

The Hands of Christ

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Quarterly Thoughts From The Corner Office!

Dear friends,

We are closing in on summer, what do you have planned?

Before I answer that question, I want to thank those who participated in celebrating my 40th anniversary of ordination the weekend of April 27. It was a wonderful celebration. I enjoyed having parishioners, family and friends gather to give thanks for 40 years of ministry in the Diocese of Rochester and the wider Church. As I said in my homily there are countless joys and sorrows that I have been privileged to share in over the years, which I give thanks on a daily basis for the privilege to be part of as priest and friend. I originally thought the gathering would be to celebrate my retirement, but that has been put off for a year or two, which when that comes it will be another good excuse for a party. In any case, thank you for the honor of ministering with you!

Now back to the original question: what are your summer plans? Many people just want to relax and take a breath from the busyness of life. For some that means not running from one soccer game to another, for others it means fewer meetings, for others less sitting around the house bored wondering what to do next and the list goes on. My hope is just to be able to mix up the routine of life and do something different. It is the simple things of life that I appreciate being able to enjoy more in the summer months. I truly enjoy sitting on the porch in Naples, looking down the valley, listening to the birds and watching the squirrels run around the yard taunting each other and the birds. The front porch on Van Voorhis allows me to spy on the speeding cars and watch the deer eat the flowers, all of which can be done while reading a book. In early August, I plan to go to New York City for a couple days to visit the 9/11 Memorial and Statue of Liberty, two things on my



bucket list. Finally, one my favorite things to do is take the easy 40 minute drive down to the Abbey of the Genesee, join the monks for evening prayer at 5:30 PM and then take advantage of one of the splendid restaurants the Genesee/Lakeville area.

By now, you may be asking why I am sharing these thoughts about summer. The primary reason is to encourage people to slow down and smell the roses of life. What are the roses in your life? What are the people and things in your life that make you more joyful and happier? Have you ever taken time to think and pray about the roses in your life? It is my experience that if I do not take time to reflect and give thanks I find myself falling into a pit, versus when I take time I find myself in a much better frame of mind.

So, what have you planned for this summer? Does it include taking time to smell the roses in your life?

Let us pray for peace and for an end to terrorism in our world!

In peace and courage,

Fr. Mike Bausch

Rev. Michael J. Bausch
Pastor



PS – I am writing this article on an early May morning and just as I am finishing it a “rose” walked into my office. A young mother and her 5-year-old daughter just came in with a beautifully decorated cake for my 40th, this is just another example of a “rose” in my life, praise God!

Upcoming Events at Transfiguration

We have a wealth of formation, service and social activities coming this summer. Please take a quick look at the offerings below and see what might be of interest to you and your loved ones. A full schedule of events is in the bulletin and on our website. As dates get closer, please check the bulletin or website events calendar for any last-minute changes.

JUNE

June 1-2

Spring/Summer Clothing Drive

After each Mass, PLC Gym.

June 3

Women in the Spirit Planning Meeting

7 p.m., Ed. Center Upper Level

June 9

11:00 a.m. Baccalaureate Mass

June 17

Men in the Spirit – 6 p.m.,

Ed. Center Upper Level

June 26

Sunset Evening Prayer – 8:30 p.m.

JULY

July 8-12

Vacation Bible School – entire campus!

July 22-28

Summer Service Immersion Week – Teens

July 24

Sunset Evening Prayer – 8:15 p.m.

AUGUST

August 28

Sunset Evening Prayer – 8:00 p.m.

MISSION TRIP | HONDURAS

This February a contingent of 18 Transfiguration parishioners traveled to Honduras, visiting the communities we are helping in partnership with Food for the Poor. Transfiguration has partnered with Food for the Poor for several years, helping people in El Salvador, Nicaragua and now Honduras. Lauren Burruto describes this ministry: "Our call to embrace social justice to help and empower others is our cause. This experience shows us how simply others live with few resources and reminds us of the abundance of what we have that we can easily take for granted.

A small amount goes a very long way in third world countries. So far in Honduras we have provided seven homes that provide security, dignity and safety from the elements, and a Bakery (micro-businesses). We are currently exploring other needs besides housing. We will share this information with the parish soon."

What struck parishioner Vicki Roes was the challenges the Hondurans face every day, and the results that the charitable organizations, like Food for the Poor, are achieving. "These organizations are helping with everyday needs like food and shelter, but also finding ways like building schools and adult trade schools to train or teach the villagers at all ages how learn a trade or become qualified to hold certain jobs so that they can have a way to look for a brighter future, and feel good about working on their own to provide for themselves and their families."

