



# *HOLY CROSS HERALD*

**Rev. Anthony Ernst, Pastor**  
**Rev. Biju Thomas, Parochial Vicar**

**August 2016**

**F  
R  
O  
M  
  
T  
H  
E  
  
P  
A  
S  
T  
O  
R  
S  
  
D  
E  
S  
K**

Dear Friends,

I hope you have enjoyed the summer with your families. It goes so fast! Now it's time to get back into the routine of school with all of its many activities.

You will hear more about this in the coming months, but I wanted to let everyone know that the Diocese of Evansville will be undergoing a diocesan-wide capital campaign. Every parish in our diocese will be participating. This will be a shared campaign, which means that half of the funds will go towards diocesan needs and half of the funds will remain in local parishes for our own particular needs. The diocese has identified four particular areas they wish to address in this campaign: Priestly Vocations, Social Outreach, Tuition Scholarship & Faith Formation, and Diocesan Facilities. I have set up a committee at each of our three parishes to help identify the needs of our respective parishes. This is a good opportunity for our diocese and parishes to plan for the future.

There will be four phases to the campaign, the first of which will begin this fall. Our parishes are grouped into the second phase, which means our portion will begin next spring. I do know that Bishop Thompson plans to visit every parish in the diocese to address the campaign and any questions or concerns parishioners might have. We will do our best to communicate updates as this process continues to unfold. Please pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we seek to strengthen the ministry of our diocese and parishes. With so many great families, the future is definitely bright in our parishes.

As you know, Pope Francis has proclaimed this to be a Year of Mercy. In order to help us contemplate the mercy of God and our need to be merciful, we are going to have a special mission on mercy. Plan to join us for three grace-filled evenings when we will not only hear about God's mercy but experience it! Mark your calendar for Oct. 3, 4 & 5. This Mission will be held at Sts. Peter & Paul presented by Sr. Mary Michael Fox of the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia – Nashville, TN.

"The mercy of God is his loving concern for each one of us. He feels responsible; that is, he desires our wellbeing and he wants to see us happy, full of joy, and peaceful. This is the path which the merciful love of Christians must also travel. As the Father loves, so do his children. Just as he is merciful, so we are called to be merciful to each other." (Pope Francis, *Misericordiae Vultus*, #9)

May God bless all of you with His grace and peace.

Yours 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.

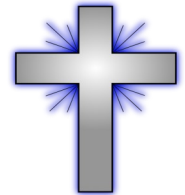
**Brian Cain & Nicole Clifford Cain. They have two children, Devin and Jamie.**

**Adam & Shannon Roesch. They have two children, Lindi and Miah.**



### Mass Intention Policy

According to Church Law, each Mass is to be offered for a single intention. A single intention may include the following: Husband and Wife or Parent & Child. An individual intention for the family such as "The (name) Family" if you have multiple deceased family members. An individual organization such as "Deceased Members of Knights of St. John." You may schedule up to three Masses per intention. One weekend and two weekdays. We are now scheduling 2017 Mass intentions.



Monetary donations received at funerals: We can retain up to 10 Mass intentions at our parish. Additional money received can either be kept by the family for future intentions or sent away to other priests or parishes. Any donations received at funerals that are NOT designated for Masses can be applied as a memorial gift to the parish, an endowment or capital improvement fund in memory of your loved one. If you have any questions, please call the parish office.

### 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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. The next scheduled classes will be on September 12 and November 14, 2016. They will be held at Holy Cross Parish Center at 305 E. Walnut St. and will start at 6:30 pm. **Email [lhirsch@evdio.org](mailto:lhirsch@evdio.org) to register.**



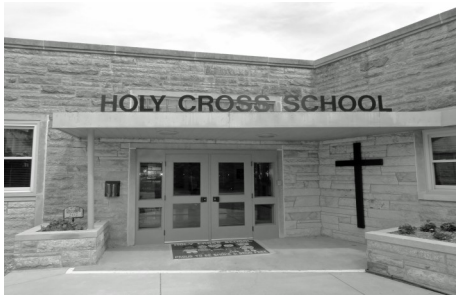
### Prayer Chain—Please Pray for the Sick & Suffering

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. Biju.

