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# *The Canticle of St. Francis*

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Parish Newsletter: Volume 6, Issue 3

Fall 2001

## Parish Delegation Attends Pastoral Summit

The Ann Arbor News ran a front page story on Saturday, February 24, 2001 entitled, *"They're Excellent: Three Parishes Honored."* St. Francis of Assisi was one of those parishes being honored.

The story is a testament to the spirit at work through the people of St. Francis and our calling to continue the mission of Jesus Christ.

A two year study directed by Paul Wilkes and underwritten by a grant from the Lilly Endowment, set out to find the "best" Catholic and Protestant congregations across the country based on an evaluation of pastors, staff and local lay people. Through the study team's personal visits, phone work and written correspondence they came up with a selection of Catholic and Protestant churches. The work resulted in two books now in print; **Excellent Catholic Parishes** (Paulist Press) and **Excellent Protestant Congregations** (Westminster John Knox Press) and became the catalyst for the first-ever gathering of Protestant and Catholic clergy and laity held in New Orleans on May 30 through June 1, 2001 – to focus exclusively on the local church.

A St. Francis parishioner who wishes to remain anonymous, funded our delegation to the conference to represent our mission and learn/mingle with over 600 others from around the country during this three-day event. It is fair to say that we went with open minds and hearts, not fully knowing what to expect, but intrigued with the idea of *a joint meeting between Catholics and Protestants that concentrates not on our differences but on what we have in common.*

**T**he story is a testament to the spirit at work through the people of St. Francis, and our calling to continue the mission of Jesus Christ.

Fr. Jim, Ellen Ward, Charline List, Chuck Stankovic, and I enrolled and took part in a variety of workshops by representatives of the various churches and congregations recognized in the study, who discussed their best practices. Workshop themes included: evangelization, worship, outreach, inreach, church dynamics and lay leadership, but there was so much more.

There were inner city churches and rural churches represented. A full time staff member of a large Midwestern congregation presented a PowerPoint overview of the system they use to manage the many ongoing activities of their parish – complete with organization charts. In contrast, the wife of a pastor serving a number of communities in an expansive rural environment, showed pictures on an overhead projector of the individuals who come forward to serve in positions as they felt called. Despite the differences in size and structure, the common thread was an environment that did not lose sight of *the power of the Holy Spirit working through people that makes a*

*church worthy of its name.*

Each day included opportunities for informal discussion between groups which was extremely important for maintaining the grass roots flavor of the event. We wore the obligatory conference name tags that also identified our churches but we quickly forgot that we were mixing with Presbyterians, and Episcopalians, Baptists and Methodists, Lutherans, and all other manner of Christian Denominations. Keynote speakers included Martin E. Marty, who gave "the Protestant" perspective and Andrew M. Greeley who gave "the Catholic" perspective - that all religion is local. There was some kind-hearted ribbing between these

*Pastoral Summit – (continued on page 6)*

## NEW Middle Singles

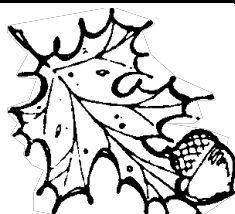
**Catholic Adult Singles in their 30s-40s**

The St. Francis Middle Singles Group was developed to provide activities specifically geared toward **single adults in their 30's and 40's** - a vital and active group in Catholic parishes today. Our **Wine & Cheese Pot-lucks**, "**Christmas in April**" service project, "**Emmaus**" prayer group, **Toronto/Lion King Day-Trip**, and **Co-Activities with other parishes**, have all been our cornerstone activities. However, this is just the beginning. Last spring we established a core group of leaders to help us plan a vision as to where we'll go next. Stay tuned...

