



The Vianney Vine

“I am the vine and you are the branches.” John 15.5

Saint John Vianney Catholic Church

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You can make a difference

An ancient Chinese proverb says: “A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.” Of course, it is also prudent that



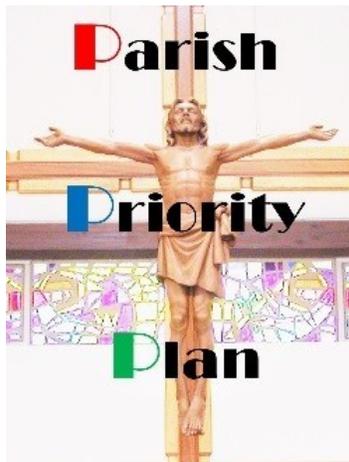
Father Vrba

there is a good road map to guide us on our journey, too!

As you read this issue of The Vianney Vine, our parish is in the midst of planning

for our immediate future. Many thanks to all who have already participated in giving your opinion about the ministry you experience. What we are doing well. What we could be doing better. What additional ministries do we need to introduce.

Our Sunday Visitor, whom we have hired to oversee the “**Parish Priority Plan**,” will be collating all of your thoughts in a few weeks. They will suggest various goals and objectives for us to review based on your input. The Planning Team, the Parish Council, and the parish staff will use this information to guide the ministry of the parish over the next three to five years.



You can complete the survey either online (which is preferred by Our Sunday Visitor) by going to: www.sjvbett.org and clicking on the Parish Priority Plan icon that overlays the SJV sanctuary cross. The last day for completing the survey is Wednesday, Sept. 26.

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO IS HELPING US RECEIVE A 100% RESPONSE!

And speaking of planning Bishop Zinkula is seeking input from parishioners to participate in the “**Vision 20/20: From Pentecost to Pentecost**” diocesan planning initiative.

This is a different kind of planning. Some years ago, I helped facilitate a diocesan planning project that was based on “parish viability.” It was a grass-roots approach for parishes to examine their strengths and challenges. Parishes were asked to work together to determine how they could better cooperate with each other realizing that there will be fewer priests down the road. Some parishes were combined to make a new parish. Others were

Take this journey as the parish, diocese plan future

Continued from Page 1

clustered to work closely together.

The “Vision 20/20” initiative is different. Bishop Zinkula is calling us to a revitalization of our faith and a renewal of grace in the spirit of Pen-



tecocost. He says: “The time is now for us to move forward and fill every heart and life with the joy of the Gospel through a fresh encounter with Jesus Christ and His

Church.”

A Diocesan Convocation of parish delegates will gather at St. Ambrose University in June 2019 to read the signs of the times in our diocese and explore practical strategies for the future. During Pentecost 2020, another diocesan celebration will keep the momentum going.

To prepare for the Convocation, Bishop Zinkula is asking that we read and reflect on Pope Francis’ recent letter “The Joy of the Gospel.”

The focus of the letter is about missionary discipleship and evangelization.

We are offering five different times for parishioners to gather to read and reflect on “The Joy of the Gospel.” Each gathering will meet three times for two hours to view a short video and discuss each section of the letter. I encourage you to sign up for one of the series in the Gathering Space for the sake of the diocese and our parish. (See more on page 3).

Yes, “a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.” We journey both as a local church of Saint John Vianney as well as a large church of the Diocese of Davenport.

May the Holy Spirit guide both planning projects as we continue on the great journey of being co-workers with Jesus in the vineyard of his love and mercy.

Every Blessing!



Change your phone number? Let the office know

When you have a change of address or phone number, please don’t forget to contact the parish office.

Parish office manager Julie Mishler said there are many reasons why current contact information is important to parish staff. “There might be an issue with your stewardship donation or account, a ministry team may need to touch base with you

about serving or training, or we just might need to ask you a question,” she said.

Updating current information is becoming more important, especially as people drop their landlines in favor of cellphones only.

And providing the office with your current email address is helpful as well since email is an easy way to contact parishioners.



Be a part of diocesan planning

By JAN TOUNEY

Parishioners at Saint John Vianney have a unique opportunity to participate in the Diocese of Davenport's Vision 20/20 planning process while discovering how they can become more involved in evangelization called for in Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation, "The Joy of the Gospel."



