

Nativity of John the Baptist

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



Monday, June 25th

6:30 a.m. The Purgatorial Society

8:00 a.m. Severin & Ruth Gadell

Tuesday, June 26th

6:30 a.m. Casey Family Intention

8:00 a.m. Florence R. Speas

Wednesday, June 27th

6:30 a.m. Gene Thornhill

Thursday, June 28th

6:30 a.m. Genevieve Haag

Friday, June 29th

6:30 a.m. Catherine Kuhn

8:00 a.m. Kathy Rauschenbach

Saturday, June 30th

4:30 p.m. Junias E. Speas

Sunday, July 1st

8:00 a.m. Our Parishioners

10:00 a.m. Ray Scott

Weekly Collection for FY 2007

Week of June 17, 2007 \$5,193.17

Average for FY 2007 \$7,351.18

Budgeted Average FY 2007 \$6,546.87

90 Envelopes Used



IMPORTANT—MARK YOUR CALENDARS

St. Margaret's will be hosting a Protecting God's Children Workshop on Wednesday, June 27th at 7 p.m. in the Church Hall. All are welcome. In order to work with children in our parish you must attend this workshop. Please call the rectory 776-0363 to make a reservation. Thank you.

WELCOME to our newest parish member, Sophia Bernice Leimbach, daughter of Cary and Stacy Leimbach, of our parish family. Congratulations on the baptism of their child. We send them along this Christian parenting path with our prayers.



Special Offering

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

Next weekend, June 30th and July 1st will be the Peter's Pence Collection. This enables the Holy Father to respond with emergency financial assistance to our brothers and sisters in need throughout the world—those who suffer as a result of war, oppression, disease, and natural disasters. Your support is appreciated!



BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

You will find these Box Tops on a variety of packages. Look for them the next time you're picking up summer treats for the kids or goodies for your next barbeque. Please be sure to cut them out, and you can place them in an envelope in the Sunday collection marked "Box Tops" or drop them off at the rectory. Your support for our school is appreciated!

From the **Pastor's Desk**

Sacraments and meals—We continue to have a rush of Baptisms (a gaggle? a haven?) We have them scheduled now through the end of September, including triplets (Reitenbach) in August. By mid-July, we will have had 35 infant baptisms in that 12-month period—not counting the adults, and all of them parishioners.

Anointing of the Sick—These may not be as well known, but we enter each into the record book. I've done an average of one or two anointings each month, in hospitals or homes. This beautiful sacrament brings the comfort and love of the church to those ailing, for physical and spiritual strengthening. Ted Peterson, for one, enjoys communal settings for this sacrament, which we did last week, as he goes through his treatments. All who were there felt strengthened by the sacrament's healing power.

Matrimony—Last Friday I hosted dinner at the rectory for three couples, who had bid for the honor at January's auction. We had a great time visiting, getting to know one another, and discussing many things including modern art and the Beatles (as the auction catalog promised.) The same day I had lunch with one of our engaged couples at Thurman; I've started at least six marriage preparations the last few weeks. And Monday I enjoyed dinner (Tanner B's) with a parishioner couple whose marriage I officiated at here in November. Just so you don't think I live in some ivory tower!

Key committees are going through the usual summer turnover; their leaders and I will be updating you. The Parish Council meanwhile goes as a whole into its second year.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

by Peter Fisher Hesed

We don't often celebrate the Birth of John the Baptist on a Sunday. And, in fact, saints are usually remembered on the anniversary of their deaths, not birthdays. Only Mary, John and Jesus have Nativity feasts. Through these three, God worked uniquely among humankind.

There are striking parallels between the stories of John and his cousin Jesus. In both cases improbable births were announced by angel messenger, and surprised future parents were told what to name their babies. The recipients of the news responded in sharply contrasting ways: Zechariah skeptically, and Mary with utter confidence. The *Benedictus* and *Magnificat*, two great Gospel Canticles, are the songs of blessing celebrating these great pregnancies. And the points of comparison between John and Jesus go on and on, eventually converging at the Lord's baptism.

Our community is celebrating baptisms at a very brisk pace these days – Saturday evenings, monthly at 10:00 Mass, Sunday afternoons. Elements of that sacramental liturgy connect us to John at the Jordan, as we renounce sin and profess our faith and trust in God. More profoundly, of course, that life-giving bath plunges us into the death and resurrection of Jesus. But there are also connections to today's Gospel.