## *HOLY CROSS SCHOOL NEWS*

### **John Hollis, Principal**

The 2016-2017 school year has gotten off to a great start here at Holy Cross. It was wonderful to see all the smiling faces on the children as they returned to school. I am also excited about getting to know all the new Kindergarten students. All teachers have returned, so we look forward to another successful year. Please keep Holy Cross Catholic School in your prayers. We're very lucky and blessed to be a part of Holy Cross. Thank you to all who support Holy Cross Catholic School.



## *ENDOWMENTS UPDATE*

### **Holy Cross Endowments (as of June 30, 2016):**

	<b>Balance</b>
Religious Education Endowment	\$74,528.00
Karen Georges Memorial Endowment	\$138,292.00
Holy Name Athletic Endowment	\$22,906.00
Transportation Endowment	\$10,366.00
Jay Burger Endowment	\$107,467.00
Dr./Mrs. Michael Green Endowment	\$11,131.00
Holy Cross Parish Endowment	\$209,383.00
Frederick/Barbara Jean Bender Endowment	\$2,625.00
Fr. Tony Ernst Vocational Endowment	\$18,964.00
Fr. Tony Ernst Vocational Endowment-Unrestricted	\$3,307.00
Andrea Kay Bullock Memorial Endowment	\$10,470.00

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



Saint Maria Goretti youth group completed another great mission trip. Last year, I went on my first mission trip with the group to Rutledge, Tennessee. I had an amazing experience on the trip and knew I wanted to keep attending. The next year rolled around and it was time for the next mission.

On July 10th, 14 youth and 6 adults loaded up and travelled to David, Kentucky. After travelling for 5 hours we finally made it to David. The first night we ate out at Reno's and made a trip to get groceries for the week. At the end of the day we slipped into our designated cabins and waited for the next day to come, anxious to see what adventures were ahead to help with God's work.

The next day we got split into three groups. One group stayed back at the school, the other went to Elizabeth and Dilbert's house, and lastly my group went to Sheila's house. Each day the group that stayed back at the school prepared the evening meal and reflection.

Six youth and two adults were in my group the first day. It took a little bit more than an hour to get to her house. After many winding, narrow roads and a steep hill, we finally made it. Sheila's house needed some attention, the roof needed fixed. Part of the wall and floor needed replaced where an air conditioner had leaked and rotted the wall. We looked at what needed to be done, grabbed our tools and got to work. Never did I think that I would be doing such skills as roofing, nailing and operating a saw. Four of the six youth helped Richard inside with the wall and flooring. Cameron and I helped Jack outside with the roof. While the other five people were ripping the wall and the floor out, Cameron and I climbed on the roof and started taking off the tarp. Little did we know that the house was infested with wasps and yellow jackets; that's when I got stung by a wasp. We made sure everything was okay, and then went a couple minutes into town to buy some wasp killer. Needless to say, we worked inside the rest of the time. During lunch the first day this little boy named Tevin came over to meet us. He was five years old and lived next door to Sheila. This little guy tugged at my heart. He had so little but what he did have was a big smile that said more than anything that money could buy. I have always loved being with children and I fell in love with Tevin. He really loved the attention we gave him and he didn't realize the gift he was giving to us while we spent time with him.



Around 4 o'clock, we headed back to our place in David. When we got there we had a nice meal, prepared for us by the group that stayed back at the school to help. Evenings were our time for our group to bond and form true friendships with people that were so giving of their time to serve God and help others. We had reflection and then did several activities together; mainly played cards and some nights we went outside and played ultimate frisbee or volleyball.