In the meantime, **all adult singles** are encouraged to participate in the many and various programs offered through other departments at St. Francis, including **Habitat for Humanity**, **RCIA**, and others. **For more information on getting involved with the Middle Singles Group at St. Francis**, please contact **Marty Rhein** at [mrhein@rc.net](mailto:mrhein@rc.net), (734) 821-2126, **Gary Dolinshek** at [GARYJD@prodigy.net](mailto:GARYJD@prodigy.net), (734) 677-4856, or **Katie Hicks** at (734) 747-9488.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

NEW Singles Groups	2
Inactive Catholics	3
Seniors' Gathering	4
Marriage Preparation	4
Middle School Youth	5
Interfaith Marriages	6
St. Francis School News	6
Vacation Bible School	7
Spending Your Money	8
Social Ministry	9
Upcoming Concert	10
NEW Teen Program	10



**Young Adults at St. Francis,**  
 we're launching a new group  
 just for you. Welcome to the ...

## St. Francis yaacht club

**Young Adult Catholics in their 20s-30s**

**YA²ACHT** stands for "**Young Ann Arbor Adult Catholics Harboring Together.**" At St. Francis our mission is to reach out to **all** age groups. However, the goal of St. Francis' **Ya²acht Club** is to provide activities specifically geared toward **young adults in their 20's and 30's, married & single** - in some cases the most resourceful yet least tapped group in Catholic parishes today. One tack we've taken is by launching our summer "**Theology-on-Tap**" series - still, this is just the beginning. We'll also be recruiting a crew of leaders to help us navigate where we'll go next. Are you interested in helping us plan activities? Please give us a call!

In the meantime, **all young adults** are encouraged to participate in the many and various programs offered through other departments at St. Francis, including **Habitat for Humanity**, **RCIA**, **LIFETEEN**, and others. **For more information on getting involved with the Ya²acht Club at St. Francis**, please contact **Marty Rhein** at [mrhein@rc.net](mailto:mrhein@rc.net), or call (734) 821-2126.

## Our High School Youth Summer Mission Trip Was "Life-Enriching"...

Thanks to a lot of wonderful parish support and prayers, great adult leaders (*Margaret Lincoln & Jessica Hungerford*), and awesome youth, our **Youth Summer Mission Trip** was a "**Life-Enriching**" experience! The Catholic Heart Work Camp was a fantastic organization with a wonderful focus on helping those less fortunate, yet provided plenty of faith-enriching retreat programs for the youth and adult leaders as well.

Our sixteen youth and three adult leaders were split up into groups of workers from a number of other states so we had a chance to make some new friends and broaden our social horizons. The Mission week was **packed full of service activities** on everything from cleaning, to painting, to providing daycare, and visiting the elderly of Pittsburgh. Oh, and how was the White-Water Rafting Trip free-day? In a word it was -**AWESOME!** *As one youth said, "The whole week was definitely - Life-Enriching."* I couldn't agree more.

Thanks again for all your prayers and support!  
 Sincerely, **Marty Rhein**

P.S. (Watch the St. Francis web-site for photos!)

## Welcome Home!

People leave involvement in the Catholic Church for a variety of reasons. Some just slowly drift away from regular attendance at church, and then it becomes a habit. Others may have a marriage situation that needs reconciling, and some having gone through separation or divorce are unaware that there is a place for them within the community of believers. A common thread that weaves through any of these individual situations is a tug of the heart and spirit to reconnect. It is a sign of God's grace working in the lives of people.

This past Spring and early Summer a program called "Come and See" was held here at St. Francis for persons who were considering returning to the practice of their faith. "Come and See" is program presented by a team of people in our parish who have had the personal experience of returning to the Church and for whom it has become a ministry to support and encourage others who are on that path. This year we had seven participants and six team members. The six-week program touched on major elements of Catholic teaching and culminated in a beautiful mass presided at by Father Jim. Following are comments received from participants about their experience of the "Come and See" program:

- ✍ "I enjoyed the program because it helped one understand all the parts of participating in Church and how to be a good Catholic and not be afraid to admit that at times I struggle with faith."
- ✍ "I liked ... becoming familiar with the changes in the Church."
- ✍ "Come and See" (was) "enlightening – uplifting – allowed me to search my soul and come back in peace."
- ✍ "I learned a lot about (our) religion, what happened in the past and what has come from that to the present."
- ✍ "Come and See"... "helped me very much, so much has changed."
- ✍ "That both priests would take time, considering their busy schedules, is very gratifying."

