



# *HOLY CROSS HERALD*

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

**Date May  
2016**

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Dear Friends,

Many of you are aware that Bishop Thompson has reassigned Fr. Sudhakar to serve at Corpus Christi Parish in Evansville and St. Philip Parish in Posey County. He will be the Associate Pastor serving with the Pastor, Fr. Claude Burns. Fr. Biju Thomas, who is currently serving as the Associate Pastor at St. Mary's Parish in Huntingburg, will be coming to serve at our parishes. These changes will take effect on June 29<sup>th</sup>. We will certainly miss Fr. Sudhakar and his wonderful spirit. He is an amazingly kind and joyful man and will bring this spirit to the people of Corpus Christi and St. Philip. Please continue to pray for Fr. Sudhakar and Fr. Biju as they anticipate this transition. Let us also continue to give thanks for Fr. Betz and his generosity in serving our parishes. He is an inspiration and we are very blessed to have him.



This has been an exciting spring in our community and there is more to come! John Pfister, from Holy Cross Parish, was ordained a deacon on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Deacon John will spend his summer serving the Catholic parishes in Vincennes and then return for his final year at St. Meinrad Seminary in preparation for his Priesthood Ordination next spring. Deacon Tyler Tenbarger, from Sts. Peter & Paul Parish, will be ordained a priest on June 11<sup>th</sup> at St. Benedict Cathedral at 10:00 a.m. All of you are welcome and encouraged to come for the celebration. He will also celebrate his Mass of Thanksgiving the following day at Sts. Peter & Paul. I also want to share the exciting news that Nick Sellers, from Holy Cross Parish, will be entering Simon Brute College Seminary in Indianapolis this fall. Please keep Nick in your prayers as he continues his discernment of God's will. And continue to pray for Fr. Christopher Droste, from St. James Parish. He is currently serving St. Anthony and Sacred Parishes in Dubois County. At every Mass we pray for an increase in vocations and God is blessing us right here in our parishes. There are many more in your families. We just have to work with God in calling them forward.

I want to thank all of our parish and school staffs for another great year working with parents and families to help form our children in the Catholic faith. We are very blessed. Have a wonderful summer vacation.

God Bless,

## 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.

✠ Vickie Johnson—She is a teacher at St. Joseph in Princeton, IN.

✠ Deann Dunkel—She is employed at 5/3 Bank.

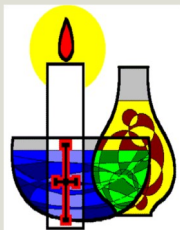
### HOME COMMUNION

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.



### 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. Please call the parish office at 812-753-3548 with any questions.



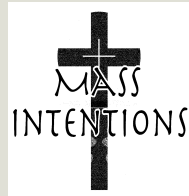
### UPCOMING CLASSES

July 11, 2016

Sept. 12, 2016

November 14, 2016

All classes are held at Holy Cross Parish Center and start at 6:30 pm.



### 2017 MASS INTENTIONS

The parish office is now scheduling 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.

### 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 the bulletins.



### 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.

### 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)



### 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**

Another school year is in the books here at Holy Cross Catholic School. Academically, the students learned a great deal, but they hopefully learned more important lessons. Hopefully they learned to be the best they can be. They learned to be kind to others. They learned that providing services to others is an important part of our faith.



I want to take a moment to recognize and congratulate our graduating 5th grade class. The members of our graduating class are as follows:

Patton Adams  
Kaylia Hoke  
Isaac O'Neal  
Montana Root  
Adam Spindler

Kaleigh Baehl  
Kaydence Hopster  
Mylie Rexing  
Vann Rose  
Alizebeth Woehler

Laila Fleetwood  
Ruth Mercer  
Hailey Richter  
Jason Sexton



Congratulations to the graduating 5th grade class. They are a great group of very nice children. We wish them all the best in their futures.