Bishop Zinkula

A series of "The Joy of the Gospel" study/discussions is scheduled in October at the parish. Through six hours of discussions scheduled over three sessions, participants will have the opportunity to delve into the message of missionary discipleship that is woven throughout the Pope's message, said Father Jim Vrba.

Similar discussions will be going on in parishes throughout the diocese and will be followed by listening sessions in October and November, according to information from the Davenport Diocese.

It is all a part of Vision 20/20: From Pentecost to Pentecost,

announced by Bishop Thomas Zinkula earlier this year. In early 2019, regional conversations will take place throughout the Diocese, with representatives from each parish or ministry delivering the message heard at their listening sessions. Themes that are identified will be addressed during the spring and at a diocesan Convocation at St. Ambrose University on June 6-8, 2019.

Father Vrba said Vision 20/20 will build upon earlier diocesan planning accomplished more than 10 years ago "from a perspective of having a new vision for the Diocese to be

"Before all else, the Gospel invites us to respond to the God of love who saves us, to see God in others and to go forth from ourselves to seek the good of others."

— Pope Francis

Evangelii Gaudium: The Joy of the Gospel



much more in line with 'The Joy of the Gospel'. The emphasis is on being a missionary disciple of Jesus. The whole thrust is on evangelization, how do we bolster our faith and take it out into the world, how do we read the signs of the time right now and address them with that whole missionary spirit."

The "Joy of the Gospel" sessions and facilitators at SJV are:

- Monday mornings 9:45-11:45 a.m., October 8, 15 and 22, Dan and Katie Schlader.
- Monday evenings 6:30-8:30 p.m., October 8, 15 and 22, Tim and Diane Foss.
- Thursday evenings 6:30-8:30 p.m., October 11, 18 and 25, Corinne Winter.
- Friday mornings 9:45-11:45 a.m., October 12, 19 and 26, Deacon Daryl Fortin (session one and two) and Father Jim Vrba (session three).
- Sunday afternoons, 12:15-2:15 p.m., October 14, 21 and 28, Father Jim (session one) and Les and Jean Lipinski (sessions two and three).

Father Vrba said the schedule is arranged with flexibility so that if someone misses a Monday morning session, they can make it up later in the week.

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Donation drive to help those in need

By JAN TOUNEY

For about a year, a group of Saint John Vianney parishioners have been meeting as the new Social Justice Committee, discussing issues of homelessness, poverty, immigration and the dignity of the worker that are local, national and worldwide in scope.

In October, SJV parishioners will have the opportunity to join the committee's efforts to help on two local fronts.

One is with the Socktober drive, seeking donations of socks for those who are homeless. The donations will go to the shelter operated by Humility Homes and Services Inc. Socks are among the most needed items at homeless shelters nationwide.

"Many homeless people walk miles a day in dirty, worn socks with holes in them," according to a statement from the committee. "Because of this, they are constantly at risk of serious foot disease and frostbite during the winter months. New socks can prevent skin injury, infection and even amputations."

The second collection drive is for T-shirts and sports bras that will go into "Grace Packs" for women who have been the

ATTACKING TRAFFICKING

victims of human trafficking. SJV is one of several Quad-City organizations and churches participating in this drive. Other groups will be collecting

items like soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, a little cash and a teddy bear for the Grace Packs. The committee is working with Attacking Trafficking, a non-profit organization located in Davenport, staffed by volunteers.

Jane Campagna, a member of the Social Justice Committee, said trafficked survivors "often leave their traffickers with nothing. They come away demoralized and hurting. The Grace Packs give them much needed basic supplies and the knowledge that someone cares about them. It helps to restore their human dignity."

Socktober



Parishioners will be able to pick up donation cards after the Masses in October with specific sizes to donate. Bins will be available in the church Gathering Space during the entire month to collect donations.

A subcommittee of the Social Justice Committee has been working to organize and publicize the two donation drives.

Steph Bray, chairperson of the subcommittee, hosts meetings at her home to make plans. Subcommittee members are Cathy Linn, Jane Campagna, Sister Mary Bea Snyder, Helen Dorr, and Brenda Ripslinger.