The next days went by quickly. I went to Sheila's house again on Tuesday and on Wednesday, I went to Elizabeth and Dilbert's house. At their house, we worked on plumbing, putting in insulation, siding on the house, and putting in new carpet. I never knew I would be doing such tasks but I felt good helping others. The couple was very nice and appreciated all of our help. Dilbert had amazing woodworking skills and made beautiful chairs that he sold. The last day of our trip, I went to the mission house where much help was needed. They were constructing for the new volunteer house. That morning while my small group was washing dishes, Lisa suggested we make French toast with all the leftover bread we had. So Sami and I decided to volunteer and surprise the rest of the group with a nice warm breakfast.

At 6:15, Sami and I tried to sneak out of our cabins and went to the kitchen to start breakfast. It took a little bit longer to make so the group was starving by the time we got them all done, but once they got it, they were thankful for it. Shortly after breakfast, we loaded up the minibus and trucks and headed off. Since we had worked hard all week we stopped on the way home for an adventure. We had a great time canoeing and ate at Miguel's Pizza. Finally, after a long day of fun and traveling, we made it back to Haubstadt.



## *SMG YOUTH CONTINUED*

I am so thankful to be a part of this mission trip family. Each year it brings new memories, new friends, and new experiences. The mission trip has taught me so many things and to be grateful for the many blessings that I have. Everyone who goes on the mission trip becomes part of the family with many smiles. We always hear lots of laughter from our group. Many things I take for granted but the mission trip has taught me many life lessons. I look forward to the missions trips in my future and to be able to give to those less fortunate.

"I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" Acts 20:35

By: Lindsey Field



## *FINANCE* By: Steve Hall

Have you ever heard of "Matching Gift Programs"? These are programs used by many major corporations that allow their employees to help direct the company's charitable giving. Holy Cross currently benefits from some parishioners that take advantage of these programs, and it seems that more and more corporations are offering similar programs.

The way these programs usually work is that the employee makes a donation to a not-for-profit organization and fills out a form. This form and a receipt for the donation are sent to the corporation. The corporation then sends a matching donation (same dollar amount) to the organization. So, if you choose to donate to Holy Cross and participate in your employer's matching program, it essentially doubles the amount that Holy Cross receives.

Which companies offer this program? We do not have a complete list, but here is a sampling of companies that match employee gifts: Alcoa Foundation, Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation, CSX Corporation, Duke Energy, Fifth Third Foundation, Grainger, The Prudential Foundation, and Vectren Foundation. We want to encourage you to check with your place of employment to see if they offer a similar program. If so, please consider using these Matching Funds to double your donations to Holy Cross. The Parish Office would be happy to help you in preparing the forms if you have any questions about them. Further, we are aware that Duke Energy offers its employees the convenience of using payroll deductions for the employee contribution.

Speaking of automatic tithing, we would like to ask you to consider this electronic giving program. This system allows you to have funds electronically transferred directly into the Parish's account for your Sunday giving. It is convenient and there is no cost to you. You select whether the electronic draft comes out once a week or once a month. At any time, you can make changes to the amount you give, and even if you want to discontinue using it. Just get the Direct Debit Authorization Form from the Parish Office and you can begin using this program promptly.



## SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

### CRHP-CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH

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 will be in the back of church this winter. The Women's Weekend is February 25/26, 2017 and the Men's Weekend is March 4/5, 2017. Please prayerfully consider these retreats as the dates approach. You will not be disappointed!



**The Cursillo Movement**, approaches evangelization as a very natural act of being Christlike within each of our daily activities. While most people would like to live their lives in a Christ-like manner, the pressures of the world often make this difficult. The Cursillo Movement provides a method and a technique to provide each of us with the tools, the mentality, the strength, and the support to make this natural type of evangelization possible. The Cursillo Movement can assist each of us in developing a deeper understanding of what it means to be fully Catholic by being fully



Christian. If you'd like to make a Cursillo or be a sponsor, please contact Laura Goedde at 812-768-6457 or go to [www.evansvillecursillo.com](http://www.evansvillecursillo.com) for more information. Dates for upcoming Cursillos are: Mens' weekend – October 6-9, and Women's – November 3-6.