I hope everyone has a fun and safe summer. We look forward to seeing the students next fall.  
Mr. Hollis

*The 2nd Graders wrote and illustrated their own book of similes about God. Here are a few excerpts from their books!*

**God is like a compass because he guides us away from sin.**

**God is like a magnet because he always pulls us to him.**

**God is like a lifeguard because he saves us from our sins.**

**God is like the sun because he warms our hearts.**

**God is like a lighthouse because he shows the way to heaven.**

**God is like a light because he lights up our darkest times.**

**God is like an artist because he creates.**

**God is like a GPS because he guides our way.**





## *Holy Cross Students at Work and Play*





## OUR DEACONS, SEMINARIANS & RELIGIOUS LIFE



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

John was ordained a transitional deacon on April 9. This summer Deacon John will be working with Fr. Dave Fleck serving the parishes of Vincennes. Deacon John will return to St. Meinrad in the fall for his final year of seminary. Please continue to pray for Deacon John as he continues his journey.



**Deacon Tyler Tenborge**  
(Sts. Peter & Paul)  
431 South West Street  
Haubstadt, IN 47639  
trtenborge@evdio.org

I am so grateful for all of the support over all of these years. I look forward to celebrating with everyone at the ordination and at the Mass of Thanksgiving. Everyone from our parishes are welcome to attend both events.....Deacon Tyler

Deacon Tyler will graduate from St. Meinrad on May 14 with a Master of Divinity.



Pictured: Deacon John Pfister, Bishop Thompson, and Deacon Jerry Pratt. Picture credit: The Message



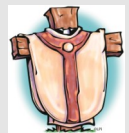
**Brian Ward (Holy Cross)**  
Marian Scholasticate  
3885 Harewood Rd NE  
Washington, DC 20017.  
wardbrian\_1980@yahoo.com

Novice Brian is continuing his novice formation studies in Washington DC. Brian will be taking his temporary vows on August 15 and will then become a Marian Brother. Brian will then continue studies for the priesthood in Washington, DC. Please continue to pray for Brian as he continues his journey.



Pictured: Brother Joel (left) and Novice Tony (right)  
Picture credit: Saint Meinrad

### TYLER TENBORGE'S PRIESTHOOD EVENTS



May 14, 2016—St. Meinrad Graduation

June 10, 2016—Evening of Adoration  
for the Priesthood

June 11, 2016—Priesthood Ordination at 10:00 am at  
St. Benedict Cathedral in Evansville.

June 12, 2016—First Priesthood Mass of Thanksgiving  
at 2:00 pm at Sts. Peter & Paul.



**Nick Sellers (Holy Cross)**  
321 E 750 S  
Fort Branch, Indiana 47648

Nick will graduate from Gibson Southern High School on May 20. Nick has made the decision to enter Marian University and Bishop Simon Brute College Seminary in the fall. Nick has shown great leadership during his high school career and we are excited to see what plans God has for him for his future! Please continue to pray for Nick as he continues his journey.



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

Brother Joel and his co-host Novice Tony are working on a new podcast series called *Echoes from the Bell Tower*. A new podcast is released every two weeks. The podcast will be bringing you stories of wit and wisdom from the monks at St. Meinrad Archabbey and share with you what it is like to be a Benedictine monk in the 21st century. You can find the podcast episodes at <http://www.saintmeinrad.edu/seminary-blog/echoes-from-the-bell-tower/podcast-episodes/>.

Brother Joel continues his ongoing music work as well working in the Abbey gift shop this summer. He will resume his priesthood formation in the seminary in the fall.

# ST. MARIA GORETTI YOUTH NEWS *By: Bryan Macke*



## SMG SPRING Scoopski

For this quarterly edition I'm going to share about 3 different events/programs that we have: 1) Wed. After School Hangouts 2) HS RockLife & 3) HS Food Fast.