Steph explains her involvement in the Social Justice Committee in this way:

"Jesus tells us when we feed someone or give them our coat, we're doing that for him. He makes it easy because he gives so many examples. Visit the sick, welcome the stranger, visit the prisoner – we picked 'clothe the naked' and we're covering their feet. It's a start," she said.

Parish staff member Judy Benevento, who was instrumental in organizing the Social Justice Committee, said the committee sprung from parishioners interested in learning more about Catholic social teachings.

"They desire to build on SJV's history of generous direct service and expand that to include advocacy and education on many social issues," she said. "Highlights from the year are speakers on hunger and homelessness and encouraging parishioners to join with other groups within the diocese to address systemic causes of poverty, homelessness, and injustice."

Membership of the committee stands at about 25-30. The committee meets about every four weeks in the Vianney Room. Newcomers are welcome to attend.

RCIA gathering builds community

By JAN TOUNEY

Past, present and future participants in the RCIA program at Saint John Vianney gathered in July to share stories, provide support and enjoy fellowship along with a delicious summer meal.

As the new RCIA class prepares to begin classes on Sunday, September 16, the summer event was an effort to keep the RCIA community connected, said Father Jim Vrba.

Father Vrba said there was interest by prospective RCIA participants shortly after the March 31 Easter Vigil Mass.

“We already had several people right after Eastertime wanting to be a part of RCIA,” he said. “So to try to keep connected with folks during the summer was important. It was an opportunity to let folks know we’re here, we’re listening and we want to be inviting.”

Inquiry sessions were held September 9 and 12.

Rochelle Canfield is entering the RCIA program in the current class. She attended the July event with her fiancé, Travis Peters, a Catholic.

“I believe that this is my time to make the conscious decision to further my faith and understanding,” she said in an email interview this month.

She said Travis had invited her to attend Mass with him. Her questions about the Catholic faith grew.

“Eventually, Travis and his family suggested the RCIA classes so that I could ask questions and discuss the faith further,” she said. “All I know right now is the more I attend church, the more I feel like I belong.”

During introductions at the event, Travis stood up and said he told Rochelle, “The greatest thing I can ever do for you is to help you build a relationship with God.”



Travis Peters, left, and his fiancée, Rochelle Canfield, lead others in line for dinner at a July event for the RCIA community. Rochelle is entering the RCIA fall class.

“I will be honest, there is a lot I have to learn,” said Rochelle. “There is not anything in particular I have in mind, but I do know I look forward to learning about why things are done with a deeper explanation and understanding.”

Parishioner Pat Fortin, wife of Deacon Daryl Fortin, prepared a buffet of pulled pork and chicken, a variety of summer salads, and a luscious dessert for those in attendance.

The first RCIA class falls on the day of the parish picnic, September 16, but it will be over well before the picnic festivities begin.

“We start with a tour of the church,” Father Vrba said. This will be done after the 9 o’clock Mass.

“The reason for that is so folks can see what are the different things that you find in a Catholic church and how they relate to being Catholic, especially how we worship and pray.”

“The first phase is the basics,” he said. “How do you know there is a God? Who is Jesus? Where did the Bible come from?”

Father John Hynes: An unforgettable priest

Father John Hynes made an indelible impact on the thousands of people for whom he was spiritual leader, friend, or even golf partner.

His death on April 4 brought forth memories from St. John Vianney parishioners who had gotten to know the gentle



Father Hynes recites "The Cremation of Sam McGee" at the 2017 parish talent show.

priest with the wonderful sense of humor.

It was just a year ago that his recitation of the poem, "The Cremation of Sam McGee" brought applause at the parish talent show. His good friend, former pastor Father Robert McAleer, said that Father Hynes, as a senior at St. Ambrose Academy, won a state award for reciting that poem.

