

A Message From Fr. Denny

I received in the mail today my invitation to the SFX School Dinner/Auction that will take place on Saturday, February 23 beginning at 5:30 p.m. I immediately wrote out a check and sent in my reservation. The theme of this year's Dinner/Auction is Hurray For Hollywood. It will be a little more elegant this year since the meals will be served at the tables rather than having the patrons go through a meal line. The cost of a meal ticket this year is \$125. Anybody in the parish is welcome. If you would like to come to this important fundraising event for our school please watch for your invitation in the mail. If you do not receive one, call the parish office. But reserve early as we only have room for about 260 people. We fill up every year.

So far we have sold close to 600 raffle tickets. This is about where we were last year at this time, maybe a little better. So crunch time is almost upon us. Please purchase or help sell a raffle ticket or two. It is important that everyone understand that this auction and raffle reduce tuition cost to families in the amount of \$800 per student. That is a big chunk that parents don't have to pay when our dinner/auction is a success. We need everybody in the parish to be on board with this, not just the school families.

I am looking for folks who would be willing to serve on the planning committee for April's Parish Mission. Please call the rectory if you are interested.

The SFX Parish Pastoral Council meets on Thursday, January 17 for a study session.

NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK

Today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. This week, January 13-18 is National Vocation Awareness Week, a special time in which the Church prays for the renewal and strengthening of vocations of dedicated people as married and single people, men to serve as priests, deacons, brothers, and women as religious sisters. If you feel God is offering you the grace of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, or you know someone who is considering the same, contact Father Don Geyman at the Diocese of Gaylord offices (989.732.5147.)

BAPTISM OF THE LORD



STEWARDSHIP

is what I do after I say "I Believe"....

December 30, 2007

Kids Coins For Kids	\$ 61.06
Cemetery Maintenance Fund	\$ 5.00
Building Fund	\$ 3,305.00
Tuition Angel Fund	\$ 80.00
Envelopes (312)	\$12,533.00
Loose	\$ 3,180.65
Holy Day	\$ 420.00
<u>Total Collection Last Week</u>	\$19,584.71

January 1, 2008

Envelopes	\$3,110.00
Loose	\$ 727.61
Kids Coins For Kids	\$ 21.43
<u>Total Collection</u>	\$3,859.04

January 6, 2008

Kids Coins For Kids	\$ 41.79
Cemetery Maintenance Fund	\$ 124.00
Building Fund	\$ 1,990.00
Tuition Angel Fund	\$ 123.00
Endowment	\$ 13.00
Envelopes (335)	\$13,569.50
Loose	\$ 1,533.63
Holy Day	\$ 450.00
<u>Total Collection Last Week</u>	\$17,844.92

"What return shall I make to the Lord for all he has done for me?"

Our baptism like the Lord's is a consecration to service. The bishops' pastoral on stewardship reminds us that ".... there is a fundamental obligation arising from the sacrament of baptism that people place their gifts, their resources -their selves - at God's service in and through the Church."

Bible Study Opportunities

- Monday Evening 6 - 7 pm**
- Tuesday Morning 7 am**
- Tuesday Morning 8:30 am Women's Group**

Everyone is invited to join any of these groups for Bible Study. All you need do is show up at the Parish Rectory at any of the above times.

FAMILY PERSPECTIVES

The words in today's Gospel, "This is my beloved, with Him I am pleased" are words every child needs to hear often. Affirmation is important to raise happy and confident children.

The Baptism of the Lord, January 13, 2008

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High School Youth Group

High School Youth Group is up and running again after our Christmas Break! We meet again this Sunday, January 13 from 6-8pm for our topic WITNESS! Learn new ways YOU can share your Catholic Faith with friends, family and those around you! Also - meet new friends at High School Youth Group and learn more about some EXCELLENT youth events planned for the upcoming months including our March 7-8, 2008 Lenten Retreat at Camp Daggett, the March 14-16 New Life TEC Retreat, the June 20-22 High School Youth Conference at the Franciscan University of Steubenville, the Christian Leadership Institute in June, and Young Neighbors in Action July 6-12, 2008!

Pizza and Apologetics has begun it's spring session - we are using a new DVD series with Jason and Crysatlina Evert (National Chastity Speakers) from EWTN entitled "The Pure Life". It gives excellent, honest answers to some of the most challenging issues met by teens today. We meet Tuesday's after the 5:30pm Mass at St. Francis Xavier in the John Paul II Youth Center. Pizza included!

