



Stewardship *-in-Action*

The St. Mary & St. Anthony Newsletter

September 15, 2007
Volume 5 Issue 6

Time-Talent-Treasure

Ever wonder — What is Christian Stewardship?

Christian Stewardship ...is more than a church committee assigned to raise money for the budget.
...is conducting oneself to act as responsible caretakers of everything we've been given by God.
...is a privilege of every Christian disciple.
...is an opportunity to excel in the grace of giving.
...is an opportunity to support the ministries of the church.
...calls for us to conduct ourselves with concern for others before self.
...is a source of joy as we put our time, abilities, and financial resources to work in a needy world.

Please Welcome. . .

- *Sandy Allard & Jeffery Thiel and daughter Corey Thiel*
- *Millie Greenwald*
- *John Thomas & Kathleen Lorenzen*
- *Kathleen Miller and her children; Colleen, Erica, and Kennan*
- *Dennis & Meg Steiber and son Nathan Heckelman*

to our Parish Family.

Music Ministry

An Opportunity to Honor Your Talents

Even though the St. Mary Parish Choir enjoyed a summer break, the work of Music Ministry still continues. The Folk Group has continued its growth over the past season with some new faces and voices and our Youth Group, under the direction of Alex Fries, has provided a new facet of our ministry program. Our Handbell Choir continues to inspire our liturgies at Christmas and Easter. St. Mary's Parish is fortunate to have FOUR music ministry groups to provide a wide variety of musical leadership. Larger parishes are lucky to have just one or two.

The Parish Choir began rehearsals for its new season on September 5th and will begin its active ministry in October. During the summer months, several pieces of music were reviewed and selections made for the coming year. We hope that members of our parish will consider membership in this continuing program. Membership is open to all adults down to 3rd graders so it can truly be a "family affair!" Time commitment is minimal with an hour-long rehearsal each

Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. and the Sunday liturgy. Please call Greg McDonald (419-668-4004) with questions or concerns or feel free to approach any choir member.

The Folk Group is also open to all parishioners as well. This group also rehearses on Wednesday evenings and provides musical leadership on the weekends. Please call Barb Doughty for more information. This contemporary musical style appeals to different age groups.

The Youth Group is open to our younger members of the parish who wish to share their musical talents. The group provides their gifts at varying times throughout the year. Alex Fries can be contacted for more information and schedules.



The Handbell Choir rehearses about 9 times prior to Christmas and Easter. Membership is open to all BUT the ability to read musical notation is a MUST for this group due to the limited rehearsal schedule. Greg McDonald will be able to answer questions about this. Look for information and sign-up sheets soon, in preparation for Christmas.

A Visit from Bishop Minde

An Opportunity to Give (Treasure)

Many of you may remember Bishop Minde visting Norwalk and saying Mass last year at many area churches. He is the Bishop of Kahama, Tanzania, one of the poorest dioceses in Africa. This forward-looking servant of God is helping build the Church in this area. He has found a Seminary and a Girls Secondary Board School. He is currently expanding these facilities and will be seeking donations. During the weekend of Sept. 29 & 30, Bishop Minde will be saying Mass and speaking again at several area churches. He will be at St. Mary Church on Sunday, Sept. 30, for the 10:30 Mass. A brunch will be served after Mass by the Ladies of St. Mary's in Reynolds Hall. You are cordially invited to attend – and please bring a guest.

Journey of Faith

An Opportunity to Grow in Your Faith

The Journey of Faith Team (Adult Faith Formation) will again be hosting discussions and presentations on topics concerning our Faith. These discussions and presentations will be held on the 1st Sunday of the month beginning in October through December at St. Mary and January through April at St. Anthony from 9:30 to 10:15am. Watch the bulletin for monthly topics. Choose the topics you are interested in and join us!

The Journey of Faith Team is also planning a Scripture-based study program. Please fill out the surveys for this program that were in the bulletin August 25 and 26 and return by September 16. If you need a survey to complete, extras are in the bulletin racks. If you have any questions, please call Berni at 419-668-7347, or either rectory. Once the surveys are returned, the Journey of Faith Team can begin to organize our Scripture-based study program.

"Fruit of silence is prayer.

Fruit of prayer is faith.