Here are just a few of the memories shared about Father Hynes:

Cindy Flanders Brown:

Father Hynes was one of the kindest, gentlest, wisest and most holy people that I have ever met. I think Father Henricksen referred to him as "brilliant" in the Catholic Messenger, and I would agree with that description as well. There are so many reasons why I think this way about Father Hynes. It's hard to put the feelings into words. You could see that he was wise and brilliant because of the quality of his sermons. His Sunday sermons were insightful. He had a way of putting complex ideas and concepts into terms that the average person could understand, and then put to use in their daily lives. He was also kind and loving towards everyone. My daughter used to play her saxophone at Mass when she was in high school. Father loved to hear her play! Any time he saw her at church, he would

always say, "Katie, did you bring your saxophone with you?" She had her senior piano and saxophone recital at SJV, and he came to that. It meant so much to Katie, and to our family, to have him there. When she got married in October of 2016, he concelebrated at her wedding. He had a bad cold at the time, and I know he wasn't feeling well, but he told me there was "no way" he was going to miss Katie's wedding! He was always doing kind things like that for people. It was just part of who he was.

Mary Kelly:

Dog story 1: When Father Hynes started saying daily Masses at

SJV, he occasionally brought along his friend, Orla. She was a lab and service dog that visited schools, hospitals and nursing homes, and she belonged to Sister Maggie Bennett, a long-time friend of Father Hynes. Whenever Father Hynes got lonely or dog sat for Orla and had daily Mass, Orla came along with him to SJV. She got to the point of knowing exactly where the toys and treats were kept in the cupboard in the church office when she hung out with me during Mass. Rumor had it that as soon as Father Hynes left his home, turned onto Tanglefoot Drive from Devils Glen Road, she would get all excited because she knew right where they were headed, to St. John Vianney.

Dog story 2: A lot of area priests along with several of our bishops got their haircuts at the barber on Devils Glen Road. The owner and his family raise labs. Father Hynes used to call for appointments and would always ask if the barbers could make sure to have a lab or two there when he came for his haircut. He certainly did love labs!



Father Hynes concelebrated the wedding Mass of Katie Brown and Mike Flannery with Father Vrba.

New website adds user-friendly features

By JAN TOUNEY

It's live!

A redesigned website for Saint John Vianney parish offers a fresher look, easier navigation, more features and faster loading.

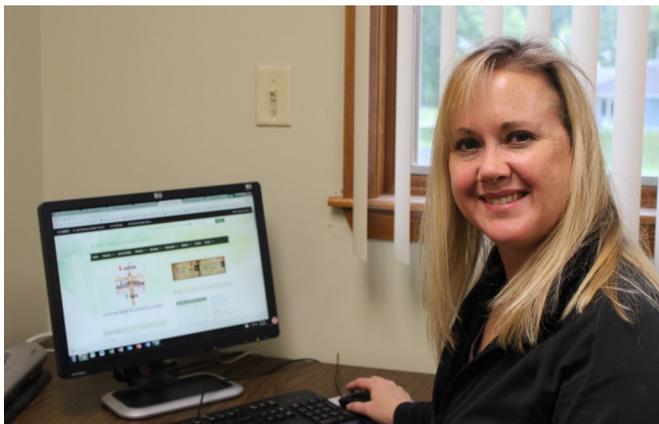
The new website went live in late August, at www.sjvbett.org and parishioners are urged to take a look and see the various ways to connect with the parish online.

"It's a lot more inviting and it's not as complicated to use," said Father Jim Vrba. And, in a change from the prior site, the new website is easy to use on all platforms, from desktop to laptop to mobile devices.

The new website was designed by LPI (Liturgical Publications), the same company that does the weekly bulletin and provides many kinds of Catholic communication. The parish chose LPI because the website is designed specifically for use by churches "and all the types of information a church would have," said Father Jim.

Colleen Evans, SJV webmaster and accountant, who oversaw implementation of the changeover, said parishioners will find a lot to like about the new site, including:

- A button on the home page that facilitates payment of weekly donations, fees for Religious Education, Junior High Alive and Youth Ministry, and even a link to payment for the Annual Diocesan Appeal and Catholic Messenger subscriptions.
- Links to daily scripture readings.
- Easy access to the current and past weekly bulletins, and the addition of a link to The Vianney Vine.
- Links to other Catholic resources such as the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Franciscan Media, Word Among Us and the Diocese of Davenport website. There is also a link to the SJV Facebook page.



Parish webmaster and accountant Colleen Evans shows off the new home page at www.sjvbett.org.

The new website, unlike the former one, can link to multimedia such as YouTube videos on musical selections that parish choirs and the congregation will be learning. There are future plans to feature audio files of Sunday homilies when the necessary technology is available in church.

