

OUR FAMILY

STORIES FROM THE HEART OF ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH



All Saints Welcomes New Parishioners to Our Family

The following individuals became members of our parish family during the months of November, December, January and February:

- Julie Katakis, and Gianna
- Thomas Lammers
- Natalie Reagan
- Margretta Sabin
- Anthony & Deb Breidenstein, and Natalya
- Jessica Tagle
- Brandy Walsh

We hope you find your new home to be welcoming here at All Saints!

Masthead Photo

The masthead photo at the top was taken of the Most Reverend Bishop Daniel Thomas with a group of staff and students of All Saints Catholic School, on the occasion of the "meet & greet" deanery gathering which was hosted by our parish on December 15th.

Visitors to Homebound Come Bearing Special Gifts

By **Kathy McVicker**

On any given weekend, there are a dozen or so individuals who visit parishioners in their homes because they are not able to attend weekly Mass. These visitors come bearing not only the gift of Holy Communion, but they also bring with them the gifts of compassion, understanding, patience and friendship. Whether it is ministering Holy Communion, listening to tales of old, or uttering a tender word of encouragement, these people bridge the gap between the parish community and the person they are visiting. What starts as a service to the homebound often turns into more of a friendly relationship, blurring the lines between the "giver" and the "receiver." I had the opportunity to interview three "pairs" of parishioners who have formed a special bond as a result of these home visits.

As I talked to Gloria Liedigk and Sue Mikolajczyk, it became obvious that these ladies have shared many memories and become fast friends. Gloria has been taking Communion to Sue for over eight years. They have shared the death of Sue's husband, the weddings and births in Gloria's family, and they even took up knitting together. According to Sue, "Gloria takes the loneliness out of Sunday afternoons. We talk and talk, and before you know it two or three hours have gone by!" Gloria has taken her two young grandsons with her to visit Sue and both ladies agree (with chuckles) that this has definitely given them some lively memories.

Another set of parishioners who have come to enjoy each other's company over the years is Barb Richards and Amelia Boris. Barb has been taking Communion to Mrs. Boris for a little over 2 years. In addition to Sundays, Barb oftentimes makes a visit during the week to bring Communion to

Mrs. Boris. Mrs. Boris (who is in her 90's) moved to Rossford when she was 6 years old and, according to Barb, is a "walking history book." Although Mrs. Boris is proud of her 7 children and their families who visit her often, she credits Barb as the "person who keeps her connected to the parish."

As the coordinator for the Ministers of Care, Joanne Loolen is the perfect person to visit Daniel Dudek. Many of you may know Dan as one of the ushers at 8:30 a.m. Mass. In October Dan had surgery to replace both knees. After a short time in a rehab center, Dan was discharged to home. He contacted the Parish Office to ask if he could receive Communion at home. Joanne was quick to respond and plans to continue her visits with Dan until the weather breaks and he is able to come to Mass again. In a recent phone conversation Dan mentioned that he not only appreciates receiving Holy Communion but he also enjoys Joanne's company. And the good news is that Dan hopes to be able to usher again by Easter!

If you know of someone who is unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion in their home, please contact Audrey in the Parish Office: 419-666-1393 or acaligiuri@allsaintsrossford.com.



Gloria Liedigk (left) has taken Holy Communion to Sue Mikolajczyk at her home for over 8 years.

A Message from Our Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

I nearly jumped out of bed when the bells went off at 5:00 am. Was this a dream or a nightmare? Suddenly I remembered that I was at Mount Angel Abbey south of Portland, Oregon. I had just begun my retreat and was now being summoned to vigils—prayer in the middle of the night.

Even though I was not fully awake as I sauntered into my choir stall, I was able to catch a glimpse of something I never expected to see. A monk situated just in front of me had a tattoo on his neck. It was a red heart topped by a crown. As our chanting of the prayer continued I realized that this monk was in not in that grouping of Americans with just one tattoo, his were legion.

In fact, later that day, this most uncommon monk served me at table in the refectory. I caught a glimpse of his knuckles as he passed me the soup tureen. They read "HOLD FAST." A spider web covered the top of his left



Pictured above are the tattooed hands of Brother Andre Love, a Benedictine monk at Mount Angel Abbey, south of Portland, Oregon.

hand and on his right was a woman with long flowing hair.