For more information about any of the events listed above, call Liz Gengle at 347-4133, ext. 27.

In Christ,
Liz Gengle

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Sharing the Precious Blood from One Cup and Winter Colds

Using our limited language, the Church teaches us that we receive the fullness of the Lord in the Eucharist, Body and Blood. We are taught that the Lord is fully present in the Bread and the Wine so that when we go to Communion and receive only one sacred species, we have received the Lord in His fullness. However, the Church also teaches that when we receive both the Body and Blood we partake of the Lord to the fullest extent. The question may arise then, "If the Lord is fully present in either species, then how is He 'more fully' present in both species?" Well, that's where we are limited in using our human language to try to explain something that is faith based and beyond our capabilities. It is also a question to answer at another time...

We are now in the midst of the winter cold season and time to be reminded that whenever we have a cold, sore throat, or even the sniffles, we should refrain from sharing of the Cup of Precious Blood. Studies have shown that the sharing of the cup is safe as long as the cups are washed in hot water and soap after use; that wine is used since it is alcohol and kills some germs in itself; that the minister wipes the edge of the cup and turns it before offering it to the next person; and lastly, that the people are educated to refrain from sharing if they are sick. So, if you are sick, please wait until you have fully recovered before receiving the Precious Blood, for the sake of others, especially your priest who is purifying all the vessels after use and is consuming all remnants of the sacred species from all the cups that are used. If you have any questions, check with your pastor or parish leader for further explanation. Thank you.

Br. Dan's Food Pantry Update

"When the song of the angles is stilled, when the star is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flock, the works of Christmas begins; to find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among brothers, to make music in the heart."
~from *Songs of our Hearts, Meditations of Our Souls*~

The Pantry has been busy with the excitement of the Holiday Season. For Christmas, we were able to share our normal 3 days of 3 balanced meals as well as giving our clients everything they needed for their Christmas dinner and a few extra little surprises. And like other years, each family was given a gift and each child was given a stuffed animal to open on Christmas morning. This year each child was also given a book. Students from the Petoskey High School brought in hundreds of books for us to share.

During the week before Christmas, we reached our record number ever set on families visiting us in one week, 112. The week before Thanksgiving was the first time we reached this same number. For the two weeks of serving Christmas, we served 188 families which reflects 653 people.

So many people from our parish and from our entire community helped to make our Christmas celebration wonderful. Thank you to all of you who have kept us in your prayers, helped by volunteering or donated food or money. We received a thank you letter from one of our clients. She sends "Thanks to her angels at St. Francis Church...for making their Christmas special...without you, we would not have had the Christmas which we celebrated."

Thank you to everyone who shared with the pantry this month during January's Pantry Sunday. We received a grocery cart full of food and \$1,500.00 from the parishioners of St. Francis Solanus, the Sacramentines and all 3 Masses at St. Francis Xavier.

During 2007, Brother Dan's Pantry served 3,591 families. Some of these families came once for help and others more often. This number reflects 11,284 people, 417 of these families came to use the pantry for the first time. This brings our base count of different families ever served since we opened to 1,614. All of this would not be possible without the blessings from God and the love from our entire community. Thank you!!

Thank you and God bless you!

For all we do, we do in His name.

LIFE MATTERS

The Church is not trying to impose Catholic doctrine on the world, but we are trying to invite our people to take seriously their obligation to vote in a way that respects the moral law, the natural law, and takes into account the common good, care for the poor, and particularly the Gospel of Life, which is always at the center of Catholic social teaching.

- Cardinal Sean O'Malley, commenting on "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship," Nov. 15, 2007

SCRIPTURES FOR WEEK OF January 14-20

8 am Mon: 1 Sm 1:1-8; Gospel Mk 1:14-20
Intention: D. Ann Howie

5:30pm Tues: 1 Sm 1:9-20; Gospel Mk 1:21-28
Intention: D. Christopher Gudmunsen

8am Wed: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Gospel Mk 1:29-39
Intention: Mary Rita Hegener-Cotter

8:30am Thurs: 1 Sm 4:1-11; Gospel Mk 1:40-45
Intention: D. Mary Frantz

8am Fri: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22; Gospel Mk 2:1-12
Intention: D. Lei Ann Hunter

