



# The Canticle of St. Francis

Published quarterly by St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church  
2150 Frieze Ave ♦ Ann Arbor, MI ♦ 48104-4799  
(734) 769-2550 ♦ Fax: (734) 821-2102 ♦ www.stfrancisa2.com



Parish Newsletter: Volume 18, Issue 3

Fall 2013

## Adults Deepen Their Faith

### Young Adults: Hearts on Fire Retreat

Over July 19-20, St. Francis Young Adult Ministry hosted the Apostleship of Prayer's **Hearts on Fire Retreat**. This was a wonderful retreat for our young adult community. More than fifty adults, 18-39 years old gathered to explore aspects of Ignatian spirituality, deepen their faith, enjoy the chance to socialize with each other, and gather for Adoration and Mass. The retreat was a challenging, yet rewarding experience.



Many are now eagerly anticipating our parish Young Adult Ministry **Fall Retreat on October 12-13**. This retreat will offer snapshots of other spiritualities in our Catholic tradition and how they can guide us on our spiritual journeys and in our daily lives. With the chance to escape to the beautiful grounds of the Colombiere Center, it also promises

to be a relaxing time to rejuvenate the body, mind, and soul in the company of other young adults. For details on this retreat opportunity, please see the parish website.



### NEW Women's Faith and Fellowship Group

Beginning this past April, 30-40 women have met monthly to map out a plan for a new **Women's Ministry**. The name they chose, *Women's Faith and Fellowship Group*, really captures the essence of their mission statement:

*We are women in all stages of life  
supporting one another on our faith journey  
through prayer, study, and fellowship.*

The group hopes to host a monthly women's event which will be open to all women of the area. Watch the bulletin for the first meeting this fall!



# Mark Your Calendar



## FALL 2013

- RCIA – It's never too late to join the Catholic Church!** For more information, call the Parish Office (734-769-2550).
- September 8: **High School Youth Group** returns / Sundays @ 7pm/ youth room / Jen 821-2126 or [www.stfrancisa2.com/hs](http://www.stfrancisa2.com/hs)
- September 10: **Young Adult Book Group** /6-week Tuesday series / 7-9 pm in the youth room /Jen [jen@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:jen@stfrancisa2.org)
- September 12: **Small Group-Facilitator Training** / 7:00 – 9pm/ POMR / Janene 821-2122
- September 20: St. Francis Catholic School **Golf Outing-Teeing It Up for Tuition** / 9:30 Reg, 11AM shotgun/ Polo Fields Golf & Country Clubs, Ann Arbor/ To register call 734.821.2208
- September 20: **M.O.M.S.**-ministry of mothers sharing / 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays/ 10am-noon/ Chapel & nursery / Megan 734-646-9034
- September 20: **Senior Recognition Mass & Luncheon** / 11:00 AM / St. Francis, Ann Arbor / Scott Wright 734-821-2121
- September 20 - **Registration Deadline for the Young Adult Retreat** (held Oct 12-13) /Jen [jen@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:jen@stfrancisa2.org)
- September 23: **Weekly Divorced/Separated Group** /7:00 – 8:30pm / School Library / Jeff 734-678-0995
- September 23: **Weekly Meditation Group** / 7:00 – 8pm every Monday/ Chapel / Paul 734-646-5591
- September 24: **NEW Men's Group**/ 7:00 – 9 pm/ POMR/ Kevin 734-972-6878
- September 27: **Mother/Child Network** / 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays/ 10am – 12noon/ Nursery/ Tanya 734-395-6651
- September 27: **ALPHA for Catholics** session #6, October 25-session#7, November 15-session #8 / 7pm / Marty 821-2125
- September 28: **Middle Singles Potluck-40-50s single** / 6:30 pm in PAC / Jen 821-2126 or [jen@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:jen@stfrancisa2.org)
- Autumn Saturdays: **Sustainable Garden Project** / seed collection & harvest / Erich Jensen 734-996-1439
- October Saturday: **Jail Volunteer Orientation** / 9am-12pm / Washtenaw County Sheriff's Dept. / Scott Wright 821-2121
- October 1: **Flu Clinic**/ walk-in 2:30-6pm/ PAC/ Danaica Watson 734-821-2115
- October 3: **NEW Women's Group** / 7:00 – 9:00pm / PAC / Janene 821-2122
- October 3: **"Catholicism: The New Evangelization"**/ Young Adult 6-week Thursday series/ 7 pm/ youth room/[jen@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:jen@stfrancisa2.org)
- October 6: **LIFE Chain** / 2-3:30 PM / Huron Pkwy & Washtenaw Ave / Marilyn Geyer 734-973-2422.
- October 12: **Catholic Business Professionals' Connection** / 9:00 – 11:00am / School Library / Tom 734-649-2655
- October 12-13: **Young Adult Retreat**/ Colombiere Center/ Jen 821-2126 or [jen@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:jen@stfrancisa2.org)
- October 14: **Monthly Shawl Knitting Ministry**/ 7:00pm / Church Library / Kathleen 734-717-0685
- October 14—20: **Host Homeless Families @ Shelter** / shifts / IHN - Alpha House, Ann Arbor / Scott Wright 821-2121.
- October 18, Nov 15, Dec 20: **Serve A Meal for the Hungry @ Delonis Center** / 3 or 5PM shift/ 3rd Friday is St. Francis volunteers/ Bridget 665-9549.
- October 20: **Family Night @ High School Youth Group** / 6:30pm/ PAC/ Jen 821-2126 or [www.stfrancisa2.com/hs](http://www.stfrancisa2.com/hs)
- November 2: **Fall Chore Day with Neighborhood Senior Services** / Volunteer Office / 712-7259.
- November 8 & 9 - **"Catholicism" Mini Retreat** / PAC / Marty 821-2125 or [jen@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:jen@stfrancisa2.org) or 821-2126 / watch Sunday bulletin & website for details
- November 12: **Senior Citizen Veteran's Program & Thanksgiving meal** / Tues 10AM / PAC / 821-2121.
- November 21-23 - **National Catholic Youth Conference**, Indianapolis, IN/ follow on the HS Youth travel blog
- November 24: **Food Drive to Local Homes** / 10AM / School Gym / Scott Wright / 821-2121
- November 29 - Dec 15: **Giving Tree Gift Sharing** / shift times / Church / volunteer to Scott Wright 821-2121.
- December 10: **Christmas Dinner Party for Perry Nursery School** / 5:45pm / PAC / Scott Wright / 821-2121