Colleen noted that parishioners can link directly to the current parish planning survey and complete it from the website.

"I am excited about this," she said. "I think people who haven't looked at us before will be pleasantly surprised at the access to everything we have. It's very user-friendly."

Main elements and even the background color on the home page can be easily changed for each liturgical season or to highlight a special parish event, she said.

Father Jim said a strong website is important when people are moving into a community and want to see what a parish offers.

Website features will continue to evolve, so parishioners are encouraged to use the website and become familiar with what it offers.

READY TO SERVE

Altar servers fill important role at Mass

Around 40 young men and women at Saint John Vianney perform a very important and reverent ministry by being altar servers at Mass.

It is a ministry that they take seriously. For, as Deacon Daryl Fortin notes, "Altar servers are such an important part of the Mass because they help prepare the altar table where bread and wine become Jesus' body and blood. By their reverence, their service and their example, they are helping to lead all Mass attendees to Jesus."

Daryl is an altar server coordinator along with Tom Touney. They help to recruit and train new altar servers and will be sending a letter to all parish students in fourth grade through the Religious Education program asking if they would prayerfully consider joining the altar server ministry.

This year, altar servers Lindsay Davison and Catherine Moore are serving on the Liturgy Commission as representatives of that ministry.

Both girls say they enjoy being altar servers and encourage others to consider it.



Catherine Moore

"I am excited to educate young learners about helping serve in the church," said Catherine, 15. "Being an altar server is so important because it helps you get involved with the church."

Lindsay, 15, has served Mass for three different bishops – in Montgomery, Alabama, Wiesbaden, Germany, and locally for Bishop Martin Amos for a Scout Mass.

"Altar serving may seem scary at first if you have no experience, but it's not," Lindsay says. "People won't have their



Altar servers, from left, John O'Brien, Lindsay Davison, and Katelyn O'Brien pray with Father Ross and liturgical ministers before Mass on July 29.

attention directed toward you and there will most likely be someone there to help you out."



Xavier Kirk

Altar server Xavier Kirk, 14, said he feels comfortable serving, and especially likes carrying the cross into Mass.

"It makes me feel closer to God," he said of the experience of serving Mass.

Deacon Daryl Fortin and Tom Touney were both altar servers in a different time, pre-Vatican II.

"My special memories include having to memorize Latin prayers to respond to the priest, before Vatican II; and having to get up to serve at 6 a.m. daily Mass on a rotational basis - which I really didn't like getting up that early," said Daryl.

Tom says he has always believed that if a young parishioner decides to participate in a ministry such as altar serving, they will continue to be active in parish life throughout their adult years.

Juel Boast looks toward new life in Texas

By JAN TOUNEY

Juel Boast can often be spotted checking the altars at Saint John Vianney to make sure the linens are crisp and properly draped, and that flowers are showing their best sides.

Such detail is important to the long-time SJV parishioner, who is pulling up roots and moving to The Woodlands, Texas, this fall to be near her daughter Kate and son-in-law, John.

Her attention to detail “has sometimes driven people crazy,” she laughs during an interview. But taking care of the altars and the church environment is a matter of respect for her, and something she has enjoyed doing among many ministries she’s been involved with since she and her husband, John, joined the young parish in 1970 with their daughters Claire and Kate. John passed away in 1988.

Juel chaired the parish’s Arts and Environment Committee for many years, working with the talented Maggie Parmentier, who passed away in July, to help make the SJV worship space beautiful and reverent.



Juel Boast removes the linens and other items from the altar in the Mary Chapel after morning Mass on August 31.

She is also a Eucharistic Minister, a sacristan, and in her early days at SJV, taught Religious Education.

“I have made a lot of good friends here,” she says of SJV, and compliments the work of the Men’s Fellowship as well as the Cure of Ars Guild.

At 85, she said she will likely not be as involved at her new parish as she is here. But with family living throughout the country and overseas, there will likely be travel in her future.

A night at the ballpark

Saint John Vianney parishioners enjoyed cheering on the Quad-Cities River Bandits at an outing on August 3. Temperatures were hot, but the pavilion shielded those in attendance from the sun. The Bandits won the game against the Clinton Lumber Kings 3-2, and those who stayed until the end enjoyed a great fireworks show.