Fruit of faith is love.

Fruit of love is service.

Fruit of service is peace."

-Mother Teresa

Mark your calendars...get involved

- Monday Sept. 10 7:00 p.m. St. Mary Liturgy Meeting – Rectory
- Tuesday Sept. 11 7:00 p.m. Stewardship Meeting – St. Mary Rectory
- Sunday Sept. 16 11:00 St. Mary Parish Festival
- Sunday Sept. 23 PSR begins
- Wed. Sept. 26 Last day to register for “Catholic Identity” (see below)
- Sunday Sept. 30 10:30 a.m. Bishop Minde will say Mass and give homily at Mass (Brunch will follow in Reynolds Hall)
- Wed. Oct. 3 11:30 a.m. 55 Club – Luncheon at Sugar Creek
- Sunday Oct. 7 12 noon Blessing of Animals in honor of St. Francis – St. Mary
- 1:00 p.m. Blessing of Animals at St. Anthony
- Wed. Oct. 17 TBA 55 Club – Amherst wine-tasting trip
- Saturday Oct. 20/Sunday Oct. 21 Father Haas will be saying Masses at both parishes and speaking on missions.
- Saturday Oct. 27/Sunday Oct. 28 Anointing of the Sick – ½ hour before each mass
- Wed. Oct. 31 7:00 p.m. All Saints Day Mass at St. Anthony
- Thurs. Nov. 1 7:00 p.m. All Saints Day Mass at St. Mary

Catholic Identity

Choice of 18 Monday evening sessions from 7-9 p.m. Monday evening sessions begin Oct. 8. (Childcare is available) or 18 Tuesday morning sessions from 10-12 noon. Tuesday morning sessions begin October 16.

Register by September 26, 2007

Location: St. Paul Parish Center, 91 E. Main St., Norwalk, OH
 Cost: \$40.00 to cover materials.
 Instructor: Marian Bermudez, MPS, Pastoral Associate, St. Paul.
 Contact: Marian to register or for more information: 419-668-6044

"We do not grow spiritually without giving, not just monetary giving but giving of all of our gifts. We were made in the image of God and entrusted with the care of the earth and all that's in it, from the ozone to the starving child."

Happy Anniversary to Chris and Penny Stang who celebrated their 20th anniversary on August 8th.

Baptisms - Grace Assumpta Anderson, daughter of Jay and Sarah Anderson was baptized at St. Mary's on August 12, 2007.

Weddings - Adam and Sarah Boss - July 7, 2007
James and Sarah Wade - August 10, 2007

Congratulations to Francis & Rita Thayer - They have been blessed with two new grandsons: Silas James Thayer born July 18th in Stockbridge, GA and Ethan Julius Thayer born August 7th in Sandusky, OH.

Our heartfelt prayers and sympathy are offered to Bette Fell's family. Bette died on August 30. May she rest in peace.



We pray for those in need: Neil Charville, Aggie Dailey, Barbara Dennis, Dawn Good, Veronica Hemchack, Pat Herb, Glen Hopkins, Ed Latrany, Lanny McLaughlin, Jon Ott, Chase Sammut, Phyllis Sanders, Mary Schultz, Dorothy Silcox, Florence Young, Charlotte Zacharysz, Alvin Vartorella & Rich Weitzel. *May they feel the healing presence of God's love.*

We pray for all those serving in our military - Lord please keep them safe from harm.



How can you live out stewardship in your own life?

- Teach or take a religious class (such as *PSR*, or *Catholic Identity*)
- Receive the sacraments
- Support Youth Groups
- Recycle
- Support the Missions
- Teach a Child to Pray
- Uphold professional ethics
- Join a prayer group
- Serve as an usher

Attention all St. Mary and St. Anthony organization and committee heads: If you have an activity that you would like included on the Saturday church page of the Norwalk Reflector, please contact Mary Ann Hohman with the details no less than 2 weeks before the event. Mary Ann can be contacted at 419-668-3063 (leave message) or by email at mahohman@neo.rr.com. This is a great opportunity to let others know what is happening in our parishes.



Information for the newsletter may be sent to:
 Barb Widman
widmanb@neo.rr.com

Worth checking out:
www.catholic.org
www.americancatholic.org