chris Drury (864-5351; cgdrury@gmail.com) or Steve Sutter (474-6227; steves2868@gmail.com).



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**Knights of Columbus
Council 14414
Handyman Ministry**

If you need help with projects around the home or in the yard, call Rick Clawson at (573) 491-3399 or email rickglenda@hughes.net. Payment for the service is not required, but donations are accepted by the council and are used to support the parish.



**Mark your calendar for the
Fifth Annual Knights of Columbus
Chili Cook-off**

Saturday, Jan. 14, after the 4:30 p.m. Mass

Parishioners are invited to enter their favorite recipe(s). Entry fee per recipe: \$10; half will be returned as cash awards to the First, Second, and Third Place winners.



"Professional" judges will be on hand to judge the competition. All parishioners are invited to enjoy the dinner. Free-will donations will be accepted to support the parish.

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A decade of benefit golf tournaments

By Gene Gerke

The tenth annual Paul Prost Memorial Golf tournament, held Monday, Sept. 26, netted more than \$7,000 for the parish building maintenance fund. This annual tournament is held in memory of Paul Prost, a long time member of the Sacred Heart parish family. The 26th was a beautiful, blue-sky, sunny day – in other words, a perfect golf day for the 72 golfers. The golfers competed for several prizes, and scores of door prizes were awarded. In fact, everyone went home with something. And, most important, everyone had a lot of fun.

The tournament's signature sponsor was Prost Builders, Inc. Several businesses, golf courses, and individuals provided sponsorships, products, and prizes in support of the tournament. (See the list of Sponsors and Donors.) Special thanks to the tournament volunteers, including: Bob Borst, Jim Brown, Bob Bryant, David Crites, Will Fish, Gene Gerke, Pat Gerke, Kirk

Hankins, Charlene Jayamanne, Colleen Lamond, John Lamond, Pam Long, Imelda Sarmiento, Beverly Schuster, and Michael Schuster.

The Paul **Prost Memorial Golf Tournament Trophy** and \$500 went to the winning team of Joe Tonnies, Jay Goeser, Dave Thomas, and Tim Cacek.

Other winners included:

Flight A

Second Place (\$300) – Paul Kanago, Rob Ferriman, Rick Matheny, Scott Jacoby

Third Place (\$160) – John Lamond, Brian Hervey, Darren Owen, Rob Lammers

Flight B

First Place (\$300) – Kirk Hankins, Darren Bertrand, Larry Coyner, Robert Hankins

Second Place (\$160) – Michael Schuster, Louis Schuster, Michael Matheny, Brad Russell

Third Place (\$80) – Maurice Schulte, Bill Borgmeyer, Jerry Wilbers, Arnold Bailey

Closest to the Pin

Joyce George (\$50 gift card donated by ProAm Golf and a \$50 gift certificate donated by Dick's Sporting Goods)

Longest Putt

Kelsey Meyer (Cobra S3 Driver donated by Thomas McGee Insurance Agency)

Longest Drive

Brian Hervey (Free round of golf for four donated by Columbia Country Club a free round of golf for four donated by A. L. Gustin Golf Course)

Putting Contest

Paul Kanago (Barbeque for 16 donated by the Grillers in the Mist competition BBQ team)

Honesty Award

For carding the highest score, the team of Vaughn Prost, Rich Northeimer, Bill Whitlow, and Dwayne Jordan were awarded the annual "Honesty Award." (Four \$25 gift certificates donated by Les Bourgeois Winery)

Thanks to Tournament Sponsors and Donors

Please support our sponsors and donors.

Signature Tournament Sponsor: Prost Builders, Inc.

	Prize	Prize Sponsor
Putting Contest	Barbeque for 16	Grillers in the Mist Competition BBQ Team
Longest Drive	Round of Golf for Four Round of Golf for Four	Columbia Country Club A. L. Gustin Golf Course
Longest Putt	Cobra S3 Driver	Thomas McGee Insurance Agency
Closest to the Pin	\$50 Gift Card \$50 Gift Certificate	ProAm Golf Dick's Sporting Goods
Honesty Award	Four \$25 gift certificates	Les Bourgeois Winery

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Golf Tournament (cont.)



(Left) Brian Connell, Don Corwin, Lou Corwin, and Paul Corwin. The Corwin family enjoyed a mini reunion as Paul came from Tucson, AZ, for the tournament.



It was a beautiful day for golf, with plenty of time for food, drink, and socializing.



(Right) The team of Donna Fannin, Rick Rother, Joyce George, and Ellyn Forbes were all smiles all day. Joyce won a nice prize as her drive on hole #17 was "closest to the pin."

Catholicism debuts at parish assembly

By Glenda Kappelmann

It's finally here.