Most people know that the largest religion in the world is the Catholic Church. Many people are not aware that the second largest religion is non-practicing Catholics. As a people of God we are called to do

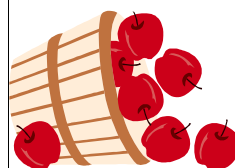


*"Come and See" team members and participants are gathered around the table where lively discussion and faith sharing took place each week.*

what we can, to invite those people to return and then to encourage them and support them in their journey back to the fold. The pastoral staff is always willing to meet with someone and assist in the process of returning. For further information call Charline List at the Office of Adult Education, 821-2125.

### Senior Appreciation Week

**September 17-21** is the week set aside by all parishes of the Diocese of Lansing to honor you, the seniors, in a special way. You are invited to a Mass and luncheon held in your honor on **Thursday, September 20 at 11:00 a.m.** at Old St. Patrick Parish, Whitmore Lake. The theme this year is "FOLLOWERS of JESUS in WORD & DEED." This event will be co-hosted by St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Ann Arbor. A free offering will be accepted for the luncheon. **For reservations**, please contact Scott Wright (821-2121) in the parish office **by September 12.**



*See more about our St. Francis senior events on page 4.*

# Seniors

## SENIORS' GATHERING

**September 11**

Join us for a wonderful presentation of "**Humor and Aging – Don't Make Me Laugh**" by Lila Green, at **Tuesday, September 11 at 10 a.m.** in the Parish Activities Center. A light lunch will be served at 12:00 Noon. (Please, offer a \$5.00 donation.) Questions Call Scott Wright at 734-821-2121.

### Thoughts From A Senior Parishioner . . .

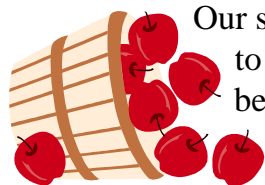
#### **"Getting Unstuck"**

by John Schwarz

We senior citizen-parishioners need each other. And we need to know each other. Since last October at St. Francis we've had a series of half-day gatherings for senior members of the parish. From forty to fifty persons participated each time. More are scheduled soon. We've heard talks, had discussions, shared Mass (one time), lunch (every time), the chance to meet and greet and get better acquainted is all very enjoyable. At St. Francis - admittedly a huge parish, we need such smaller opportunities, face to face, voice to voice, side by side.

Two Sisters of St. Joseph, Anne Brennan and Janice Brewi, specialize in workshops with older folks. In their book, A Passion for Life: Lifelong Psychological and Spiritual Growth (Continuum, 2000) they quote a remarkable woman in her nineties, a "wisdom figure", who gives this advice: **"Never get stuck. There are people who had a heart attack at fifty and got stuck in it."**

Sisters Anne and Janice add, *"Unfortunately we've all met people who got stuck. The temptations to regress or get stuck are great. The trials, losses and challenges of aging are enormous. Yet the stakes are even greater. They are each person's precious life, irreplaceable personality . . . there is no point in life where I can abandon myself or give up on myself -- no time when I am finished, or when God is finished creating me."*



Our senior meetings at St. Francis help us get to know each other, even to know ourselves better. And perhaps, help us to get unstuck. Hope to see you there!

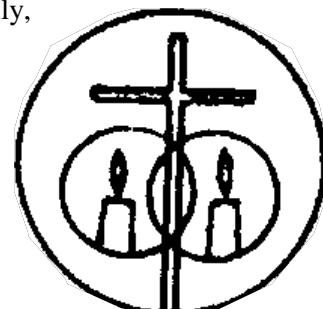
### Marriage Preparation Program

**is One Year Old**

St. Francis Parish and the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Lansing strongly support, and require a comprehensive preparation for marriage program. The program consists of several facets which include meeting as a couple with one of the priests, taking a relationship survey, participating in a communications seminar, attending sessions on how to live their marriage with faith, and connecting with a trained sponsor couple for a mentoring/sharing relationship.

