

OUR FAMILY

STORIES FROM THE HEART OF ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH



All Saints Welcomes New Parishioners to Our Family

The following became members of our parish family during the months of August, September and October:

- Kristen & Ronald Ellis, and Nathaniel, Kathleen & Mary
- Alex Jarvis, and Xavier
- Catherine Kopfman
- Allen & Meghan Skomer, and Casey, Mina & Jacob
- Nicholas Pinski, and Anthony
- Matt & Lisa Logan, and Katharine, Clare & Madeline
- Doug & Danielle Dremann, and Benjamin
- Lindsay Stevenson
- Timothy & Catherine Robinette

We hope you find warmth and hospitality in your new home here at All Saints!

Masthead Photo

The masthead photo at the top was taken of a group of students, parents and staff of All Saints Catholic School as they prepared to walk in the annual Rossford Halloween Parade.

The Gift of the Giving Tree

By Dave Wayton

So there I was, the only man at the table with twelve women. Twelve women whose smiles I knew well. Twelve women who embody the virtue of “hospitality,” with an easy grace that is effortless and second nature. This was a meeting of the Giving Tree Committee.

“We’d like to publish an article about the Giving Tree that might inspire parishioners to be generous this holiday season. Do you have any stories about the results of the Giving Tree that I could use?” That was my question for them. Immediately and spontaneously, with genuine compassion, they shared their experiences.

- How moved they were by the mentally challenged boy who only wanted a non-electric carpet sweeper so that he could help his mom clean the house, and how surprisingly difficult it was to find one. Eventually they located a business that donated it.
- They couldn’t forget the twelve year old girl who only wanted a used bicycle because a new one would be too much to ask for. And the family who donated a brand new bike, along with a basket for her grandmother who thanked them with her tears of gratitude.
- The woman with cancer on her third round of chemotherapy, whose husband was disabled and who had two special needs children, whom they helped for two years even though that was, technically, “outside the parameters of our plan.”
- The numbers of grandparents who were raising their grandchildren alone because their sons or daughters had made bad choices and were themselves unable.
- The teens from the Youth Group who volunteered service hours and came away receiving more than they gave.
- The gentleman who came back the following year saying, “I got a job—and I want to help!”



Members of the 2014 Giving Tree Committee.

- The young couple, dressed so neat and tidy, who promised to do the same when they got back on their feet.
- The residents from Charles Crest who needed food.

“The needs here in our parish boundaries are often hidden needs,” expressed Marcia Nagy, chairperson of the committee. “People hide it well. You don’t always see them, but they are there.”

I anticipated doing an article with plenty of statistics. Seventy-six families helped. One hundred ninety-seven children given clothing and toys. Nine local businesses that made financial donations. But leaving that meeting, I realized that that wasn’t the real story. The real story was the compassion and devotion of these women. These women who worked so hard to maintain confidentiality and to be sensitive to a family’s pride. These women who had not an ounce of judgmental self-righteousness. These women who had a mother’s concern for children and families not their own. These women whom Jesus called “the salt of the earth.”

Edwina Gately has a book in which she reflects upon her experiences of the feminine and maternal face of God entitled, *A Warm Moist Salty God*. I saw that face at the meeting of the Giving Tree Committee, and I left with a salty taste in my mouth.

A Message from Our Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

Years ago, invitations to important events were sent three weeks in advance. Today, six weeks prior seems to be more common. "Save the Date" invitations go out six months or even a year in advance!

Yes, our crowded schedules require even more careful and advance planning. We have so many causes competing for our time and attention. We are pulled in multiple directions.

Each Sunday, we have a "standing invitation" to the Lord's Supper, the Eucharistic banquet. Yet for some, that invitation can be overlooked, go unrecognized, or just fall to the bottom of the pile.

Recently I attended a lecture by George Weigel, a noted writer about Catholic matters and biographer of Pope Saint John Paul II. In his recent book, *Evangelical Catholicism*, he explains why the Church must return to its missionary roots.

By "missionary" he does not mean heading to some distant land where the Gospel has not been heard. By "missionary" he means lifting up the invitation to be actively engaged in the Church right here in our own neighborhood and native land.