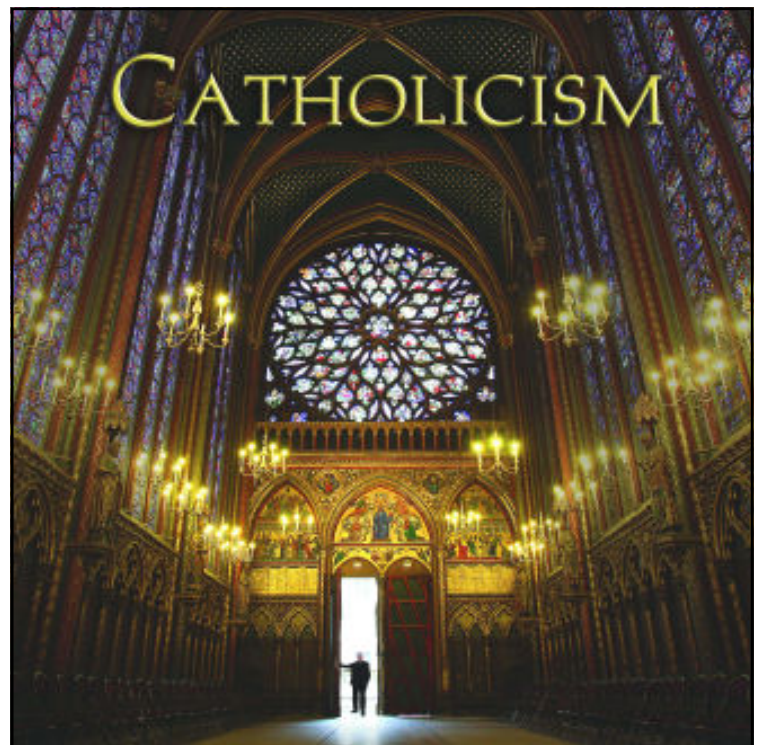
After three years of filming at 50 locations in 15 countries, *Catholicism*, the ground-breaking documentary created and hosted by Fr. Robert Barron, debuted in our community at Sacred Heart Church Oct. 8th. The occasion was the Parish Assembly, at which parishioners were treated to a spaghetti supper, child care services, and a big-screen presentation of one of 10 50-minute episodes. It was entitled "The Ineffable Mystery of God: That Than Which Nothing Greater Can Be Thought." Reaction to the screening was overwhelmingly positive. One viewer offered, "It made me grateful for my faith and proud to be Catholic." Others noted the beautiful images, scenery, music, and the stimulating commentary.

Inspired by the 1969 Kenneth Clark series, *Civilization*, Fr. Barron – the acclaimed author, theologian, and podcasting priest from Chicago, IL – led a team of filmmakers, including NBC correspondent and producer, Mike Leonard, around the world to locations of profound significance to the history of Christianity. In glorious high definition and set to a moving original soundtrack by Steve Mullen, Fr. Barron uses great works of art and architecture to demonstrate the beauty inherent in our Faith and deftly employs the wisdom and insight of the authors of Scripture, the Church Fathers, and the great theologians and thinkers of the past centuries to help make clear the truth of Christianity.

At Fr. Simon Felix Michalski's suggestion, Sacred Heart will offer special Advent showings of two more episodes, one on the incarnation of Christ called "Amazed and Afraid: The Revelation of God Become

Man," and the second on the Blessed Mother entitled "Our Tainted Nature's Solitary Boast: Mary, the Mother of God." The showings are scheduled for Tuesday evening, Dec. 6th and again Tuesday evening, Dec. 13th, so mark your calendars now and watch the bulletin and the next *Heart of the Matter* for details. As host of the events, Sacred Heart will invite our brothers and sisters of St. Thomas More Newman Center and Our Lady of Lourdes parishes to join us. You also are encouraged to invite friends, neighbors, and family to join in this extraordinary experience. There is no admission charge and light refreshments will be offered following the video screenings.

For more information on *Catholicism*, go to www.CatholicismSeries.com or to Fr. Barron's website, www.WordonFire.org.



The interior of Sainte-Chapelle, Paris, one of the many beautiful locations featured in *Catholicism*.

Meetings help pastor set direction for parish

The last week in September there were three opportunities at Sacred Heart to talk with Fr. Simon and me about your dreams for the future, about where we are going as a parish. When I became pastor of St. Thomas More Newman Center in 2006 I held similar meetings and they were both informative and well attended. For me personally, those meetings helped set the direction of the parish for the next five years. I can



Rev. Thomas Saucier, O.P.
Sacred Heart Pastor

honestly say that much of what I have tried to do at Newman arose from those conversations. I have discovered that I can have ideas and plans, but if they are not somewhat close to the dreams you have for the parish, not much will be accomplished. I would like to share with you a few things I heard and learned in these September meetings.

From the sample of people who attended – the audience ranged from as small as 12 to as large as 65 – the parish is most proud of the sense of community that exists. Community is both a concrete reality and a concept at the same time. The groups determined that Sacred Heart has several communities, divided by Mass times. When a parishioner thinks of the “parish community” they immediately think of their friends and neighbors at the particular Mass they attend. While acknowledging that there is a larger community beyond the 4:30 p.m., 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m., or 1 p.m.

worshiping community they attend, it is more of a concept than a concrete reality. It is always a struggle to encourage people to broaden their image of something beyond their limited experience. There is strength in this level of identification, but we just can't limit ourselves to so narrow an understanding of community. One of the ways I intend to build on this idea of community is working with the Social Concerns Commission in reaching out to the many young families who have joined the parish in the past year. I hope you have noticed. This is a positive sign of vitality for the parish. Community can also be fostered by active participation in the parish – one's gift of time. Another aspect of our community is the relationship between the overall parish and the Hispanic Community worship Sunday at 1 p.m., but that I will reserve for another time.

Parishioners are also very proud of the liturgies at Sacred Heart, and rightly so. I realize that the emphasis on liturgy at Sacred Heart goes back to Fr. John Long. St. John's Gospel says that we should worship in “spirit and in truth,” while Psalm 100 encourages us “to come before him with a joyful song.” I can honestly say that Sacred Heart has one of the greatest participation levels I have ever seen when it comes to congregational singing. In my limited experience at Sacred Heart, I have definitely heard many joyful songs and witnessed a community that earnestly seeks to worship in spirit and in truth. I want to acknowledge and thank Ellyn Forbes, Emily Edgington, and the Liturgy Commission for their hard work in planning and implementing such beautiful services. During the

meetings it was also pointed out that music is one aspect of liturgy and worship. I don't think this was mentioned to imply that other aspects were being ignored; but they are equally important. Good proclamation of the Word is important – I would even say essential – as well as good preaching. Trained Altar Servers, Directors of Worship, Lectors, and Eucharistic Ministers make the liturgy flow.

