

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND CHURCH, ST. LOUIS, MO #34



Monday, January 29th

6:30 a.m. Casey Family

8:00 a.m. Timothy Sullivan

Tuesday, January 30th

6:30 a.m. Nancy Noecker Siemer

8:00 a.m. Kay Beffa

Wednesday, January 31st

6:30 a.m. Sallie Mertens

Thursday, February 1st

6:30 a.m. Susan Lockrem

Friday, February 2nd

6:30 a.m. Dr. Harry Purcell

8:00 a.m. Gene Thornhill

Saturday, February 3rd

4:30 p.m. Catherine Kuhn

Sunday, February 4th

8:00 a.m. Parishioners

10:00 a.m. Severin & Ruth Gadell

Weekly Collection for FY 2007

Week of January 21, 2007 \$6,837.00

Average for FY 2007 \$7,330.67

Budgeted Average FY 2007 \$6,546.87

110 Envelopes Used

BAPTISM



Welcome We are happy to welcome the newly baptized member of our parish, Noah Alexander Esslinger, the son of Joanna May Esslinger of our parish. May he and his family be blessed with peace and grace always.

THANK YOU St. Margaret's for your generous contribution of \$344.00 for World Mission Sunday! This is a great support for the worldwide missionary activity of the Church.

Also thank you for your contribution in the amount of \$516.00 for the support of the Latin American Apostolate. Your prayers and financial support remain very important in this fiftieth anniversary year of this extraordinary missionary work of our archdiocese.

May the Lord fill your heart with His divine love and reward you for generous sharing through prayer and sacrifice on World Mission Sunday. Msgr. Francis X. Blood

CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

During the February 10 -11 weekend Masses we will be reflecting in a special way on the sacrament of marriage. Everyone is touched in some ways by marriage, and for many of us it is a central part of our spiritual journey. At each Mass a special blessing will be offered to the married couples of our community. We encourage everyone to join in giving thanks for the witness of our married folks, and to pray for God's blessing on their lives.

From the  Pastor's Desk

I don't want to miss remarking on the increase we've seen in the parish Offertory collection. A few weeks after the Stewardship drive, the total reflected in the bulletin rose some \$1,000 per week, reflecting action on the many pledges that were made. This has been pretty consistent since then. This, first of all, shows a very generous spirit, a spirituality of return to God for great generosity toward us; and a spirit of cooperation with the parish community's needs. This bodes well for our goal of funding our parish and its ministries without a deficit, something that will be a ways off yet. The increase is very hopeful about our parish in general as we move ahead.

Thanks for your patience in the various Facilities upgrades going on. Where we're at now: the Carillon is restored and functioning; the new boilers are in and working, with various controls still being worked on. The rectory basement is nearing completion, and the organ chamber upstairs is being prepared to receive the actual organ and pipes. We ARE making progress!

Tomorrow night's Budget Meeting is an important step toward our unity. Money is important as a reflection of the will and overall resources of the community. We've been working for a year now on implementing our Strategic Plan, with Parish Council's leadership. We're strengthening the ties of communication with each of our committees and ministries, with their larger Commission, with the Council, and myself. A well-planned, collaboratively achieved budget is a demonstration of our will to work together to move the mission of the parish forward.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Pete Salsich III

Today we kick off the beginning of Catholic Schools Week with our school's Open House. This is rightly so-both a celebration of the Church's ministry to educate young people in a faith-filled atmosphere and an opportunity to market our own school to prospective new school families. Today's scripture readings provide a wonderful guide to navigating this internal and external celebration of our future. The theme of the truthful prophet being rejected in his own home town is counter-balanced by St. Paul's wonderful exhortation on the overriding power of love.

In these very busy, sometimes scary and even overwhelming times, it is often easier to become cynical and reject the hopeful truth that is present right in front of our eyes. Like the towns-people who knew Jesus as one of their own and thus couldn't believe he could be the source of great works, we have a tendency to assume that what we have in our own neighborhood can't possibly be the source of real hope and joy-we must have to find it elsewhere, if anywhere. Though if we take a closer look, today and this week (if not all year) we have the chance to really see the Good News being proclaimed to and by young lives every day, right here in our school. The dedication of our Principal and the faculty are often prophet-like-sometimes even in the face of very doubtful "townspeople"-and the Truth being told by our diverse student body is a wonder to behold.