Continued -

When parents present their babies for baptism they are asked, as were Elizabeth and Zechariah, "what name do you give your child?" John is a name that means "God is gracious," Jesus means "Yahweh is salvation." And the names that we give our children have meanings for us as well. The spirit of rejoicing that we all experience at a Christening is like the joy of John's family at his naming. And every parent, relative and neighbor has always asked what the people in today's Gospel ask,

"What, then, will this child be?"
For surely the hand of the Lord was with him.



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

Nativity of John The Baptist

"The Lord called me from birth, from my mother's womb he gave me my name." ISAIAH 49:1

The best way to achieve true peace, joy and contentment in life is to realize that God has, indeed, had a plan for you since before you were born. He has given you the time, talent and treasure to fulfill that plan. Now it is up to you to use your life gifts as God intended.

SAVE THE DATE

Our fourth annual Women's Retreat will take place on the weekend of August 3rd and 4th with an optional overnight into the 5th. Women in our parish will gather for calming prayer, sacred laughter, and inspiring conversations in Ruma, IL. Call your best friend and together mark your calendars now. Registration will begin in July.

NEWS FROM THE NURSE

Cathy White, RN

The SMOS Blood Drive is this Tuesday, June 26 from 4-7pm in the Church Hall. It's not too late to sign up! Help us reach our goal and do your part as blood donations are low throughout the St. Louis area. Sign up sheet is in the rear of Church or call Cathy at the rectory (776-0363).

Quote of the Month

Never go to a doctor whose office plants have died.
-Erma Bombeck-

RELAY FOR LIFE

The fun ALL-NIGHT walk/run /jog for cancer is July 13 through early am on the 14th. The Relay will take place at St. Louis University High School on Oakland Ave. We need folks willing to walk during the night for an hour or two--the team's job in the "relay" is to have at least one team member on the track at all times from 6 pm until 7 am. We will also have "fun fundraisers" on site such as wheel chair rides, lemonade/sweets sales, etc. All money collected benefits the American Cancer Society. Sign up in the back of Church after Mass if you are willing to walk with us. Can't walk?? Make a donation on-line at the following website: <http://www.acevents.org/stl/smos> OR give a check to one of our volunteers, payable to the "American Cancer Society." Call Cathy White (776-0363) or Anne Hagan (773-0800) for more information.



School is definitely out! There are no children's voices, no children's laughter, no light or loud footsteps through the building – it gets a little lonely! But essential work is being accomplished. The cleaning crew is hard at work stripping and waxing floors, shampooing carpets. The work on the new Kindergarten room has begun. Soon volunteers will begin giving the school a fresh coat of paint "facelift." If you haven't already signed up to be a painter and would like to please call Jenny Gerstner, 773-4872.

Teachers are sharing their time with families and friends, at workshops, doing some summer teaching, doing lots of summer reading – professional and pleasure – and going on vacations. Mrs. Gentsch's daughter presented her with a beautiful granddaughter.

Please continue to keep Alice Chase and Tony Brown in your prayers as they continue their fights against cancer. Please continue to visit us on our website at www.SMOS-school.org. It's our summer communication tool.

While summer slowly and luxuriously makes its way to August, please don't forget to use your SHOPS cards. The percentages add up when everyone is participating – the profit slowly but surely chips away at our budget deficit.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Once again, we are proud to announce that one of our students has received a very special award. Alexandria Clemens was recognized by Duke University through the Talent Identification Program for scoring high on her ACT test. On May 26th, she received her award at Drury College in Springfield Missouri. This test is given to 7th graders. She also has been accepted to be in a Leadership program held in Washington DC next spring. Great Job Alexandria!

CYC ID CARD SESSION

If you will be playing on a soccer or volleyball team or coaching a team and do not have your CYC card, there is a CYC ID Card Session on Tuesday, June 26th. This session will be held at Queen of All Saints parish which is located at 6611 Christopher Drive in Oakville from 7-9 pm in the School Cafeteria. The applicant must be present to receive a card. Make sure you bring along a birth certificate, baptismal record (if it contains birth date), driver's license, or current or expired CYC ID card for proof of age. The cost is \$3.00. If you have any questions, please contact Cindy at 846-6472.

SHOPS



DON'T FORGET SHOPS FOR YOUR WEEKLY SHOPPING.

They are available at the rectory or after all Masses. The cards that are available are listed below.

- Save A Lot—\$10
- Dierbergs—\$25 or \$100
- Starbuck's—\$10 or \$25
- St. Louis Bread Co. \$10
- Lowes—\$25 or \$100
- Shop & Save—\$25 or \$100
- Home Depot—\$25 or \$100
- Walgreens—\$20
- Borders—\$10 or \$25

Many other vendors are available by special order. You can pick up a complete listing from the SHOPS volunteers after masses, or at the rectory. Special orders are generally delivered in 7-10 days.