Weigel argues that we do this best by our own word and example within the community. In effect, this becomes an invitation for a co-worker, a family



Father Kent Kaufman poses in his Halloween costume with All Saints students Allison Kulmatycki (right) and Leah Yost.

member, or neighbor to reconsider his or her own involvement.

My experience here at All Saints is that our newest members at the parish don't find us simply by an internet search or advertisement in the newspaper. Most often a current member has invited them to join us—whether indirectly by example or with a simple offer to come and see what we are about. Sometimes an invitation to a parish event or activity can lead to something more spiritual and lasting.

This value of "invitation" is being missionary. It is evangelizing to someone who might otherwise have other plans for Sunday morning. When Jesus went about summoning his disciples he did so with a stream of invitations. When he entrusted his mission of

sharing the Good News to those disciples turned apostles he charged them with the mission of going forth and inviting others to become disciples.

The companion value to "invitation" is "hospitality." Getting someone here is the first step. Helping them to feel at home is the second step. Hospitality is what allows the stranger to transform into a member disciple.

Christmas, Lent, and Easter are ideal times to extend an invitation and be an invitation to that one person who has been waiting. If you have an empty seat next to you at Mass, consider who might appreciate your offer to come and see what we are about here at All Saints.

Sincerely in Christ,
Father Kent



All Saints Catholic School Joins in Parade

All Saints Catholic School parents, Jamie Pafford (left) and Rob Timbrook hand out candy during the Rossford Halloween Parade. About 40 students and parents from All Saints participated in this year's parade which was held on October 26.

Gifts, Donations and Bequests

From December 1, 2013 to November 1, 2014, All Saints Catholic Church received donations from numerous individuals in memory of, or in honor of, their loved ones. It is with deep gratitude that we acknowledge these gifts made to honor the following people:

MEMORIALS:

Charles "Chuck" Brown
Charles and Stella Brown
Margaret Chernisky
Lucy Herman
Jeanne Hoffmann
Virginia Hricovsky
Paul & Catherine Ilconich

Barbara Koperski
Jeanne Kroeger
Alice Matuszynski
Sophie Olszanski
Dorothy Reucher
Amy Santus
Sophia Lawniczak
Bill Schmidt
Ed Soviar

James Staczek
Ruth Stearns
Eugene J. Sujkowski, Jr.
Martin Tusing
Julie Wayton

IN HONOR OF:

Paul Kotowicz

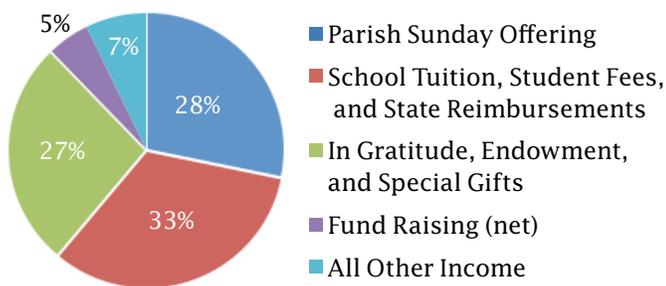
All Saints Parish and School Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Combined Financial Report

INCOME

Parish Sunday Offering	\$ 522,405
School Tuition, Student Fees, and State Reimbursements	609,419
In Gratitude, Endowment, Special Gifts	493,162
Fund Raising (net)	92,427
All Other Income	134,166

Total Income **\$1,851,579**

FY2013-2014 PARISH & SCHOOL INCOME



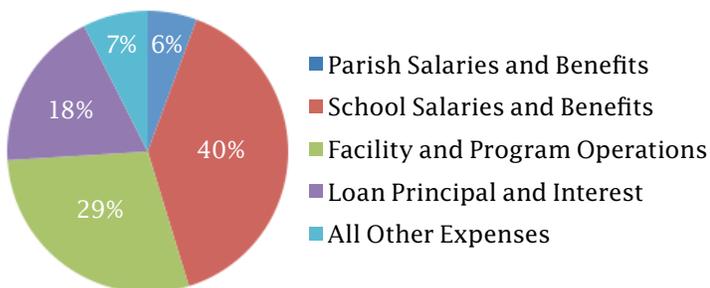
EXPENSE

Parish Salaries and Benefits	\$ 103,014
School Salaries and Benefits	718,700
Facility and Program Operations	522,114
Loan Principal & Interest	335,856
All Other Expense	135,866

Total Expense **\$1,815,550**

Net Gain* **\$36,029**

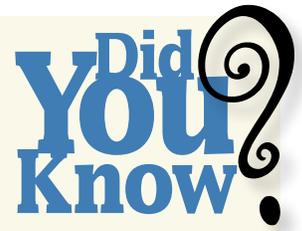
FY2013-2014 PARISH AND SCHOOL EXPENSE



***NOTE:** A more detailed financial report was distributed in the parish bulletin on October 5, 2014. Copies of this green insert are still available in the magazine rack in the narthex of Church or from the Parish Office. As you can see, we ended FY 2013-2014 with a net profit of \$36,029. However, we also ended the year with a balance of \$48,291 in our "Debt Fund." These are monies that have been given toward (and restricted for) use in paying our monthly mortgage which is currently \$13,036. If you subtract the profit from the Debt Fund balance you will see that we actually had a loss of \$12,262 for the fiscal year.

While we are making good progress on our debt, we can also see the need to keep up on our regular Sunday offertory for the general operation of our parish and school.

Once again an anonymous donor has offered a matching gift challenge for any gifts of \$1,000 and above for the Debt Fund. Gifts are due in the Parish Office by December 15, 2014. If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office.



Secure online payments and donations are available on the Parish Web site through an electronic service called WeShare. WeShare is a product offered by Liturgical Publications Inc., the same company that prints our weekly bulletin and provides the software to update our Web site.

Through a link on the All Saints Web site, monetary transactions to the Parish or School are processed by either automatic withdrawal from your bank account or by charging your credit card. This convenient online service makes it easy to make:

- Contributions on a one-time or recurring basis (such as for Sunday Collection)
- Pledge payments for the In Gratitude for God's Blessings campaign
- Donations to the Debt Reduction Fund or to the Students Tuition Assistance Fund
- Payments for cafeteria lunch purchases for students at All Saints Catholic School
- Registration fees for All Saints Catholic School
- Payments for the Extended Care Program at All Saints Catholic School

VISIT THE PARISH WEB SITE AND CLICK ON THE "GIVING" TAB AT THE TOP OF THE PAGE TO GET STARTED: WWW.ALLSAINTSCROSSFORD.ORG

Students Learn the Grace of Giving

Our younger parishioners practice good stewardship by making commitments of time, talent and treasure on their Sunday collection envelopes. Pictured from left to right are Lacey Alexander, Brianna Alexander and Brandon Stark.



Stewardship Council Seeks to Build Community

By **Jim Richards**

Jewel Minarcin, head of the parish Stewardship Council, thinks everyone should find a way to be involved in an All Saints ministry.

The eight-member committee meets periodically to discuss stewardship issues. The Stewardship Council's goal statement reads in part... "we believe that our time, talent and treasure are gifts from God..."

Flowing from those three principles, the council has tried to foster things that build community and the results may be more involvement, with the time and talent goals falling in line naturally.

One of the most recent projects the council pushed was the pictorial directory. Jewel said the directory has drawn households to take part in this effort, and the directory itself, will help in building familiarity and fellowship.

The parish newsletter, *Our Family*, which the council proposed a few years ago, has been well received. The newsletter provides information about our parish and is an inviting way to showcase ministries that a reader may want to either take advantage of or become involved in.

Another recent project, the "Meet and Mingle Hospitality," is an ongoing effort to inform visitors and guests about our parish. The hospitality room is opened after all weekend Masses and visitors are invited to stop in, share a cookie or other treat with parishioners, and learn about All Saints.

The ongoing effort to inform and invite involvement is the Ministry Awareness program. Parishioners are given the opportunity to learn more about ministries and programs of All Saints. A representative of each ministry is in the



Pictured above are members of the Stewardship Council (from left to right): Marlene Cervenech, Jewel Minarcin (chairperson), Paul Kotowicz, Vycki Witham and Audrey Caliguiri.

narthex with a willingness to share information and even invite participation. Two different ministries are highlighted each weekend.

"We are hoping to involve more people in their 20s, 30s, 40s and 50s in parish ministries and activities," Jewel said. "We think the best way to do so is to be inviting and to find ways to offer opportunities to everyone in the community."

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.

December

- 2 Knitting Group, 6:00 p.m.
- 2 Parish Reconciliation Service, 7:00 p.m.
- 4 Senior Ministry Rosary, 1:00p.m.
- 5 First Friday Gathering, 8:15a.m.
- 8 Holy Day of Obligation Masses: 8:15 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- 10 Lesson and Carols, 7:00p.m. (Snow date Dec. 17)
- 11 Senior Ministry Rosary and Christmas Party, 12:30 p.m.
- 13/14 Youth Group Kolaczki Sale (after Masses)
- 15 Deanery Gathering with Bishop Daniel Thomas, 7:00 p.m.
- 15 Show Them We Care, 6:00p.m.
- 16 Knitting Group, 6:00p.m.
- 18 Senior Ministry Rosary, 1:00p.m.
- 21 Toledo Symphony Neighborhood Concert, 4:00p.m. (ticket required)
- 24 Christmas Eve Mass Schedule 4:00p.m., 7:00p.m. and Midnight
- 25 Christmas Day Mass, 10:00a.m.
- 31 New Year's Eve Vigil Mass, 4:00p.m.
New Year's Bingo, 5:00p.m. (advanced reservation required)

January

- 1 New Year's Day Mass, 10:00 a.m.
- 2 First Friday Gathering, 8:15a.m.
- 6 Knitting Group, 6:00p.m.
- 8 Senior Ministry—Visit St. Claire Commons, 1:00p.m.
- 20 Knitting Group, 6:00p.m.
- 25 Opening Mass for Catholic Schools Week, 11:00a.m.
- 25 Open House for All Saints Catholic School
- 26 Show Them We Care, 6:30p.m.

February

- 1 All Saints PREP Open House, 9:30a.m.
- 3 Knitting Group, 6:00p.m.
- 6 First Friday Gathering, 8:45a.m.
- 8 Senior Prom (reservation required)
- 15 Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast 9-11:00a.m.
- 16 Lifeline Screening (appointment required)
- 17 Knitting Group, 6:00p.m.
- 18 Ash Wednesday Masses, 8:15a.m., noon and 7:00p.m.
- 19 Senior Stations of the Cross, 1:00p.m.
- 20 Family Dance, 7:00p.m.
- 23 Show Them We Care, 6:30p.m.
- 26 Senior Stations of the Cross, 1:00p.m.



**THE 13TH TOLEDO SYMPHONY
NEIGHBORHOOD HOLIDAY CONCERT SERIES**

COMES TO

**All Saints Catholic Church
Sunday, December 21, 2014 ■ 4:00 p.m.**

CALL 419-666-1393 TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS.

Facilities Committee Deep in Experience and Knowledge

By Kathy McVicker

How can we get the best rates for utilities? Do we need a maintenance agreement for the air conditioner? Shouldn't we start planning for that roof replacement? These are the kind of questions that can keep an average home owner up at night worrying about how to preserve and maintain one of their largest assets. Here at All Saints, the newly formed Facilities Committee provides guidance to the Finance Council and our Pastor, Father Kent Kaufman, for these types of decisions.

According to Paul Roman, Chairman of the Facilities Committee, "Our main responsibility is to review all capital improvement projects, operating and maintenance costs (for both the School and Church), and then report our findings or recommendations to the Finance Council. Operating costs include maintenance contracts and utility bills." That could seem like an overwhelming charge, if not for the knowledge and experience of this group of highly qualified individuals.

Several years ago there was a facilities committee that assisted with the many decisions needed during construction of our current buildings. That committee disbanded shortly following the completion of the project. Paul, who is also a member of the Parish Finance Council, agreed to



Paul Roman, Chairman,
Facilities Committee

bring the Facilities Committee back to life about a year ago. Members of the committee are Silvio Veluscek, Bernie Merritt, Erv Failor, and Dusty Williams. They come equipped with experience and knowledge of property management, facilities maintenance, architecture, finance and engineering— from both administrative and hands-on perspectives. "It's great to see the strengths of these different viewpoints come into play as we consider various facilities management and maintenance challenges," says Paul who works as a professional engineer for the City of Oregon.

The Facility Committee meets quarterly or on an "as needed" basis depending on the issue. If there is an emergency, they typically contact each other by email or phone so a timely recommendation can be made. Considering the facilities are still relatively young, the committee doesn't have a big list of items to discuss at this time. However, one of the bigger capital improvement projects looming out there will be a roof replacement for the School which will be needed in three years. Thankfully, we will have the help of these professionals to guide us through this decision.



Box Turtles Find a New Home

Student Jackson Hinz shows off one of the twelve box turtles that are the newest members of All Saints Catholic School. The School adopted the turtles when the Saint Francis Academy in Sylvania closed and several of the students transferred to All Saints. In October, the students were busy getting the turtle habitat ready for the winter. Caring for the animals and their habitat provides great learning experiences for the students including taking care of God's Creation, which is an important piece of the academic puzzle.



Thursday Night Bingo— A Money Maker

All Saints Thursday night Bingo has contributed over \$575,000 in profits to the parish. We have over 500 people in our directory of players, many who play bingo every week and others who play a couple of times each month. Bingo players drive from Wauseon, Bowling Green, and southeast Michigan to All Saints because we provide a clean, quiet, safe environment and our volunteers are friendly. Volunteers are always needed for a variety of jobs. If you find yourself with a few hours of free time on a Thursday evening, call the Parish office at 419-666-1393 to see how you can help.



ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Paul Roman, Chairman, Facilities Committee

STORIES FROM THE HEART OF ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH

New Pastoral Associate is Family-Focused

By Kathy McVicker

Earlier this fall, Fr. Kent Kaufman announced that he had filled the newly created position of Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation with Sue Van Hersett—a name that may be not so new for some members of our Parish. Sue was previously on staff at All Saints under the direction of Fr. Joseph Steinbauer about ten years ago. Needless to say, much has changed over the last decade, but one thing remains the same; Sue has a deep commitment to family—both her personal family as well as our parish family.

Sue has “hit the ground running” in the last few weeks as she coordinates and oversees the Parish Religion Education Program (PREP), and the faith formation for children preparing to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. In addition, Sue has been working with key volunteers to provide guidance for

the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) programs here at All Saints. She is also in the beginning stages of creating an Adult Faith Formation Team. This team will help Sue develop enrichment opportunities for adult parishioners, with the hope of increasing engagement and active discipleship within the parish and community.

The following tidbits of personal information about Sue might give you a better idea of the person behind the title of Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation.

FAMILY MEMBERS: Husband—John Sr.; Children—Connie Mueller (Jim); John G Van Hersett Jr. (Michelle); Valerie Killinger (Scott); Nicole Alexander (Jacob); Grandchildren—Nicholas, Scott, Sam, Cody, Jarod, Ethan, Lacey, Brianna, Issabella, and Isla

PETS: Bella and Boston (Corgi and Springer Spaniel)

HOBBIES OR SPECIAL INTERESTS:

Reading a good novel; working on art and materials for the Atrium; walking my dogs; spending time with family at the beach or camping

FAVORITE

MOVIE: I don’t have just one—but here’s a few of my favorites: *Steel Magnolias*; *Forrest Gump*; all the Harry Potter movies; and Disney’s *Wall-E* and *Frozen*

FAVORITE FOOD: Italian

PERSON YOU ADMIRE MOST:

Pope Francis

BEST KEPT SECRET ABOUT ALL

SAINTS: It is a “remarkable family of faith” (family is important here); and it is always a good experience coming home to family.



Sue Van Hersett,
Pastoral Associate for
Faith Formation