Our parishioners brought with them gifts for the people they encountered, including parishioner made dresses for young girls. But the biggest gift of all was their loving presence. From teen parishioner Nico Valentine: "This was actually my first time going on a mission trip, and I was unsure what to expect. But as soon as our bus stopped in the small village of Choloma, it dawned on me that this is really quite simple. These people are just like us. These mothers care for their children as we care for ours. These children smile as our children do, and these families love each other as we love one another. The simplest things, like a smile, or a hug, or the passing of a soccer ball makes these kids happier than you could believe. No language barrier, difference in socioeconomic status, or difference in education can stop the spread of love." Vicki echoed that sentiment. "Being there for them as a group from Transfiguration meant more to them than I think anyone of us even understood or expected. It gave them a feeling of being loved. The support of love. There may be no better support to give than that of Love."



SOCIAL EVENTS

We do have two upcoming social events in the planning stages! Please check the bulletins, website and e-mail for details as the dates grow nearer.

GOLFERS – start practicing for a golf outing being planned jointly by members of the Empty Nesters and Social Committee. A date in August is being finalized, along with arrangements at the golf course for a gathering afterwards.



HALLOWEEN – the Social Committee is working on a family friendly October Halloween celebration, tentatively slated for October 26, complete with an Oktoberfest type dinner. Start thinking of your costumes!



FORMATION UPDATE

THE CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

"Let the children come to me and do not prevent them, for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these." ~Luke 18:16

A deep, loving relationship with God best ensures that the young Christian will grow into that mature Christian. While adults might sit for hours reading, young children learn best by actively engaging themselves physically and mentally with all of their senses. While beginning to educate children's minds in the Faith, it is just as important that The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd helps them cultivate that loving relationship with God in their most formative years.

In the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, typically 10-20 children gather with two or three catechists in a room called the "atrium," which is reserved exclusively for this purpose. This fall we will be introducing a Level 1 atrium for children 3-6 years old.

Catechesis normally begins with songs and hymns related to current catechetical themes. Some of the children will then receive a presentation from a catechist, while the other children select materials to work with that they have previously been presented. Children will typically work with several materials during each visit to the atrium, and work with each material many times over the years.

The atrium is filled with a rich variety of beautifully-crafted hands-on work materials related to Christ's life, His parables, the Liturgy and the Sacraments. It also includes many meditative handworks that help children quiet their bodies and minds. Visitors to an atrium are often astounded at how fully even the youngest children immerse themselves in this quiet, meditative, retreat-like environment.

Contact us or visit our website to learn how the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd can help your children grow in God's Love. We will be holding informational meetings on July 24th or August 28th at 6pm, upstairs in the Education Building. We are also collecting donations, please see our website for the current list.

FIRST COMMUNION



9 a.m Mass - May 5

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR YOUNG PARISHIONERS WHO RECEIVED FIRST COMMUNION THIS MAY!

Gretchen Bucura
Anna Cregg
Emma Evans
Bridget Gallagher
Luke Graham
Austin Hughes
Presley Imburgia
Evie Iwankow
Kadience Lenyk

Margaux LoVerdi
Luke Markevicz
John Miller
Peter Munzinger
Lisa Musa
Sara Musa
Olivia Nicandri
Shannon Norton
Brynn Pichette

Lucas Piehler
Owen Pierce
Graham Pollard
Payton Pudetti
Alex Rice
Molly Wenger
Jack Wesley
Landon Whipple



11:30 a.m. Mass - May 5



11:30 a.m. Mass - May 12



4:30 p.m. Mass - May 11



4:30 p.m. Mass - May 4

SPRING AT TRANSFIGURATION

SPAGHETTI SUPPER



Easter Egg Filling



Men & Women in the Spirit



Ash Wednesday Pot Luck

ST. PATTYS DAY



BAKE SALE



CONFIRMATION 2019

Congratulations to the young women and men of our Parish who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on May 6 of this year, and to our adults who received the sacrament during Easter Vigil Mass.