Laura Goedde, CRE [lgoedde@evdio.org](mailto:lgoedde@evdio.org)  
 Stephanie Stoll, Asst. to CRE [ssoll@evdio.org](mailto:ssoll@evdio.org)  
 Liz Hirsch, Sacramental Coordinator  
[lhirsch@evdio.org](mailto:lhirsch@evdio.org)

### RCIA

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" Mt. 28:19. Many people are searching for something that they can grasp onto as a purpose for living. RCIA is a method of introducing these people to the Catholic Church. The RCIA does not try to persuade people of other religious faiths that the Catholic Church is the only way to live, but to offer Jesus to the churchless.

Evangelization is one of the primary functions of our Catholic faith. It is up to the Church, which is all of us, to get the word out about God's love for each of us. We all must be aware of our duty to evangelize and extend an invitation to those in need to learn about our Catholic faith through the RCIA.

Think about those you can invite to investigate the Catholic Faith. Make a simple invitation to a friend, a family member, a neighbor, or a co-worker who has asked a question about the Catholic Church to attend an inquiry session. You might want to join them. Make sure they know that we are not asking a commitment to join our faith, just a chance to learn more about the Catholic Church. You might be surprised when someone accepts your invitation.

Inquiry sessions are on Sundays after the 8:45 am Mass in the Parish Center. There will be six sessions, the first starting on August 14. Anyone interested can attend all or one session. The sessions will last approximately one hour, depending on the participants. These sessions are informal and for anyone having an interest in the Catholic Church.

If you have any questions or know of someone interested in attending, please call Monica Weber 812-753-4833, the Parish Office at 812-753-3548, or Gerald Weber at 812-753-4620 for more information.



## *RELIGIOUS EDUCATION* By: Larua Goedde

**Religious Education Classes** -Faith formation is a life-long activity. In Baptizing your child into the Catholic Faith, you accept the responsibility of bringing your child up in the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church. Please join us as we come together to help strengthen the faith of your children.

Parents are encouraged to attend the opening of Religious Ed classes on September 7 at 6:30 p.m. Kristin Brokaw will be here to share her stories from World Youth Day in Poland! We will then have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Students will spend a short time before the Blessed Sacrament and then dismiss to their classes. Parents are welcome to stay for Adoration until it is time for the students to be released at 7:45 p.m.

**Wednesday Evening Rosary** -The rosary will be prayed beginning at 6:15 on Wednesday evenings before Religious Ed classes each week. Parents and parishioners are invited to join us for this time of prayer.

**Sign-up** -It's not too late to sign up for Preschool & K-12 Religious Education Classes.

Please go to one of the parish websites for registration forms: [www.holycrossparish.info](http://www.holycrossparish.info) or [www.stsppchurch.com](http://www.stsppchurch.com) or contact the parish office. Classes begin Sept. 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the Sts. Peter & Paul campus. Pre-school classes at Holy Cross & Sts. Peter & Paul begin Sept. 25.

**Catechists** - We are still looking for Sunday morning pre-school teachers. If you would like to help during the 8:45 Mass at Holy Cross or the 10:30 a.m. Mass at Sts. Peter & Paul, please call us.

**Catechetical Sunday** will be held on September 11 at the 8:45 Mass at Holy Cross, and at 10:30 a.m. at Sts. Peter & Paul. All catechists are invited to join us for a blessing for the Religious Ed year.

### **Catholic Scripture Study**

We will offer a study on the Gospel of Luke beginning in November. Don't miss this opportunity to experience the Gospel of Mercy! This 18 week study challenges us to get out of our comfort zone and share the word of the Gospel. It challenges us to share His message of Mercy to the world. Classes are held Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m. and Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. at Sts. Peter & Paul and Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. at Holy Cross or if you have a group of friends who would like to meet at a different time, contact me. Scripture study is a great way to enrich your faith and meet others parishioners on the journey. For more information on CSS. Go to [www.cssprogram.net](http://www.cssprogram.net) If you haven't already signed up call Laura at 812-768-6457 or email at [lgoedde@evdio.org](mailto:lgoedde@evdio.org).