Almost every Wednesday during the school year we have a hangout after school from 3:30 to 6:00. Most of the youth that come stay for Rel. Ed. at 6:30. It's open to all youth grades 6 thru 12. We make time for homework, socializing, physical activity (especially dodgeball in the gym), discussions about faith, and making pizzas in our toaster oven! Here's a pic from our last one of this school year. Deep thanks goes out to our 3 dedicated volunteers that have made this possible – Tom Thompson, Allen Grau, and Mary Lou Michel. They've volunteered once a month since before I became the youth leader 5 years ago.



Another program that we have on a regular basis throughout the year is Sunday night RockLife. Two Sundays a month from Sept. to April HS youth get together from 6 -8 pm to delve deeper into the mysteries of our faith while having fresh fun and fellowship. This year's focus was on



the life of Jesus Christ as well as our life in Him. We're extremely grateful to Charlie & Sandy Wilhite who, although no longer own and operate Sandy's Pizza, still donate Sandy's pizza pies to us for every RockLife! Thank you very much Charlie & Sandy. It's always a special treat and true blessing (though perhaps not quite as tasty as Sandy's pizza) when Fr. Tony and Fr. Sudhakar stop by to give us a fresh homily (... AMEN!) ...which one??

Lastly, our annual HS Food Fast was held at St. Bernard this year on April 23-24. Normally, we fast to empathize with people struggling in poverty and living without sufficient food. This year, we decided to Fast for Life! Our Pilgrimage for Life trip to Washington, D.C. was canceled due to a blizzard, and the Right to Life organization needed help painting the crosses that are used in the Cemetery of the Innocents. So as we fasted, we focused on LIFE. Pretty broad, right?? Well, there are the main life issue talking points that come to mind, such as abortion and euthanasia, but as we delved deeper into it and "peeled back the onion layers" we found a more foundational and original life issue, suffering.

It's kind of hard to look forward to not eating for at least 24 hours but it's a little easier when you know you have a good reason. One of the quotes we reflected on over the Fast was "man can endure anything if he has a reason to live... conversely, man can endure nothing if he does not." Jesus said, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." (Matt 16:24-25). Most of the life issues we think of deal with human suffering in one way or another.





As a society we try to minimize suffering, which can be good, but sometimes to the point where we become “soft”. We don’t experience the joy in the victory of a long hard fought battle. Instant oatmeal just doesn’t taste as good as the real deal. Micro waved pot pies are ok but not like the fresh ones that grandma made from scratch. I don’t break a sweat using the elevator, but it doesn’t exercise my heart a bit either. And then when I’m 45 years old, the doctor will say I have high blood pressure, cellulites, and what have you. Life is filled with ups and downs, joys and sufferings, laughter and weeping, stress, struggles and vacations. But in Christ, we have meaning and purpose through them ALL. Of course we see the goodness of God in the blessings we experience, but it’s sometimes hard to during the difficult times.



There are various benefits to the practice of fasting. One benefit is that we help prepare ourselves to “feed” off of Christ when we are faced with one of life’s difficulties. He is always there for us in the Eucharist, in silent prayer, and in our church community (aka the “Body of Christ”). When we’re tired, beat down, and our back’s against the ropes...we know that true life is found not in a foot long sub sandwich, but in the divine spark of life implanted in our souls.



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! 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).

#### **Upcoming Events:**

All are welcome! Watch the bulletin for upcoming events or check out the following: Join our Facebook group: “St. Maria Goretti Catholic Youth Ministry” website: [smgyouth.com](http://smgyouth.com)

## **ST. MARIA GORETTI AWARD WINNERS**



**In March some of the youth of our parishes received the SMG Award at St. Benedict Cathedral in Evansville. Congratulations to our young adults on this special accomplishment!**

This year’s SMG Award winners are from front to back L to R: Raechel Kiesel, Jackie Goedde, Kalissa Bittner, Kate Ziliak, Nick Sellers, Joseph Buehner, Mason Mockabee

## NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

*This quarter we ask another one of our newly trained practitioners to give their witness. Thank you to Kelli & Wade Lovell for your beautiful witness story! Kelli is pharmacist at Deaconess Hospital and is currently in the second phase of becoming a Fertility Care Practitioner. She has an office at St. Mary's Hospital. If you have any questions or are interested in learning more about the Creighton Model Fertility Method, please contact the parish office at Holy Cross at 812-753-3548 and ask for Terri or Lori.*

