

Resurrection Life

Winter Edition 2010 GOOD NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION



Stewardship is the understanding that everything we have is a gift from God. We are stewards or caregivers of the many gifts God has given us. We recognize that all we are and all we have belongs to God, and we are accountable to him for the use of all things. Therefore we must live as Christians, generously sharing our God-given gifts of Time, Talent, and Treasure.

The intent of this newsletter is to increase communication and welcome all parishioners to participate in the life of Resurrection.



Stewardship

A Way of Life

Upcoming Events

Feb. 17 - Ash Wednesday
Feb. 27 - Spaghetti Dinner

March 1 - Confirmation
March 2 - Evening of Reflection
March 7 - Lenten Lunch
March 11 - Kindergarten Roundup
March 18 - Speaker
March 20 - Rummage Sale
March 20-21 - Men's CRHP Retreat
March 27-28 - Women's CRHP Retreat

April 11 - State of the Parish Address / Ministry Fair
April 17 - Time Out for Women
April 20 - Foundations of Faith Classes
April 24 - First Communion

May 1 - Hot Dog & Ice Cream Social
May 3 - May Crowning
May 16 - Ladies Day Brunch

Pastor's News...*Fr. William Koenigsknecht*

I was an assistant pastor (now called Parochial Vicar) over at St Joseph's Parish in St Johns, MI in the late 1970's. At that time we rotated monthly meetings that consisted of the clergy of the various churches in the town. At this one time the meeting was at St Joseph Parish; the pastor was away and so I had the responsibility to host the ministerial meeting.

It was some days before the beginning of Lent. So the topic I spoke on was the season of Lent we have in the Catholic Church. I went on to explain how we Catholics observe this liturgical season: beginning with the ashes on Ash Wednesday from the burnt palms from the previous year all the way to Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and then to Easter. I elaborated about the purple vestments, the time of more prayer, the meaning of the ashes, the requirement of abstinence and fasting from food and doing some form of other penance.

The Methodist minister and Episcopalian priest mentioned their observance of Lent, much like the Catholic version; but then it came time for the Baptist minister to speak. He proceeded to tell us that his church doesn't have Lent. They are "Alleluia" Christians and just celebrate the Lord's Resurrection. Though I knew the Baptists don't observe Lent from the studies I had in the seminary, this was the first time I saw how wise the Church is in celebrating the mysteries of Christ in the liturgical seasons of the year. We as Catholics treat the different aspects of Jesus' life in the liturgical year. We celebrate His birth at Christmas, His public ministry all the way through Holy Thursday and Good Friday to His death. Then on Easter we have Jesus' triumphal resurrection.

Please visit our website for more information!
<http://www.ResurrectionLansing.org>

Cont'd...

Ash Wednesday is on February 17th this month. The ashes placed on our forehead remind us that "we are dust and to dust we will return." Thus we meditate on Jesus' life as He comes closer to the cross on Calvary. We, 14 years and older, are required to abstain from meat on the Fridays of Lent and Ash Wednesday. Also those 21 through 59 years old are required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. One full meal is allowed while the other two meals together are less than the full meal. These rules for Lent are the minimum required.

The Church is asking we do other kinds of penance that fit into our life. Also as a time for more prayer we can come to a weekday Mass once a week or more, or come to the Stations of the Cross on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm and Friday afternoons with the school students at 2:30 pm. Also Lent is a time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation to wipe away our sins. On Fridays between 9:00 am and 9:00 pm, we can take some time to pray in Church before the Lord during public adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Also we might make the time to come to the Mass on March 1st, Monday evening at 7:00 pm, when Bishop Boyea will confirm our 9th graders. It would be nice to have a full church.

Yes, that meeting with the ministers of various faiths made me realize how wise the Church is in covering and celebrating Jesus' life through the Church year. Easter without Lent would not be the same. Easter without Good Friday would seem rather stilted. Let us make this a special Lent. Let us work on it. Easter will mean so much more for us.