### **Mark Your Calendar**

September 7 – K-12 Religious Ed Classes Begin at 6:30 p.m. at Sts. Peter & Paul

September 11 - Catechetical Sunday - HC at 8:45 a.m. and Sts. P & P at 10:30 a.m.

September 11 – Catholic Scripture Study Kick-off meeting at 6:30 p.m. at Sts. P & P Cafeteria

September 12– Baptism class – Holy Cross at 6:30 p.m.

September 25- Preschool Religious Ed Classes Begin

Oct. 3, 4, & 5 - Mission of Mercy at Sts. Peter & Paul Church following 6:30 p.m. Mass on Monday, Tues. 6:30 p.m. & Wed. 6:30 p.m.

We are here to help you in any way we can to ensure that you and your children receive the formation you need to grow in their faith. We invite parents to become an active part of their children's Catholic formation by volunteering or just coming by to visit the classes. Enroll in the adult formation classes and be that model for your children to encourage their continued growth and deepen your spiritual life too!

Laura Goedde, CRE [lgoedde@evdio.org](mailto:lgoedde@evdio.org)  
Stephanie Stoll, Asst. to CRE [ssoll@evdio.org](mailto:ssoll@evdio.org)  
Liz Hirsch, Sacramental Coordinator [lhirsch@evdio.org](mailto:lhirsch@evdio.org)

## OUR SEMINARIANS

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

### Deacon John Pfister



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

Deacon John was assigned this summer to the parishes in Vincennes serving with Fr. Dave Fleck and Fr. Benny Chacko. Deacon John returns this fall to St. Meinrad for his final year of seminary and continues to prepare for his priesthood ordination. Please continue to pray for Deacon John as he continues his journey.

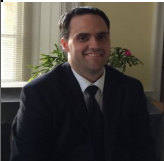
### Nick Sellers



**Nick Sellers (Holy Cross)**  
Bishop Simon Brute College Seminary  
2500 Cold Spring Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46222

Nick will enter into Marian University and Bishop Simon Brute College Seminary in the fall. Nick had the great opportunity to attend the World Youth Day in Karaków Poland with Bishop Thompson, Fr. Tyler Tenbarge, several diocesan seminarians, and local youth this summer. Over 2 million young Catholics gathered to praise and worship with Pope Francis. Please continue to pray for Nick as he continues his journey.

## RELIGIOUS LIFE



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

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I was blessed to go to Italy and Poland this June. The reason for the pilgrimage was to attend the canonization of our holy founder Saint Stanislaus Papczyński, whose name is a real mouthful for us Americans who can't speak the Polish language. He was canonized by Pope Francis on

June 5th. It seems so fitting that the Founder of our Marian Congregation was canonized at this time because we are in the Year of Mercy, and our Congregation is known throughout the world for spreading the message of Divine Mercy.

The pilgrimage was an amazing experience. We arrived a couple days before the canonization and spent some time visiting the beautiful churches in Rome. Our first visit was to Saint Peter's Basilica, where we had Mass at the Tomb of Saint John Paul II, along with some Polish pilgrims. We also went to Assisi to visit the tomb of Saint Francis and to have Mass there.

The canonization Mass was wonderful. It was held outside St. Peter's Basilica in St. Peter's Square. A few of our seminarians got to serve the Mass with the pope, and, afterward, some of our priests got to meet and speak to the pope.

After that first week in Rome, we went to Poland for a week. It was a great and exhausting experience because we traveled by bus to several different places each day. The first day in Poland, we went to Krakow to the tomb of Saint Faustina, who had visions of Our Lord, which she recorded in her *Diary* and which became the basis of the Divine Mercy message and Devotion. We celebrated Mass near her tomb. While in Krakow, we saw Saint John Paul II's school (the Jagiellonian University) and the Bishop's Residence where he lived as the Archbishop of Krakow during the Communist Regime. We then traveled to his boyhood home and parish in Wadowice. After Krakow and Wadowice, we went to Podgrodzie, which is the birthplace and boyhood home of our saintly Founder. The mayor greeted us and we were treated with tremendous hospitality to a great meal.