## We Welcome Our New Pastor, Fr James Conlon!

It's Tuesday afternoon, August 27 and I am sitting at my desk surrounded by lots of work and even more requests for meetings. The last few weeks have been like an informational and procedural tsunami but I am beginning to get the feel of my new role as pastor here. But what has surprised and delighted me most has been the wonderful welcome I have received since returning to St. Francis (having served here as Associate Pastor from 2003-2004). It has been a great joy to return to Ann Arbor and to reconnect with so many old friends and parishioners. It has equally been wonderful to meet so many new people and I look forward in the weeks and months ahead to getting to meet many more.



St. Francis is a big and diverse parish community of faith with lots of ministries and even more activities, but we have one point of union: Christ! It is He who unites us, feeds us and empowers us. I once read that the kingdom of God is like a web of relationships with Christ at the very center and all of us united around him, linked to him and through him to each other. It's an image that resonates with me and one that inspires my own priestly ministry. As brothers and sisters in Christ, united in baptism, our common task is to witness to Christ and to his gospel message as handed down through the generations and through our witness and lives of faith to bring others into that web of relationships.



My prayer is that together we can continue to strengthen and build upon all that has been achieved in the past and to make our contribution to spreading the faith and inviting others to encounter Christ here in our parish community.

May our beloved patron St. Francis, continue to inspire and intercede for us.  
**Fr. James Conlon**  
 Pastor

## 2013 Organ Recital Series



The annual Organ Recital Series took place this summer on the Monday evenings of August. The series is hosted by St. Francis in conjunction with the Ann Arbor Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. This year's series featured organists Andrew Lang, Gale Kramer, Johnny Kash (*below left*), and (posed together) Benjamin Woosley, Monte Thomas, Mary Zelinski and Matthew Dempsey. The artists came from as far as North Carolina to as near as our very own Ann Arbor and ranged from backgrounds including computer engineering, local church organists, organ performance students, and former university professors.



The recitals were well attended by a generous and supportive audience including parishioners, local organists, American Guild of Organist members, and Ann Arbor community members. St. Francis of Assisi Parish hosted a reception for each recitalist following the concerts, organized by volunteers from the music ministry. Many thanks to the recitalists, volunteers, Fr. James for his support of the series, and all who made the concerts possible!