SAINT VINCENT CATHOLIC CHARITIES UPDATE

Jean Dalton : Resurrection Parish Representative for STVCC

Resurrection has been very involved in STVCC this fall and winter. A plea for blankets and warm coats went out for refugees arriving from warm- weather countries and as winter and bad economy set in, for the Housing Program for Homeless. You answered the call, as you always have, with individual donations of both items pouring in. In addition, our Youth Group collected, washed and packed eight trash bags of good usable winter coats. Our Knights of Columbus, Msgr John A. Gabriels Council# 11099 was instrumental in the collection of approximately ONE THOUSAND brand new blankets from the Knights throughout the State of Michigan. Many homeless individuals in our community and many families trying to start a new life are much warmer because of your generosity. Our Resurrection volunteer group has donated many hours helping to organize donated items.

Jesus told us to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to take in the stranger and to care for the sick, and He said that in doing this we were doing it to Him. It is a comforting thought that we are helping STVCC to accomplish every one of these mandates with our donations!

The annual diocesan appeal weekend was February 6th and 7th. That gave us an opportunity to share financially to whatever extent possible, in those mandates. The proceeds are shared by STVCC (60%) and CRISTO REY COMMUNITY CENTER (40%). If you were able to respond to that appeal, thank you. If you are still considering it, envelopes are still available in the book racks in church.

A message from Vincent Richardson, seminarian from Resurrection Parish who is studying in Rome:

Resurrection Parish Members,

"So the beloved Fr. Carola sends in a request every semester for the seminarians to serve for the Pope. In the course of his ten years only two groups were able to do it before us. We joined the small list of the fortunate ones, but there was a catch. Only nine of the fourteen of us (seminarians) were able to serve because it wasn't a Mass. We were going to serve for the opening Vespers Service (better known as Evening Prayer) for Advent. What better time to serve the Pope than the beginning of another liturgical year? Three guys withdrew from the drawing, so we were left with 11 guys and 9 spots. I was one of the fortunate chosen and we spent the rest of the week telling friends and family about the event. The event was taped and you can catch it online at: www.catholictv.com/shows/default.aspx?seriesID=57&videoID=751. All of our Bernardi group received good tickets close to the Pope so the others weren't completely left out.

I just want to emphasize the great importance of this day and event. Up to this time all I had served for was my local pastor (not like this is a bad thing). For this day we're talking about the Holy Father, the successor to St. Peter. The Vicar of Christ I was serving for. As Ron Burgundy would say, "He's kind of a big deal." When Saturday came there was a chatting about what our specific roles would be in serving. There was little doubt as to who the cross-bearer would be. My height gives me away every time. We got there around 4:30 with the service beginning at 6:00pm. The Swiss Guards were holding back on letting people in because the President of a Latin American Country (We were guessing Venezuela) had just finished a meeting with the Pope. As he exited we were allowed into the next level. After about 3 levels of security we go into St. Peter's. That's the way it should be I guess. We get in around 5:05 and some MC's led us to the sacristy while the others found their seats. Fr. Carola translated the MC's instructions as we walked through the service. It was pretty simple for me but the incense bearers had some work to do.

After two run-throughs we went back to get vested and were able to get a close-up of the Pieta. This masterpiece by Michelangelo has been glassed off ever since a maniac came in and chipped off Mary's nose in 1973. It truly is a marvelous work to behold up close.

It turned out the Pope was busy kissing babies and so the pace had to be slower. Once in the back we held the cross and candles until Pope Benedict got there. Immediately after he came up to each of us so we could kiss his ring. This is an ancient Roman practice in which you give the authority proper respect by kissing his signet ring. The whole group was rather speechless because of the moment and it turned out to be awkward when the deacons actually started talking to him. Regardless, it was one of the most incredible moments of my life and I will never forget it.

Afterwards we went out to celebrate the beginning of Advent and the occasion at a local hole-in-the-wall called Octavio's. Wonderful Penne Vodka and a couple glasses of wine later we were ready to call it a night. It's been a major highlight of my time here."

God Bless,
Vincent Richardson
Seminarian
Resurrection Parish



Book Review: *Jesus of Nazareth*, by Joseph Ratzinger.

Copyright 2007 by Liberia Editrice Vaticana. Published in the U.S. by Doubleday. Reviewed by Fred Christopherson.