Sacred Heart is proud of its church. The woodwork, stained glass, and stenciling are beautiful. One of my favorite ads is for the Patek-Philippe watch. “You never actually own a Patek-Philippe. You merely look after it for the next generation.” Of course, when the watch sells for \$25,000 at the low end you understand the true meaning of the message. The parish community of Sacred Heart has been blessed with a beautiful worship space. We really don't own it. It was here before any of us were alive and it will live on after us. We are merely looking after it. Sacred Heart is blessed with four buildings, none of which were built after 1955. While they have distinctive looks and styles, they also have mechanical and maintenance issues which are never ending. While everything may be working today, tomorrow will have its own problems. We have an obligation to look after these buildings; not only for ourselves but for the generations which will come after us. I do want to thank Mr. Barry Shushinsky and Mr. Sam Stout for their work in the daily maintenance of the buildings, and to Mr. Gene Drane for his dedication to the buildings.

Next month I will continue with my thoughts on the meetings.

Confirmation retreat

Our confirmation retreat this year was at Camp Trinity, in New Haven, MO. New Haven is about 18 miles east of Herman. We were way out in the country. We had cows and horses as neighbors. We were in the midst of God's beautiful creation. The setting was very amenable to breaking one's routine, and spending some time thinking about and talking to God in the midst of a community of peers.



Rev. Simon Felix Michalski, O.P.
Sacred Heart Assoc. Pastor

The name of the retreat was “Fulfilled.” The premise of the retreat was that we need to empty our busy lives and make some room for God to work in and through us. The Confirmandi are given jars, which represent their lives. On the first night, we look into our selves to see our true self. We ask the question, “In what way have I strayed from God?” We spent the first night in reflection and had the Sacrament of Reconciliation for all who wanted to partake of God's mercy. We empty the jars of all sin – Healing.

The second day we examined our lives to see what else is in the jar of our life. Each of us has a very busy life – yes, even teens. Our lives are filled with good things. We work, eat, sleep, recreate, study, pray, have family times, play sports, have hobbies, watch TV, and many more activities too numerous to even list. Where is our room for God? Have we crowded Him out of our lives with too much stuff? How can we empty our jar a little more? Can we create time for being as well as doing? We make room in our jars for God – Balance.

Next we had a wonderful opportunity to speak about what it means to be a Christian man and a Christian woman in our world today. Let's face it, it has never been easy to be a Christian man or woman in any age, but our world today is tough. I am proud and encouraged by our Catholic teens. They are living a good life, in some difficult times, under great pressure to conform to non-Christian values. I admire our youth today – Moral Living.

In our next session we began to explore what is good in the jar, and what we want to become. We explored the virtues. We presented a talk on the “interior critique,” an inner voice which attacks us whenever we are alone. You know the voice I mean. The one that says, “You can't do it.” Or, “You are stupid.” Or, “You are ugly.” This voice is always a liar and must be ignored. We told them there is good in them already and we let the Confirmandi write notes to each other about the good they see in each other. We fill our jars with virtues and grace – Becoming Holy.

Other talks on the retreat were about how to live out this challenge of the Christian way, how to have balance in our lives, how to overcome temptations, how to carry our crosses, and other life topics.

On top of all this, we had a lot of fun. The camp is beautiful and well stocked with activities for the Confirmandi. We had great food, too. I think we all had fun; even the old people.

I want to take this opportunity to publically acknowledge our youth. Our teens are good people. I am impressed by their good will and the way in which they are willing to undertake the challenge of Catholic Christian living.

There is much hope for the future of the Church. I urge you to be proud of our youth, too.

ENCORE PRESENTATION

From Fr. Robert Barron's
Catholicism

“The Ineffable Mystery of God:
That Than Which Nothing Greater
Can Be Thought”

Wednesday, November 9th

Noon

Gathering Space

Bring a brown bag lunch and watch this exhilarating episode of the ground-breaking video series which was originally presented at the recent Parish Assembly to enthusiastic reviews.

Presentation will start at 12:10 p.m.
and will last approximately
50 minutes.

Work of “God’s architect” to be consecrated

This past summer, I made my first trip to Europe when my wife and I visited Spain and Portugal. One of the sights on my “must-see” list was the cathedral of Sagrada Familia in Barcelona, Spain. I had written a paper on church architecture in diaconate formation, so I was very excited about being able to see the cathedral in person – I was not disappointed.



Deacon Bill Caubet

The Spanish architect Antoni Gaudí designed the Sagrada

Familia. When asked to hurry along his work on Barcelona’s famous cathedral, he was said to reply, “My client is not in a hurry.”

Of course, he wasn’t talking about the archbishop of Barcelona. He was talking about God, and that’s how he viewed his imaginative, soaring work – as something built for God, not man. Gaudí was known for piety, and he’s been dubbed “God’s architect.” A cause is underway for his sainthood, which is pretty impressive, since few artists have been given the honor.

Now, almost 130 years after Gaudí began his

church, it’s finally being consecrated – and they pulled in the big guns to do it. No less than Pope Benedict XVI himself will pray the ritual Nov. 7 for its consecration during a papal trip to Spain.

The consecration of a church formally distinguishes the space as sacred, rather than “profane,” or common. Usually, churches are consecrated at the beginning of their use, after the buildings are finished. Although Sagrada was dedicated to the Holy Family, it was never consecrated, probably because it was never finished.