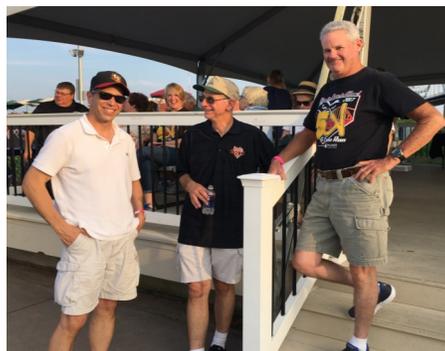


Photo by Mike Fisher

Colorful backpacks hang on hooks outside the SJV Pre-school classrooms, signaling that summer vacation is over. Inside the classrooms, little ones are adjusting to new friends and a new routine. As of early September, 49 students were enrolled.

Preschool Director Christy Barnum said a new addition to the program this year is a "lending library" for the preschoolers. Each child has received a colorful tote bag and can choose two books to check out for later return.

Parishioners who have gently used books suitable for preschoolers and who wish to donate them to the new lending library can contact the Preschool program at 563-332-5308 or by email at preschool@sjvbett.org for more information.



Back to school

RIGHT: Building towers from colorful blocks was a part of day one. BELOW: Preschool Director Christy Barnum gets a handprint from a student as part of a special yearlong project.



ABOVE: Children engage in sand play. RIGHT: Teacher Paulette Jones leads a game of "Simon Says."



Garage sale nets almost \$17,000



By JAN TOUNEY

The generosity of Saint John Vianney parishioners and the larger community in supporting the Haiti garage sale in June will benefit ongoing efforts to improve education and boost economic sustainability in Jean Denis, home to SJV's twin parish of Notre Dame du Rosaire.

Almost \$17,000 was raised during the June sale which featured thousands of items ranging from toys and knick-knacks to furniture, sporting goods, clothes and holiday goods.

The garage sale is a herculean effort involving dozens of parishioners helping with intake, setup, sales, organization, delivery and teardown.

The annual fundraiser organized by the parish Haiti Committee helps to supplement food for school lunches for the children as well as salaries for the teachers. In addition, much of the garage sale proceeds will go toward furnishings for the new Our Lady of Fatima School, school supplies, and tables and chairs for preschool classrooms, said Cathy Miller, Haiti Committee chair.

Economic sustainability and education are two of the three areas the committee is working on. The third area is medical, and plans are well underway for another medical mission to Jean Denis January 18-26.

Ann Wester, a committee member and regular on the medical mission trips, said 31 people are signed up to go, many of them health care professionals. The team is anticipating seeing 2,000 people in the medical clinic and 300 in the dental clinic.

The committee has started collecting donations to take to Jean Denis. Needed are children's chewable acetaminophen,



Thousands of items were available in the Activity Center, throughout the classroom wing, and in the hallway leading to the Gathering Space during the June garage sale.

children's chewable ibuprofen, children's vitamins (not gummy), prenatal vitamins with iron, chewable antacids, artificial tears, travel sizes of shampoo and toothpaste, and eyeglasses, sunglasses and readers. A designated basket is located in the Gathering Space.

Regarding the Economic Sustainment Committee, a business plan is being developed with the goal of increasing rice production and export in the Jean Denis region. The plan is intended to bring together various elements of retail and wholesale agricultural trade. Parishioners with experience in this field are encouraged to join the team working on this effort.

The Haiti Committee meets on the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Vianney Room.

Christmas in July!

Mark your calendars for the 2019 Haiti garage sale. It will be held Thursday, July 11, through Saturday, July 13.



Stay connected with Saint John Vianney



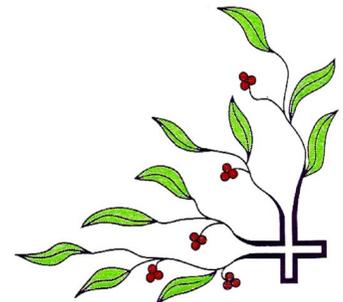
Check out the new parish website at www.sjvbett.org.

New features, easy to navigate, links to daily Scripture readings.

Choir schedules, information about ministries, and much more.

www.sjvbett.org

September 15, 2018 issue



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