## St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School

### We're off to a wonderful start!

We have been blessed by many donors and the teachers have been frugally working where they can to save money. This has made so many updates possible throughout the school.

Students will notice a number of facility improvements that occurred over the summer: *energy-efficient doors and windows* were installed in the 6th grade entrance (and will be installed in the outside Gym entrance in September); classrooms in the 4/5 hallway, as well as the 6th grade entrance area and stairway, were *extensively repainted*; and a *new drainage system* was added to the south hill of the property, running from the Parish Office to the Music Room, to channel storm water from "fifty-year rains" (that now seem to occur annually) away from our buildings. One improvement that will not likely be visible to most is a pair of *high-efficiency hot water boilers*, also installed over the summer to serve the 4/8 building all the way to the Gym, in addition to the Church.

Our facilities were not the only areas undergoing updates:

- Our kindergarten and first grade teachers have adopted a new language arts program, called First Steps and Fast Reading for which they attended training before the new school year.
- Our middle school classrooms and middle school computer lab have brand new PCs.
- We have added additional infrastructure to the building's wireless capabilities.
- Many teachers will have newer computers at their desks when they return.
- Most teachers have the items they requested on their wish lists for instructional aids.

I feel so blessed to welcome new people to our St. Francis School family and team.

• Our new pastor: **Fr. James Conlon** has joined us. We are so excited for new adventures ahead as we continue to form in our faith and love.

• **Ms. Sarah Stern** is joining us from Spartan country (MSU) and will be teaching 4<sup>th</sup> grade religion, spelling, vocabulary, math, science, and social studies



in 4A. She has a lot of fabulous ideas and will bring a welcomed energy to our team.

- **Ms. Katherine Pfeiffer** is joining our faculty in the media center. She will be teaching the library classes but will also be available to give input and guidance on the school-wide internal, technology structure. Katherine will also help implement our new assessment program –



the NWEA- 3 times a year instead of the ITBS assessment program.

- **Sra. May Butsic** is joining our St. Francis Family as the elementary Spanish teacher (k-5). Sra. Lililana Lara will be teaching PK and 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade Spanish and other duties to be determined. We are excited to welcome Sra. Butsic as she will initiate our wonderful Spanish program feeding into Sra. Lara's middle school Spanish curriculum.



- **Ms. Megan Gainey** will be joining us as our new 8<sup>th</sup> grade Religion teacher and Literature teacher for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. She has taught in Catholic schools for 9 years, primarily as a 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade history and language arts teacher. She also served as an administrator, and is now looking to get back to her true love of teaching. We are very excited to have her and all the gifts she will bring to St. Francis.



- TBA- I am in the process of hiring a technology, computer teacher to teach our computer labs through Shared Time in Brighton.

The new school year always brings feelings of anticipation and excitement. We have a remarkable faculty and family in our St. Francis School community. I wish everyone the best in the school-year ahead.

Julie Fantone, Principal



## St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School

### Mega Mustang Car Raffle Zoomed to a Great Finish!

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School held its 17<sup>th</sup> annual Car Raffle this past spring, raising \$87,633 in gross revenue. The majority of those proceeds will go directly into the school's operating budget in this fiscal year.

Thanks to the continued generosity of past school parent and parishioner **Ken Butman** (Dealer Principal, Gene Butman Ford), families had the opportunity to raise funds via a red, shiny, Mustang Convertible (lease) as the grand prize, or \$10,000. The Raffle also featured sizeable first, second and third place cash prizes; namely, \$5,000, \$2,500 and \$1,000 respectively. The value of those prizes increased in 2013 to entice prospective ticket buyers.

The Car Raffle winners, drawn by Tom Butman, included Jean-Marie Moulriere (\$10,000), Paul Diamond (\$5,000), Christopher Ongena (\$2,500) and Jeffrey Schwanky (\$1,000). The drawing took place during the Ice Cream Social on Friday, May 31 with Barb Schutzgruber and Chris Loftus as emcees. Since the weather was unsettled, everyone gathered elbow-to-elbow in the Parish Activity Center for the finale. It was a joyful end-of-the-year celebration!

Since its inception in 1996, the Car Raffle has raised \$1,238,930 for Catholic education at St. Francis of Assisi. As one of the signature events of the school's Development Office, the Car Raffle has helped keep the cost of tuition as low as possible for families while enabling curriculum and capital improvements too.