In 1926, Gaudí was hit by a streetcar, and he died a few days later. His art nouveau church was unfinished, and his vision was so grand that its actual completion was no small task. It remains unfinished today, although it’s hoped to be finished in time for the 100th anniversary of the architect’s death in 2026.

If you’ve never seen it with your own eyes, the thing worth knowing about Sagrada Familia is that it’s absolutely wild. I mean it – it’s the kind of thing that gives the imagination of Dr. Seuss a run for his money. With its eight telescoping spires, flying buttresses, and sculptural forms that look like wax sliding down a 394-foot candle, it’s at one time grotesque and beautiful, medieval, and futuristic. If completed according to Gaudí’s plans, it will have 18 towers, the tallest of which could soar to 560 feet.

Mass has been celebrated in the cathedral despite its construction status, and it draws an estimated 10,000 visitors each day. It’s also an UNESCO World Heritage site. People are attracted to the cathedral’s harmony, beauty, and symbolism, according to Cardinal Martínez Sistach, the archbishop of Barcelona. It also converts people, he added.

“I think the church evangelizes. Gaudí wanted all his buildings to lead people to God. I think he has more than achieved this with the Church of the Holy Family. There have been conversions, and we know some of them.

“The building of the church increasingly converted the architect himself, until he gave himself completely to this work, refusing proposals for new buildings offered to him in Paris and New York.”

According to the cardinal, Japanese sculptor Etsuro Soto, who was working on the church, and his wife, became Catholic in 1991 because of Gaudí’s work.

“We know other examples of conversion, but no doubt they happened because a visit to the church helps to reflect on creation and salvation as works of God,” the cardinal added.

It’s hard to judge what’s going to be more impressive – the pope’s Nov. 7 consecration Mass, which is expected to include 1,100 concelebrating priests, or the cathedral itself when it’s completed in 16 years.

Father knows best

By Rick Clawson

In the introduction to his book, *The Fathers of the Church, An Introduction to the First Christian Teachers*, Mike Aquilina wrote: “As heirs to the Apostles, the leaders and teachers of the early Church – the Fathers of the Church – were intensely concerned with preserving the unity and integrity of the ‘company of those who believed,’ even as that company grew from a small band of several hundred to encompass millions of people speaking dozens of languages and dispersed throughout the Roman Empire. The unity of believers – unity in the Person of Jesus Christ – was the precious inheritance of the Church Fathers.”

The Fathers of the Church lived in the first six Christian centuries and number about a hundred. They are a select group of early Christian teachers, long revered by the Church for their doctrinal authority. Generally speaking, the Fathers meet four criteria which were established by St. Vincent of Lerins in the fifth century:

1. Orthodox doctrine
2. Holiness of life
3. Church approval

4. Antiquity

Sometimes called the Patristic Era, the age of the Fathers stretched from the middle of the first century to the middle of the eighth century, with the death of St. John of Damascus. Some of the earliest Fathers were disciples of the Apostles themselves. The witness of these “Apostolic Fathers” is invaluable because they were nearest to the Apostles, who in turn were nearest to Jesus Christ. The Church considers the Patristic Era to have been a time of extraordinary graces for the development of Christian doctrine.

From the very beginning of the Christian Church, bishops and teachers used “the Fathers” and “our Fathers” as terms encompassing all their ancestors in the Faith. These teachers were careful to state that their teaching was not their own, but rather stretched back to the beginning. For example, St. Irenaeus explained that he had learned the faith from St. Polycarp of Smyrna, who in turn had learned from St. John the Apostle. In succeeding generations, other teachers were careful to trace their own connection to St. Irenaeus.

Gradually, “Fathers of the Church” came to signify those Christian teachers who were recognized as

Fathers by long tradition. They may be divided culturally into those who were “Eastern” and those who were “Western.” The Fathers also have been grouped by era into four categories: the Apostolic Fathers – such as St. Clement of Rome and St. Ignatius of Antioch, the Ante-Nicene Fathers – such as St. Justin Martyr and St. Irenaeus of Lyons, the Nicene Fathers – such as St. Athanasius and St. Cyril of Jerusalem, and the Post-Nicene Fathers – such as St. Jerome and St. Augustine of Hippo.

The Fathers varied in ethnicity, in style, and in temperament. Some were preachers, some were popes, some were academics, and some were hermits. But regardless of their station in life or geographic location, they sought to pass on “the Gospel,” the received Tradition of Jesus’ acts, teachings, and suffering – whether in written or oral form – to their contemporaries and to succeeding generations of believers.

In this and future issues of *Heart of the Matter*, we will publish a quote from a Father of the Church (see below) that is as relevant today as it was when written over a thousand years ago. We hope these quotes will be an inspiration and cause for deeper reflection about our Faith.

A meditation on mercy by St. Ambrose of Milan

Mercy, also, is a good thing, for it makes us perfect, in that it imitates the perfect Father. Nothing graces the Christian soul so much as mercy – mercy as shown chiefly towards the poor, in which you treat them as sharers in common with you in the produce of nature, which brings forth the fruits of the earth for use to all. Thus you may freely give to a poor man what

you have, and in this way help one who is your brother and companion. You give silver; he receives life. You give money; he considers it his fortune. Your coin makes up all his property.

Besides, he gives you more than you give him, since he is your debtor in regard to your salvation. If you clothe the naked, you clothe yourself with righteous-

ness; if you bring the stranger under your roof, if you support the needy, he procures for you the friendship of the saints and eternal habitations. That is a considerable recompense. You sow earthly things and receive heavenly.