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SCHOOL NEWS

As St. Paul reminds us, however, none of our great "successes" (such as educational success in test scores and high-school admissions) mean anything without love. Our St. Margaret of Scotland school community can be both a source and a great reminder of such love. The very diversity of our community is a great source of strength--when we are patient with each other, when we are not jealous or too self-interested, we can work together and teach our children to carry the love they learned in school into the wider world where it is so greatly needed. So, whether you are a former, present or future SMOS school family, or just a loved member of this parish community, let us all follow Jeremiah's call to "gird our loins and stand up and tell" all who will listen about the Good News we have right down the street.

CHURCH HALL KITCHEN

When your group uses the Church Hall kitchen be sure to clean up and take home left over food, drinks and your dishes. **Do Not** remove any Church Hall dishes or utensils. They will be counted after each event using these items. The refrigerator will be cleaned out each Monday of any leftovers. If you have left over paper products you can donate them to the marked "anyone may use shelf" in the big cabinet. Fr. Tom thanks you.



RECTORY BASEMENT BLESSING

You're Invited to come and see the improvements on the rectory basement after all Masses on February 4 & 5th. On Sunday come before or after coffee and donuts.

NEWS FROM THE NURSE

Cathy White, RN

St. Pius V Church on So. Grand is having a Blood Drive on Sunday Feb. 4th from 8am until 1pm in Singler Hall. Be sure to bring photo ID and eat before donating. All walk-in's welcome. For more information, call Sister Dorothy Katke at 314-772-1525.

January is **NATIONAL GLAUCOMA AWARENESS MONTH** Typically associated with increased pressure in the eye, glaucoma can damage the optic nerve and, if left untreated, lead to permanent vision loss or even blindness. More than 2.2 million Americans age 40 and older have glaucoma. To learn more about this disease, see the bulletin insert.

Walk to Jerusalem Update

This week we begin week four of our journey. We will be leaving Washington D.C. after attending the Pro-Life Rally and then on to New York where we will spend some time in quiet meditation at St. Patrick Cathedral. This is the largest gothic-style cathedral in North America. If we plan it right we'll be able to go to Mass and hear their beautiful pipe organ. After our visit we'll begin our trek across the Atlantic Ocean.

For those of you that have been told you walk on water, this is your chance to prove it! For the rest of us, that means we'll have to swim so we need to encourage each other. If we work together, we'll land in a mystical place on the other side of the big pond! Stay tuned for our next destination.

We are celebrating Open House this Sunday, we hope you will stop by for a visit (11:00 – 2:00). Open House traditionally initiates Catholic Schools Week, an opportunity for us to celebrate who and why we are. Catholic Schools Week is celebrated nationwide, but even more so in St. Louis – an Archdiocese famous for its Catholic school system. So then, who and why are we?

Religion Class- let's begin with the obvious! Every child in our school participates in religion class five periods each week. Their teachers are trained catechists. The children study our Catholic faith traditions, they learn traditional prayers, and they work with and reflect on Scripture. Likewise, they examine issues in morality and social justice, examining their own life choices. When our students are challenged with questions such as, "Why not allow a bully in my school? Why not cheat on a test? Why not exclude a student in my class?" The answers are always grounded in Scripture and the faith assumption that all persons are created by God, loved deeply by God and therefore loved by us. Fair and equitable treatment of the other person is a must in our faith and in our schools.

Prayer – the constant in our lives. On Monday as we gathered as a whole school to pray and celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the beauty of diversity, we also prayed for a family who had lost a loved one over the weekend. What a joy and comfort to know that we always have prayer. Every morning before our day begins the entire school pauses in prayer to give our day to God, this daily prayer is led by the children. Before lunch the children pray as they remember that food is a gift from God. At the end of the school day, the children pray before running off to meet their families. Prayer is at the center of all our activity.

As a school - who and why are we?

WE ARE because we – St. Margaret of Scotland School community – have been called by God in this time and place to guide our students ever closer to God.

LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS

Winners for January 2007 Raffle are as follows:

- Eileen Ruddy \$25
- Jerry Frerker \$25
- Judie Tucci \$100

If you have not turned in your raffle tickets for the 2007 drawings, please do so and you could be a winner in the up and coming months. Thank you from Dolores Hoff.

SCOUT SUNDAY

The girl and boy scouts of St. Margaret of Scotland will be attending the 10:00 a.m. Mass on February 4th as a group. They will process in that day and will serve the community in many of the liturgical ministry roles. The girl scouts will also be selling hot chocolate after 10:00 a.m. Mass; participation in a service project with other troops in St. Louis that benefits patients of Children's Hospital. This is a great opportunity for all of us to get to better know these young people and their leaders.