Lucas Anaya
Mateo Anaya
Marilyn Arikkat
Kristen Azzara
Joseph Barbato
Grace Bennett
Marie Benson
Abigail Berdan
Lena Berry
Aidan Braun
Linnea Braun
Emily Calamel
Caelin Canny
Abby Cappotelli
Grace Cincebox
Andrew Cox
Charles DeBiase
Alexandra Dennis
Anna DeVito
Hope Duncan
Abby Dunnigan
Elizabeth Duquette
Jack Fruscello
Zoe Gomez
Maryn Haims
Benjamin Hajec

Elizabeth Hart
Ethan Hearne
Huntley Hedrick
Larkin Hefner
William Hobika
Hayleigh Holland
Heidi Insalaco
Brendan Kane
Taylor Klinsky
Eric Krowl
Maya Larimer
Noah Lester
Mark LoMaglio
Sarah LoMaglio
Noah Lucia
Olivia Lucia
Christina Mack
Jennifer Mack
Julia Mack
Madison Marshall
Molly Maxwell
Grace McHarg
Kaitlin McMahon
Elizabeth Mesmer
Bridget Miller
Owen Mowry

Elsa Murphy
Lilian O'Donnell
Matthew O'Heron
Daniel Palumbo
Maclaine Reagan
Alexandra Richardson
Kathleen Richardson
Aaron Ricketts
Colby Schenkel
Sophia Schultz
Colby Simonetti
Brennan Smith
Ethan St. John
Maeve St. John
Garrett Trost
Henry Trost
Mary Trost
Nico Valentine
Hayley Whitaker
Ella Wilmot
Grace Young

Easter Vigil Confirmation:
Svante Vikingsson
David Alexander

HELP WANTED

MASS

MUSICAL TALENT

Please consider joining any of our musical groups. We are still in dire need of altos for our 9 a.m. choir! We are always in need of instrumental talent, especially accomplished pianists to accompany our vocal talent. Make a joyful noise unto the Lord! Please contact Sue Wallace at sue.wallace@dor.org.

TECHNICAL TALENT

We always need help for A/V during Mass: sound board and microphones to set up, slide shows to project. If you have that hidden techie talent, we could use your help! Scheduling is flexible. Please contact Sue at sue.wallace@dor.org.

GREETERS

A warm smile and kind hello can make a huge impact on someone by making them feel welcome and reinforcing God's love. Two greeters are scheduled at each Mass. Scheduling is flexible according to your availability, and training is provided. This activity is ideal for families, but individuals can be paired into a team! Contact Margie Benza at margie.benza@dor.org.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Yes, it is an awesome, sacred responsibility to hold the Precious Body or Precious Blood of Christ in your hands. It is a wonderful gift to see the pure joy and faith of those receiving Communion. You ARE worthy to serve in this way. Scheduling is flexible, training is provided for adults and confirmed teens. Please contact Margie Benza at margie.benza@dor.org.

ACOLYTES

Calling our young women and men who have completed First Communion: Are you called to serve at Mass? Don't worry! Training is provided, and the adults serving at Mass with you are always there to assist should you need help. This is a wonderful opportunity to participate more fully in Mass, and to build those muscles carrying the candles and cross! Scheduling is flexible according to your availability. Interested? Please contact Margie Benza at margie.benza@dor.org.

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

DON CUSHING COMMUNITY GIFT GARDEN

The gardening season is underway! If like working in the fresh air and sunshine, consider helping out at Transfiguration's Gift Garden. We need help tilling, planting, weeding, watering, harvesting—all to produce close to a ton of fresh vegetables given to those locally who have limited access to nutritious food. Contact Terry Jahnke at terry.jahnke24@gmail.com



FINANCE CORNER

It is a fact that our parish needs funds to operate. We need to pay for the upkeep and running of our buildings, as well as salaries and benefits for our staff, and the programs we offer that support our parishioner's faith formation. Many parishioners give regularly through our current electronic funds transfer (EFT) capabilities, weekly envelopes and gifts from charitable funds. Your generosity is always appreciated and never taken for granted.

There are other ways to give to the parish other than through weekly or monthly donations. While most of us don't like to think about it often, all of us will be called home to Jesus at some point. Statistics tell us that as much as 50 percent of the adult population does not have a will! Hopefully, most of us at Transfiguration have started our long-term estate planning, consulting with financial and legal professionals, so we can determine how our property is distributed after our passing.

Might it be possible to include your community- and church-based philanthropy goals in that planning? **Legacy Giving** is an important way to support your favorite causes.