Since our meals were taken in silence I could not inquire, but only ponder this most unusual monk. What was his story? How did he get in? Why am I noticing all of this during my retreat? What is God revealing to me?

Eventually I was able to learn that this monk's name is Brother Andre Love.

His work at the monastery is to be an iconographer and curator of their museum and art collection. Since I had my computer along, I googled his name and found his story *Tattoo Artist Turned Monk: Not Your Typical Art Story*.

Written by a reporter from the local paper, the article is complete with photos and images of conversion during his most dramatic life. The photos were the ones I would love to have taken, but knew I could not. The pieces of his life were the answers to the questions that were raised each time I gathered for prayer in the choir stall behind him or at table in the refectory with him.

Perhaps more importantly, here I am two weeks later and still contemplating his story of conversion. I believe it will be the image of my Lenten journey to which I was summoned on Ash Wednesday: *Repent and believe in the Gospel*.

Sincerely in Christ,
Father Kent

Thursday Evenings in Lent—Reflections Provide Food for the Body and Food for the Soul



Thursday, February 26th kicked off the beginning of a Lenten reflection series focusing on The Church and The Sacraments. On Thursdays parishioners are invited to enjoy Soup & Bread beginning at 6:30 p.m. followed by a presentation at 7:00 p.m. The first presentation given by Father Kent Kaufman was entitled, "The Sacraments,



Encounters with Christ." This was followed by a tour of the church led by parishioner David Wayton. Dave was a member of the committee that helped determine the design of our church, and the many spiritual elements within the church which enhance and encourage encounters with Christ. See a listing of other Lenten opportunities on page 6.

Bishop Thomas to Conduct Confirmation Rite at All Saints May 9th

By Tom Kress

On Saturday, May 9, at the 4:30pm Mass, 27 eighth graders from All Saints School and the parish PREP program will receive the sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Daniel Thomas. This will be the culmination of a preparation program that started last September. The program is under the leadership of Sue Van Hersett, Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation.

During the last seven months the candidates, along with their parents and sponsors, have been participating in events to help them reflect on their faith and demonstrate by their actions that they are fully committed to their Catholic faith. This will confirm the decision to be a Catholic that was made for them at their Baptism.

The first event was an all-day retreat for the candidates followed by a Mass with their parents. The next step was an enrollment ceremony involving the candidates and their sponsors. A Confirmation sponsor has three very important roles: (1) to be a role model in faith, (2) to be a companion on the candidate's faith journey and (3) to witness for the candidate before the Church. At this enrollment ceremony the candidate and the sponsor committed themselves to fully participate in the preparation program. There were also group discussion sessions involving candidates, sponsors and parents during the preparation program.

During preparation, program candidates were required to do 10-20 hours of service work for the parish. Examples of this service work were serving at the Senior Prom, assisting with the Giving Tree project, and doing work in the Franciscan Garden.

As a part of the preparation process each candidate selected a saint's name and researched that saint's life in order to create a role model. At the Confirmation Mass Bishop Thomas will confer that name on the candidate and sign him/her on the forehead with Sacred Chrism oil while exhorting the person to "Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit." Each sponsor will show support and witness for the candidate by placing a hand on the candidate's shoulder during the Confirmation rite.

It would be a wonderful gesture of support from our parish family to fill the church for the Confirmation ceremony. Mark your calendars NOW, and make a firm commitment to come support the youth of our parish on May 9th, as they take this important step on their spiritual journey.

RCIA Catechumen and Candidate Enter Period of Purification & Enlightenment

On February 22, catechumen Jessica Long and candidate Bryan Williams shared in the Rite of Election and the Call to

Continuing Conversion at Rosary Cathedral. These rituals mark the beginning of the Period of Purification and Enlightenment for those preparing to celebrate the sacraments of baptism, confirmation and Eucharist, as well as those to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church. Bryan Williams and Jessica Long are pictured here with Bishop Thomas.



Attention Parents and Grandparents:



Did You Know?
Did you know that there are bags with a collection of books for young children inside available next to the magazine rack in the Narthex? These bags which, were made by Renee Timbrook, Coordinator for our Children's Liturgy of the Word, contain age appropriate books and activities for children ages 3-7 about the life of Jesus, and are intended to keep little ones busy during Mass (when Children's Liturgy of the Word is not offered). What a great tool to have to keep our little ones interested in God's word!