Even though we grew up three counties apart, we met at Purdue University. We were acquaintances for a few years before we started spending more time together doing junior high youth ministry at St. Thomas Aquinas at Purdue. In this setting, we had the opportunity to have deep, faith-based conversations from very early on. By the time we got engaged we just assumed we'd learn a natural family planning method because that was what the Church supported; however, we felt our use of it would be very temporary. We both wanted a large family, so we were open to whatever God had planned for us.

Our openness and desire to have children did not translate into babies, however. Despite wanting to be pregnant, we struggled with what we feared was infertility for two and a half years. This required a lot of discussion, reassurance, and soul-searching. During that time, we were using Kelli's fertility signs to guess when ovulation would occur, but we weren't diligent in our charting. We eventually began the adoption process. After all the preparation was complete and our packet was ready to be given to prospective moms, Kelli found out she was pregnant.

The joyful arrival of our first son, Luke, was followed shortly after by another challenge...severe postpartum depression (PPD).

We discerned that it was best for our family to postpone another pregnancy until Kelli regained her health. We had learned the Sympto-Thermal method (STM) of NFP before our wedding but had very little experience in using it. Due to Kelli's PPD, we took a very conservative approach to STM. When Luke was 10-months old, Kelli had recovered to the point of being open to another pregnancy. We stopped postponing pregnancy and assumed we might have another long wait, but we found out Kelli was pregnant before Luke's first birthday.

After our son, Jude, was born, we contacted the Holy Family Center for Life to see if we could get a refresher course in the STM. Since there weren't any teachers in the area any longer, we were offered the chance to learn the Creighton Model system (CrMS) of natural family planning. This was perfect timing for us since the CrMS is a family planning that is applicable during breastfeeding.

We soon realized that natural family planning methods have a lot more benefits than just helping time conception. For example, we learned the CrMS is designed for use throughout a female's entire reproductive life. It can be used to help achieve pregnancy, to identify hormonal imbalances, and even detect symptoms of underlying illness. It has treatment protocols for various reproductive problems, including infertility and PPD, and it provides individualized instruction and referrals to specialists.

Wade appreciates NFP because it gives him a better understanding of Kelli and what is going on inside her body and with her hormones. It also makes us continually communicate with each other and with God about our desires, fears, and expectations about our family.

Most people probably look at NFP as a means of preventing pregnancy, but our lives so far have revealed many more applications and benefits in using it. It has fostered communication, mutual respect, and continual reliance on Christ. Had we known, NFP might have helped us during our struggles with infertility, post-partum depression, and miscarriage. We strongly encourage every Christian to honestly look at the Church's teaching on NFP and St. John Paul the Great's Theology of the Body. We believe it to be a great gift from God, waiting to be opened.



### UPDATES:

St. Mary's Hospital recently opened an office for the Creighton Model Fertility Care System. It is in the Women's Hospital section of the hospital. For more information, please contact us.



## *RELIGIOUS EDUCATION* By: Larua Goedde

### **Religious Ed Registration**

Please register now for Religious Ed for the 2016-17 school-year. Classes will begin on Sept. 7. New enrollees may find the forms on the parish websites or in the back of church. The cost is \$45.00 per student for 1-2 students, 3 or more students in the family is \$35.00/per student. Registration late fees of \$25.00 will begin on June 1. Please make checks payable to your parish. Preschool Religious Ed cost is \$25.00/per student. Please contact Laura Goedde at 812-768-6457 with any questions.