Since September of 2000, we have had forty couples who are at some place in the process, or who have finished these steps to prepare for Christian marriage. The component that receives a lot of positive feedback from participants is the *Sponsor Couple Program*. The engaged couple and the sponsor couple meet for five separate evenings that are spaced out over a period of time. Discussions center on how a person's family of origin impacts the present relationship, and communication, love and intimacy. Discussions are open and supportive. Real bonds have formed between the sponsor couple and the engaged couple, and many of the relationships are lasting beyond the prescribed number of meetings. It is an experience of how a small Christian community that shares faith and values, can have a real way of connecting individuals to the larger faith community.

All the elements of the program prepare a couple for a life of marriage, and what that can mean for them. Yes, preparation takes place as well for the marriage ceremony, but the skills and insight gleaned from this new process will equip the couples for a richer and hopefully, more successful, permanent marriage.



## *Middle School and Service, Go Hand in Hand*

Students in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade like *do* things! It comes as no surprise then that these energetic young people are naturally attracted to the active, outward expressions of their faith. Whether it involves participating in the liturgy as an altar server, lector or usher or helping prepare and serve food at a soup kitchen or parish reception, middle school students enjoy helping. They really do seek to serve.

Over the years, the middle school youth of our parish have done some wonderful things for St. Francis and for the wider community. Just last year alone, the young people helped the poor and hungry of our world by serving food at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, by raising money to buy live animals through Heifer Project International, and by participating in the Crop Walk, the Thanksgiving food drive, and the Work of Human Hands Christmas Bazaar. The middle school youth also extended hospitality to visitors and parish members alike at the many receptions throughout the year especially at the Senior Spring Fling and the Confirmation Reception which they hosted. Then, in the spring of last year, a group of middle school students took service to a new level when they attended a two-day workshop entitled *TeensCARE*.

The *TeensCARE* program's goal was to help the teens develop compassion for others through action, reflection, and education. First the students reflected on

what it means to be a disciple of Jesus and participated in a prayer service focusing on Jesus' call to service. Then they were educated about the myths and stereotypes that exist concerning people in poverty. Afterward all young people were given the opportunity to actively serve the needy by helping out at various organizations, including the Capuchin Ministries and Gleaners. Following the actual service activity the participants were asked to reflect on their experiences and share what they had learned. Finally the youth discussed ways they could incorporate what they had learned into their daily lives.

Those who attended *TeensCARE* brought back many ideas from the workshop that they would like to implement in the middle school ministry at St. Francis. One such idea includes more opportunities for prayer and reflection both before and after a service activity so the service becomes not just an isolated incident but a way of life. Another aspect involves incorporating the *Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching* into the curriculum and discussing the principles with each service activity to help students identify how they are actually living out their faith. In this way, the youth will be growing in their faith by doing what comes naturally—helping. It is said "Grace builds on nature" and so it would seem when it comes to middle school students and service.



Middle School Youth participating in the *TeensCARE* program.

### *Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching*

1. *Dignity of All Persons*
2. *Community and the Common Good*
3. *Rights and Responsibilities*
4. *Option for the Poor*
5. *Dignity of Work*
6. *Solidarity*
7. *Care for God's Creation*





## One Home, Two Faiths

At least one third of people married in the Catholic Church are in interfaith marriages. These relationships offer opportunities for families to grow together, to be open to new ideas, to respect traditions, to find common bonds...all ways to bring the family closer to one another. Deep values that are different can however, also be a source of conflict and division. What's a family to do? Some times it helps to talk with others to share ways and personal experiences that encourage positive and open respect and discussion.