Visit the All Saints News Stand

By Jim Richards

When you near the check out at most stores, you find a display of colorful magazines and newspapers... some are real news, and some are simply fiction or scandal.

The All Saints News Stand also has colorful magazines, a national newspaper, and more. The big difference between the grocery store checkout display and the All Saints display are: (1) They deal only with truth and the Good News, and (2) there is no charge for the materials!

You can pick up a copy of *Our Sunday Visitor*, a national Catholic newspaper, magazines (including *Ligourian* and *St. Anthony Messenger*), and the *Word Among Us* (daily Mass readings, meditations and spiritual insights). There are also vocational guides and Catholic volunteer publications.

Also popular are a wide selection of *Care Notes*, published by St. Meinrad's Archabbey, which offer thoughtful suggestions on everything from dealing with grief, troubled marriage, cancer in children and more than 20 other topics. *Care Notes* is provided by our parish nursing ministry.

All of the above and more are part of the All Saints Adult Faith Formation program. Looking a bit further, there are flyers on parish festivals, our annual parish financial report, All Saints Catholic School information, retreat opportunities and even a sign up form for Kroger's shared giving program, allowing you to direct a portion of your purchases to All Saints School.

You can be inspired and informed at the All Saints News Stand in the narthex – and it's all at no cost!

Senior Prom a Resounding Success!

By Tom Kress

The seventh annual All Saints Senior Prom was held Sunday, February 9, in the McAlear Center starting at 4:00 P.M. This event is sponsored by our parish Youth Group. The All Saints Youth Group is made up of about 65 students from 10 different high schools. Some eighth graders also helped. One hundred twenty-seven seniors attended the prom.

At this event the Youth Group, with help from some parents, prepared and served an outstanding dinner to our parish seniors followed by presenting many of the other elements that are often a part of a prom night. By its nature, this event involved a cross-section of our entire parish and was a wonderful demonstration that we are truly a parish family. It was especially nice to see the interaction between grandchildren and grandparents.

Since seniors were encouraged to bring friends who may not be All Saints parishioners, the event also had an ecumenical aspect. This is very fitting since our pastor, Fr. Kent Kaufman, is Chair of the Diocesan Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs Commission.

The evening began with a very nice array of hors d'oeuvres which encouraged mingling and fellowship among the guests. The dinner was then served by the Youth Group at flower-decorated tables. The delicious dinner cooked by Les Szavuly, the father of two members of the Youth Group, and Richard McAvoy, whose step-son is an All Saints Catholic School student, featured broiled pork loin with a salad, candied carrots, mashed potatoes and a lemon cake dessert.

The dinner was followed by lots of fine entertainment featuring:

- Nick Pinski, who as DJ played music of the 40's-60's throughout the night. He was ably assisted by his son, Anthony, who will make his first Holy Communion this year.
- A string quintet from Perrysburg High School, which included parishioner Sarah Kulmatycki.
- A jazz trio from Cardinal Stritch High School that included parishioners Bradley Billmaier and Matt Szymanski, in company with added musicians and singers.
- Notre Dame High School parishioner Megan Orzechowski who presented Irish dances, and Toledo School for the Arts parishioner Jonathan Crawford who tapped danced and sang.

Interspersed during the evening were dancing opportunities for the seniors. One dance was even embellished with the crooning of Fr. Kent. Throughout the evening seniors had the opportunity to have a prom picture taken by Dee Brown, a professional photographer who volunteered her services. The evening ended

with a drawing which bestowed many nice gifts on the Senior Prom attendees.

The Prom was pronounced a smashing success by all attending. Typical of their reaction was this comment by Paul Nawrocki who attended the event with his wife, Irene. "This was the best Senior Prom ever. The entertainment was great, a wonderful fellowship opportunity to meet with old friends and very edifying to see our young parishioners in action". Paul enjoys this event so much he has invested in a white sport coat, a pink carnation, as well as a pink shirt and sun glasses. He is on the lookout for a pair of blue suede shoes to wear to next year's Prom.

It is very fitting that this article is appearing in "Our Family" which features stories from the heart of All Saints Church. The Senior Prom is a great example of the many good things which are flowing out from that heart.

Parish Calendar

Mass is celebrated every weekday at 8:15 a.m.