### **Thank You to All Volunteers**

Fr. Tony, Fr. Sudhakar, Laura Goedde, Stephanie Stoll and Liz Hirsch would like to thank all of our dedicated catechists and helpers for a great year in Religious Ed. We look forward to the Fall as we continue to help our students enrich their relationship with Christ. There are openings for catechists, assistants, Wednesday night helpers, Rosary leaders and traffic duty for Religious Ed this Fall. God calls each of us in different ways because He has given us all different talents. Pray about whether He has given you a talent for helping our children grow in the Faith. Contact Laura Goedde or Stephanie Stoll at 812-768-6457 or email us at: [lgoedde@evdio.org](mailto:lgoedde@evdio.org) or [ssstoll@evdio.org](mailto:ssstoll@evdio.org).

### **High School Senior Celebration**

On May 15 our high school senior class will celebrate mass together at 8:45 at Holy Cross followed by a breakfast and celebrate Mass at 10:30 a.m. at Sts. Peter & Paul followed by a luncheon. Please keep these seniors in your prayers as they continue on their journey, and may they keep Jesus in their hearts and allow Him to lead the way!



### **Serra Club Youth Award Winners**

Congratulations to this year's Serra Club Youth award recipients. They were selected for their commitment and leadership. They serve as role models to their peers. We thank them for their service, and we thank their parents for teaching them the importance of serving God and others. Holy Cross winners: Zachery Roberts, son of Jeffrey & Sandy Roberts and Colton Stefanich, son of Rick Stefanich and Gussie Stefanich. Sts. Peter & Paul winners: Wade Happe, son of Dean & Laura Happe and Mattie Speicher, daughter of Chris & Jen Speicher. Bob Naas, from the Serra Club of Evansville presented the awards to these young adults on April 20 at the final Religious Education class for the year.

## *FIRST COMMUNICANTS*

First Holy Communion was celebrated on May 1 at Holy Cross.

Front left to right: Jaden McCoy, Allee Brittingham, Nolan Hopster, Abigail Stodghill, Lloyd Sellers, Kendal Gomez, Zach Foster

Second row: Deacon Joseph Siewers, Ashlyn Hopf, Lainey Cloin, Abigail Swader, Jaylie Johnson, Ryann Allen, Ms. Shelley Weiss

Third Row: Fr. Tony Ernst, Calvin Morrison, Owen Mercer, Noah Kuester, Aiden MacMunn, Fr. Sudhakar Bhastati.



## *CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES*



We celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation on April 16 with Bishop Thompson, Fr. Tony and Fr. Sudhakar.

**Row left to right:** Bryn Wilzbacher, Grant Walker, Mackenzie Roberts, Samantha Purcell, Owen Watkins, Rachel Jones, Hannah

Reinbrecht **Second row left to right:** Nicholas Maurer, Dylan Stefanich, Grant Holzmeyer, Tyler Goedde, Katelyn Brown,

Dimitri Dewig, Regan Happe **Third row left to right:** Elizabeth Spindler, Rose Grinslade, Hannah Rumble, Drew Harpenau, Jace

Schmitt, Grant Becht, Landon Mayer **Fourth row left to right:** Isaac Sellers, Kirk Odom, Trey Riggs, Jacob Rumble, Brock Wilz-

bacher, Austin Dewig Absent from photo: Mason Bittner



## *RELIGIOUS INFORMATION continued*

### **Vacation Bible School**

**St. Bernard ~ Holy Cross ~ St. James ~ Sts. Peter and Paul present:**

**“A Wilderness Adventure Through the Sacraments Jesus in My Heart”** It will be held June 6-9 at the St. James Campus. Registration forms are available at the churches, parish centers and on-line at ([www.holycrossparish.info](http://www.holycrossparish.info) and [www.stspchurch.com](http://www.stspchurch.com)) . Please complete a registration form and return with the fee to your parish office or in an envelope marked VBS in the collection basket. Checks can be made payable to St. James. We need volunteers to help with registration, snacks, preparing craft kits, leading children to daily activities and a teaching. Craft Day will be June 1 at 9 a.m. at St. James. Watch the back of church for a sign-up sheet for snack donations. Cash donations will also be accepted also. Jessica Church is this year's Coordinator. Please contact her at [jess.church@gmail.com](mailto:jess.church@gmail.com) or 812-483-3833.