Joseph Ratzinger is better known now as Pope Benedict XVI, however he started this book before he was elected pope. Moreover, he wrote the book not as the Pope, but as a private theologian. He states in the introduction that we are thus free to disagree with him.

The book is offered as the first of two volumes, and has as its subtitle: From the Baptism in the Jordan to the Transfiguration. The purpose in writing the book is shown in the Forward: " it struck me as the most urgent priority to present the figure and the message of Jesus...and so to help foster the growth of a living relationship with him."

Jesus of Nazareth is essentially a Bible study, and a very good one. It reviews the life of Christ, as it is presented in all four gospels. In order to not be unduly long, the book focuses on high points, such as the Lord's baptism, his temptations, the Sermon on the Mount, the Lord's Prayer, and three of the parables.

Most of the events are considered within the context of the entire Bible. For example, the Sermon on the Mount shows parallels between Jesus and Moses. The mount of the transfiguration is compared to other mountain experiences, including those of Moses and Elijah. The Gospel of John is shown to be organized around six Old Testament festivals.

The tone of the book reflects Benedict's own search for the face of Christ. It reflects a love for the Lord, but also shows careful scholarship. The gospels are considered in the light of reflections by the church fathers and by modern scholars—whose conclusions Ratzinger may accept or refute.

The book is written at a scholarly level, but in a way that makes it comprehensible to some of us who are not scholars. The publisher includes a glossary at the end.

Submitted by: Fred Christopherson

Stewardship - Parish Ministry Fair

The Parish Ministry Fair has been scheduled for Sunday, April 11th. We invite all Parishioners to join us for this informative event as Father K presents his "State of the Parish" and the parish ministries share information on their programs.

If your ministry would like to reserve a table during this event, please contact Jason Mendiola. The deadline for all reservations is Friday, March 19th. All ministries will have time to set up their individual tables on Saturday, April 10th, from 2:00-5:00 pm. If you should have any conflicts or questions, please contact Jason.

Jason Mendiola

j.mendiola@ngrc.net

Day: 321-2331 / Night: 515-0548

Thank you for time, talent, and treasure!!

The Resurrection Family

Welcome New Members from October 2009 - January 2010

Piyo Nzeyimana and Venansiya Bahati & Family
Doris Bell
Thomas & Martha Faes & Family
Eddie & Elizabeth Fields & Family
Joelle King & Family
Roger May
Rebecca Michaels
Gene & Rosanne Parker
James Paul & Lenore O' Jibway
Christopher & Jillian Potts & Family
Aurora Rodriguez
Yvonne Schade
Steven & Barbara Smith
Gale & Judy Stevens
Bridget Stott
Cheri Thompson
Rashad Zeineh



Deaths October 2009 - January 2010

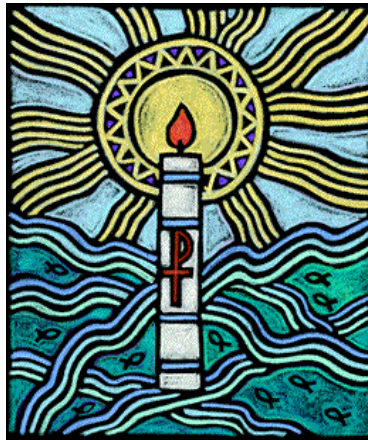
*I am the resurrection
and the life.
He who believes in me,
though he may die,
he shall live.
And whoever lives and
believes in Me
shall never die.
—John 11:25-26*

Richard R. Wilton
Roger L. Brokaw
Norma J. Cornman
Arthur C. Radke
Judy A. Young
Donna M. Youmans
Sherrill Blaizer
John G. Gaskin
John Moynahan
Melita Kabalin
Margaret Wendling
Gertrude E. Fulton
Paul Winegar
Robert Grescowle

Baptisms October 2009 - January 2010

*...this light is entrusted to you
To be kept burning brightly.
These children of yours
have been enlightened by
Christ.
They are to walk always
As children of the light.*

Peter Nzeyimana
Helena Quinn Almonte Konett
McKenna Jean Sklapsky
FueKong Yang
Kachia Yang
Annabella Elena Avelar
Kristian Fredrick Darling



Weddings

12/31/09 - Anna M. Parker to Roger D. Chapman
01/09/10 - Frank A. Levandowski to Jane E. Peck

Do You Hear What I Hear?