After Podgrodzie, we headed to the Basilica of Our Lady of Lichen - a shrine dedicated to an appearance of Our Lady a few centuries ago. The Church is enormous. It was built by members in our Congregation, and I was amazed that we own and staff such a beautiful shrine! Finally, we visited the three Marian parishes that dated back about 300 years to the time of our Founder.

The entire pilgrimage was great, and I am very blessed to have been to all those amazing places. Although, my favorite portion was our time in Poland because I was able to see the places where our Founder, St. John Paul II and St. Faustina lived. As a result, these great saints became more real to me. I would recommend for all to go there if they get a chance.

God Bless, Brian



The huge banner of St. Stanislaus Papczynski in front of his home parish, St. Jacob Church, in Podgrodzie, Poland. Photo credits: Facebook: Fr. Angelo Casimiro



## RELIGIOUS LIFE *CONTINUED*



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

In July, Brother Joel and his fellow Junior monks, traveled to St. Joseph Abbey and Seminary College in Louisiana to help with repairs that were sustained from the March 11 floodwaters that inundated St. Joseph Abbey with more than two feet of water. The damages incurred with the flood surpassed those suffered with Hurricane Katrina.

Brother Joel's podcasts are scheduled to return in January.



Photo Credits: St. Joseph Abbey

## STEWARDSHIP *By Stephanie Stoll*

*You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. - Matthew 22:37-39*

How is the best way to live?

In Matthew Kelly's book, *The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic*, he states, "The rigor with which a person or culture approaches this question is very telling. It is of disturbing importance to note that the present culture has virtually no interest in pursuing it. Today we are more interested in how we want to live than we are in discovering the best way to live, just as we are much more interested in defending self-expression than we are in developing selves that are worth expressing. Personal preference has triumphed over pursuit of excellence. We want what we want, and we feel entitled to it."

Do you believe that Jesus offers us the best way to live?

"If you do believe that Jesus offers us the best way to live, then isn't it a natural consequence that you want to share that best way with others? And that is Evangelization – helping them to discover the love of God and the wisdom of his ways; helping people to live their best possible life and become the-best-version-of-themselves, helping people to discover the best way to live."

Evangelization is a scary word to most people. And we as Catholic tend to shy away from this. Of the four signs of a dynamic Catholic (prayer, study, generosity and evangelization), evangelization is the one that even "dynamic Catholic's" say they struggle with the most. They rate themselves at a 6.8 or above with prayer, study and generosity, and only 4.9 for evangelization. However, it is not an impossible task. We just need to be more intentional with it. Start small and make continuous improvement.

Begin by trying to do one thing each week to share the faith with someone who crosses your path. Here are a few examples of ways you can evangelize: 1. Tell a friend you will pray for them. 2. Give someone a Catholic book or CD you have enjoyed. 3. Try to present God's perspective in a conversation. 4. Invite someone to a Catholic event. 5. Share a statistic or fact about Catholics with others. 6. Sign up for a daily/weekly email from a Catholic organization, then forward one to a friend who would benefit from it. Evangelizing in a simple way, once a week will make an amazing difference! You'll see...

-Source: *The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic* by Matthew Kelly

**"Stewardship Is A  
Way Of Sharing  
God's Blessings"**



## ***SOME THOUGHTS*** *By Father Biju*

I was born in Kerala in the southern part of India. After the completion of my 10<sup>th</sup> Grade I opted to be a missionary in Manipur, the North Eastern part of India. I was ordained a priest in the year 2000. I served the Arch diocese of Imphal for 15 years as associate pastor, pastor, procurator of the Archdiocese and the Rector of the minor seminary. My parents are farmers and I have a brother and two sisters. Working as a missionary in Manipur was a challenging one in every way. It was challenging because of the various dialects, external disturbances, illiteracy and poverty. But it was rewarding too. The Archdiocese has lot of vocations to priesthood and religious life, and the church is flourishing. I want to write about the history of the Catholic Church in India.