### **Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia**

We have a week-long list of events planned for June 6-9. The sisters of St. Cecilia will join us to teach Vacation Bible School. Monday evening will be a Youth Mass at Sts. Peter & Paul at 6:30 p.m. followed by Q & A with the Sisters. Watch the bulletins for more detail!

### **Sponsor Couple Program**

We will have a training session for new Sponsor Couples on May 23 at Sts. Peter & Paul at 6:30 p.m. Dominic Faraone of Catholic Charities will be here to train these couples for their ministry in helping engaged couples prepare for marriage. This is a parish-based program of marriage preparation in which a married “sponsor” couple is paired with an engaged couple from the parish. The sponsor couple will guide the engaged couple through discussions of important topics related to marriage in a series of meetings, which are usually held in the home of the sponsor couple. If you would like to be a Sponsor Couple or are planning to be married and would like to have a Sponsor Couple, please contact Laura Goedde at 812-768-6457 for more details.

### **The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide**

We will offer a class over the Summer to bring hope and healing to divorced and separated Catholics. With the help of counselors, theologians, and priests, you can go from pain and loneliness to hope and healing. Practical advice meets pastoral care, with the help of experts and others who have suffered through divorce. As they witness to their pain and to the redemptive power of Christ, you will laugh, cry, and identify with their journey from heartache to healing. Please contact Laura at 812-768-6457 or [lgoedde@evdio.org](mailto:lgoedde@evdio.org) if you are interested in attending these sessions.

### **RCIA—SPRING AND NEW BEGINNINGS**

We have experienced one of the most beautiful springs in many years. Along with the warm weather is the explosion of new growth and new beginnings. Even though Easter was early this year we still had an explosion of new growth within our Catholic Church. People throughout the world began new life within our Catholic faith. Here at Holy Cross we also experienced this new growth at the Easter Vigil. We welcome into our parish five very unique individuals each with different talents and personalities, all eager to join us in our faith. We embrace Fred and Nancy Brokaw, Ryan Bruner, Pamela Hyndman, and Larry Michel into our family at Holy Cross. We encourage everyone to extend their hands in fellowship. Our new members have, and still are, eager to learn about the Catholic Church and get involved at Holy Cross. Please offer any help you can to our new members.

There were unexpected challenges but everything went smoothly because of the help provided by the members of the RCIA Team. Team members are Peg and Steve Hall, Kay and Randy Kiesel, Jim and Monica Weber, and Gerald and Betty Sue Weber. A special thanks to Clara Mae Hagedorn for coordinating and supplying refreshments for Faith Sharing after the Masses. Thanks also to the members of the Hospitality Commission for coordinating and serving the Easter Vigil reception. Our new parishioners appreciated the beautiful reception. The program benefited tremendously from the help of these dedicated parishioners.

The RCIA program starts again this summer with Inquiry. Inquiry is for people who want to know more about the Catholic Church and maybe considering joining our Catholic family. If you know anyone who might be interested or has questions have them call Gerald Weber at 753.4620 or Monica Weber at 753.4833.

- Gerald Weber, RCIA Coordinator

## *Some Thoughts by Fr. Sudhakar*

### **FIVE REMEDIES AGAINST SADNESS**

On certain days we have all been sad. Days when we have been unable to overcome an inner emptiness or depression that weighs down on us and makes it difficult to interact with others. Is there a trick for overcoming sorrow and recovering our smile? **St. Thomas Aquinas** suggests five remedies against sadness that have proven surprisingly effective (*Summa Theologiae*, I-II, q. 38).



**1. The first remedy is granting ourselves something we like.** It's as though the famous theologian had already intuited seven centuries ago that "chocolate is an antidepressant." This might seem a bit materialistic, but no one would deny that a tough day can end well with a good beer. It's hard to refute this by citing the Gospel, since our Lord took part joyfully in banquets and feasts, and both before and after his Resurrection enjoyed the noble and good things in life. Psalms 104:15 even says that wine gladdens the human heart (although the Bible also clearly condemns getting drunk).

