

## **A Message From Fr. Denny**

Welcome back home all you Spring Breakers. I hope that your time away was relaxing. Now it is my turn. I leave this Sunday, April 6 for my home town of Ionia. On Monday, my mother, my aunt and I will fly out of Grand Rapids directly to Orlando. There a ride will be waiting for us to take us to my sister's house in Tavarea, 30 miles from Orlando. I will return on Friday, April 18 in time for First Sacraments rehearsal. Then Fr. Eyob is off to Ethiopia for about three weeks.

On the weekend of April 27 we begin our Parish Mission (retreat) with Fr. Tom Allender, Jesuit. The Mission will end on Wednesday of that week, in the evening. Please mark the dates on your calendars and join us. We could all use a little spiritual shot in the arm.

We have just been given our CSA targets for 2008/09: St. Francis Xavier, \$123,607.00; St. Francis Solanus, \$6,634.00. Our first CSA Sunday will be the first weekend of May. For the first three weekends of May someone will be in the church Gathering Space to take your pledges. Please make it a point to make your pledge in a timely manner. If you wish to make your pledge by mail or stop by the office, you are welcome to do that. If you have not yet completed this past year's pledge, please do so. As you know, whatever you folks don't give has to be taken out of general operating budget. And that is a no-no. So please honor your pledge commitments.

On Sunday, April 13, the Church will be celebrating the 45th World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Our Vocation Director, Fr. Don Geyman, will have a special prayer service at St. Mary Parish in Alpena at 3:00 p.m. All are invited to participate. The one hour service will be followed by refreshments.

### **Prayers for Vocations**

O Father, you desire all of us to be happy. Stir up the grace of a religious vocation in the hearts of many men and women. Grant to them the willingness and generosity to give of themselves, their lives, their time and their talents to the service of Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord and Savior, and to His Holy Church. May more men and women go forth as priests, deacons, brothers and sisters to bring the truths of our Catholic faith to all others so that soon they, too, may know You better and love You more...and serving You, be truly happy. Amen.

Father you call each one of us by name and ask us to follow you. Bless your church by raising up dedicated and generous leaders from our families and friends who will serve your people as Sisters, Priests, Brothers, Deacons, and Lay Ministers. Inspire us as we grow to know you, and open our hearts to hear your call. We ask this in Jesus name. Amen.

## **STEWARDSHIP**

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

<b>Kids Coins For Kids</b>	<b>\$ 75.18</b>
<b>Cemetery Maintenance Fund</b>	<b>\$ 55.00</b>
<b>Building Fund</b>	<b>\$ 643.50</b>
<b>Tuition Angel Fund</b>	<b>\$ 175.00</b>
<b>Endowment</b>	<b>\$ 75.50</b>
<b>Envelopes (299)</b>	<b>\$10,375.50</b>
<b>Loose</b>	<b>\$ 1,562.43</b>
<b>Easter</b>	<b>\$ 320.00</b>
<b>Total Collection Last Week</b>	<b>\$13,282.11</b>

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

The disciples on the road to Emmaus walked and talked with Jesus all day long, but it was not until they offered Him hospitality and He blessed and broke the bread that they recognized Him. Simple acts of loving kindness still reveal the presence of God in our midst.

## **Time for Vacation Bible School!**

Planning for this summer's Rainforest Vacation Bible School has begun. We are looking for several volunteers to fill various roles during VBS week. This is a great opportunity to become involved with the children of our parish, teaching our faith and having fun. Our first planning meeting will take place on April 8, 10:00 am in the Parish Office basement meeting room. All are welcome - moms, dads, grandparents... If you would like to be a part of VBS, but cannot make the meeting, please call Deborah Gagnon at 347-3748 for more information. Thank you!



### **SFX School News**

Have you heard that our second graders are already involved in community service? Once a month the second graders of St. Francis travel to Bortz Nursing Home to play bingo with the residents. It is a wonderful experience for both the residents and our children. Our children brighten their day by awarding them prizes and by giving them some tender loving care. Their next trip to Bortz is on April 10th in case any parishioners would care to join us.

