

---

---

# *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 7, Issue 2

Summer 2002

---

*Coming this Fall*

## **A Way to Revitalize Our Faith & Our Parish**

---

### **RENEW Prayer**

Gracious God and Father,  
We are your people embraced by your love.  
We thank you for your presence with us  
throughout all time.

Create us anew through Jesus Christ your Son.  
Liberate us from all that keeps us from you.  
Send your Holy Spirit, enabling us to recreate  
our world and restore justice.

Heal us from every form of sin and violence.  
Transform us to live your Word  
more profoundly.

Reconcile us so enemies become friends.

Awaken us to the sacred;  
nurture our relationships.

Enliven our parishes; reunite our families.

Fill us with joy to celebrate the fullness of life.

Empower us to be a community of love  
growing in your likeness by the grace of  
Christ our Lord. Amen.



## **RENEW!**

### **Spiritual Renewal for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

- ✦ A time to “stand back” and take stock
- ✦ An opportunity to find an oasis in our busy lives
- ✦ A way to connect with others in our parish community
- ✦ Something for people of all ages
- ✦ A process to re-energize St. Francis parish...to reach out through prayer and small group faith sharing

Through participation in RENEW, you will get to know others in the parish. You will not feel left out or alone when you come to mass. We will grow...in our faith and in our relationship to each other.

In a recently conducted survey of participants and leaders, the most frequently reported outcome of participation in RENEW was increased awareness of the presence of God. More than nine in ten respondents indicated considerable spiritual growth—increased awareness of God, personal spiritual development, and integration of faith into daily life. Sizeable proportions reported that RENEW significantly affected their participation at Mass. Respondents reported that their own sense of belonging in their parish community increased as well.

Prayer is the key. Begin now to pray the RENEW Prayer printed next to this article. Clip it out and put it in a prominent place...your bible, refrigerator door or bathroom mirror. More information on RENEW will take place throughout the summer months, into September. Watch the bulletin and listen for announcements at the Sunday liturgies.

---