

Social Ministry

St. Francis Parish Helps the Poor!
[Call Scott Wright 821-2121]

"Poverty in America"

Bicyclists riding from San Francisco to Washington D.C. stopped at St. Francis Church on July 18th to give a 53-minute presentation on poverty in America.



Every 53 minutes, a child dies in the United States due to poverty-related causes. Check out <www.povertyusa.org>

The "Bike Ride Across America" highlighted poverty in the U.S. The group of about 20 bicyclists stayed over night in the St. Francis School Gym after giving a presentation on the issue of "Poverty in America."

The event was sponsored by the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. The reception was wonderful, with about 50 people turning out to greet the cyclists. Also, highlighted were the local anti-poverty programs.



See website at:
www.brakethecycle.org



Washtenaw County Jail



Scores of men & women in the Washtenaw County Jail are waiting for an opportunity to attend Catholic Mass, Eucharistic adoration, & Catholic inquiry class. Imagine if our church did not have enough room for all the people, and you had to wait weeks before you could get an open seat in the church. Or, imagine that you were experiencing some pain and

needed to see a doctor, but you had to wait several weeks before even getting to wait in the lobby to make an appointment.

Men & women in the Washtenaw County Jail are wounded, hurting & in need of spiritual healing. Many with self-inflicted spiritual wounds, are ostracized from ordinary life and they are seeking the Lord Jesus who alone can reconcile and make new.

So far during this 2003 year, the Sacraments of Initiation, Baptism, Confirmation, and First Holy Eucharist have been celebrated four times (January 11, April 26, June 7, and August 3) with a total of 24 persons being welcomed into full communion with the Catholic Church.



Thanks to the 25 lay volunteers & our parish Director of Social Ministry, Scott Wright, who coordinates the schedules, volunteers, supplies & training for the ministry. The volunteers help to organize, answer questions about our faith, serve Mass, lead prayer, Liturgy of the Word, and preach/share the gospel.

We are blessed with a wonderful Sacramental Minister, Fr. Antonio Elfeghali, who, with the help of Bob Roleke, our Volunteer Director of Catechetical Formation, comes to the jail several times every week to hear confessions and counsel inmates. Fr. Antonio also offers one of the two Masses each month. The other Mass each month is celebrated by one of the other 15 priests from the area: Fr. Ziad Antoun, Fr. James Conlon, Fr. Terrence Dumas, Fr. Antonio Elfeghali, Fr. Thomas Firestone, Fr. Dennis Glasgow, Fr. Arulsamy Innasimuthu, Fr. Charlie Irvin, Fr. Richard Lobert, Fr. Jim McDougall, Fr. Francis Mossholder, Fr. Roger Prokop, Fr. Fortunato Turati, Fr. Brendan Walsh, and Fr. Eric Weber.

We really appreciate all of our priests, deacons and especially our lay volunteers: Jeannette Barbacane, Bob Boone, Mary Denise Curran, Vince Curran, Bob Horning, Linda Horning, David Lincoln, Deacon Edwin Novak, Art Okarski, Gary Roche, Bob Roleke, Richard Rykowski, and other volunteers who prefer to remain anonymous.