### **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**

April is national Child Abuse Prevention Month. It is most appropriate that Child Abuse Prevention Month is held during the Easter season. There is no better time than Easter to celebrate the protection of our most valuable gift from God—our children. For information on how you can become more informed and involved in keeping our children safe, please visit [www.diocesofgaylord.org](http://www.diocesofgaylord.org) or call Candace Neff at 989.732.5147.

## Third Sunday of Easter, April 6, 2008

Mark Your calendar for the Annual Spring  
**PANCAKEBREAKFAST**

Sponsored by  
SFX Boy Scout Troop 7



St. Francis Parish Hall  
Sunday, April 27, 2008  
8:30 am - 12:00 pm

Single	Couple	Family
\$5.00	\$10.00	\$15.00
Children Under 6 FREE		

### Baptismal Preparation Class

The next class will be held on Saturday, April 12 at 8:30 am in the parish rectory. Class is required for parents who have not yet had a child baptized.

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### High School Youth Group

High School Youth Group meets this Sunday, April 6th from 5-8pm for a John Paul II Festival Preparations and Work Bee. Actors are asked to bring their costumes and props. The "Saints" will be preparing as well! There will also be final set preparations. It's an "all hands on deck" meeting! Dinner will be provided!

Pizza & Aplogetics meets this Tuesday, April 8th from 6:15-7:30pm in the John Paul II Youth Center. We are wrapping up our spring Pizza & Apologetics session on Tuesday with a preview of the new series by Mark Hart that we will be using in the fall! Join us!

Tickets are now for sale for our JOHN PAUL II FESTIVAL and DINNER THEATER on Saturday, April 26th from 6-9pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Tickets are \$25 a person and include a wonderful chicken dinner, an excellent theatrical performance by members of our High School Youth Group, and silent auction. Tickets are available at St. Francis Xavier & Holy Childhood Parish Offices. Contact Liz Gengle for group purchases at 347-4133, ext. 27.

High School Seniors interested in applying for the Bishop's Service Scholarship award may call Liz Gengle at St. Francis parish office for an application.

Want to go to World Youth Day in Sydney? Sydney, Ohio that is! The Diocese of Gaylord is traveling to Ohio for a World Youth Day Celebration closer to home. For more information call Liz Gengle.

In His Peace,  
Liz Gengle

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### FAMILY PERSPECTIVES

In today's gospel the disciples were returning home so "downcast" they did not recognize Jesus walking with them. In our homes we can also be so overwhelmed we don't see God with us. Today's gospel tells us to stop each day and open our eyes to the blessings we are to one another in our families.

### LIFE MATTERS

Thirty-five years ago, the Supreme Court imposed a change on our nation that is at odds with our history, our Constitution and our humanity. And it is time to change Roe v. Wade.

Abortion is wrong because it hurts everyone.

It takes the life of an innocent unborn child.

It victimizes the mother and father.

It compromises doctors and nurses.

It undermines respect for judges.

It implicates the taxpayer who pays for it.

It coarsens the society that tolerates it.

No woman should feel she must have an abortion. We can find a better way. We can build a society in which every woman and child can find the support and care they deserve. We can build a culture of life. We can give hope to every woman and every child.

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson, Knights of Columbus, Remarks at the March for Life in Washington, D.C.

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Next Sunday, April 13, is a special Easter celebration of Good Shepherd Sunday. In 1963 Pope Paul VI designated this day as World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Our parish will join with the universal church to ask for God's blessings that we may be strengthened in our Christian vocation.

### WOMEN FOR WOMEN MEETING

The ladies of your parish are invited to the St. Mary Cathedral sponsored Women for Women group's Day of Reflection on Saturday, April 19, 2008, from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Diocesan Pastoral Center in Gaylord. Janice Lynne Lundy, nationally syndicated magazine columnist, author and Dominican Associate, will present: Remember Your Loveliness: God Does! Cost is \$30.00 and includes a continental breakfast and lunch. R.S.V.P. by April 12, 2008. Register by calling the parish office at (989) 732-5448. Additional questions may be directed to Joann Fury by calling 989.732.0450.

### Overnight Retreat - Our Prodigal God

Augustine Retreat Center, Conway

Friday, April 25th thru Saturday, April 26th

7:00 pm, Friday thru 7:00 pm Saturday

Mrs. Patricia Crane

\$75 per person (includes meals and lodging)

Name, address & phone # to Center for Catholic Studies, 611 W. North St., Gaylord, MI 49735

There is required reading for this retreat available through the Rose Resource Center at the Diocese.