When the Portuguese arrived in India, they were surprised to find a Christian community already thriving in such a distant part of the world where other religions were more common. They traced its origin to the missionary works of St Thomas the Apostle who landed on the Malabar Coast in AD 52. The colonialist were Catholics (who had full communion with the Church at Rome and accepted the Pope as their leader) and followed the Latin rite, but the syro Malabar community followed the Patriarch of Antioch. The Portuguese decreed the community to be heretics and declared their beliefs and rituals to be blasphemous and non-Christian. For this, churches were ransacked or destroyed. Relics, documents and copies of the Syrian Bible were burned. Priests of the community, mainly sourced from the Eastern Asia, were intercepted mid-sea, either to be sent back or murdered in cold blood.

In attempts for truce, the Pope sent a Syrian Bishop to negotiate terms of settlement with the Syro Malabar community and a section of them agreed to accept the Pope and enter full Communion with Rome provided they be allowed to continue their rituals in the East Syrian rite. This section thus became the **Syro-Malabar Catholic Church**. The other section adopted West Syrian rites after this division and broke away from the church. They came to be known as Jacobites or the Malankara Church. However In 1930, a group of Jacobites under the leadership of Mar Ivanios reunited with the Catholic Church and the Vatican accommodated them as a separate rite. They are known as **Syro-Malankara Catholics** and they form the **Syro-Malankara Church**. The Latin Church in India had its origin from the missionary work of the Western missionaries. In 1534, the diocese of Goa was established. St Francis Xavier came to India in 1542. **The Catholic Church in India is Composed of three individual Churches the Latin church, syro-Malabar church and syro Malankara church.** I belong to the syro- Malabar rite but I was serving the Latin rite in the mission areas. In fact syro-Malabar church is in the forefront in spreading Gospel all over India taking the example from St. Thomas. I am excited to be here among you to serve here and thank God for the opportunity to be here. May we grow strong in our faith and be a blessing to everyone. For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. (2Tim 1:7).

## ***EVANGILIZATION*** *By: Wanda Englert*

As people of faith and believers in Jesus Christ, the Evangelization Committee is committed to helping our members become more active in their Catholic Faith, while reaching out to those who may not be actively practicing the faith, as well as helping anyone seeking God's truth. We all want answers to why we are here and the Catholic Church has answers. There is only one good reason to believe something and that is because it is true. Catholicism is true! The Catholic Church is the one Church established by Christ 2000 years ago (MT 16:18). It is the Church to which God calls all of His universal family to belong offering a deep union with Christ through Scripture, Sacraments, prayer and community.

It is in the Catholic Church that we experience the fullness of the seven sacraments, which Christ bestows on His Church to fill us with His grace and peace so that we might be His faithful servants. As Catholics, we have the great privilege of receiving Christ in the most personal way possible – in the Holy Eucharist. Countless Catholics have returned to or entered the Church because of their longing for Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

Families who live out their faith together are stronger and happier. If you want to give your children the greatest gift in the world, give them the gift of faith. The Church provides us with a community of faith-filled friends in which we can find support and strength for our life's journey.

Someone you know may have been away from the Church for a while. They may have been disconnected or alienated for one reason or another, and may still consider themselves Catholic. Most people would welcome and invitation to come home to the Church. They are waiting for someone to invite them back. All we need to do is ask! Pray that the Holy Spirit will grant you the courage to be that connection for someone to be invited back to Mass.