The success of the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Car Raffle was due in large part to the leadership of Chairperson **Amy Smith**. We tip our hats to her for a job well done. We also extend our sincere gratitude to the team of Car Raffle volunteers, the school families and parish members, as well as the community. Thank you all so very much for contributing to our great finish – it was the fifth highest in the Raffle's history!



### Celebrating 60 Years of Catholic Education, Faith and Service



On June 30, 2013, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School concluded its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year. The special milestone included several highlights such as an all-school Mass on the Feast of St. Francis, a luncheon and tour of the school for former faculty and staff, a Mustang Roundup Party, Mass with Bishop Boyea and numerous visiting priests, the creation of a Peace Garden, and the burial of a Time Capsule. It was a wonderfully fun year!

These activities were spearheaded by co-chairs **Patti Dobbs** and **Susan Zill**. Thank you to these extraordinary women for their dedication and service to St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School, and for bringing the idea of a year-long anniversary celebration to fruition!

Now, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School journeys into the future. With God's grace and the steadfast prayers and support of our community, children will continue to be challenged spiritually, academically and physically as they work to discover the plan that God intends for them. May the blessings be many, for many more years!

## St. Francis Teens . . .

### Service Trip to Baltimore: Young Neighbors in Action (YNIA)



What happens when you load up a van full of teens in a parking lot at about 4 a.m. on a Sunday morning? You get a group of kids excited to head to Baltimore for a week of service. As the week was focused on Global Solidarity, it was particularly exciting. Our group worked for three days (*photos lower left*) at sites that including the Franciscan Center for the Poor, a retirement and nursing home for the School Sisters of Notre Dame, and a center for adults with intellectual disabilities. **What might this have to do with Global Solidarity?** Well, as the teens pondered that very question, they came to understand that by seeing how those who are most vulnerable in our society rely upon the social nets that are in place through our various public and private institutions, they can understand how much more vulnerable these people are, in places around the globe where such safety nets are lacking.

This became abundantly clear on Thursday of our week as we headed to Catholic Relief Services national office (CRS) in downtown Baltimore (*photo above*). There we were able to learn more about what CRS does around the world and specifically their lobbying efforts on Capitol Hill to help advocate for those most vulnerable throughout the world. Our afternoon was spent in training to do that very advocacy work ourselves.

Friday was the adventurous day—we drove into downtown Washington, D.C. There we headed to the offices of our Senators and Representatives where we had a meeting with their staff to advocate for the refugee crisis that is occurring in Lebanon right now due to the conflict in Syria.



It was a challenging day. The teens were professional in both appearance and delivery of their presentation (*photo above*). It isn't every service trip where the girls have to pack dresses and the boys ties! A couple of the staffers were so impressed they made comments to the adults in the groups or even called CRS to share their awe of our teens.

Saturday was a quiet day in comparison, we packed up, celebrated Mass and drove the long route home.

We are already planning, preparing, and getting excited for next summer's service trip ... so watch the bulletin and website for this information to be posted soon with registration information and deadlines.

## ... Summer 2013 Service Trips

### Service Trip to Guatemala City: International Samaritan



The Guatemala City garbage dump community is home to thousands of people, adults and children who eek out a living by scavenging for garbage to sell to recycling organizations. International Samaritan is an effective ministry and program dedicated to educating, and providing medical assistance, better homes, and other necessities to those individuals. This August several of our youth traveled to Guatemala to learn more about International Samaritan's work first hand.



Mornings were spent in the classrooms and nursery rooms. Our youth were able to enjoy time with the kids even if language was an issue. The afternoons were mostly spent working. The school needed a wall constructed to help prevent people from jumping over the current walls of the school and stealing. Thus we helped construct a second story wall on the school's roof to deter thieves. We also helped to start the creation of a cement and metal doorway that will allow easier access to the school.



When we weren't working quite so hard, we had the chance to experience other aspects of life in the garbage dump community. We played a challenging game of soccer against the school's team. As the school's team has headed into tournaments ... we struggled! One afternoon we also had a chance to hear more about the Paso y Paso program for high school aged youth.



After a hard week's work, we enjoyed a Saturday in Antigua Guatemala where we saw a coffee plantation, learned about the ancient Mayans at the Jade Factory, had a fabulous lunch, and explored the hand craft market.