This past year, several St. Francis couples in interfaith marriages gathered every other month to support each other and to discuss how to enrich their individual relationships. The group looked at a study of interfaith marriages, discussing the results and what that meant for each of the couples present. Two of the most liveliest evenings occurred when the topic was an open *Question and Answer Time with Father Jim*. One of the evenings focused on what Catholics believe and the second evening centered on the raising of children in an interfaith household. During August, just for fun and fellowship, the

group had a picnic for parish interfaith families.

This year, the leadership team is hoping to begin monthly, Monday faith sharing evenings based on the Sunday readings. Individuals and couples in interfaith marriages are invited to participate; watch the *Forum* for further information.



### **Pastoral Summit** – (continued from page 1)

two well known, and widely respected orators and friends. Once they each got going, their views become fairly interchangeable. The message was that *God's people come in many different packages and live very diverse lives, yet there is room for more than one faith if we can find some common ground*. This discussion takes place on a regular basis in the higher administrative ranks but is rarely articulated so that lay members are comfortable with the apparent inconsistency in this position.

While our delegation was together, and away from the daily demands of our lives, we had a good chance to get to know each other on a deeper level. We had time to reflect on where we are as a faith-community and where we want to be in the future. As we come to the conclusion of our *five-year plan* – based largely on the results of the Opportunity Audit and ministerial leadership input - we note that



## St. Francis School News

### **St. Francis Travels to 310 Homes**

To commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our parish during the 2000-2001 school year, ten boxes, each containing a statue of St. Francis, a comic book and a book about the life of St. Francis, and a seven-day reflection booklet, were sent to each school family for one week.

Students in Miss Drake's 8<sup>th</sup> grade art class created beautiful statues of St. Francis in clay. The statues were to be displayed prominently in the student's homes and families were asked to pray for the entire parish community. The prayer of St. Francis was used for daily prayer. A journal traveled in each box so that families could write of this experience. Comments included:

John Miller, kindergartner, writes "*I liked the comic book and the statue of St. Francis with the bird the best*". His mother included that she enjoyed knowing "*more about the life of St. Francis and the opportunity to give thanks for the parish and the people that give so generously of their time and talent.*"

The Pierson family writes, "*we thoroughly enjoyed having the statue of St. Francis at our home and sharing the table with us each night. We also enjoyed the readings and booklet. We are blessed to have St. Francis as our Patron Saint.*"

The Miley Family wrote, "*the message of St. Francis is greatly needed in our world today ... to love, to forgive and to have hope; to be the light of Christ for others. For it is in giving that we truly receive.*"

Thank you to school parents, Mrs. Lisa Madden and Mrs. Cathy Strachan who facilitated this program.

our desire to involve many members of St. Francis in the mission of the church seems to be working! The contacts we made at the Pastoral Summit from around the country will be very valuable as we embark on, and develop our next *five-year plan*. God's economy is extraordinary when you see the talent of individuals working together for the good of His kingdom.

Many people have asked if there will be another Pastoral Summit next year, or in general, what is next. I think the answer that came back was perfect; "We're going to see what develops and how the Spirit moves within people." Keep your eyes and ears open for the upcoming documentary film based on this study called, "**A Spirit in The Land: The Amazing, Transforming Power of Local Churches.**" And feel good about St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Ann Arbor. We are more than the sum of the parts. Thanks be to God.

Jeff Lassaline, Pastoral Council

## Vacation Bible School - 2001

### FAITH

Children in PreK through fifth grades spent one week vacationing with Jesus in activities, drama, song and good fun. Vacation Bible School runs from 9 a.m. to 12 noon daily for one week each July at



St. Francis. VBS provides the opportunity for our children to meet new friends, try new activities and to develop in faith and friendship with Jesus. The children this year were invited to delve into a mystery – *the paschal mystery* – using clues to discover the gift of God's love in Jesus. *The paschal mystery* is that event whereby Jesus in dying and rising to new life, en-