**2. The second remedy is weeping.** St. Thomas says "a hurtful thing hurts yet more if we keep it shut up, because the soul is more intent on it: whereas if it be allowed to escape, the soul's intention is dispersed as it were on outward things, so that the inward sorrow is lessened" (I-II q. 38 a. 2). Our melancholy gets worse if we have no way to give vent to our sorrow. Weeping is the soul's way to release a sorrow that can become paralyzing. Jesus too wept and Pope Francis said that "certain truths in life can only be seen with eyes cleansed by tears. I invite each of you to ask yourself: Have I learned how to cry?"

**3. The third remedy is sharing our sorrow with a friend.** I recall here the friend of Renzo in Manzoni's great novel *The Betrothed*. Finding himself alone in his deserted home ravaged by the plague and mourning his family's horrible fate, he tells Renzo: "What has happened is horrible, something that I never thought I would live to see; it's enough to take away a person's joy for the rest of his life. But speaking about these things with a friend is a great help." This is something we have to experience in order to understand it. When we are sad, we tend to see everything in tints of gray. A very effective antidote is opening our heart to a friend. Sometimes a brief message or phone call is enough for our outlook to once again be filled with light.

**4. The fourth remedy against sadness is contemplating the truth.** Contemplating the "*fulgor veritatis*" St. Augustine speaks of, the splendor of truth in nature or a work of art or music, can be an effective balm against sadness. A literary critic, a few days after the death of a dear friend, was scheduled to speak at a conference about the topic of adventure in the works of Tolkien. He began by saying: "Speaking about beautiful things to people interested in them is for me a real consolation ..."

**5. The fifth remedy suggested by St. Thomas** is perhaps something we wouldn't expect from a medieval thinker. The theologian says that a wonderful remedy against sadness is **bathing and sleeping**. It's a deeply Christian viewpoint that in order to alleviate a spiritual malady one will sometimes have to resort to a bodily remedy. Ever since God became Man, and therefore took on a body, the separation between matter and spirit has been overcome in this world of ours.

"No one thinks it strange to seek out a physician who cares for the body as a guide for a spiritual illness," says St. Thomas Moore. "The body and soul are so closely united that together they form a single person, and hence a malady of one can sometimes be the malady of both. Therefore, I would advise everyone, when confronted with a physical illness, first go to confession, and seek out a good spiritual doctor for the health of their soul. Likewise for some sicknesses of the soul, besides going to the spiritual physician, one should also go to a physician who cares for the body."

My personal remedy against sadness is to remember the sweet memories that are so dear to us or remember something that can make you laugh; it can be a person, a scene from movies or series, TV shows, a conversation or a joke. Those are very good antidotes for many things which can sadden us.

Thank you and God bless you.

Fr. Sudhakar



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

### **COMING EVENTS & Volunteer Opportunities:**

**SANDING & PAINTING CROSSES** for “Cemetery of the Innocents”—Haubstadt Cub Scout Pack 246 and SMG Youth Group have made great progress on this project!. They will, also, be painting crosses on June 4 at St. Bernard’s at the HS Boys’ Retreat. ADULTS are needed, too. Please call Breana Taylor 812-215-0555 if you think you could help in any way! And watch the bulletin for time and updates...

**HAUBSTADT SOMMERFEST** (June 16, 17, & 18) to help at the Right to Life booth, call Maureen Ruggles 768-6974.

**GIBSON COUNTY FAIR** (July 10-16) – to help at the Right to Life booth, call Janith Goedde 812-768-6537

**BEAUTIFUL BABY CONTEST--** To enter a baby in the contest call Linda Kissel 812-677-0085

**PARADES** – The Schmitts will again be pulling the Right to Life floats at the Sommerfest.

**Spiritual Adoption** – “Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted, who is in danger of abortion.” *Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen* Pray every day.