If you would like to see more photos or read about the trip in greater detail, check out the travel blog: <http://sfa2-pilgrimages.blogspot.com/>

We do have plans to travel to Guatemala again in August 2014. For the application process and trip details, see the website soon.

## When Did I See You Hungry?

Most of our St. Francis Parish food, meal and grocery efforts help struggling people here in Washtenaw County. Every week of the year, members of St. Francis Parish bring non-perishable food items to Mass that are delivered by volunteers to local pantries: the Northside Community Center of Catholic Social Services in Ann Arbor; and Hope Center in Ypsilanti. In addition, two major food drives each year are organized just for people in Washtenaw County when we deliver to pantries in Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti. One is the Sunday before Thanksgiving, and, the other is in February. And, every third Friday evening of the month a crew from St. Francis Parish prepare and serve the free meal at Food Gatherers' Community Kitchen, located in the Delonis Center, Shelter.

### Feeding the Hungry

My name is Jack Starzec. I have been a volunteer in our Community Kitchen since February 2002. It was after my Mother's unexpected death that I was reading an announcement that Saint Francis Parish needed volunteers to make and serve meals for people down on their luck. What a great way to honor my Mother who was a great cook and who made sure nobody left our home hungry!



When I first started we were a small committed group working out of a campus chapel basement. The kitchen and dining spaces were small and we were in close contact to all who came to eat. We now cook and serve in the Food Gatherers Community Kitchen located inside the Robert Delonis Center, a shelter for the homeless. The program has grown to feed many more people and the number of volunteers has grown as well. I have had the pleasure of working with a lot of great people who share a common goal to help those who are less fortunate.



We tend to forget how blessed we are. I truly know it has made me a better person and I have no plans to stop volunteering here. As you can see from the pictures, it's not all work but a lot of fun too! I highly recommend this experience. I have found while serving others that I am helping myself. I look forward to serving with YOU. Thank you, Bridget McGillicuddy, for being the coordinator and giving me this opportunity to grow in God.

**Help Serve the Hungry!** A crew of 16 volunteers from St. Francis Parish ( 8 per shift) cook and serve every third Friday evening of the month at Food Gatherers' Community Kitchen, located in the Delonis Center, Shelter.



## June Food Drive Groceries delivered to Hungry in Detroit

*"On behalf of all of the children that we serve, we would like to thank the parishioners at St. Francis for the generous food donation. Please know we appreciate your kindness and generosity!"*

+ Fr. Don, Nalani & Curtis of Corpus Christi Parish



**Congratulations and thank you** to our St. Francis Parish, St. Vincent Service Committee members & all parishioners who participated in our June/summer Food Drive. **We were able to provide over 400 bags of groceries** to our sister parish, Corpus Christi Church for their neighborhood children's summer camp and pantry. It is amazing to see all the food out of the bags. We thank Corpus Christi for the beautiful Mass, social gathering & lunch we enjoyed together.

**We especially appreciate the Green Rd. Busch's Grocery Store** for continuing to contribute bags for the collection; Mrs. Lemke's 6th grade class for preparing those bags; our drive coordinators, **Mary Hayden and Linda Wiseman**, our truck driver **Mark Wiseman**, and those who loaded the truck at St. Francis. Thanks to everyone (especially those helpers whose name is not listed here) and all those who went shopping... and those who assisted with the distribution of the empty bags after Masses; Cynthia Carnevale, Christine Feak (2), Dick Galant, Amy Gottfried (2), Mary Hayden, Crystal Heft, Ann Hungerman, Daniel Itkis, Chris Kempton (2), Chris Mollo (2), Julie Soyer, Tricia Suttman, Frank Wahla, Megan Wiseman, & Linda Wiseman. A special thank you also goes to those who were able to caravan to Detroit to attend the Corpus Christi Mass, to unpack and organize the bags, and to share in a thanksgiving meal with the Corpus Christi parishioners: Nora Clark, J.P. & Cletus & Anne Denoyer, Alina Domagala, Crystal Heft, Daniel Itkis, MaryLou Kellerman, Allen & Marlene Knecht, Naly Odum, Matt Schnaidt, Tricia Suttman, Kathi Tobey, Chris Turner, Sharon Walker, Megan, Linda, Mark & Christina Wiseman, Elizabeth, Julia, Karol & Scott Wright, Sharon & Ed Wright.

**We need you to help. Join us** at the next St. Vincent Service Committee meeting on the *first Thursday of each month* at 7:00pm in the Parish Office to work on organizing project efforts like these food drives, our meal programs, our shelters for homeless neighbors.



## Trip to Friends of the Master House



On Monday, July 29th, St. Francis parishioners filled the **Friends of the Master House**! We first gathered around a large table for Mass presided by Fr. Jim McDougall. Next we feasted on a magnificent meal of chicken, potatoes and broccoli cooked by the men who lived there. The main chef is blind! During the meal we had the opportunity to talk with the residents and learn about their families and business endeavors.



As we sampled a variety of desserts, Rob Carpenter, the founder of the **Friends of the Master House**, shared his vision for the house as well as its history. **Friends of the Master House** is more than a shelter for those exiting the Washtenaw County Jail. Rather, it is a place for former inmates that seeks to provide a supportive home atmosphere, as well as a faith-filled community centered on prayer and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Because of this, they have had a very low rate of their residents returning to jail.



## St. Francis Honored for Support of Affordable Housing



Now, prominently hung on the wall in the main entrance of St. Francis of Assisi Church, the Barbara Wykes Award presented by RAAH is proudly displayed.

St. Francis Parish, under leadership of Fr. Jim McDougall, was recognized as the FIRST BARBARA WYKES AWARD recipient at the RAAH (Religious Action for Affordable Housing) annual meeting on June 21, 2013. We are standing as an example of a religious congregation that really lives its beliefs in helping others in the name of Jesus. St. Francis Parish has put into action the call our Pope Francis has made to lift up our fellow man. The award named for Barbara Wykes, one of the founding RAAH members, recognizes the just stewardship. Barbara a member of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Ann Arbor, was an active voice for faith-filled action toward affordable housing in Washtenaw County. Even when she was dealing with a life ending illness she

was a strong advocate for the campaign work force/affordable housing.

St. Francis contributes to RAAH, the ONLY interfaith effort in Washtenaw County for Educating, Advocating and Raising Funds for Housing that is work force/affordable driven, and where the entire running of the organization is VOLUNTEER. The present campaign supports MAP (Michigan Ability Partners), FUSE (Frequent Users of Systems Engagement) and AVALON HOUSING. Learn about RAAH at [www.raah.org](http://www.raah.org) and the work in your community. Come to a meeting. Join RAAH as your donations help with mailing and printing costs. Make a donation of TIME, ADVOCATING and/or Funds to support a roof over the heads of others thru RAAH. Efforts such as RAAH compliments Habitat for Humanity, Friends of the Master, Alpha House and the many services our St. Francis community embrace. RAAH monthly meeting, 2nd Friday of the month at 8:30a.m. in the Church of the Good Shepherd. All are welcome. For information call parishioner, Mary Wakefield at 734-973-6113.

## SUSTAINABILITY

### St. Francis Recycled over 12,000 Pounds of Electronics!

Our parish had two opportunities this summer to recycle old electronics—in June, following our parish Rummage Sale (unsold electronics were recycled) and on July 21st for a parish-wide electronics recycling event.



These efforts were a huge success! St. Francis parishioners recycled a total of 12,132 pounds of electronics:

- 5,396 pounds of miscellaneous electronics
- 4,096 pounds of CRT monitors/TVs
- 1,298 pounds of personal computers
- 874 pounds of printers
- 218 pounds of laptops
- 218 pounds of LCD monitors/TVs
- 32 pounds of servers

It's important to recycle our old electronics instead of just throwing them away. Our gadgets have components that contain hazardous materials such as lead, mercury, and cadmium. Recycling keeps these hazardous materials out of our landfills and out of our water supply. Recycling is also a powerful way to care for God's creation, which our faith calls us to do. Honoring our Catholic commitment to social justice, GreenTech Recyclers not only guarantees that 100% of the equipment will never enter a landfill, but also that it will not be sent to developing countries or to prisons for processing. GreenTech also collects e-waste from businesses for recycling..Learn more about Green Tech, visit their website at: <http://greentechrecyclers.com>

## Thank You St. Francis

Thanks to your support, our parish St. Vincent de Paul needy fund assisted many during these past few months...