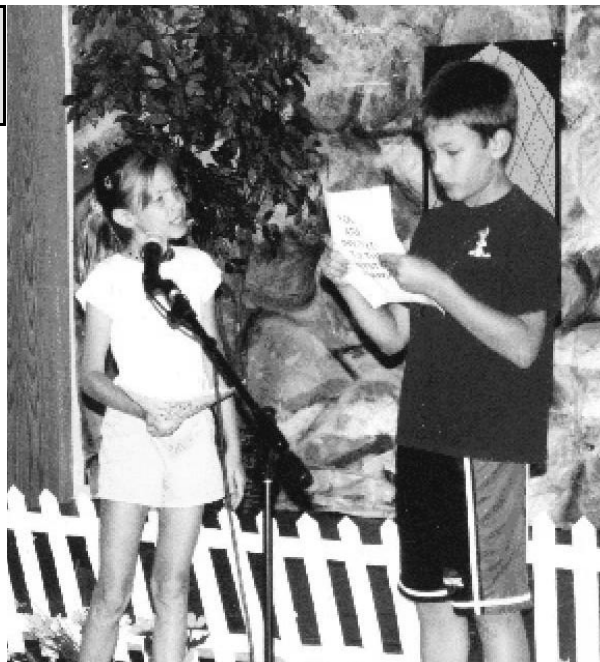
ables us to share in eternal life.

### COMMUNITY

Thank you to over 100 volunteers – middle and high school youth and adults: your presence formed a community of faith that provided for 165 children.

### OUTREACH

Thank you to the many parishioners who donated the 600+ children's books for Mercy Educational Project in Detroit. The Mercy Project is sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy Regional Community of Detroit. The Mercy Project assists 100 girls per year, providing 80 tutoring



sessions each week, in addition to providing support, enrichment, and social activities.

### GROWTH IN CHRIST

Want to join the Vacation bible School fun next year? Mark July 15 – 19, 2002 on your calendar and look for registration and volunteer forms in early June 2002. For comments or questions, please call Ellen Ward at 821-2132 or email at ward@rc.net

## Religious Education *PreK – 8 Registration*

Fall registration for 2001-2002 Religious Education classes is now taking place.

Preschool I/II Enrichment classes begin  
September 11/12

PreK – 8 classes begin the week of  
September 23.

Family Religious education begins  
September 30.

To enroll your child, or to volunteer as a teacher or aide, please call the Religious Education Office at 821-2130.

## The Paradox of Spending and Making Money

### A Reflection about St. Francis School's Development Program

I am the first person to see how all of last year's development funds are spent, which is akin to paying my own monthly bills: although we have succeeded beyond our dreams in raising funds for our school, we still need more to accomplish our five-year plan.

Planning is essential to development because if we don't know what we want, how much it costs, and what can be



practically obtained, we will find ourselves in a cyclone of chaos—spending money for the project-of-the-day rather than truly evaluating our needs. I am happy to report that

we have accomplished much in the two and a half years I've been here.

- We've introduced our Catholic virtues program
- The school committee has organized a forum where issues can continually be addressed
- We've created a development program that tracks, thanks, and keeps donors informed
- We continue to keep up with the computer revolution by purchasing up-to-date equipment
- We've installed a phone at each teacher's desk with voice-mail capabilities
- We've reviewed our Language Arts and Math curriculum and purchased new textbooks
- We've addressed our employee salary scale while keeping our tuition affordable
- We've kept our parish and school informed of all our financial issues

#### **Applause is definitely warranted.**

Yet I look back at the five-year plan and begin to think: how much money will we need to raise this year so that we can continue to accomplish our goals? Can we raise enough money to complete the window replacement project? (\$160,000) What other educational opportunities will we be able to provide for our students?

Through all my worrying and hesitation I know that your participation in our annual appeal and the car raffle will help us address what is left on our plan listed on the left.

Here's to another great year for St. Francis School!