Weekend Mass: Saturdays at 4:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

Bingo is held every Thursday—doors open at 5 p.m.

March

- 9, 16, 23, 30 Way of the Cross—6:30 p.m.
- 12, 19, 26 Senior Stations—1 p.m..
- 12, 19, 26 Soup and Bread—6:30 p.m. Evening Reflection: 7 p.m.
- 17 Knitting Group—6 p.m.
- 23 Show them We Care—6:30 p.m.
- 24 Penance Service—7 p.m.
- 28/29 Youth Group Kolaczki Making & Sales

April

- 2 Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper—7:30 p.m. (Optional Potluck—6 p.m.; Adoration after Mass until 11 p.m.)
- 3 Good Friday Celebration of the Lord's Passion—12 noon; Evening Vespers—6 p.m.
- 4 Blessing of the Food—1 p.m.; Easter Vigil—8:30 p.m.
- 5 Easter Sunday Masses Celebrated at 7, 9 & 11:00 a.m.
- 7, 21 Knitting Group - 6 p.m.
- 9 Senior Ministry Program re: Catholic Charities—1 p.m.
- 18 Knights of Columbus Spaghetti Dinner—4:30 p.m.
- 25 Trivia Night
- 26 Blessing of the Seeds—11 a.m. Mass
- 27 Show Them We Care—6:30 p.m.

May

- 1 First Friday Gathering—8:45 a.m.
- 3 First Holy Communion—1 p.m. Mass
- 5 Knitting Group—6 p.m.
- 6 May Crowning—8:15 a.m. Mass
- 8 Muffins for Moms—7 a.m.
- 9 Confirmation—4:30 Mass with Bishop Thomas
- 14 Senior Ministry Devotion to Our Blessed Mother—1 p.m.
- 17 Senior Graduation Mass—8:30 a.m.
- 18 Show Them We Care—6:30 p.m.
- 19 Knitting Group—6 p.m.
- 29 PTO Family Dance

June

- 2 Eighth Grade Graduation—7 p.m.
- 5 First Friday Gathering—8:45 a.m.
- 11 Senior Ministry Retreat, Knight's Preserve—11 a.m.
- 27 All Saints Golf Outing, Chippewa Golf Course—9 a.m.

Having Fun at the Senior Prom



Guests at the Senior Prom are pictured above (clockwise from the left front of table) Bill Romp, Joe Kornasiewicz, Corinne Kobylak (hidden), Ted Kobylak, Paul Nawrocki, Irene Nawrocki, Kathy Kornasiewicz, and Theresa Romp.

All Saints Silver Jubilee is Almost Here

by Sue Van Hersett

Can you believe it! We're almost 25 years young as a parish and initial plans are underway to celebrate. To begin, a group of parishioners (Silver Jubilee Team), who at the invitation of Pastoral Council and together with the help of the parish and school staff, has had a couple initial meetings to organize and facilitate a celebration (or series of celebrations) for our parish and school recognizing our 25 years as All Saints.

Some tentative dates and ideas which have been suggested for our celebration are:

- Wednesday, September 9, 2015, our official 25th anniversary will be celebrated in conjunction with All Saints Catholic School Mass.
- Saturday, October 24, 2015, All Saints Catholic School Alumni Celebration.
- Sunday, October 25, 2015, All Saints hopes to have a float in the Rossford Halloween parade.
- Sunday, November 1, 2015, our Parish Feast Day Mass followed by an open house and reception. Bishop Thomas has been invited.

- Other people to be invited are, former pastors and principals, deacons, sons and daughters of the parish (priests and religious), Mayor Mackinnon, school alumni, possibly more.
- In addition, the Silver Jubilee Team would have a booth at parish festival selling and taking orders for commemorative mementos of the Silver Jubilee Celebration.
- The Silver Jubilee Team was divided into smaller committees as follows: Liturgy, Food, Parade, Decorations, Commemorative Committee, History/Program, and Finance.



Carol Gutierrez is Co-Chair of the Silver Jubilee Team, along with Jamie Rossler.

Co-Chairs of the Silver Jubilee Team are Jamie Rossler and Carol Gutierrez. Watch for more details in upcoming bulletins. Much will be needed for each area; please consider helping if you are asked.