– St. Ambrose, *On the Duties of the Clergy*, 1.12

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Statement of Change in Net Assets

For the 3 months ended Sept. 30, 2010 and the 3 months ended Sept. 30, 2011

OPERATING ACTIVITIES	9/30/2010	9/30/2011	Budget	% of Budget
Revenues				
Offertory Collection	\$132,841	\$129,094	\$569,000	23%
Bequests	-	395	-	N/A
Interest Income	276	0	500	0%
Other Administrative Revenue	4,754	7,653	12,300	62%
Liturgy Revenue	2,290	2,365	5,500	43%
Faith Formation	412	2,112	2,500	84%
Social & Fundraising Activities	884	874	23,600	4%
Hispanic Ministry	819	-	1,000	0%
Rental (Education Building)	13,500	13,500	54,000	25%
Diocesan & Other Collections	3,994	6,751	16,000	42%
Total Revenues	159,770	162,744	684,400	24%
Expenses				
Salaries & Taxes	38,758	42,237	176,000	24%
Staff Benefits	17,230	20,366	84,000	24%
Diocesan Assessments	6,477	5,790	45,886	13%
Other Admin. & Oper. Exp.	38,301	47,276	111,800	42%
Salaries & Taxes (Liturgy)	20,288	19,574	91,500	21%
Liturgical Expenses	1,586	2,943	19,200	15%
Catholic School Assessment	11,415	12,424	113,200	11%
Faith Formation	2,582	3,071	12,000	26%
Poor	3,475	2,922	15,000	19%
Social & Fundraising Activities	1,215	2,323	10,000	23%
Hispanic Ministry	1,194	560	7,100	8%
Diocesan & Other Collections	3,957	6,746	16,000	42%
Special Use	-	-	-	N/A
Total Expenses	146,478	166,232	701,686	24%
Change in Operating Net Assets	13,292	(3,488)	(17,286)	20%
MAINTENANCE & RESTORATION ACTIVITIES				
Revenues				
Collections & Fundraisers	\$ 48,820	17,382	45,000	39%
Rental (Education Building)	-	-	-	N/A
Total Revenues	48,820	17,382	45,000	39%
Expenses				
Improvements to Buildings	21,962	987	85,000	1%
Maintenance & Repair	8,976	6,833	29,000	24%
Total Expenses	30,938	7,820	114,000	7%
Change in Maintenance & Restoration Net Assets	17,882	9,562	(69,000)	-14%
Total Change in Net Assets	31,174	6,074	(86,286)	-7%
Net Assets at June 30, 2010		124,438	124,438	
Net Assets at June 30, 2011		130,512	38,152	

The Antichrist (part seven)

By Carl Franks

As we saw in the last part of the series, St. John depicts two beasts in the critical 13th chapter of Revelation. The first is the Antichrist and the second is the False Prophet. This second beast serves the Antichrist and spreads his authority throughout the world by working false miracles. However, he, like the Antichrist, has a horrific role to play, as we shall see.

St. John writes that the False Prophet “wielded all the authority of the first beast [i.e. the Antichrist] in his sight and made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose mortal wound had been healed” (verse 12). The reference here is to the Antichrist himself who, in verse 3, suffers some type of fatal wound. St. John describes that he “saw that one of its heads [i.e. the first beast (the Antichrist) as described in verse 1] seemed to have been mortally wounded, but this mortal wound was healed. Fascinated, the whole world followed after the beast” (*New American Bible* [NAB] translation). [The NAB note for verse 3 reads, “This may be a reference to the popular legend that Nero would come back to life and rule again after his death (which occurred in AD 68 from a self-inflicted stab wound in the throat).”] Because the Antichrist will be a living human male, the reference may be taken in any number of different ways. For example, this catastrophic head wound may be the result of some type of accident, or, conversely, it may be taken to mean some type of assassination attempt (which will appear to be successful) that will leave him with the injury. Ultimately, because the particulars of this incident are not revealed in the text, the best we can do is informed deduction. However it will happen, this wound “was healed,” presumably by the dragon (i.e. Satan), as a parody of Our Lord’s Resurrection. In fact, so convincing will be the Antichrist’s recovery that many people will take this false miracle as a true sign, become even more enamored with him, and, eventually, worship him as God.

Perhaps the most insidious false miracle of the

False Prophet is his command for the people to make an image of the Antichrist. This “image [was] for the beast who had been wounded by the sword and revived. It was then permitted to breathe life into the beast’s image, so that the beast’s image could speak and [could] have anyone who did not worship it put to death” (vss. 14-15 [NAB]). The *New Jerusalem Bible* (NJB) renders the passage as, “It was able to win over the people of the world and persuade them to put up a statue in honor of the beast that had been wounded by the sword and still lived. It was allowed to breathe life into this statue, so that the statue of the beast was able to speak, and to have anyone who refused to worship the statue of the beast put to death” (vss. 14-15). The False Prophet’s breathing life into this statue of the Antichrist is a parody of God breathing life into the first man, Adam. Additionally, this could be a reference, as the *Jerome Biblical Commentary* points out, “to deceitful practices, such as ventriloquism, employed in pagan cults” (484). Again, where exactly this image will be placed is not revealed in the text; however, as we saw in Part Five, given the Antichrist’s desecration of the rebuilt Jewish Temple in Jerusalem, it is not hard to imagine this image, like statues of pagan gods, being placed in the Temple to further the desecration. Likewise, it is not hard to imagine the ruthless executions taking place in Jerusalem as a foreshadowing of the Battle of Armageddon, which will take place nearby. Nonetheless, as St. John illustrates, the False Prophet’s power will extend to even putting to death those who refuse to worship the animated idolatrous image.