*Kathy Barrett, Director of Development*

### **What we've completed in 2001**

We've purchased new library books that address our middle school student's interest

We've provide scholarship funds for the Spanish Program and uniforms

We are all enjoying the refrigerated drinking fountains

Our 7<sup>th</sup> grade class will be attending the Schoolship program in Leelanau Peninsula

PTG, Heartbeats, Boosters, and ESP have taken our five-year plan into their hearts and are doing all that they can to help us meet out goals

We've trained our teachers and staff in computer usage and have begun placing computers at each of their desks. We've also purchased new software to help them better communicate with parents and students about grades, performance, and expectations.

### **Our five-year plan in progress**

✓ We just completed window and tile replacement in the early elementary wing, but we still need to replace the gym, middle and upper elementary school windows

✓ We are only halfway through our lighting renovation project--still having 6 rooms to complete

✓ We've purchased state-of-the-art computer equipment for our technology program, yet wonder what new technology will be invented that will outdate all that we've just accomplished

✓ We've tried to make our pay scale more equitable, and now we need to transfer these expenses into our yearly budget without making tuition skyrocket

✓ The Mustang Roundup identified so many important issues, some of which will take funding to resolve

✓ We need to evaluate our Science and Social Studies curriculums and purchase new textbooks

✓ We also want to build our Educational Trust and Scholarship funds to assure Catholic education remains affordable to everyone who desires to send their children to our school.



## Social Ministry

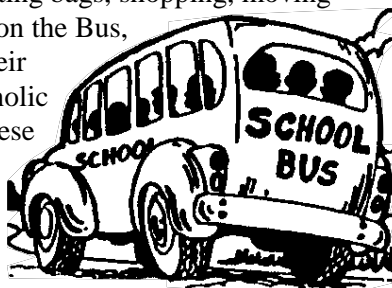
Scott Wright 821-2121

### A BUS of Food for St. Benedict Parish!

On Sunday, June 10 St. Francis Parish community members provided more than 700 grocery bags of non-perishable food items for the poor at our sister parish, St. Benedict Church in Highland Park, and their ministry called "Wellness House" which, provides food and housing for people with HIV and AIDS. St. Francis volunteers delivered the groceries on an Ann Arbor School Bus, a U-Haul Truck and many other mini-vans in caravan group. We stayed at St. Benedict for the 12:00 Noon Mass. This was a wonderful way to build our relationship in solidarity with the poor - our sisters and brothers. It was estimated that St. Francis Parish delivered more than a TON of FOOD (over 2000 lbs.). This will especially benefit HIV positive mothers & their children that live well below the poverty level.

Participants shared: **Marty said**, "*Being at St. Benedict's made me reflect not only on how well-off most of us are but also how much God has given us as a parish. By taking that bus trip I had the chance to participate in a small way in God's providence for his people at St. Benedict's.*" **Sharon said**, "*It was a fun filled day of caring and sharing with St. Benedict. Let's try to fill all the seats on the bus next year.*" **Ed said**, "*It was an interesting trip to get acquainted with the needs of others.*" **Scott said**, "*I was amazed at how well the day went.*" **Robert Fetzer**, executive director at the Wellness House, wrote: "*Scott! Great to meet you, as well as the intrepid volunteers AND that awesome quantity of foods. A true windfall and a blessing on those we serve. Our incredulity is surpassed only by our gratitude.*"

Thanks to all of you that worked on this project - including preparing lists, distributing bags, shopping, moving & loading the food, riding on the Bus, and others that drove on their own.! Thanks, also, to Catholic Relief Services in the Diocese of Lansing, for the grant that covered the cost of this effort.



### The Habitat for Humanity Catholic House Build 2001

*"For every house is built by someone,  
but the builder of all things  
is God."* (Hebrews 3:3-5)



**News August 1, 2001** As we finished framing-in the house last Saturday, it was ready to install the insulation, put siding on the outside, build porches on the front & side, and reflect a little on how just three months ago, in early May, the foundation was poured & set. This house is really well built. The quality of its construction is out standing!