Following are two Legacy Giving suggestions for you to review with your financial or legal counsel to see if they make sense for you:

Bequest – Include the Church of the Transfiguration, Pittsford NY as a beneficiary in your will.

Beneficiary – Name the Church of the Transfiguration, Pittsford NY as a beneficiary of your IRA (individual retirement account) or life insurance policy.

The Church of the Transfiguration does not give financial or tax advice, so please make sure you consult a professional financial planner or estate attorney to discuss your personal circumstances and do what is best for you. Advice from an attorney and other professional advisor should be sought when considering legacy giving.

Coming Fall 2019 - Planned Giving Seminar - An estate attorney will hold a seminar at Transfiguration this fall, as an educational opportunity for parishioners to learn about legacy giving and other aspects of estate planning. Watch the bulletin, e-mail and the website calendar for the date/time.

We are working on ways to make giving easier for you, including exploring "new and improved" online giving. The Finance Team is still evaluating solutions, and when we find one that makes financial sense for the parish AND is safe and simple to use, you will be the first to know! Stay tuned to the bulletin and website for any updates!

PARISHIONER SPOTLIGHT

Schertzer Family

The Schertzer family moved to Pittsford from Canada almost six years ago. Mike grew up near Toronto, while Sophie was raised near Ottawa. They met at McMaster University in Hamilton, where they both studied mechanical engineering. They were married in June 2007. Mike and Sophie have three daughters: Gabrielle, 9, is finishing third grade at Park Road Elementary, Emilie, 7, is finishing first grade, also at Park Road, and Eveline is one year old.

The family enjoys spending time outdoors, and they especially love to go camping together. "It's nice to work as a team and really take the time to appreciate all of God's wonders, not only in nature but within each other," says Sophie. "Taking a break from the busyness of our lives and putting away electronics helps us to really connect."

The parents and children also enjoy playing board games together and especially love cooperative games. On their own, the children enjoy doing art, yoga, and swimming, and have recently started doing taekwondo.

The Schertzers also share a passion for food, especially whole foods. They enjoy cooking and baking as a family, as well as visiting local organic farms where they learn about the ingredients they are using and where their food originates.

Mike and Sophie first came to Transfiguration "to connect with friends and show our children the power of being part of a faith community. We wanted the girls to learn about God and deepen their faith so they have the confidence and the tools to trust in God, be grateful and be loving people," says Sophie.

The Schertzers are active participants at Transfiguration. The family is part of the Welcome Reception ministry, while Gabrielle is proud to be an acolyte at the church. She did her First Reconciliation and First Communion here, and Eveline was baptized at the church. The two older girls also have participated in the Christmas concert and the trick or treat event on Halloween. They are looking forward to Vacation Bible School at Transfiguration, as is their mother, who had a great time volunteering at VBS during a previous session.

"As a family, we are growing through the Bridges of Faith," Sophie says, "where we've both taught our children about God's unconditional love and how to be loving people while also enjoying connecting with other families. It is wonderful to see the children excited to deepen friendships, and it is a great opportunity for parents to meet others who share similar family values.

"We all love being part of this wonderful community. We feel truly blessed to be a part of God's family at Transfiguration."

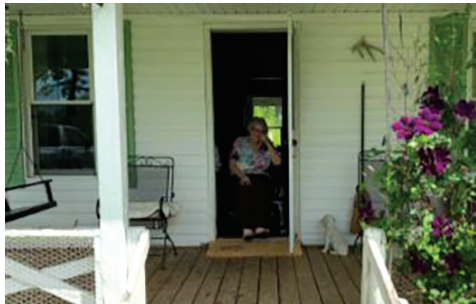


2019

KENTUCKY WOMEN'S RETREAT BY MEG KASTNER

The women from Transfiguration's parish have been serving the people of Booneville, KY since 1998. Our typical work duties include things like cleaning, painting, hanging curtains, gardening, etc... What stands out more than the work we do is the relationships that we build along the way. Our work is typically done inside the intimacy of someone's home. We see and hear what goes on behind the closed doors and inside their hearts. We pray with them as we show them the unconditional love our Lord gives to all God's children. We invite them to a Catholic Mass and a community dinner to show them a place to simply BE without judgement. We show them a place where all are welcome.

Many of the women from our parish take home the addresses of the people they serve sending them cards and letters of encouragement throughout the year. This relationship becomes a motivator for Transfiguration women to return year after year. You can see the sincere joy experienced when these friends are reunited. The value of this relationship reinforces Sr. Marge's and Sr. Angie's intent to engage these people with the community and offer them lessons about being Catholic. Many chose to be baptized at Easter time. For example, the woman we cared for two years ago who was deemed terminal due to severe C.O.P.D. accepted clean and supported housing. Her health has miraculously improved, she has been baptized Catholic, she participates in all the classes that the Holy Family Catholic Church offers, and she is learning to sew. Another (battered and abused) woman whose kitchen and living room we painted last year was also baptized Catholic this year. The two are now going through the RCIA program together for full confirmation and they have become great friends. Both tell everyone how happy they are to be Catholic. This is the fruit of our journey that gives us hope. For the past 10 years, I have invited the



women of our parish to Kentucky. There is only one thing that I can guarantee them each year and that is the fact that I have no idea how we will be guided by the Holy Spirit and what they will realize on their personal journey. I can only guarantee that their eyes will be opened wide and their hearts will be deeply touched. This year ten women answered the call to serve. They are Barb DeVencenzo, Elaine DeVencenzo, Judy Herlihy, Kathleen Houser, Meg Kastner, Lauren Rusnak, Kathy Kyhos, Teresa

Harris, Amanda Torchia, Melissa Torchia. Others that have gone include

J. Altier, S. Ateya, C. Blank, V. Bourdelais, D. Brule, J. Burns, C. Bussey, K. Cappuccio, A. Carrozo, S. Caselli, S. Conley, C. Crocker, P. Cushing, L. Cutter, S. Damico, L. Deely, S. Delahunty, E. Dodd, J.E. Eckel, A. Farchione, M. Fien, C. Finucane, B. Flynn, M. Gabriel, A. Gacioch, A. Gucker, A.M. Guerra, J. Gunther, J. Jafarian, L. Jensen, G. Krienke, L. Klotz, A. Kriz, K.C. Legg, J. Lienhardt, E. Lotto, M. Maliakkal, B. Malzewski, V. Malzewski, D. McNeill, S. Merkel, J. Miller, L. Miller, R. Monu, D. Nawoczenski, S. Nedar, C. Newman, K. Nowlan, B. Pronko, K. Rogers, T. Schultz, J. Schuster, D. Sloan, P. Soles, J. Sommers, B. Swiecki, C. Tornes, J. Upton, C. Wahl-Farrel, A. Ward, N. Wemett, D. Withdraw, B. Young, D. Yacoby, J. Zavislan.

If you are curious or want to hear more, please do not hesitate to ask these women about their journey. Or call me, Meg Kastner at the Parish Office, 585-248-2467. *This journey is meant to be shared!*

Welcome LAURA CUTTER



Laura Cutter and her family have been parishioners here since 1985. She is a familiar face and has joined the staff at Transfiguration as a bookkeeper.

Laura will work closely with our Finance Director, Maureen O'Connor, to ensure Transfiguration's payroll and accounts are kept in order. Just like Maureen, Laura has responsibilities at St. Catherine, and splits her time between the two parishes.

So if you stop by the office, be sure to take a minute to say hello to Laura and welcome her on board!



ALL ABOARD THE VATICAN EXPRESS!

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is a fun, faith-centered program for children who are entering pre-K through 8th grade. Children enjoy fellowship through songs, arts and crafts, and our older campers look forward to putting on plays as their week long project.

This year's program, being held July 8-12 takes our travelers to the Vatican. Meet your tour guide, a member of the Swiss Guard, and uncover the Vatican treasures! The itinerary includes exploring St. Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel; meeting the Pope, getting to know St. Peter while learning how the Church first took root; reading about Saint Jerome (who translated the Bible) and his friend, Lion. FUN is just around the corner. Step into sensational skits, exciting Bible stories, creative crafts, and amazing music!

The program has been developed by Catholics, for Catholics. What makes VBS different is that it features daily Bible stories with themed lessons. While learning scripture, students are also developing an understanding of Catholic tradition. While everyone enjoys tons of fun, the first and foremost goal is to help spread the Good News to our campers and nurture their spiritual growth. We work hard to make sure the information and activities are age-appropriate, organized, and easy to understand.

Each day the children will gather with their fellow explorers for the day consisting of Bible stories, songs, crafts, games, snacks and this year, back by popular demand—DAILY MAIL!

More information and registration materials can be found on the parish website. Don't forget, the tour bus departure is coming up quickly, so book your young traveler's "seat" soon!