As we have seen, the Antichrist has many particular associations with the emperors of the Roman Empire. Many Roman emperors had themselves deified while living, i.e. declared to be living gods. For this reason, St. John relates the Antichrist in terms his readers would have immediately associated with the Roman Empire. For example, the people worshipping the Antichrist in Rev. 13:4 is an allusion to emperor

worship. Likewise, the slaughter of those who refuse to worship the image of the beast by the False Prophet refers to the Christians of St. John’s day who had either to worship the emperor or be killed. (One of the worst of these persecutors of the early Church was the Roman Emperor Domitian, who ruled from AD 81-96, and “demanded that he be called by divine titles such as ‘our lord and god’ and ‘Jupiter’” [NABnote for Rev. 13: 5 - 6]). The Antichrist’s first appearance in this crucial Chapter 13 of Revelation is in the symbolic terms of a beast with seven heads and ten horns which “symbolizes the Roman empire; the seven heads represent the emperors; the blasphemous names are the divine titles assumed by the emperors” (NAB note for Rev. 13: 1 - 10). The *Jerome Biblical Commentary* writes concerning this beast, “This is the Roman Empire, the archetype of secular powers that persecute the Church. [The seven heads] represent . . . the seven hills of Rome and seven kings” (483).

All these characteristics may make an uneasy association for some with the Roman Pontiff. Remember, however, that the Antichrist will be a *secular political leader* who will take the *form of religion* and not be a true religious leader. As Jimmy Akin wrote in *This Rock* (now *Catholic Answers Magazine*) in April 2003, “Even given the identification of the Antichrist with the beast, the pope is the last person who would fit the biblical requirements for being the individual Antichrist (or any Antichrist). The epistles of John clearly indicate that the Antichrist is one who denies that Christ has come in the flesh. However, the basis for the pope’s position in the Church is that Christ has come in the flesh and has ascended into heaven, leaving the successor of Peter as his vicar or representative on earth. . . . The anti-papal argument is simply not credible. Further, in Scripture the beast is clearly a political leader, not a church leader. In fact, the beast is literally identified with one of the early Roman emperors, who had no part of the Church.”

Now, The Battle of Armageddon approaches.

Roamin’ Catholics in action

By Mary Kay Head

There’s a new committee in town, and it’s getting off to a great start. Headed by Ron and Colleen Meyer, this committee, rightfully dubbed “Roamin’ Catholics,” has been busy planning events to offer to Sacred Heart parishioners and their guests. And it’s now official. The first outing of the Roamin’ Catholics, a tram ride along the Katy Trail, took off without a hitch. Not to let the weather hamper their spirits, the group came prepared with warm clothes, hot drinks, and blankets. Meeting at the Rocheport entry to the Katy Trail, they loaded up on trams and settled in to enjoy the views and good company.

Most of the trip provided a view of the Missouri River or of the tall bluffs, with some farm lands and floodplains included. Each tram included a guide who discussed the history of the trail, pointed out the fall foliage, items of interest along the way, and even shared some Missouri trivia. The memorial to Edward and Patricia Jones along the route was noted. The Joneses were instrumental in establishing the Katy Trail State Park, donating over two million dollars to acquire the abandoned MKT railroad track which now forms the much-traveled bicycle and walking path. At one point the trams stopped to allow the travelers time to take in scenes from the past. Looking up at the cliffs one could see distinguishing red marks (petroglyphs) that let those coming later know there

was a cave and running water at that location. The remains of an old munitions storage cave were also noted. And the works of some very busy beavers were seen in the felled or partially felled trees along the way. We learned of the animals who claimed the area, and even saw a wild turkey and a raccoon.

As it happens, the third Wednesday of October, the very date of the Roamin’ Catholics trail ride, had been duly named Missouri Day by the leaders in Jefferson City. So a little Missouri trivia was in order. How many famous people from Missouri can you name? Most are aware of Harry Truman, Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain), Walt Disney, Omar Bradley, Thomas Hart Benton, and George Caleb Bingham. But did you know Missouri was also the home of George Washington Carver, Ginger Rodgers, Betty Grable, Walter Cronkite, J. C. Penney, and Marlin Perkins? There are more, and even some such as Brad Pitt, who would be recognized by the younger crowd. It’s amazing the number of Missourians who have become quite renowned in their fields of endeavor.



The Roamin’ Catholics loaded onto the trams, ready to begin the two hour tour.

The ride went along the trail from Rocheport to McBaine and back again, but the event did not end there. A short drive up the road took the travelers to the Les Bourgeois vineyards, where they gathered at the Bistro to enjoy wine and hors d’oeuvres. The original plan was to gather at the A-frame, but it was **Continued on page 12**

People in the Pews: Meet the Kellys

By Sophie Pingelton

Sacred Heart parishioners Gene and Glenda Kelly typically frequent the 11 a.m. Mass. They have been parishioners since about 1979.

Gene, originally from Higginsville, moved to Columbia in 1979 with his family for a job relocation with the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC). He received his Master's degree in Biology from the University of Missouri-Columbia earlier and therefore was no stranger to the area. He retired from MDC after 40 years of service. Gene now works part-time at Bass Pro Shops in the fly fishing department, teaching techniques and selling equipment.

Glenda, from the Kansas City area, is a registered nurse with a Master's degree in nursing from Mizzou as well. She currently teaches Community Health nursing part-time for the University's Sinclair School of Nursing. Prior to this, Glenda worked for the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for about 22 years.

The couple shared that they met on a blind date. Glenda laughed, "My roommate informed me that she couldn't go on this blind date and told him I would go." Gene sweetly added, "I got lucky." The couple has been married for 41 years and has two children, daughter Shannon and son Ryan.