### *Dear St. Francis Community,*

On August 12, 2013, the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Community was able to donate money to support an individual that was working with us here at **CSTS / PORT (Community Support and Treatment Services / Project OutReach Team)**. At the time of the donation, this individual was about to end up in crisis and if that was the outcome, their life would have been at risk. *Your very generous donation not only assured that this individual will remain housed and able to continue working towards his life goals, but also renewed our faith* that in times of need, there is real human kindness in the support of your community. This was a beautiful moment not only for our client, but for our team as well. In a situation where we were about to give up hope, we were able to find the financial support necessary to help one person and the inspiration to continue to move forward as we forge new positive changes in the lives of others.

Thank you so much for your support and your financial contribution; it means a whole lot to me personally, to our team, and, most importantly, to our client.

Sincerely,

*Thaddeus Jabzanka, LLMSW PORT Level III*

### ***Thank You for Rent Assistance:***

St. Francis' St. Vincent de Paul contributes as one of fifty congregational partners with Friends In Deed, and through this program we have helped each month with rent payments for individual families (which helps toward eviction prevention) and security deposits for people in need of housing. Visit: [www.friendsindeed.info](http://www.friendsindeed.info)

Thanks.

*Sarah Thornburg*

Executive Director, Friends In Deed

## Parish Summer Events

### Seniors @ St. Francis (55 & faster)

#### Trip to Pious Union of St. Joseph

Seniors from parishes throughout Washtenaw County met at the Pious Union of St. Joseph in Grass Lake on June 4 for a morning of reflection, "Go with God." Ten seniors from St. Francis Church joined others from the County Catholic Council on Aging at the Shrine of St. Joseph.

Fr. Paul Oggioni, pastoral director, greeted the group and served as priest, confessor, and tour guide during the day. After lunch in the Holy Family Pastoral Center, Fr. Paul led the group to the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes and to the Stations of the Cross – Calvary on the grounds. Sisters of the Servants of Charity and Daughters of St. Mary Providence assisted him during the day, and could be seen scurrying to work at the 53 acres of natural landscape and tended gardens.

Italian-born, Blessed Louis Guanella founded the Daughters of St. Mary of Providence and the Servants of Charity following his ordination in 1866. The Pious Union received canonical recognition by Pope St. Pius X in 1914. In the United States, approval was granted by the Most Rev. Kenneth J. Povish, Bishop of Lansing, in 1987. Fr. Guanella was beatified by Pope Paul VI in 1964, and the cause for his sainthood continues to advance.

(Written by Dixie Cocagne)

### Outdoor Mass & Picnic

Neophytes—our newest Catholics, Catholics returning to the practice of their faith, Catholic adults recently confirmed on Pentecost, their families, sponsors, facilitators, and presenters met for the final time as a group. We celebrated with an outdoor Mass followed by a backyard cookout. The weather was perfect and everyone had a great time keeping the celebration going until dark!



If you know someone who is interested in becoming Catholic, invite them to contact Marty Lucas at [mlucas@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:mlucas@stfrancisa2.org) or 821-2125.

### Parishioners Tour Sustainable Living in Monroe



[Photo left] St Francis parishioners visiting the St Mary Organic Farm, Monroe.

Our Catholic faith draws us to live in sustainable ways. Come see what they have done to the buildings and gardens in an effort that promotes sustainable living at the Catholic IHM Sisters Motherhouse campus in Monroe.

During our August visit, we focused on the sustainable "green design" features of the renovated Motherhouse, as well as, the gardens and grounds, including the largest single DTE solar array in the state of Michigan, the geothermal heating and cooling system, the gray water recycling system, and other energy efficient and environmentally friendly features of the renovation.

For information about the IHM Sisters, visit <http://www.ihmsisters.org>





St. Francis of Assisi  
PARISH

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*God loves each of us  
as if there were only  
one of us.—St. Augustine*

**ST. FRANCIS**  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

734-821-2130  
[www.stfrancisa2.com](http://www.stfrancisa2.com)  
Click on Religious Education

### Every Child Deserves a Faith Education

Religious Education classes for children in grades preK-8 begin the week of September 22, 2013.

#### Easy Options to Register your Child:

- 1 On-line with credit card payment at [stfrancisa2.com/religious-education](http://stfrancisa2.com/religious-education)
- 2 Download a paper form from our website or find the form in the Sunday bulletin, or in the St. Francis Religious Education and Parish offices.



*Get involved!*

Share your faith with children. Volunteer to be a Religious Education Teacher (Catechist), Aide, or Leader for the Children's Liturgy!