Calendar of Events

Monday, 1/29—All Comm. Budget Mtg., 7p CH
Tuesday, 1/30—Shaw Neighborhood Youth Leadership Program, 6-7p, CH
 Liturgy Mtg., 7p, RMR
Wednesday, 1/31—Choir, 7p, Church & CH
Thursday, 2/1—Eucharistic Adoration, 9a-10p
Friday, 2/2—School Mass, 8a, Church
 Brownies 432, 2:30-5p, CH
 School's Skating Party, 5-8p, Steinberg Ice Skating Rink
Saturday, 2/3—SVDP Gathering Place, 9a-Noon, CH
 Pastoral Facilitators Mtg, 10a-Noon, RMR
Sunday, 2/4—SVDP Mtg, 8:50-9:55a, RMR
 Scout Sunday Celebrated at 10:00a Mass, Church RCIA, 11:30a-1:00p, RMR
 Dubourg Swing Dance, 6:30p, CH



Annual SVDP Mardi Gras Party

Event tickets and 50/50 raffle tickets for the 5th Annual SVDP Mardi Gras Party are now on sale after all masses. Enjoy delicious Cajun food, drink, and entertainment on Friday, February 16th beginning at 7:00p.m. in the Church Hall. A silent and oral auction will also be part of the festivities. Mark your calendars now and call your friends to join in the fun! Ticket prices are \$25 and raffle tickets are \$5/each or \$25 for a sheet of 6. A free babysitting service in your home is being planned. For more info. on babysitting contact Cathy White at 780-6768.

GOING AWAY PARTY

Mark your calendar for February 17th from 7 p.m.-10 p.m. in the Church Hall for a going away party for Mike Diehl and Alice Benga. They are relocating to Atlanta and we want to thank them for all they've done for St. Margaret's. If you can assist with the planning please call Mary Brake at 776-5311.

"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous." 1 CORINTHIANS 13:4

Are you jealous? Do you focus more on the things that other people have than on the gifts that God has given to you? Are you pompous? Do you seek to acquire more possessions to impress others? At times we are all guilty of these human weaknesses. Yet as stewards we are called to love God above all other things — striving always to be less jealous, less pompous and more giving.

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. February 3rd—4:30 p.m.
 Ben Thomas, Ryan Kiernan
 Sun. February 4th—8:00 a.m.
 Richard Pisoni, Hannah Franko, Kieran Connolly
 Sun. February 4th—10:00 a.m.
 Emily Mulligan, Alex Clemens, Christian Blouin-Weers



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. February 3rd—4:30 p.m.
 Carol Helfrich, Gregory Kehr
 Sun. February 4th—8:00 a.m.
 Barb Lenzini, Cam Jansen, George Mills, Prudence Kramer
 Sun. February 4th— 10:00 a.m.
 Duke Dummerth, Patty Hendrickson, Julie Hesed, Walter Hoff, Pat McGovern, John Merideth, Mary Lisa Penilla, Mary Jo Rhoda, Julio Zegarra-Ballon



LECTORS

Sat. February 3rd—4:30 p.m.
 Alice Benga, Don Burrus
 Sun. February 4th—8:00 a.m.
 Joyce Herleth, Bob Waeltermann
 Sun. February 4th—10:00 a.m.
 Joe Iovanna, Suzanne Bruce



GREETERS FOR FEBRUARY

4:30 p.m. Lucille Shirley,
 Donna Schumacher
 8:00 a.m. Earl & Martha Brake
 10:00 a.m. Duke Dummerth & Patty Hendrickson



COFFEE & DONUTS 2/4/07

Donut Pick-up: Jim Williams
 Coffee for February: Mary Gadell
 Donut Clean-Up: Gayle Hantak



DRIVERS 2/3/07 Bob Herleth
 2/4/07 David Richardson

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

January 21 through January 28, 2007

Sunday: Neh 8:2-4a,5-6,8-10 Ps 19:8-10,15 1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14,27 Lk 1:1-4;4:14-21
 Monday: Heb 9:15,24-28 Ps 98:1-6 Mk 3:22-30
 Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10 Ps 40:2,4,7-8,10-11 Mk 3:31-35
 Wednesday: Heb 10:11-18 Ps 110:1-4 Mk 4:1-20
 Thursday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22 Ps 117:1-2 Mk 16:15-18
 Friday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5
 Saturday: Heb 11:1-2,8-19 (Ps) Lk 1:69-75 Mk 4:35-41
 Sunday: Jer 1:4-5,17-19 Ps 71:1-6,15-17 1 Cor 12:31-13:13 or 13:4-13 Lk 4:21-30