Gene and Glenda Kelly

Shannon and husband Chris, of Champaign, IL, have three sons, ages four, three, and one. Ryan and wife Brooke live in Hannibal. Interestingly, Shannon is a registered nurse like her mother and Ryan works for the Department of Conservation, as did his father.

Gene enjoys a wide variety of outdoor activities. He ties his own flies and builds rods for his love of fly fishing, and every January ice fishes in Wisconsin with a good buddy. He hunts deer and has trapped fur as

well. Gene was an avid runner in the past, even running marathons. He has been involved since about 1985 officiating track meets for the Mizzou Tigers, most recently acting as lead official for the high jump. Gene shared he was even a drummer for a dance band in his college days.

Glenda enjoys spending time with her grandsons when she gets the opportunity. She knits, sews, and shared, "I like to take care of the irises and daylilies in my flower gardens also." She started a book club and is involved with volunteering for the Assistance League Auxiliary. Glenda added, "We hadn't had a dog in a long time but we now have a little dog, Elmo, who takes some time too."

Gene currently acts as one of Sacred Heart's Directors of Worship and Glenda is involved with the Health Ministry Committee. They shared that though they have attended all the Catholic churches in Columbia in the past, Gene revealed, "We like Sacred Heart's smallness and traditional beauty. You can meet people and see them again next Sunday." Glenda noted that Sacred Heart "compared well to the small parish we belonged to in Rolla, where our kids were born, prior to moving to Columbia." Gene eloquently finished with, "You feel like you belong here" at Sacred Heart.

Teen mission to Texas planned for March

By Kelley Burns

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." Matthew 25:35

For how many of us do these words from Matthew's gospel actually ring true? When I think of my childhood, I recall an awareness of people in need. We participated each year in the parish's "Giving Tree," donated to canned food drives, and helped supply winter coats or shoes to children in the community. Once or twice as a young person I might have gone to the St. Francis house to help fix a meal or clean, and I've been to the food bank to volunteer a few times. But never have I really known what it is like to truly "need" something from another person that I couldn't get from my own family. I would venture a guess that most of us have had similar experiences to my own – thoughtful and well-intentioned, but sterilized and impersonal.

This all changed for me one week in March of 2004. I was fresh out of college, newly married, and serving as the youth minister at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Columbia. I was fortunate enough to be able

to take a group of around 40 high schoolers on a spring break mission trip. Our destination – Agua Prieta – a Mexican border town just south of Arizona. We traveled by charter bus the 25 or so hours to Douglas, AZ, then carried all of our food, water, and belongings across the Mexico border where a different bus was waiting for us.

In this week our group experienced first-hand what Christ means when he says to serve "the least of these." Our work for the week was pretty typical service work: painting a school, cleaning up litter, and some light construction projects. But on our last day we participated in a food distribution – an experience that has since become a part of me and one that I will never forget. Prior to the distribution we broke into groups and walked through the barrios of Agua Prieta, handing out fliers and, in broken Spanish, telling families where they could come to receive food. As we went along we were invited into the homes of the people. Many of these residences had only dirt floors; some had roofs made of scrap metal, others had no roof at all. One resident asked us in and begged us for medicine to help an ailing relative who was sleeping behind a sheet hung over the door frame. Children ran alongside as we walked, waving to us and calling out in Spanish.

On the day of the food distribution our group set up in an open field that had been designated for this kind of event. I was not prepared for what was to come. Hundreds of hungry families lined up and waited hopefully for the meager supplies we had to offer: a bag of dried beans, cooking oil, flour, rice, and some other staples. We passed out small candies and trinkets to the children who were waiting. Despite all of our work to raise money for the food and to put together the food bundles, we still ran out and had to turn some away. It was beautiful and heartbreaking at the same time.

This March, teens and parents from all three parishes in Columbia will be heading out on a similar mission trip to San Juan, TX. Though we will not cross the border, I anticipate that this week of service and prayer will be fruitful for those who attend and for those who benefit from our labor of love. In a community where most of us have what we need in abundance and our experience with "the least of these brothers and sisters" is limited to what we see on TV, Youtube, or Facebook, I pray that this week will open our eyes.

Open our eyes, Lord, to see the things that make Your heart cry;

To be the church that You would desire, Your light to be seen. - Joel Houston

For more information on how you can help or to sign up, please contact me at lifeteen@newmancentercolumbia.org.



Meeting the long-term purposes of our parish

To Be An Angel Forever

Write to:

The Foundation

PO Box 10263, Columbia, MO 65205-1263



The Door is Open!

The Knights of Columbus is an organization of Catholic men (ages 18 and over) founded on the principles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. For information about Council 1529, contact Tony Speichinger (573-443-8648). Come join us!

The place of a child

By Bryan Mayhan

As a teenager/young adult, I could look around at children misbehaving in Church and self-assuredly think "My kids will never act like that." Yep. A broad generalization never goes unrewarded by the Lord. As a teaching moment, it is just too good for God to pass up.

As a child I regularly heard the saying, "Children are to be seen and not heard." Anyone who knows me can guess that I had a tough childhood.

To say church is a serious business to my mother is probably one of the greatest understatements of our time. As a very young child attending Mass, my lack of good behavior ran me seriously afoul of my mother. Suffice it to say that I am personally responsible for at least three of Seven Seals in the Book of Revelation being broken asunder.

Almost 40 years later I still think back to those moments of being heard and not just seen and the consequences of ignoring several warnings. But now we are the parents and we have to learn how to teach our kids proper behavior during Mass. It is a messy process and it leads us to ask an important question: What is the place of children in our church? I think the answer to this question is answered for us: Our

children are our replacements. If the Children are our replacements, then there is a huge responsibility placed on parents at their children's baptisms to teach them the Faith so that they can then pass it on to their children. This education starts at home and Mass from the moment of their birth.