**Meditation Garden** – Visit our cemetery to pray at the “In Memory of Unborn babies” memorial stone. Pray for unborn babies and all those grieving the loss of a child.

#### THANK YOU

Special thanks to all who have taken part in the “40 Days for Life”; St. Patrick’s Family-Game and Card Party; “Cemetery of the Innocents”; Right to Life Banquet; and to the K of C Council #2215 and D of I Circle #151 for donations. You may not know until you stand before the Throne of God how your prayers, actions, words, donations, encouragement, and joy in LIFE make a difference, but keep on doing what is right!

The “Dignity for the Unborn Bill” was recently enacted in Indiana. This common-sense law is designed to protect unborn babies from fatal discrimination based on disability, race, or gender and provides for respectful disposal of aborted fetal remains. Senator Jim Tones, Representative Thomas Washburne and Representative Mark Messmer all supported passage of this bill. And in spite of great pressure to oppose the bill, Governor Pence signed this bill into law.

One thing all our parishioners can do is pay Right to Life dues & all are invited to attend any of the Right to Life meetings: June 14 (7:00 pm) and July 12 and Aug. 9 (7:30) at 115 N. Vine St., Haubstadt. Mail to: Right to Life of Gibson County, P.O. Box 324, Haubstadt, IN 47639

(please print) NEW \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_

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

## *NEWS FROM DEACON JOE*

Brothers and Sisters,

In Genesis 2:26-27 God created man in his own image. We all have learned from scripture that God is spirit and since man is created in God’s image he is created to have spiritual being as well as physical being. This makes the human being by far one of God’s most unique creations and places the responsibility of care for the physical and spiritual being on man with the help of God.

Recently I accepted the campus minister position at Reitz Memorial High School and begin my ministry there on July 6th. It is here that I will see to the spiritual needs of the Youth, Staff, Alumni and Parents. This includes planning major liturgical celebrations for the school community; training peer leaders and Eucharistic Ministers; organizing retreat programs as well as liturgies and prayer services. I will also be the liaison between the High School and the main parishes that send their youth to Memorial. It will be challenging but rewarding and I ask for your prayers as I embark on this ministerial journey to the spiritual well being of those who are in my care.

This will not affect my assignment to Holy Cross, Sts. Peter and Paul or St. James. I am still your Deacon and will be available to you with my ministry. May God bless all with peace love and harmony.

*Deacon Joe*

Holy Cross Catholic Church  
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## Stewardship

If God appeared to you and said he would give you anything you asked of him, what would you request? That is exactly what happened to young Solomon when becoming king after his father, David, died. He was unsure of himself and concerned about his ability to lead his people. Solomon asked for wisdom, saying to the Lord: "Give me an understanding heart to judge your people and distinguish right from wrong" (1 Kings 3:9). Wisdom is one of the goals of the Christian life. We should pray for it. Just as Solomon did, ask God to give wisdom, the ability to discern what is true, good, right and lasting.

One way God gives us his wisdom is through continuous learning of the Catholic faith. Unfortunately, a lot of us have an inferiority complex around how little we know about Catholicism. Most Catholics are afraid they are going to be asked a question by a colleague, a child, a relative or even a stranger. We actually fear that wonderful grace-filled moment when someone has the courage to ask a question about our faith. God gives us the answers to the questions. We just have to take the time to find them. We can do this through study.

The hardest part of doing anything is getting started. Just like with prayer, we need a routine for continuous learning through study. One suggestion would be to read five pages of a great Catholic book every day. You will be amazed how your knowledge and enthusiasm for the faith will begin to grow. I hope you are saying, "five pages a day, I can do that!" If you don't know what book to get started with, ask one of our priests or another person you respect for living the faith or visit [DynamicCatholic.com](http://DynamicCatholic.com) to request a book list.

For answers to our deepest questions we must turn to God. Only then, through those answers and with an open heart, will our lives be flooded with meaning and purpose.

Taken from "The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic"