



## Special Interest Articles:

- *Life Cycle of a Church Project*
- *The Possibility of Life*
- *ALPHA Course Complete*

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## The Life Cycle of a Church Project

By Father Keith and the Finance Council

Long time St. Pat's parishioners may recall, and were probably involved in, church and school capital improvement projects of past years. It requires a tremendous amount of hours to study, plan, evaluate and implement the renovation of the church interior and build a new school building. Parishioners are vital members of the process in more ways than as financial supporters. Let's look at how the Sound System Project comes to life.

It starts as those little

trickles of members of the congregation thinking ... "I didn't quite get that..." and asking a spouse, friend, or the usher ... "Could you hear what father said?" Someone decides to approach the Pastor to ask if the sound could be turned up because ... "it was kind of hard to hear you where I sit". The topic is discussed at a parish small group meetings, people try to recall when the current speaker was installed and can narrow it down to a decade. People start to notice qualities of sound in other churches they visit.

The Pastor invites all parishioners to become part of a group of thinkers

and problem solvers, tapping into the many talents found in his parish, with the goal to create some initiatives. The Vision Group identifies some areas that would benefit from change, among which are improving the church environment and communication in the parish, and increasing opportunities to worship. The group proposes that change to the current sound system will benefit all of those target areas. The Pastor consults the people in the parish who are familiar with systems to broadcast sound across space, some consultants are hired to come up with a plan (Cont. Pg. 2)

## Bishop's Blog – The Possibility of Life

By Bishop Callahan – Jan 26, 2017

In 1968 I graduated from high school and planned my continuing studies in advancement to the priesthood of Jesus Christ. In that same year, His Holiness Pope Paul VI issued a landmark encyclical titled [Humanae Vitae](#) (Human Life). The world, without exaggeration, went crazy in its complete disregard, disobedience and disrespect for every last comma in that encyclical—this included many priests and religious who publicly challenged

the Holy Father's moral authority in presenting such a document. The Church was forever changed by these actions.

Five years later, in 1973, the Supreme Court of the United States stepped into the void that was created by public and Catholic indifference to God's law and ruled on the controversy of abortion, deciding that as a matter of privacy, a woman could legally murder her unborn child and suffer no penalty in civil law. In 1992, the Court determined that women had a constitutional right to an

abortion by virtue of the 14th amendment of the Constitution. Moral and religious grounds in the matter of abortion on demand have become even more slim as the "culture of death" slips more deeply into a society that is becoming more and more politically complex and secular.

I was ordained a priest in 1977 and for the past forty years I have witnessed the complexities of political intrigues and nefarious public associations, not to mention a sad descent and (*cont. pg. 5*)



*"We are grateful for all the time and effort St. Patrick's parishioners have contributed to this project."*

## Finance Council (From pg. 1)

to improve the sound in church. Some low cost adjustments are made to the current system, a new mixer and some new microphones are purchased. Two different sound systems are installed on a trial basis, to give parishioners the opportunity to experience the difference in sound quality of each system.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee holds discussions with the Pastor about the pluses and minuses of each system. The Pastor takes their recommendation to the Finance Council, who looks at the financial aspect of the proposed system and gives a recommendation. The Pastor decides to proceed with one of the proposals and he files an Improvement Authorization Request with the Diocese. The diocese reviews the request and gives approval to our project and fundraising efforts. Fundraising begins. This is a financially BIG project. Not as big as a whole new school, or a complete renovation of the

church, but \$55,000 big. Why does it cost so much?

Well, the speakers in the sound system are technically called 'line array' speakers. A line array is a loudspeaker system that is made up of a number of identical loudspeaker elements mounted in a line and fed in phase, to create a near-line source of sound. The distance between adjacent drivers is close enough that they constructively interfere with each other to send sound waves farther than traditional horn-loaded loudspeakers and with a more evenly distributed sound output pattern.

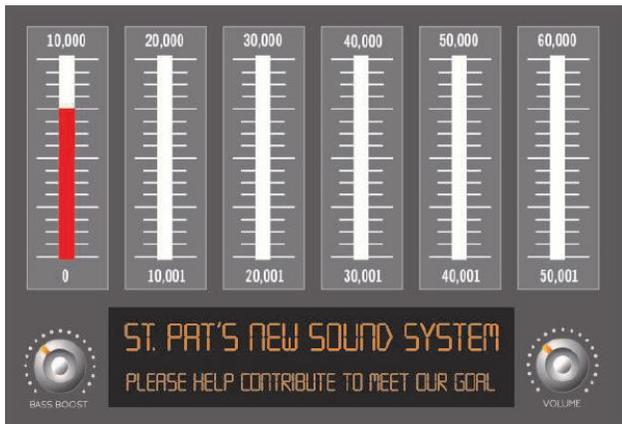
A line array is ideal for a Parish like Saint Patrick. The nave of the Church is a very 'live' space, meaning there is a lot of echo because of the design. The ability to direct the sound from the speaker array directly into the pews, and the people, and not into the back wall, helps intelligibility, meaning we can understand the person speaking much easier.

The speakers are tunable. Audio Architects will come in, and remotely "tune" the speaker system for our specific application. He can use the computer in the sound system to send sound waves out that allow the front pews to hear clearly without being over-powered, while the folks in the back hear well,

and at about the same volume. This amazing technology did not exist 20 years ago.

The speakers at the mid-point of the Church are also special. They produce a clean and crisp sound. The mid-point speakers will have a computer controlled delay. This helps eliminate echo by making sure the sound waves get to the folks in the back of Church from the speakers at the same time.

This type of system provides the highest quality sound and greatly helps those who have hearing problems. Several people came and said the sound was 'incredible' and another said, 'it's the first homily I have heard in years.' Using a lower quality would be better than what we have now, but we should invest in the better system to provide the best experience possible, especially for those with hearing difficulty. If you have questions or concerns that aren't addressed in this article, please contact any of the Finance Council members, the business manager, or Fr. Kitzhaber. We are grateful for all the time and effort St. Patrick's parishioners have contributed to this project. So far St. Patrick's has received \$7923 towards the Sound System Project ----- Thank you.



## Holy Week Trivia

Test your Holy Week Knowledge. Answers can be found on page 6. GOOD LUCK!!!

1. What was the Jewish feast which was being celebrated the week Christ was crucified?
2. When Jesus entered Jerusalem during what is known as His Triumphal Entry, what animal was He riding on?
3. Which disciple cut off the ear of the high priest's servant in an attempt to protect Jesus from being taken as a prisoner?
4. What was the name of the high priest's servant who had his ear cut off by the disciple and subsequently reattached by Jesus?
5. How many times did Peter deny Christ after he abandoned the Lord?
6. How many pieces of silver did Judas trade the life of Jesus for?
7. How did Judas identify Jesus to the soldiers?
8. In repentance Judas returned the money to the priests that he was given as the price of betrayal of the Lord and then did what?
9. Who was surprisingly released before Pontius Pilate sentenced Jesus to death?
10. A man named Simon was compelled to carry the cross of Jesus. In Mark 15 we are told the names of Simon's two sons. What were their names?
11. What was the inscription above the cross?
12. What happened in the Temple as a sign that the death of Jesus had made way for the individual believer to approach God?
13. When Jesus died there was darkness in the land. How long did it last?
14. In John 19 two men helped prepare the body of Christ for burial. One is said to have been a secret disciple and another secretly came to Jesus early in His ministry to ask question. Who were these men?
15. Who was the first person to see the risen Christ?

## Another Successful ALPHA Course

By David Schmidt  
Another ALPHA Course has concluded here at St. Patrick's. The 12 week course which explores different topics of Christianity provided all participants an opportunity to learn, share and grow.

The wonderful thing about the course is not only the growth in participants understanding of Christianity and their faith; but more importantly the growth of fellowship and community.

ALPHA which is designed for people of all levels of knowledge and faith begins each session with a shared community meal; is followed by a presentation of the weekly topic and then concluded with a small group discussion of this topic.

The highlight of the course was the Holy Spirit Retreat. The Retreat which took place at St. Patrick's on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> was a complete immersion in the Holy Spirit. Not only did it include the typical meals, presentations and discussions participants were accustomed to, but also provided opportunities for group prayer; praise and worship; Confession and Eucharistic Adoration; and was concluded by the group celebrating Mass together. It was truly a transformative experience.

The beauty of the course's design is that as there is no commitment. Participants come to the sessions they can make, and share what they are comfortable sharing. But it was amazing to see how

as participants became more familiar and comfortable with their small groups, they begin to really share and open up about how they have lived their faith; about where they may have succeeded or failed; and about all the questions they may have. It's this sharing that really leads to the community and fellowship that is an essential part of ALPHA.

Though this session of ALPHA has come to an end, our group intends to make this a yearly offering that starts after the New Year and runs through Lent. So, if you're looking to grow in your intellectual and spiritual understanding of Christianity, ALPHA might be for you. So please be on the lookout for our next course offering.




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*"It was truly a transformative experience."*



*“As the school year winds down for our REP students, the activities within the program have not.”*

## REP Roundup

By David Schmidt

As the school year begins to wind down for our REP students, the activities within the program have not. Our students have continued to be busy in and out of the classroom. How busy you ask? Let me count the ways:

First, our older students have continued with our “Live Christ” nights by visiting and playing games with the residents at Rolling Hills, and the Morrow Home.

Second, our 10<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in an all-day Confirmation Retreat hosted by Camp

Grey as they continue their preparation for their Confirmation this fall.

Third, all students took part in Ash Wednesday Mass which marked the beginning of the Lenten season.

Fourth, all students of age had the opportunity to partake in the Sacrament of Reconciliation as part of their Lenten preparation.

Fifth, all students were able to pray the Stations of the Cross, with our 5<sup>th</sup> grade and 9<sup>th</sup> grade classes leading the devotions.

Sixth, the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

students continue to work diligently as they prepare to receive the Eucharist at their First Communion in May.

Looking back at the past several months, it has been truly amazing to see our students not only learn about our faith, but practice it.

So as the students continue to work hard, I ask that we all keep them, their parents, and all the teachers and volunteers in our prayers so they all may continue to succeed and finish the year strong. God Bless!!

## St Patrick's Knights of Columbus

By David Schmidt and Michael Harris

In case you haven't heard, the St. Patrick's Knights of Columbus have been spending a little time at the local bowling alley. But I suppose that is part of the deal when you are a co-host for the State Knights of Columbus Tournament.

As I write this, your Knights and their families have been spending every weekend from January 28<sup>th</sup> till today working hard to ensure the best tournament possible. And though there have been a few bumps, we have succeeded.

How hard have we worked? Besides the

months of planning before the tournament began; which included finding advertisers and sponsors; distributing and collecting registration; soliciting for door prizes and raffles; and coordinating 10 weeks of volunteers. We've had to ensure the over 550 bowlers and 123 teams (those numbers are from 2 weeks ago), who have come from across the state to participate, have had an enjoyable and successful time and competition. Mission Accomplished!

And though it is a little bittersweet to see the tournament come to an end, some are sad while some are relieved; it is

with confidence that we end. The hard work of many has been rewarded and we are excited for what lays in front of us as we look for how best to use the funds we have raised, and how best to give back to St. Patrick's and the community.

Finally, we recognize there are many unsung heroes who have helped us along the way and we would like to say Thank You to everyone in the parish and community who have helped make this tournament a success. Without your time, effort, and dedication, none of this would have been possible. THANK YOU!!



*“We've had to ensure the over 550 bowlers and 123 teams... have had an enjoyable and successful time.”*

## St. Patrick's School News

By Jean Suttie

St Patrick School would like to thank everyone who helped, donated, or came to the St Patrick's Day Dinner. We had a wonderful turnout! Special thanks to all our donors and also to Danita and Virgil Schmitz for preparing the delicious lunch! This is a very important fundraiser for our school and we truly appreciate everyone's support!

St Patrick's School is happy to announce that Mrs. Anna Fleming, our five year old kindergarten teacher, has received the Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Teacher Fellowship Award. Fellowship

recipients are educators who have been chosen for their superior ability to inspire a love of learning in their students, their ability to motivate others and their leadership and service within and outside the classroom. Mrs. Fleming has been teaching for over 30 years and has dedicated her life in helping young children learn. Congratulations on being selected for this prestigious award!

The last quarter of school will pass quickly and the students are getting excited about upcoming field trips and other fun events. We still have lots of learning to do and the teachers will their best to keep them focused and

engaged! If anyone is interested volunteering, please inquire in the school office.

Enrollment is open for the 2017-18 school year. If you or someone you know is interested in having a tour or getting more information please have them contact the school office at 269-4748 or email [jeansuttie@stpatricksparta.net](mailto:jeansuttie@stpatricksparta.net)

St Patrick School will be hiring a teacher for the 2017-18 school year. If you or someone you know is interested, please have them contact the school office at 608-269-4748 or email [jeansuttie@stpatricksparta.net](mailto:jeansuttie@stpatricksparta.net)




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*"St Patrick School would like to thank everyone who helped, donated, or came to the St Patrick's Day Dinner"!*

## Bishop's Blog (From pg. 1)

unfortunate acceptance of hedonistic moral turpitude; in short, we live in "interesting times."

Our society itself has made the acceptance of abortion part of what may be considered "the new normal." With the rise of the sexual revolution and the disregard of the moral authority of the Church—most explicitly in the person of the Pope himself—it has become almost impossible to reestablish a positive moral compass for the society in which we find ourselves today.

While we mark the 44th anniversary of the Day of Shame and another [March for Life in Washington, D.C.](#), we

must acknowledge that progress is being made—slowly, but surely. A new generation of young people does seem to value the gift of life and is starting to show it publicly. While this is a positive step forward, we must recognize the fragile setting of the moral compass as a whole. We may be starting to recognize the value of life, but there is so much more of the moral dimension of life that we do not understand value or accept to be true. Love has been reduced to mere sentiment or sexual pleasure. Marriage is no longer regarded with a foundation of commitment or permanence. Children are no longer considered gifts received by parents

whose procreative and generous love for each other has brought them into being and whose commitment to each other will provide for them selflessly.

Time has passed and much has changed in 44 years. I often think that there is so much to do to restore balance and order in the world. There is, however, much to be hopeful for. The Gospel is still being effectively preached; and, it seems that while it may appear that fewer are actually listening, God's generous heart still beats with love for His own. Grace abounds and God's message of love for His people will not be silenced! Praise God.




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*"God's generous heart still beats with love for His own. Grace abounds and God's message of love for His people will not be silenced!"*

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**We're on the Web!**

See us at:

<http://stpatricksparish.weconnect.com/>

Online Giving at:

<http://stpatricksparish.weconnect.com/ONLINE-DONATIONS>

St. Patrick's School at:

[www.spartacatholic.org](http://www.spartacatholic.org)

## Upcoming Events

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|---|---|
| 04 Apr – Stations and Soup Supper       | 14 May – Mother's Day                     |
| 04 Apr – Worship Committee Meeting      | 15 May – Second Harvest Food Pantry       |
| 05 Apr – Pro-Life Eucharistic Adoration | 19 May – Weekly Eucharistic Adoration     |
| 05 Apr – REP Classes (K-10)             | 20 May – Graduation Mass                  |
| 07 Apr – Weekly Eucharistic Adoration   | 21 May – School Bake Sale                 |
| 09 Apr – Palm Sunday                    | 21 May – School Mass                      |
| 10 Apr – Knights of Columbus Meeting    | 21 May – ChickenQue                       |
| 13 Apr – Holy Thursday                  | 24 May – New Student Visit Day            |
| 14 Apr – Good Friday                    | 25 May – The Ascension                    |
| 15 Apr – Holy Saturday                  | 26 May – Weekly Eucharistic Adoration     |
| 16 Apr – Easter                         | 29 May – Memorial Day                     |
| 17 Apr – Second Harvest Food Pantry     | 31 May – 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation |
| 19 Apr – REP Classes (K-10)             | 02 Jun – Weekly Eucharistic Adoration     |
| 21 Apr – Weekly Eucharistic Adoration   | 02 Jun – Last Day of School               |
| 22 Apr – PCCW Meeting                   | 04 Jun – Pentecost                        |
| 26 Apr – REP Classes (K-10)             | 07 Jun – Pro-Life Eucharistic Adoration   |
| 27 Apr – First Communion Church Search  | 09 Jun – Weekly Eucharistic Adoration     |
| 28 Apr – Weekly Eucharistic Adoration   | 12 Jun – Knights of Columbus Meeting      |
| 28 Apr – School Bowling Fundraiser      | 16 Jun – Weekly Eucharistic Adoration     |
| 30 Apr – First Communion Practice       | 18 Jun – Father's Day                     |
| 03 May – Pro-Life Eucharistic Adoration | 18 Jun – Adventure Camp                   |
| 05 May – Weekly Eucharistic Adoration   | 19 Jun – Second Harvest Food Pantry       |
| 07 May – First Communion                | 23 Jun – Weekly Eucharistic Adoration     |
| 08 May – Knights of Columbus Meeting    | 30 Jun – Weekly Eucharistic Adoration     |
| 12 May – Weekly Eucharistic Adoration   |   |

## Reminder...Weekly Eucharistic Adoration

Don't forget about our Weekly Eucharistic Adoration every Friday after 8:15am mass until 1:00pm, and our First Wednesday of the month Pro-Life Adoration from 5:00pm – 8:00pm. We encourage everyone to take some time and sit in the presence of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

If you would like to be scheduled for a specific time, or added to the call list to be contacted on an "as needed" basis for our weekly Friday Adoration or our First Wednesday of the month Adoration, please contact Gail Ambro at 608-343-4064 or see the sign-up sheet in the back of church. Thank You.

## Interested in Receiving Informational Emails about St. Pats

St Pats is currently sending weekly informational emails to all parishioners. This includes a bulletin link, a schedule of upcoming events, and other pertinent reminders/information. If you would like to be added or removed from this list please contact David Schmidt at [davidjschmidt@hotmail.com](mailto:davidjschmidt@hotmail.com) .Thanks.

## Holy Week Trivia – Answer Key

1. Passover (Luke 22:1)
2. A young donkey (Matthew 21:1-7; Mark 11:1-7; Luke 19:28-35; John 12:12-15).
3. Peter (John 18:10)
4. Malchus (John 18:10)
5. Three times (Luke 22:54-57; Mark 14:69, 70; Matthew 26:73-75; John 18:13-27)
6. 30 (Matthew 26:15)
7. By giving Him a kiss (Matthew 26:47-49).
8. Hanged himself (Matthew 27:3-5)
9. Barabbas (Matthew 27:15-26; Mark 15:6-15; Luke 23:18; John 18:40)
10. Alexander and Rufus (Mark 15:21)
11. "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews" (Luke 19:19).
12. The veil in the temple was torn from top to bottom (Matthew 27:51).
13. Three hours (Matthew 27:45; Mark 15:33; Luke 23:44-45). From noon to 3 pm.
14. Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus (John 19:38-42).
15. Mary Magdalene (Mark 16:9)