**SCRIPTURES FOR WEEK OF April 7-13**

**8 am Mon:** Acts 6:8-15; Gospel Jn 6:22-29  
*Intention: D. Marian Sawicki*

**5:30pm Tues:** Acts 7:51-8:1a; Gospel Jn 6:30-35  
*Intention: Sylvia Studzinski - birthday*

**8am Wed:** Acts 8:1b-8; Gospel Jn 6:35-40  
*Intention: D. Leon Studzinski*

**8:30am Thurs:** Acts 8:26-40; Gospel Jn 6:44-51  
*Intention: D. Ralph Daly*

**8am Fri:** Acts 9:1-20; Gospel Jn 6:52-59  
*Intention: D. Anna Jean Haase*

**5 pm Sat:** Acts 9:31-42; Gospel Jn 6:60-69  
*Intention: D. Sam Sansone*

**Sun:** Acts 2:14a, 36-41; 1 Pt 2:20b-25; Gospel Jn 10:1-10  
*8am Intention: D. Lewis Malec*  
*10am Intention: D. Isabelle Hoffman*  
*12noon Bay Shore: St. Francis Solanus Parish*

**LECTORS**

**Saturday & Sunday, April 12/13, 2008**

**5:00 pm** Pat Hoffman  
**8:00 am** John Parker & Kolleen Homuth  
**10:00 am** Rachel Brooks & David Schneider

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

**Saturday & Sunday, April 12/13, 2008**

**5:00 pm** Rob & Kim Kronberg, Austin & Virginia Cole, Chris & George Mayer  
**8:00 am** Vickie Vance, Mary Lee & Bill Huber, Carla Kanine, Gietzen, Frank & Julie Holzschu  
**10:00 am** Emily Daniel, Gary Toporek, Lee Phillips, Bud & Mary Riley, Barb Spencer

**GREETERS**

**Saturday & Sunday, April 12/13, 2008**

**5:00 pm** Barbara Mayer, Jennifer Mayer, Audrey Mania, Mary Jane Phelan, Annette Hannan, Stan & Margaret Borowski  
**8:00 am** Gordon & Carolyn Bourland, Dean & Nancy Jo Eaton, Rob & Kim Kronberg, Jeane Blanz, Sue Lawry, Olive Hoffman, Marielle Rehmman

**10:00 am** Sally Parish, Joan Shear, Roy & Mary Ellen Pulaski, Theresa Golding, Bob & Barb Fate

**ALTAR SERVERS**

**Saturday & Sunday, April 12/13, 2008**

**5:00 pm** Erik & Adam Hosler, Will Barnwell  
**8:00 am** Lisa Dinon, Nathaniel Reed, Thompson  
**10:00 am** Joe & Tom LeBlanc, Volunteer

**St. Francis Solanus - Bay Shore**

Envelopes \$375.00  
 Loose \$116.30  
 \$491.30

**Liturgical Ministers - April 13, 2008**

Minister of the Word: Eric Kessler  
 Eucharistic Minister: Joan Sonnenberg  
 Server: Tim Sysko  
 Usher: Dave Meyer  
 Offering: Sysko family

*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.

**VOCATION VIEW**

We can feel the Lord's call at the strangest places and times. The call can haunt us and pursue us until we say, "Lord, what will you have me do?"

 PRAYER REQUESTS	Carol Reed, Samuel Theodore Kolinski, Kerri Malloy, Carolyn Rostar, Larry Shear, Pvt. Ryan Craig, Mike Dainoviec, Jessica Kohlligian, Karen Golovich, Martha Fate, 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, Laura Ilenich, Gregg Hosler, Mike Conflitti, Pat Powers, Paul Lacusta, Tom Steffel, Andrew Francis, Martin & Carol Beer, Jeremy Yell, Carol Lamberti, Andy Mayer, Matthew Royce, Jean Salisz, Patrick Manyian, L. R. Ballard, Susan Fineout All shut-ins and those in care facilities
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**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  
 Contractors Supply*