Calendar of Events

Monday, 6/25—Parish Council 7p RMR
Tuesday, 6/26— Blood Drive 4-7p CH
Wednesday, 6/27— Finance Comm. 7:30p RMR, Athletic 7p, RB, Protecting God's Children Workshop 7p CH
Thursday, 6/28— Eucharist Adoration 9a-10p,
Sunday, 7/1— DuBourg Swing Dancers 6:30p CH



PLEASE NOTE: The following notices have been approved by Fr. Tom or the Rectory Staff.

REFEREES NEEDED

The St. Louis City Soccer District is in desperate need of adult referees. Also, we need responsible boys and girls over the age of 14 to cover the lower grades. Games are on Saturdays and Sunday afternoons with make-up games on Sunday and Wednesday nights. No experience necessary. Pay will either be \$16 or \$18 a game depending on your experience and/or age group. You will work a minimum of 2 games to a maximum of 4 games per day. If you are interested, please call Michael Westmoreland at 712-7305 or mwest@brick.net.

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDY SKILLS COURSE

This is for students entering 6th, 7th & 8th grades and will be held at St. Louis University High School during the week of June 25-29. For more information email hannic@slub.org or call Craig at 956-7999.

AQUINAS INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY

Has God called you to a life of Gospel service? Are you ready to answer that call? Do you know where that call will lead you? Whether you are preparing to embark on a new ministry or just searching for your life's direction, Aquinas has a place for you. Come join us for our Open House on Thursday, June 28th from 12-1pm or 5:30—6:30pm. There will be prayer, a mini-course by a faculty member, a tour of the Institute and a Q&A session.. To reserve a spot, email admissions@ai.edu or call 256-8806.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

There are two positions at Aquinas Institute of Theology that are available. They are the Director of Marketing and Communications which is a full-time senior staff position, and Administrative Assistant to Program Directors which involves extensive contact with area parishes. Full details and application information for both positions are at www.ai.edu/careers or contact Marlene Douglas at 256-8804.

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. June 30th—4:30 p.m.

Darby Reynolds, Austin Beatty

Sun. July 1st—8:00 a.m.

Gabrielle & Madeline Hantak, Richard Pisoni

Sun. July 1st— 10:00 a.m.

Peter Salsich, Claire Mulligan, Stephanie Barker



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. June 30th—4:30 p.m.

Prudence Kramer, Carol Helfrich

Sun. July 1st—8:00 a.m.

Joyce Herleth, Bob Herleth, Barb Lenzini

Sun. July 1st— 10:00 a.m.

Betty Schneider, Sr. Mary Jo Ritter, Harriet Pilch, Jerrod Gerstner, Rick Blaes, Deb Halter, Julie Hesed, Julie Jones, Helen Halter



LECTORS

Sat. June 30th—4:30 p.m.

Pat Bittick, Anne Hagen

Sun. July 1st—8:00 a.m.

Tom Keller, Don Moore

Sun. July 1st—10:00 a.m.

Tony McDonald, Lisa McDonald



GREETERS FOR JULY

4:30 p.m. Lucille Shirley

8:00 a.m. Martha Brake

10:00 a.m. Kay Reid & Betty Schneider



COFFEE & DONUTS 07/01/07

Donut Pick-up: John & Barb Lenzini

Coffee for July: Linda Holdinghaus

Donut Clean-Up: Linda Holdinghaus



DRIVERS

6-30-07 Carmela Garza

07-01-07 David Richardson

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

June 24 through July 1, 2007

Sunday: Is 49:1-6 Ps 139:1-3,13-15
 Acts 13:22-26 Lk 1:57-66,80

Monday: Gn 12:1-9 Ps 33:12-13,18-20,22 Mt 7:1-5

Tuesday: Gn 13:2,5-18 Ps 15:2-5 Mt 7:6,12-14

Wednesday: Gn 15:1-12,17-18 Ps 105:1-4,6-9
 Mt 7:15-20

Thursday: Gn 16:1-12,15-16 or 16:6b-12,15-16
 Ps 106:1-5 Mt 7:21-29

Friday: Acts 12:1-11 Ps 34:2-9 2 Tm 4:6-8,17-18
 Mt 16:13-19

Saturday: Gn 18:1-15 (Ps) Lk 1:46-50,53-55
 Mt 8:5-17

Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:16b,19-21 Ps 16:1-2,5
 Gal 5:1,13-18 Lk 9:51-62