As 2009 ended and the new year has begun, you may have enjoyed peaceful melodies spilling across the parish grounds. Yes, we now can grace the community with a carillon system after having considered the idea over the past couple of years.

After the recent closing of Holy Cross Church, we are grateful and honored to carry on their tradition of sharing beautiful melodies using the carillon system that had chimed from that church. We have programmed the system to play hymns at 9:00am, 12noon, 3:00pm and 6:00pm weekdays and five minutes before the Sunday Masses, excluding the 7:30am Mass.

Just as Holy Cross had programmed the Angelus to be observed, we peal the Angelus at 12noon and at 6:00pm each weekday. The Angelus is a powerful devotion prayed between sets of 3 bell peals.

As the bells of Holy Cross continue to chime at the Church of the Resurrection, remember to say a little prayer of gratitude.

THE ANGELUS

The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary:

And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.

Behold the handmaid of the Lord: Be it done unto me according to Thy word.

Hail Mary...

And the Word was made Flesh: And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary...

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

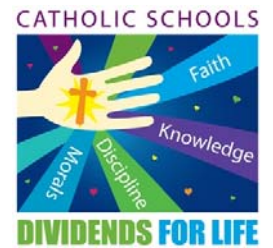
Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection, through the same Christ Our Lord.
Amen.

Submitted by: Margaret Costigan

Resurrection School News

Catholic Schools Week - January 31 through February 5th

Theme this year is "Dividends for Life"



Resurrection School celebrated Catholic Schools Week with several faith-filled activities. Each day students participated in a special activity around the "Dividend for Life" theme. On Monday, the 8th grade students attended Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral with Catholic students from all over the Diocese. Resurrection students served as Altar Servers for Mass with Father Steve Mattson.



Milan Benavides, Luke Turner, Joseph Crowley, Father Steve Mattson, Jackson Fox, Mitchell Tharp, and Colin Curtin



8th Grade Students at St. Mary's Cathedral

As is tradition, families celebrated Mass together on Tuesday. Fr. K reminded students and families that Catholic Schools are to be a light in the darkness. After Mass, families came together in the parish hall for a luncheon. RSC provided a pizza option for lunch. Thanks RSC! The middle school students organized a bake sale. It was good to see all our families together sharing a meal and enjoying fellowship.



Families celebrate with lunch.



Teachers relax at lunch.

Wednesday was Student Appreciation Day which means lunch is served by their teachers. RSC members, along with parent volunteers, prepared pancakes and sausage for the students. Seventh grade students participated in a 7th Grade Retreat at Bethany House on Thursday. The week ended on Friday with the Teacher/Staff Appreciation Lunch and a Family Movie Night in the gym with the movie "Up".

What a special week it was! We thank everyone for their support of Resurrection School!

Kindergarten Roundup

Kindergarten Roundup for Resurrection School will take place on March 11th. We would like to extend an invitation to parishioners and friends to check out our Kindergarten by attending Roundup. Please call the school for a reservation. (487-0439).

FROM THE GRAPEVINE -- REACT TEENS

Our year has started off with a bang! Not only have we gained a lot of new teens, but we have been very busy with one activity after another.



What fun we had with our two priests at our annual "HARVEST PARTY" in October. We sang, we ate, we told stories and had great fun around a roaring bonfire.

In November we had a large group of teens go to the Diocese Jamboree at the Lansing Center. Father Pancra joined us and I think he had the most fun.



We had 7 representatives from REACT at the "National Catholic Youth Conference" in Kansas City, MO. The teens joined 25,000 teens from all over the U.S. to share and grow in their Catholic Faith. We thank you all for your prayers and your support.

2010 is starting off full steam ahead. We're having our Chili Dinner fundraiser and Super Bowl party all in the same weekend....teens LOVE to stay busy.

Keep your eyes on the bulletin for all the news of our group that is heading to Madrid, Spain in August 2011 to make a pilgrimage with Pope Benedict XVI. WE CAN'T WAIT!!!!