Registration for 2015/16 School Year Currently Underway



The above photo of students working in the Franciscan Garden is just one of the many examples of our school's wonderful learning environment. Technology and real world learning is immersed in all classes using the national Common Core Curriculum. From using iPads to creating movies about DNA, to toasting s'mores in handmade solar ovens on the blacktop, to calculating a mine blast at a local quarry—it's true global learning that happens every day. Contact our Principal, Teri Fischer, for a personal tour and to see first-hand what a typical day is like at All Saints Catholic School: 419-661-2070, tfischer@allsaintscatholic.org.

Adult Faith Formation Team Formed

by Dave Wayton

As part of its strategic planning, the Pastoral Council of All Saints Parish formed an Adult Faith Formation Team under the leadership of our Pastoral Associate, Sue Van Hersett. The team was charged with developing a planned program that would serve the spiritual growth needs of the adults in the parish. This is no small task.

Such a program would take time to develop and implement, but where to start? What types of activities would be both attractive and effective? What direction should the activities take? What are the spiritual interests of the adults in the parish? Are these interests consistent across the various age groups? These are the kinds of questions that the team hoped to answer with its recent survey.

The survey was promoted at all the Masses on the weekend of January 24-25, and was included in the bulletin. It was given to parents of children both in the school and in the PREP Program, as well as being posted on the parish web site. As of February 16, about 70 surveys were returned. (You can still return yours to the office if you desire!) While the information collected is still being studied by the Adult Faith Formation Team, some preliminary results can be reported.

Survey returns reflected every age group of adults in the parish, but the majority of returns were made by the 50 years and older generation. These "empty nesters" and retirees seemed to convey that they had more time available than younger parents who are ferrying children to numerous activities. No surprise there. This age group was also more available on weekday mornings than younger adults, but the preference still seemed to be for weekday evenings. Weekend times were not very popular with any group. There did not seem to be any clear preference, however, for a specific day nor for a specific type of activity.

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UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER!

July 9, 10, & 11
All Saints Rummage Sale
July 24 & 25
All Saints Parish Festival

STORIES FROM THE HEART OF ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH



All Saints parishioners Steven Murphy, Sharon Belkofer, and Dave Wayton (left to right) led the reflection on Mary's Way of the Cross, the first in this Lenten series, which was held on Monday, Feb. 23rd.

All Saints 2015 Lenten Line-Up

Monday Stations of the Cross – 6:30 p.m.

We pause to reflect on the stations from different perspectives:

- 3/9 Social Justice Way of the Cross; led by members of St Vincent de Paul Society
- 3/16 Senior Way of the Cross; led by members of All Saints Senior Ministry
- 3/23 Teens Way of the Cross – led by members of All Saints High School Youth Group
- 3/30 Traditional Way of the Cross

Thursday Afternoon Stations of the Cross

will be led by All Saints Senior Ministry at 1 p.m. on March 12, 19, and 26.

Thursday Evening Reflections on “*The Church and The Sacrament*” will be offered along with *Soup & Bread* at 6:30 p.m. followed by a presentation at 7:

- 3/12 “Baptism & Confirmation” by Sr. Eve Marie Korzsym, OSF/S
- 3/19 “Reconciliation” by Fr. Kent Kaufman
- 3/26 “Eucharist” by Dave Wayton

Our Parish Penance Service will be held on Tuesday, March 24, at 7 p.m.

Adult Faith Formation Team

(continued from previous page)

Responses were spread over a broad spectrum. This poses a challenge for the team. Some experimentation may need to be done in the early stages to see what types of activities actually draw more participants.

The good news is that, unlike the area of logistics, the area of topics showed clear preferences. The two topics of “Sacred Scripture [Bible]” and “Spirituality” both drew twice as many priority responses as did any of the other topics listed on the survey. This may be because the largest demographic responding to the survey [50+] did not receive as much education about the Bible as our younger generations have. Regardless of the reason, this gives the team a clear focus and direction for its planning. It is an even stronger message if one considers that these two topics are closely related. As Catholics, our spirituality, prayer, and devotion are all heavily rooted in Sacred Scripture. So look for the Adult Faith Formation Team to start by offering Bible oriented programs for spiritual growth.

If you have any further comments, the Adult Faith Formation Team would welcome your input. Call Sue Van Hersett in the Parish Office 419-666-1393, Ext. 111 or send her an email: svanhersett@allsaintscrossford.org.