Wanda Englert, President Evangelization Committee

Holy Cross, St. James. Sts Peter & Paul

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

### **SPECIAL ONGOING PROJECT – SANDING & PAINTING “CEMETERY OF THE INNOCENTS” CROSSES**

Haubstadt Cub Scout Pack 246 and SMG Youth Group have sanded and painted many of the crosses! But there is still work to do. Adults and young people may call Breana Taylor 812-215-0555 if you think you could help in any way. Also, any clubs or organizations who may consider this as a service project would be most welcome. Watch the bulletin, too!

**Sept. 16 and 17—GOLDEN HERITAGE FESTIVAL** –on Princeton Sq. Call Beth Hauger 386-1237 to volunteer at booth.

**October 2, Sun., 12:30 – LIFE CHAIN** – Come to Lloyd and Green River Rd for rally, sandwich, and materials.

**Oct. 5-- “40 DAYS FOR LIFE”—Sts. Peter and Paul’s tentative date.** Look for sign-up sheet in back of church late in Sept. Please volunteer to walk for an hour to pray at the pro-abortion Planned Parenthood Clinic at Evansville. You may call Mary Jane Thompson 453-9943 for more information. *The “40 Days for Life” extends from Sept. 28—Nov. 6.* **Internationally, 40 Days For Life** has succeeded in shutting down **74 abortion facilities**, has saved at least **11,796 babies**, **133 abortion workers** have quit their jobs and walked away from the abortion industry, and thousands of women have been spared the suffering and trauma that comes with the decision to abort one's own child.

**Oct. 15, Sat, 9:00—10:00am – “CEMETERY OF THE INNOCENTS” – (rain date: Oct. 22)** We will need individuals and groups—especially strong young workers-- to erect the crosses at Syl Elpers’ field at Hwy 41 and I-64. Call Jim Helfrich 768-6313 or Joe Goedde 768-6537 for details. Watch the bulletin for further details or changes.

**October 20, Thurs., -- RESPECT LIFE CELEBRATION**— See the flier on our bulletin board at church.

**Nov. 8, Tues., 4:00—6:30—SOUP SUPPER to benefit Right to Life of Gibson County**—sponsored by Sts. Peter & Paul Pro-Life Committee in cafeteria. Chicken noodle & chili soups plus desserts. Everybody come! Yum!

## Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

**THANK YOU:** To our Outreach Committee for a generous donation for Respect-Life work.

To our many parishioners who helped staff the Right to Life booths at the Sommerfest & Fair; entered babies in the “Beautiful Baby Contests”; drove RTL floats in the Fort Branch & Sommerfest Parades; appeared in the Mother’s Day & Father’s Day Ads; and supported respect-life efforts in so many ways! To Breana Taylor & the Scouts, Brian Macke & the SMG Youth, & several adult volunteers for painting many of the “Cemetery of the Innocents” crosses.

**Indiana University** is using aborted babies for experiments – On May 26 IU filed a law suit against Indiana’s new Dignity for the Unborn Law. IU is claiming the law’s prohibition on the transfer and sale of aborted baby tissue will jeopardize its research using aborted babies! IU grads and fans, please contact Indiana University and ask them to stop using aborted babies for laboratory experiments. Contact Mr. Randall Tobias, Chairman, Indiana University Board of Trustees, Bryan Hall 300 107 S. Indiana Ave, Bloomington, IN 47405 or [rlt@tobiasofc.com](mailto:rlt@tobiasofc.com).

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

**RIGHT TO LIFE MEETING DATES:** Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 15 at 7:30 pm at 115 N. Vine, Haubstadt.  
\*To join Right to Life, call Ann Minnis 768-6768.

For pregnancy aid: 1-812-319-1832 (Gabriel Project)

See updated “Pregnancy Centers” list on your church bulletin board or call Ann 768-6768 for a copy.

**One thing all our parishioners can do is pay Right to Life dues.**

**THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE ALREADY SENT YOUR 2016 DUES TO RIGHT TO LIFE!**

### **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 \_\_\_\_\_**

**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

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
PERMIT NO. 17

**Address Service Requested**

## *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**