



# HOLY CROSS HERALD

**Fr. Anthony Ernst, Pastor**  
**Fr. Sudhakar Bhastati, Parochial Vicar**

**February  
2016**

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Dear Friends,

It's that time again. Yes, the season we all love is coming soon – Lent. I don't mean to sound sarcastic, because we really do like Lent. There is something about this season that speaks to the depths of our souls. It begins with the blessing of the ashes and those words on Ash Wednesday, "Remember you are dust and unto dust you shall return." These words are so powerful. They remind us that God gave us life and we are nothing without Him. Lent is a time for us to reflect on that reality. We need to do this because we often get distracted from this truth. It's interesting to recall that the word Lent actually comes from a word meaning "Spring." So, Lent is meant to be a new "Springtime" for all of us. We are called to intensify our prayer, fasting and almsgiving during Lent. These ancient practices help to prepare us for Easter and ultimately for the Kingdom of Heaven.



In one of my recent conversations with Father Betz, he made a statement that really struck me. He said, "Everyone is looking for a religious experience today – something spectacular in their lives." And then he commented that we have the most profound opportunities for a religious experience right before us all the time in the Mass and in the Sacrament of Confession. So true! Think about that, please. What could be more powerful than to receive Jesus in Holy Communion and have your sins forgiven?

We tend to give things up for Lent, and that is good, but let's also remember that we are called to do something special for Lent. Some ideas... You could attend weekday Mass. There is nothing greater than the Mass! Have you ever been at a Mass with the school children during the week? If not, you are missing something very special. My mother will make the trip down here occasionally to simply attend a Mass with the children. She loves to hear their voices and experience their lively participation. Another great Lenten practice is praying the Stations of the Cross. You could pray the Stations of the Cross each day. We also have times when we do this communally at our parishes each week during Lent. This is a great way to remember what our Lord went through for us and how He calls us to take up our own cross and carry it with Him. You could also celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. During this Year of Mercy we are being invited to encounter the greatness of Jesus' mercy and to share it with the world. If it's been a while since you've made a good confession, come back. The Lord loves you and wants you to know His mercy. His mercy changes lives. Open your heart to Him this Lent.



So, Father Betz is right; we all really want to have a deep religious experience. We want to encounter God's love in our lives and feel His peace deep within us. I hope you will have a religious experience this Lent. The opportunities are available. It's up to us to make it happen. I hope this Lent will be like a "springtime" for us. If it is, we will have a glorious Easter.

Love in Christ,

*Fr. Tony*

## PARISH OFFICE NEWS

### NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to our newest Holy Cross members. If you get the chance to greet these people at church, use the opportunity to show them true Christian fellowship, and tell them how much we appreciate them coming into our church family.

✠ Jake & Brittany Vantlin. They have two children, Emily and Allyson.

✠ David Leonard & Emily Kohl. They have two children, Aislyn and Atticus.

✠ Randal & Jessi Meeks. They have two children, Willa and Waylon.

### HOME COMMUNION

Eucharistic Ministers take Communion to the homebound on Friday mornings. If you have had a recent surgery, a hospital stay, or are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Communion, please contact the parish office by Thursday afternoon.



### 2016 & 2017 MASS INTENTIONS



The parish office is now scheduling 2016 & 2017 Mass Intentions. You may schedule up to 3 Mass Intentions per year for a person. Only 1 intention should be used for a weekend Mass, the other 2 for weekday Masses.

### WEBSITES

We are working hard to keep the Parish and School websites current and informative. If you have any information you want to see on the website, contact Peg Hall at hallfamily@ieee.org

**Our website pages are:**

**Parish:** [www.holycrossparish.info](http://www.holycrossparish.info)  
**School:** [www.holycrossparish.info/holy-cross-school](http://www.holycrossparish.info/holy-cross-school)

### BULLETIN

Would you like to receive your bulletin online? Because of our printing agreement with Liturgical Publications, now you can! Simply log on to SeekAndFind.com and enter our church's zip code in the "NEAR" field and click the red "FIND" button. Select our church from the results and you'll see a listing of our bulletins. You can even sign up to receive an e-mail notification every time a new bulletin is posted to Seek And Find; just click the red envelope link above



### AUTOMATIC ELECTRONIC GIVING

The electronic giving program allows you to electronically have funds transferred directly into the parish's account for your Sunday giving. It is convenient, no cost to you, & helps you stay current on your Sunday giving. You may increase, decrease, or suspend your transfer any time by calling the parish office. Please contact Lisa at 753-3548 or lmay@evdio.org with questions.

### BAPTISM PREP CLASS

All first time parents must attend a Baptismal Class prior to their baby being baptized. Godparents are welcome to attend also. You are encouraged to attend this class before the baby is born. Next class will be on March 14. Upcoming classes will be on May, 9, July 11 and Sept. 12.



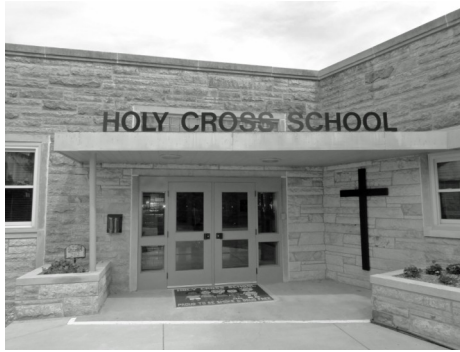
### Prayer Chain—Please Pray for the Sick & Suffering

To add someone to the prayer chain, please contact Phyllis Schmits at 753-3858 or call the parish Office at 753-3548. Please contact the parish office at 753-3548 if you or a family member is admitted to the hospital or nursing home, or if you would like to receive the anointing of the sick so that we may notify Fr. Tony or Fr. Sudhakar.

## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL NEWS

### John Hollis, Principal

Holy Cross Catholic School has completed the first semester. All is going very well. We received an "A" letter grade issued from the State of Indiana Department of Education. This award is earned through academic achievements. Our academic success at Holy Cross is a reflection of our wonderful children, our caring parents, and our highly-qualified teachers and staff.



Our basketball season has come to a close. Both the girls and boys teams finished the season with respectable records.

Congratulations to Kaleigh Baehl, Hailey Richter, and Emily Holzmeyer who will be representing Holy Cross in the upcoming Princeton Deanery Spelling Bee.

Finally, thank you to all those who donated to the School annual Fund Drive. We have purchased a new stage, and will soon update all the lighting throughout the school building. Other ideas are being discussed for further improving our school.

### **School Board**

Our marketing committee had baby bibs and burp clothes embroidered with our school logo to give to all the babies baptized this year. We are also planning to have the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students write letters to the kids that were baptized 3 years ago to encourage the family to consider attending our school in kindergarten.

*President—Deanna Bullock*

### **Holy Cross First Grade News by Mrs. Wallace**

Congratulations! All the first graders made their Goals again for the second grading period! Some of them even doubled and tripled their goals.



We had a great start to the New year with a new year's party! We toasted the New Year with Hawaiian Punch and blew our party horns! We also made colorful ribbon 2016 banners to hang above our desks.

We also enjoyed celebrating our 100th Day of School on January 19 with many fun activities. We wore 100th Day crowns, sang songs, did special puzzles, and read 100th Day stories. We brought in our collections of 100 items and compared their sizes and weights. Our heaviest items were 100 marbles and 100 clothespins. Our lightest things were 100 rubber bands and 100 mini M & M candies.

We graphed the different colors of Froot Loop cereal pieces in a box. We found that green had the most pieces and that the color blue had the least pieces. For homework, we had to draw a picture of ourselves at age 100 and what we think cars will look like 100 years in the future. We worked so hard that our teacher paid us each "\$100 !"

After studying about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the students wrote what their dreams for our world would be...(for homework.). Amazingly, all their answers were almost the same...for everyone to live in peace, stop smoking, stop doing illegal drugs and everyone to be nice to each other!



## *Pictures of Holy Cross Crusaders*





## *Easter/Lent 2016*

### **Sts. Peter & Paul**

**Way of the Cross**— Mondays at 6:15 pm **followed by Mass**

Thursdays at 2:30 pm - led by school children

**Individual Confessions** — Monday evenings during Lent from 5:30 – 6:10 pm

Fridays from 7:30 – 7:55 am

Saturdays 8:30–9:30 am & 5:15-5:50; March 12 & 19 5:00-5:50

Wednesday, March 2 from 6:30-7:45 (for Religious Ed students only)

Saturday, March 4 from 4:00-6:00 pm (The Light is ON for YOU)

Monday, March 14 – 5:30-6:10 pm & 7:00-8:00 pm

Monday, March 21 – 5:30-6:10 pm & 7:00-8:00 pm



### **Holy Cross**

**Way of the Cross**— Mondays at 2:15 pm - led by school children

Fridays at 7:00 pm

**Individual Confessions** - Thursdays 7:45 - 8:10 am,

Saturdays 4:00 - 4:20 pm

Sundays 8:15 - 8:35 am

Saturday, March 4 from 2:30-4:30 pm (The Light is ON for YOU)

Thursday, March 17 from 6:00-8:00 pm

### **St. James**

**Way of the Cross**— Wednesdays at 7:00 pm **followed by Mass**

**Mass** -Monday, March 21 & Wednesday, March 23 at 7:00 pm

**Individual Confessions**— 30 minutes before each Mass

Saturdays from 4:00-4:45 pm

Saturday, March 4 from 3:00-5:00 pm

(The Light is ON for YOU)

### **Good Friday Service**

#### **Passion of the Lord – March 25**

Sts. Peter & Paul - 1:30 pm

Holy Cross - 6:00 pm

St. James - 7:00 pm

### **Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil) – March 26**

Sts. Peter & Paul – No Mass

St. James - 7:00 pm

Holy Cross – 8:00 pm

### **Easter Sunday – March 27**

St. James - 7:00 am & 9:00 am

Sts. Peter & Paul - 7:15 am & 10:30 am

Holy Cross - 8:45 am

### **Ash Wednesday – February 10**

Sts. Peter & Paul—5:45 am, 8:00 am & 6:00 pm

(Rel. Ed kids to attend Mass with their families)

Holy Cross – 8:15 am & 7:00 pm

St. James – 8:30 am & 7:00 pm

### **Chrism Mass – March 22**

St. Benedict Cathedral – 5:30 pm

### **Holy Thursday**

#### **Mass of the Lord's Supper – March 24**

Holy Cross - 7:00 pm

St. James - 7:00 pm

Sts. Peter & Paul - 7:00 pm

## **Divine Mercy Sunday, April 3 - Holy Cross—3 pm—Service**

Divine Mercy Sunday will be celebrated on April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 pm at Holy Cross. You may receive special graces when you take part in the prayers and devotions held in honor of Divine Mercy.

Divine Mercy was revealed through Christ to St. Faustina in 1935. Calling her the Apostle and Secretary of His mercy, He ordered her to begin writing a diary so others would learn to trust in Him. In a series of revelations, He taught her that His mercy is unlimited and available even to the greatest sinners, and He revealed special ways for people to respond to His mercy.

Urging St. Faustina to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet often, Jesus told her: “My daughter, encourage souls to say the chaplet which I have given you. It pleases Me to grant everything they ask of Me by saying the chaplet. By saying the chaplet you are bringing humankind closer to me”.



## SMG GAZETTE (that's a fresh word)



In November, 47 of our MS youth went to Sky Zone for some good, clean fun! Afterward, the youth came back to Sts. Peter & Paul for some fun, and have a special visit from some of our HS youth. The HS youth shared a little bit about living your faith in high school and answered questions for the MS youth. It is such a good thing for our MS youth to see the awesome example of our HS youth.



In December, we had our annual MS Blacklight dodgeball/volleyball event. 90 youth attended! We had crazy fun and talk about the true "light in the darkness," the Incarnation of Our Lord Jesus Christ! For HS youth, we had our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Christmas Lock-INN on Dec. 18-19. We had 84 youth attend! It was a night filled with faith, fellowship, and craziness. We went caroling around Ft. Branch and Haubstadt and had guest speakers – Nick &



Andrea Michel. Their faith witness touched on their conversion to the Catholic Church and how it felt like finding their true home. Fr. Tony & Fr. Sudhakar answered questions of faith during a Q&A session. We took time and "made room" in our "inns" (i.e. hearts) to adore the newborn King, Jesus Christ, in Eucharistic Adoration. Overnight, the 2 girls in the picture (from left: Rachel Weiss & Jackie Goedde) won the Cookie Baking contest! The boys were a close 2<sup>nd</sup> (from left: Grant Holzmeyer, Dylan Stefanich, & Nick Sellers). Overall the event was awesome; deepening our youths' relationship with God and each other, and hopefully giving them a memory to last a lifetime! Special thanks to our high school Peer Leaders for truly making this a success with all their hard work!

Also, in December, our young ladies in the *Girl Time* group in the picture (from left: Lauren Ziliak, Regan Happe, Jamie Baehl, and Kate Ziliak) bought and wrapped gifts to give to families in need through Catholic Charities of Evansville. Catholic Charities was able to donate Christmas presents to 358 local children this year. Our youth helped contribute!



We would love to have interested adults to help with these events and share their gifts and talents with the youth. We truly NEED you! And so do our youth!

Watch the bulletin for details on upcoming events. And as always, if you would like to be a part of any youth programs/ events I would be very happy to chat and work with you! Contact Bryan at 664-7992 or [bmacke@evdio.org](mailto:bmacke@evdio.org).

## *Seminarians & Religious Life*

As our seminarians and religious life continue to discern a religious vocation, they would certainly welcome your prayers and notes of encouragement. Notes of encouragement can be sent to:

### JOHN PFISTER



**John Pfister (Holy Cross)**  
St. Meinrad School of Theology  
200 Hill Drive Street  
St. Meinrad, IN 47577  
jpfister@evdio.org

John is continuing his studies at St. Meinrad and is preparing for his diaconate ordination. Please continue to pray for John as he continues his journey.

### JOHN PFISTER'S DIACONAL EVENTS

March 3, 2016—Diaconal Promises at St. Meinrad  
April 8, 2016—Diaconate Ordination Evening of Adoration  
April 9, 2016—Diaconate Ordination at 10:00 am at St. Ben's Cathedral



Please pray for John as he prepares for the next steps in his journey.

### Diaconal Promises

The Diaconal Promises are held during Vespers at St. Meinrad. Each of the Third Theology seminarians will stand and recite his letter that he has written to the bishop, requesting ordination and stating that he understands what a request for orders entails.

### Priesthood Promises

The Priesthood Promises are held during Vespers at St. Meinrad. Each of the transitional deacons will stand and recite his letter that he has written to the bishop, requesting ordination and stating that he understands what a request for orders entails.

### NOVICE BRIAN WARD

**Brian Ward (Holy Cross)**  
Marian Scholasticate  
3885 Harewood Rd NE  
Washington, DC 20017.  
wardbrian\_1980@yahoo.com



Novice Brian is continuing his novice formation studies in Washington DC. Please continue to pray for Brian as he continues his journey.

### DEACON TYLER TENBARGE

**Deacon Tyler Tenbarge**  
(Sts. Peter & Paul)  
St. Meinrad School of Theology  
200 Hill Drive Street  
St. Meinrad, IN 47577  
trtenbarga@evdio.org



Tyler is finishing his last semester at St. Meinrad and is preparing for his priesthood ordination. Please continue to pray for Tyler as he continues his journey.

### TYLER TENBARGE'S PRIESTHOOD EVENTS

March 15, 2016—Priesthood Promises at St. Meinrad  
May 14, 2016—St. Meinrad Graduation  
June 11, 2016—Priesthood Ordination at St. Ben's



### BROTHER JOEL BLAIZE

**Brother Joel Blaize**  
(Sts. Peter & Paul)  
St. Meinrad Archabbey  
100 Hill Drive Street  
St. Meinrad, IN 47577  
jblaize@saintmeinrad.edu



Novice Jon Blaize took his first vows as a Benedictine Monk on January 20. At that time, he was given a new name as a sign of conversion in the monastic tradition. His religious name is Brother Joel. He is planning on resuming his philosophy studies and to continue to work in the music office. Please continue to pray for Brother Joel as he continues his journey.



Pictured: Brother Joel (right) at first vows ceremony at St. Meinrad Archabbey. Picture credit: Saint Meinrad



## *Stewardship* By : Stephanie Stoll

### **It is in the silence that God speaks to us.**

Have you ever been driving and you hear that familiar “ding” alerting you that someone has just sent you a text? What do you do? Texting and driving is not safe. But, who could it be? Does someone need something? Would it hurt to take a peek? This has probably happened to most of us. Well, what do you do? How did this one distraction begin? A “ding”; a noise.

In Matthew Kelly’s book, *The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic*, he discusses C.S. Lewis, a great Christian writer who during World War II wrote a weekly column. In these writings an apprentice devil was given the task to win a man’s soul from God for the devil. The apprentice thought of many ways to tempt this young man, but the senior devil explained their simple plan. The plan: to create so much noise in the world that man can no longer hear the voice of God in his life. How can we hear God speak to us when we are constantly surrounded by noise? We must find a way to break through the noise and find silence. We can do that through prayer.

Prayer is one of the four “signs” that Dynamic Catholics make a part of their lives. One of the biggest challenges people face with prayer is that noise the devil constantly throws at us. Many times the Bible describes Jesus going away to a quiet place to pray. If it works for Jesus, it will certainly work for us. Kelly developed “The Prayer Process” to help simplify and instill a routine of prayer. The process is developed from the daily examination of conscience. It begins by finding a quiet place to pray at a regular time each day.

#### The Prayer Process

**Gratitude:** Begin by thanking God in a personal dialogue for whatever you are most grateful for today.

**Awareness:** Revisit the times in the past twenty-four hours when you were and were not the best-version-of-yourself. Talk to God about these situations and what you have learned from them.

**Significant Moments:** Identify something you experienced today and explore what God might be trying to say to you through that event (or person).

**Peace:** Ask God to forgive you for any wrong you have committed (against yourself, another person, or him) and to fill you with a deep and abiding peace.

**Freedom:** Speak with God about how he is inviting you to change your life, so that you can experience the freedom to be the best-version-of-yourself.

**Others:** Lift up to God anyone you feel called to pray for today, asking God to bless and guide them.

Finish by praying the Our Father.

We are challenged to implement this process daily. Remove yourself from the “dings” in life, the distractions, the noise every day and pray. For it is in the silence that God speaks to us!



## *RCIA* By Gerald Weber

Time is passing at lightning speed this year. Didn't we just celebrate Christmas and put away our decorations and now you tell me Lent is upon us?

We are coming to a very busy phase of the RCIA program that encourages our participants to meditate on why they chose to join the Catholic Church. On January 30 our candidates, Pamela Hyndman, Ryan Bruner, Larry Michel, Nancy and Fred Brokaw, met with the Sts. Peter and Paul candidates at Sts. Peter and Paul, for a retreat. During this retreat they prayed together and listened to the testimony of Dua Nguyen, a seminarian from Vietnam studying at St. Meinrad Seminary, and an explanation of the Mass by Fr. Tony and Fr. Sudhakar.

On Sunday, February 14, our parish will conduct the Rite of Sending for our candidates, which is a sign of our support and acceptance before they are presented to Bishop Thompson in the afternoon. In the afternoon our candidates, along with many others from the Evansville Diocese, will be presented to Bishop Thompson at St. Benedict's Cathedral at Evansville for the Rite of Election. Bishop Thompson will welcome them and recognize them for their progress and encourage them to continue their journey throughout their lives.

At the Easter Vigil, March 26, we will welcome our candidates into our Catholic community. Pamela, Ryan, Larry, Nancy and Fred will profess their belief in the teachings of the Catholic Church, be confirmed, and receive their first Holy Communion.

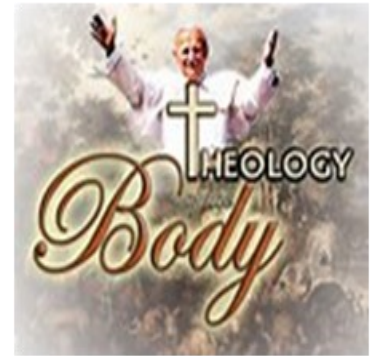
*Please pray for Pamela, Ryan, Larry, Nancy and Fred that they will be faithful to the Church and pass their faith along to others.*



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION *By: Larua Goedde*

*Theology of the Body* for Middle School and *In God's Image* series is being presented to the Eighth grade students this semester. This is an excellent program that introduces the students to the church's teaching on sexuality, self respect and respect for others. *Theology of the Body* is based on Saint Pope John Paul II's teachings. Chris & Emily Cooper are this year's presenters.

Vacation Bible School will be held at St. James this June. The theme is: A Wilderness Adventure Through the Sacraments (Jesus in My Heart) by CatChat Productions. The Sisters of St. Cecilia, Nashville, TN will join us for our weeklong event. VBS includes: St. Bernard, St. James, Holy Cross and Sts. Peter & Paul. If you would like to help, please call the Religious Ed office at 812-768-6457.



### Sacramental News

**Confirmation** – The preparations are going well for the 29 candidates for Confirmation on April 16 at 6 pm at Sts. Peter & Paul. We are having a retreat at St. Bernard parish in Snake Run on February 7. This year it will also include candidates from St. Bernard Parish. We appreciate the hospitality offered by St. Bernard for hosting and helping with the retreat. Our seminarians, priests and confirmation team will all be there to make this a special day for the students. Please keep praying for the candidates as they move closer to their confirmation.

**First Holy Communion** – Our second grade teachers and religious education catechists are doing a great job helping parents to prepare their children to receive their First Holy Communion. Sts. Peter & Paul will have their Mass at 1 pm on April 24 and Holy Cross will be May 1 at 1 pm. On April 1, Sts. Peter & Paul and Holy Cross will host the Deanery First Communion Retreat at Sts. Peter & Paul's Family Life Center. If you would like to help in some way that day, please contact Liz Hirsch at [lhirsch@evdio.org](mailto:lhirsch@evdio.org) or 812-457-0567. Parents are encouraged to attend with their children.

**Baptism** – If you or someone you know is expecting their first child, please make plans to attend the baptism class. You will receive information about baptism as well as parenting and building a strong family. The upcoming classes are March 14, May 9, July 11, September 12, November 14, 2016. All classes are held at the Holy Cross Parish Office at 6:30 pm.



### Upcoming Events

- February 10 – No Religious Ed Class – Ash Wednesday
- March 2 – Religious Ed Penance Service – 6:30 p.m.
- March 2 – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Religious Ed Parent Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
- March 11, 12 & 13 Source & Summit at Memorial High School
- March 14 – Baptism Class at Holy Cross at 6:30 p.m.
- March 15 – First Communion Parent Meeting at HC at 6:30 p.m.
- March 9 – Confirmation Parent Meeting Cafeteria at 6:30 p.m.
- March 8 – The Light is On For You – Confessions 6 – 8 p.m.
- March 26 – Easter Vigil Mass at Holy Cross - 8 p.m.
- April 1 – First Communion Retreat at Sts. Peter & Paul 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- April 13 – Confirmation practice at Sts. Peter & Paul at 6:30 p.m.
- April 16 – Confirmation at Sts. Peter & Paul at 6:00 p.m.
- April 24 - Sts. Peter & Paul First Holy Communion at 1:00 p.m.
- May 1 – First Holy Communion at Holy Cross – 1 p.m.
- May 15 - Senior Mass and Celebration 8:45 a.m. at HC & 10:30 a.m. at STPP
- June 13 – Baptism Class at Holy Cross at 6:30 p.m.

## *Spiritual Renewal*

### **Dynamic Catholic**

#### **Best Lent Ever - Don't Give Up Chocolate This Lent**

Are you searching for a deeper sense of purpose? A clearer understanding of God's plan for your life? What matters most and what matters least? Then it's time to rediscover Jesus.

Based on Matthew Kelly's new bestseller Rediscover Jesus, Dynamic Catholic's free Best Lent ever program will take you on a 40-day spiritual journey to encounter Jesus – and yourself – in a deeply personal way, and begin (or nourish) a habit of daily prayer.

Go to <http://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentevery/> to sign up!



Jesus' Passion – The Story of Redemptive Suffering

A Lenten Bible Study will be held on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. at Sts. Peter & Paul beginning March 2. Please register by February 15. The cost is \$15.00. This is a 5 week class. Please contact the Religious Ed office at 812-768-6457 or [lgoedde@evdio.org](mailto:lgoedde@evdio.org).

### **Christ renews his parish (CRHP)**

We are all on a spiritual journey throughout life to strengthen our individual relationships with God. Join us for the upcoming CRHP Weekends and allow Him to work within you!

This weekend of spiritual renewal will serve parishioners from Sts. Peter & Paul, Holy Cross, St. Bernard & St. James and is hosted at Sts. Peter & Paul. Sign-up sheets are in the back of each parish now! Women's Weekend is February 27-28 and Men's Weekend is March 5-6, 2016.



### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR REJOICE: A Catholic Community Celebration**

In light of the *Jubilee of Mercy*, Bishop Thompson is inviting all parishes of the diocese to join together at the Ford Center on Saturday, May 14 for this signature event, "REJOICE: A Catholic Community Celebration". Activities will begin at 2:00 pm with Mass at 4:00 pm. Because this is a diocesan wide event, Bishop Thompson is asking that all parishes cancel their Saturday evening Mass on May 14. Please mark your calendars.

More details will be given in the bulletin at a later date.

There will be no Saturday evening parish Masses on May, 14, 2016.



## *Natural Family Planning*

*This quarter we ask one of our newly trained practitioners to give their witness. Thank you to Matt and Amy Miller for your beautiful story!*

My husband Matt and I learned the Creighton Model of natural family planning six months before we were married and have continued to use it throughout our 13 years of marriage. Unlike many other couples we know, it was his suggestion to learn natural family planning. Honestly, I was unsure about using a natural method, but quickly came to appreciate the Creighton Model and what it could teach us not only about family planning, but also about having a strong, Christ-centered marriage.



We joyfully welcomed our son Isaac just before our fifth anniversary. About two and a half years later, we found ourselves expecting again. Our joy this time was unfortunately brief and we lost our second child to miscarriage about six weeks into the pregnancy. Shortly after that, Isaac was diagnosed with pediatric cancer. All our efforts went to his care and adding to our family was quickly placed on hold. In 2012 Isaac lost his battle with cancer and we were left with a large hole, both in our lives and in our hearts.

When we decided it was time to try to have more children, our Fertility Care Practitioner was there to support us and help decipher some issues we were experiencing. She referred us to a local medical consultant who is also trained in the use of the Creighton Model. He was able to look at my charts, order some simple lab work, and diagnose a hormonal imbalance that was keeping us from conceiving. Under his care, we conceived again but were once more met with sadness as we faced another miscarriage.

Our local doctor did all he could for us and then referred us on to an OBGYN in St. Louis with more advanced knowledge of the Creighton Model. This doctor suspected another hormone imbalance and that I most likely had endometriosis, a disease that also affected my mother and grandmother. After losing a third child to miscarriage, he recommended surgery to remove the endometriosis to hopefully increase our fertility and give us the chance to have the child we so desperately wanted. I am pleased to say that just a few months after the surgery, we were able to conceive using the tools we learned through our Creighton Model education and are expecting a child in April 2016.

When the opportunity to become a Fertility Care Practitioner presented itself, I knew I couldn't let it pass by. The Creighton Model has meant so much and done so much for my family, I feel very fortunate to be able to educate our community on the benefits of using a natural system of family planning and fertility care.

*We have exciting news....we have three new ladies that have just finished their first phase in becoming a Creighton Model Fertility System Practitioner. Amy Miller, Janet Dilger and Kelli Lovell. These ladies are from Evansville and are now available to take new clients. Thanks to everyone for your prayers and support for this beautiful ministry!*

**We have three upcoming introductory classes scheduled at Holy Cross. They are on Thursday, February 11 at 7 pm, Thursday, March 10 at 7 pm and Monday, April 18 at 7 pm. These are open to anyone. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to 812-677-0511.**

## *SOME THOUGHTS BY Fr. Sudhakar*

### ENJOY LIFE AT EVERY MOMENT

Once, a fisherman was sitting near seashore under the shadow of a tree smoking his cigar. Suddenly a rich businessman passing by approached him and enquired as to why he was sitting under a tree smoking and not working. To this the poor fisherman replied that he had caught enough fish for the day.

Hearing this rich man the got angry and said: Why don't you catch more fish instead of sitting in the shadow wasting your time?

Fisherman asked: What would I do by catching more fish?

Businessman: You could catch more fish, sell them and earn more money, and buy a bigger boat.

Fisherman: What would I do then?

Businessman: You could go fishing in deep waters and catch even more fish and earn even more money.

Fisherman: What would I do then?

Businessman: You could buy many boats and employ many people to work for you and earn even more money.

Fisherman: What would I do then?

Businessman: You could become a rich businessman like me.

Fisherman: What would I do then?

Businessman: You could then enjoy your life peacefully.

Fisherman: What do you think I'm doing right now?

We don't need to wait for tomorrow to be happy and enjoy our life. We don't even need to be richer, more powerful to enjoy life. Life is at this moment, enjoy it fully.

We do not need possessions to be happy and comfortable in life. Happiness is within us. Wealth never brings happiness because wealth is never enough. Best is to enjoy this moment and this moment might never comes back. (<https://inspirationalstories.quora.com>)

"Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin." **Mother Teresa**

"Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is a gift of God, which is why we call it the present." **Big Keane**

"There are only two days in the year that nothing can be done. One is called yesterday and the other is called tomorrow, so today is the right day to love, believe, do and mostly live." **Dali Lama.**

And I would recommend you to read Mt: 6:25-34.





## *PRO-LIFE COMMITTEE* By: Ann Minnis

Joanie Luttrell 664-7695 or [joanie.mt@twc.com](mailto:joanie.mt@twc.com) Amy Parmer 768-6394 or [amymparmer@hotmail.com](mailto:amymparmer@hotmail.com)

For general Pro-Life information: [lifeneews.com](http://lifeneews.com). [uscgb.org](http://uscgb.org).

For pregnancy aid: 1-877-734-2444 (Gabriel Project) 1-800-848-LOVE (Nation-wide)

For HOPE after an abortion: [silentnomoreawareness.org](http://silentnomoreawareness.org). [priestsforlife.org](http://priestsforlife.org). [Hopeafterabortion.com](http://Hopeafterabortion.com) ([dfaraone@evdio.org](mailto:dfaraone@evdio.org))

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**1) Religious Ed (HS)--** Speaker came from UE. RTL of GC set up display with lots of free literature & hand-outs.

**2) March for Life**, Washington, D.C: Sadly, trips from here had to be canceled due to the weather.

**3) K of C "One Rose-One Life" campaign** – Thanks to the Knights & all of you for donating. Right to Life of Gibson County provided the "little feet" pins as a thank-you gift for the loyal support of our parishioners here.

**4) Baby Shower** – Thanks to all who donated items for Life Choices Maternity and Youth Home. These items, along with donations left at the Christmas Crib, have been delivered and were very much appreciated.

### Upcoming Events & Volunteer Opportunities

**March 9 (Wed) -- "40 DAYS FOR LIFE":** This is Sts. Peter & Paul's date to join this peaceful prayer vigil.

Call Mary Jane Thompson 812-753-1152 to sign up for a shift or wait for the sign-up sheet in back of church.

(Volunteers are, also, needed between 7:00 am & 6:00 pm each day on one- hour shifts from Feb. 10 (Ash Wed.)--Mar. 20 (Palm Sun.): to pray outside the Evansville Planned Parenthood Clinic at 125 N Weinbach Ave. This clinic refers clients for surgical abortions and dispenses abortifacients. For info, contact Jackie 812-459-4691.)

**Mar. 13: (Sun.--NOON) ST. PATRICK FAMILY GAME & CARD PARTY:** The Respect-Life Committee of Sts. Peter & Paul Church will sponsor this annual fundraising event at Sts. Peter & Paul Cafeteria for the benefit of Right to Life of Gibson County. **\$5/person/\$15 family** (includes sandwiches, chips, and a drink). Call Carolyn Spindler 768-6941 or Melba Pohl 753-5048 for table reservations or to donate items for the Chinese Auction. Chinese Auction tickets available at the party and after the Masses on Mar. 12/13 (Sat/Sun)

**Mar. 19: (Sat. before Palm Sun--9:00 am) CEMETERY OF THE INNOCENTS:** We will need individuals and groups to remove the crosses from SylElpers' field at Hwy 41 and I-64. Takes about 1 hour. Call Joe Goedde 768-6537 or Jim Helfrich 768-6313 for details. Watch the bulletin for date changes.

**Mar. 25 -- Dec. 25 (9 months): "SPIRITUAL ADOPTION" PROGRAM:** Pray for an unborn baby in danger of death by abortion. Begin on the Feast of the Annunciation. +As Spring nears, stop by the Meditation Garden in our cemetery to pray at the "In Memory of Unborn Babies" memorial stone for babies & grieving parents.

**Apr. 21: (Thurs) SPRING BANQUET (Right To Life of Southwest Indiana):** Keynote Speaker s are Rev. Alan and Lisa Robertson (of the Duck Dynasty Robertsons). Call Ann Minnis 768-6768 if you would like tickets & want to sit at our tables!

Encourage our State Legislators to pass strongest Religious Liberty protections possible. Pregnancy Care Centers and pro-life adoption centers, for instance, could be at grave risk of fines or shut-downs if bills are not properly worded. Sen. Joe Donnelly voted on Dec. 3 in support of providing federal tax dollars to the nation's largest abortion provider, Planned Parenthood. Please contact Sen. Donnelly 812-465-6484 to express your feelings.

#### **Right of Life Meeting Dates:**

*2nd Tuesday of each month*

*March 8, April 12, May 10, June 14*

*Held at the home of Ann Minnis, 115 N. Vine St. Haubstadt. All members & prospective members are welcome!*

### RIGHT TO LIFE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION –dues for 2016

Mail to: Right to Life of Gibson County, P.O. Box 324, Haubstadt, IN 47639

(please print) NEW \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_ (If you have already paid, thank you!)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Teen/\$2 \_\_\_\_\_ Single/\$5 \_\_\_\_\_ Family/\$10 \_\_\_\_\_ Contributing/\$25 \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor/\$100 \_\_\_\_\_

Holy Cross Catholic Church  
305 E. Walnut Street  
Fort Branch, IN 47648

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## *AUTOMATIC ELECTRONIC GIVING PROGRAM*

The electronic giving program allows you to electronically have funds transferred directly into the parish's account for your Sunday giving. It is convenient, no cost to you, & helps you stay current on your Sunday giving. You may increase, decrease, or suspend your transfer any time by calling the parish office. Please complete the form below & return to the parish office. Please contact Lisa at 753-3548 or lmay@evdio.org with questions.

### **Direct Debit Authorization Form**

I hereby authorize Holy Cross Church to initiate debit entries for tithing to my/our account as indicated below and the financial institution named below to debit the same to such account. I/We acknowledge that the origination of ACH transactions to my/our account must comply with the provisions of U.S. law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Financial Institution Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name(s) on the Account)

Transfer Amount \$\_\_\_\_\_ for Sunday collection

Type of Acct: \_\_\_ Checking \_\_\_ Savings

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Routing Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Account Number)

Frequency of transfer: Weekly \_\_\_\_\_ on Friday or Monthly \_\_\_\_\_ on the 5<sup>th</sup> (or next business day)

This authority is to remain in effect until Holy Cross has received written notification from me/us of its termination in such time and manner as to allow Holy Cross and the financial institution a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Spouse Name) (if joint acct)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Spouse Signature) (if joint acct)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(E-mail Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**PLEASE ATTACH COPY OF VOIDED CHECK TO THIS FORM**