Years ago as new parents, we read a "mailbag" question in a prominent parenting magazine, "When do I start taking my child to church?" The answer was astonishing. The "expert" suggested that four- or five-year-old children might be suitably mature to go to church.

In Matthew 18, 1-5, Jesus gave us quite a different answer, "... whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me." The time to begin taking a child to church is as soon as possible after birth.

As one living the dilemma of where a family with small children should sit in church, the argument for sitting in the back to make a quick exit after a meltdown begins is truly commendable. Early on Renee and I learned this was usually a self-fulfilling prophecy. Over time we came to the conclusion that the front row is the best place to sit.

I was sitting in a back pew while everyone else was standing, tending to one of the kids when I realized the

"back-row problem." I couldn't see the altar. It was a terrible experience for me. No wonder our children were restless, they couldn't see. They couldn't participate. They were bored. We were depriving them of the very reason we were taking them: a personal experience with God.

I have learned that children fundamentally understand that worshipping God employs all five senses, especially sight for children. If they cannot see the action on the altar, then they have no possibility of worshipping in a meaningful way at Mass. Church becomes a hellish punishment, rather than the heavenly encounter Mass truly is.

Psalm 8 tells us "... on the lips of children and of babes you have found praise to foil your enemy, to silence the foe and the rebel." The Lord himself said, "Do not keep the children from me." Children belong in the place where they can see and hear and smell and participate. When they come of age, they will touch and taste. It is in their earliest participation that they will learn to love their heritage in the Mass and Holy Mother Church. They will be equipped to be our replacements.

The process is not so clean cut and, like us, is imperfect. Kids are kids; they do what they do. There are times when

children become disruptive because they have real needs. That is the time to take them to a place where they can be cared for and loved and then brought back to the congregation. I was always embarrassed (unnecessarily) when I had to remove my child from Mass. Every parent in church understood that we were teaching and passing on our own love for the Church. They are always sympathetic. Every parent has been there and it is okay. It is a long walk to the vestibule when you sit in the front, but we found that the walk became far less frequent than when we sat in the back row.

On the front row, mine have been known to wave wildly at the lector or blow kisses to Father, Deacon, and Lector alike. Or yell out a big "Hello." Or they might play peek-a-boo around the end of the pew while singing the Gloria. While *singing* the Gloria – how beautiful is that? What lessons are we to learn from them in their joyous worship? Who is to say that their happy jabber isn't worship? I think we can take delight in their worship. A child's worship, unlike ours, is given without impediment of sin, and freely given to God. It is no wonder Jesus said we had to become like them. It is a process.

And my kids did act like that.



Parishioners gathered for the Mass of Anointing held at Sacred Heart Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2011.



Along with the Mass of Anointing, a luncheon is served to those attending.



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Parish Celebrations



(Left) **Abrielle Rose Bietsch**, born in Columbia, MO, Aug. 1, 2011, was baptized at Sacred Heart at the 4:30 p.m. Mass Saturday, Oct. 8, 2011. She is the daughter of Matthew Brandon and Katherine Marie (Limbach) Bietsch. Pictured are godparents Lori Michelle Bietsch and Andrew Joseph Bietsch; Fr. Patrick Tobin, O.P.; Matthew; Katherine holding Abrielle; and grandparents Debbie and Mike Bietsch.

Roamin' Catholics

Continued from page 9

just a bit too cold to want to stay outdoors. Everyone was very grateful that the winery was so accommodating as to let us move our group inside.

Did you miss this maiden voyage of the Roamin' Catholics? Don't worry, there'll be others. In fact, the next event will be Nov. 5, when a bus will carry us to O'Fallon, MO, to visit the motherhouse of the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood, the home of our very own sister Sisters, Agnes and Isabelle, with whom we plan to meet. The Sisters have graciously invited us to share a noon meal. If you have not yet reserved your seat on the bus, contact Ron and Colleen Meyer (see below) or Deacon John Weaver. There is a \$30 charge per person for this event to cover the bus trip and the meal, or \$10 per if you wish to drive yourself and just join the group for lunch. The bus will depart around 9:45 a.m. from Sacred Heart and return by 4:15 p.m., just in time for the 4:30 p.m. Mass. There will be refreshments on the long, dry trip home.

On the agenda for December is a Missouri Tigers basketball game. Plans for this are in progress. The date to keep in mind is Dec. 18, and the opponent is William and Mary. Because this event is during the semester/Christmas break, parking near the Mizzou basketball arena will be more readily available. The group would meet for refreshments in a designated room at the arena, then join the crowd to cheer our Tigers on to victory.

Do you have ideas for possible future

outings? Join Ron and Colleen on the committee to plan events and make arrangements. With the age diversity of the parish, some events could be tailored to certain age groups, while others would be of general interest. This committee is certainly off to a great start, and it looks like a lot more fun is in our future. You may contact Ron or Colleen at these email addresses:

ron.meyer9@yahoo.com and colleenmarie72@yahoo.com.



One of the stops allowed riders to see red petroglyph markings on the bluff wall, left many years ago.

(Below) Warm-up time came after the event, where good food and drink were enjoyed by all at *Les Bourgeois Bistro*.



Mission Statement

The mission of *Heart of the Matter* is to be a communication tool for Sacred Heart Parish. It is our goal to inform, to instruct, to evangelize, and at times, to amuse readers. We rely on God's grace and on the efforts of many volunteers to fulfill this mission. *Heart of the Matter* is published monthly by Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 1115 Locust St., Columbia, MO 65201, 573/443-3470.

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