**Let us remember to pray** for those that are generously contributing financially, as well as, for those that are working on the house. "Unless the LORD builds the house, They labor in vain who build it." (Psalm 127:1-2)

**More than 110 volunteers** are signed-up to work (many of these volunteers are from St. Francis). It is our challenge and goal to employ every volunteer in due time. We need your particular skills when the house is at that particular stage. Kudos to Mary Wakefield for all of her work in contacting our volunteers.

**See Photos & Volunteer Application at:**  
<http://stfrancisa2.com/habitat/>

**Come join us** by first filling out a volunteer application (also available in the St. Francis ushers' room at the back of the church). Work is done on Saturday 8AM-12 & 1-5 PM all Summer through September 2001.

**Drive over and see our progress!** In Ann Arbor, go West on Stadium Blvd. turn left on Liberty, then turn left on Maple, then turn right on the first street, (unmarked) "Bens Street". There is a sign in front of the house, sponsored by these nine Catholic Coalition member **sponsors**: St. Andrew; St. Francis; St. John the Baptist; St. Joseph in Dexter; St. Joseph Mercy Hospital; St. Patrick; St. Thomas; Call to Action & The Knights of Columbus of Washtenaw.

A "**Gift in Kind**" worth over \$3000.00 was received from a group of electricians of St. Andrew Parish, Saline, who have volunteered to do the electrical work & they got the materials donated.

A **note of thanks** to the co-leaders: Steve Polgar, Doug Hock, & Debbie Young; the supervisors Gregory DeMaggio, Daniel Golec, & Mark Lavallee.

**Contact** Scott Wright at St. Francis Parish Office (swright@rc.net) (Phone 734-821-2121).

THANK YOU! This quarterly newsletter was printed as a courtesy by Parish Publishing Solutions – our weekly bulletin publisher (800-521-4486), [www.parishpublications.com](http://www.parishpublications.com)

# NEW LIFE TEEN

The St. Francis High School Youth Group is going through a metamorphosis of sorts. Not only are we developing a **LIFETEEN Rock Band** for our new **LIFETEEN Mass**, we are also developing a new look in our Sunday night programs as well. Our goal is to continue to provide activities specifically geared toward **high school teens** – yet, newly enhanced with **more young adult and teen leaders**. *Teens, in many respects, you are the future of the Catholic Church ~ join up & make a difference.*

So far this summer, five high school youth and I spent a week in leadership training. Armed with this new knowledge we are in the process of developing a **core group of leaders (youth/young adult mix)** to help us plan a vision for our St. Francis Youth Group. So stay tuned...

In the meantime, **all high school youth** are encouraged to participate in the many and various programs offered through other departments at St. Francis. **For more information on getting involved with the LIFETEEN Group at St. Francis, please contact Marty Rhein at [mrhein@rc.net](mailto:mrhein@rc.net), (734) 821-2126.**

## ORGAN & BRASS SPECTACULAR!

Saturday, September 29

7:00 p.m.

St. Francis of Assisi



Dr. Janelle O'Malley, with guest organist Dr. Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra and the Michigan Chamber Brass present an evening of organ and brass music. This is a rare opportunity to hear these professional musicians performing works for organ and large brass ensemble. Because of the size of the ensemble, these works are rarely performed. The brass scores call for seven trumpets, four french horns, four trombones, one euphonium, one tuba, timpani and harp. Works to be performed are Eugene Bozza's *Messe de Sainte Cecille*, Robert Starer's *Angelvoices*, Alan Hovhaness's *Prayer for St. Gregory* (featuring trumpeter David Kuehn and french hornist Willard Zirk), and Maurice Dupre's *Poeme Heroique*. Ticket prices are \$10.00 for adults and \$7.00 for students and seniors. Tickets will be available at the door. For more information, please contact Dr. O'Malley at 821-2124.

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