5 pm Sat: 1 Sm 2:1-4, 17-19, 10:1; Gospel Mk 2:13-17
Intention: D. Ed Hill

Sun: Is 49:3, 5-6; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Gospel Jn 1:29-34
8am Intention: St. Francis Xavier Parish
10am Intention: D. Sara Scholl
12noon Bay Shore: St. Francis Solanus Parish

LECTORS

Saturday & Sunday, January 19/20, 2008

5:00 pm Jim Wolf
8:00 am Kolleen Homuth & Norm Bennett
10:00 am Dave Schneider & Julie Gudmunsen

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday & Sunday, January 19/20, 2008

5:00 pm Janet Pflughaar, Stan & Margaret Borowski, Brian & Teresa George, Sue Levitte
8:00 am Mary Lee & Bill Huber, Joyce & Roger Clark, Ed Collins, Mary Tonge, Gietzen
10:00 am Lisa Scholl, Margene Fennell, Bob & Barb Fate, John Zimmerman, Jim Holtz

GREETERS

Saturday & Sunday, January 19/20, 2008

5:00 pm Barbara Mayer, Jennifer Mayer, Audrey Mania, Annette Hannan, Stan & Margaret Borowski
8:00 am Dean & Nancy Jo Eaton, Rob & Kim Kronberg, Jeane Blanz, Sue Lawry
10:00 am Sally Parish, Joan Shear, Jennifer Muller, Roy & Mary Ellen Pulaski, Theresa Golding, Bob & Barb Fate

ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday & Sunday, January 19/20, 2008

5:00 pm Will Barnwell, Kelly Powers, Will Klooster
8:00 am Craig Schoenith, Luke Tillotson, Austin Willson
10:00 am Tyler Rasmussen, Tom & Joe LeBlanc

St. Francis Solanus - Bay Shore

December 30, 2007

Envelopes \$ 515.00
 Loose \$ 651.50
\$1,166.50

January 6, 2008

Envelopes \$443.00
 Loose \$305.72
\$745.72

Liturgical Ministers -January 20, 2008

Minister of the Word: Eric Kessler
 Eucharistic Minister: Gus Sonnenberg
 Server: Tim Sysko
 Usher: John Wiklanski
 Offering: Audrey & CLint Etienne

Prayer Chain: Sandi Meyer 347-6190


"O, Come Let Us Adore Him"

St. Francis Xavier Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Adoration on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays

7:00 am to 10:00 pm

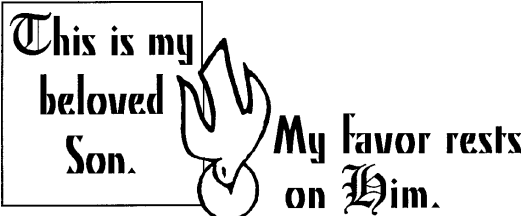
Entrance on South side of church (ramp side) off State St.



Carol Reed, Samuel Theodore Kolinski, Kerri Malloy, Carolyn Rostar, Larry Shear, Pvt. Ryan Craig, Mike Dainoviec, Jessica Kohlligian, Karen Golovich, Martha & Robert Fate, Sr., Peggy Beyers, Therese Skoczylas, Ed Kelbel, Sr., Helen Dyksterhouse, Frank & Gertrude Kline, Lois Brinkel, Mary Ketchman, Ralph Kilpatrick, Betty Riley, Casie Parker, Rose Case, Ryan McCarthy, Sarah Miller, Floyd Francis, Brian Kuebler, Jerry Brown, Laura Ilenich, Gregg Hosler, Mike Conflitti, Pat Powers, Molly Walenta, Paul Lacusta, Tom Steffel, Andrew Francis, Martin & Carol Beer, Jean Haase, Jeremy Yell, Carol Lamberti, Andy Mayer, Sally Doody, Lisa Lightfoot
 All shut-ins and those in care facilities

Persons of Ministry

Cemetery	Don Paulus	347-2976
Prayer Chain	Margaret Pennell	347-4753
	Bea Wolf	347-2711
Respect Life Committee	Mike LaVictoire	526-1302
Greeters	Bonnie Farrugia	347-9632
Hospitality	Sally Parish	590-0949
Coffee Hours	Carol Gietzen	347-6935
	Mary Ellen Pulaski	347-4648
Newcomer's	Jim & Linda Beno	347-7926
Health Ministry	Suzanne Holguin	347-4133
Peace & Justice	Fred Liederbach	347-8646
Br. Dan's Food Pantry	Mary Moellering	347-7423



Sponsor of the Week
The Print Shop