



11.2014

Saint Paul

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Caring Hearts Hospitality Ministry

Extends a Hand to Grieving Families

During the difficult time that surrounds a funeral, families mourning the loss of a loved one need different kinds of support. Through the Caring Hearts Hospitality Ministry, parish volunteers can help alleviate some stress by providing a meal and reception for St. Paul families following funerals.

“Whenever anyone from our parish dies, I get a notification from the church, and we call the family and offer them a reception after the funeral,” says longtime ministry volunteer Sharon Messier. “We take care of everything, from the setup, to the food, to cleanup. They don’t have to worry about a thing.”

For each reception, the parish covers the cost of the meat for the meal – such as a ham or fried chicken – and ministry members take turns making several additional dishes to contribute to the meal. The ministry also provides coffee, tea and water, and packages up any leftovers for the family to take home.

“[The reception] is a gathering place for people to talk about their loved one, and for families to gather, especially those who haven’t seen each other in a long time,” Susan says. “We set up tablecloths and flowers on the table, and try to make it look really nice. It’s so good for the family, and it’s nice to be able to do something for them. Most people don’t even know we have [the ministry] until it’s needed in the family, and it’s great to not have to worry about the things like the food or the amount of people.”

Families are free to choose whether they would like for the ministry to provide a reception. If the family would prefer not to have one, the ministry still offers to provide food for the family if they wish.

“We don’t push it on them at all,” Sharon says. “We call them with our sympathy, and we all sign a card and send it to them. If they want us to bring food to their home, we are happy to do that instead of a reception.”



continued on page 2

Caring Hearts *continued from cover*

Through Caring Hearts, volunteers have the opportunity to reach out and support their fellow parishioners during a time of great need.

“It feels wonderful to be able to do this for people,” Sharon says. “We get a lot of feedback and they are so grateful. It’s just a gift to be able to give to someone during their time of need, because this is the last thing you want to be thinking about during the death of a loved one. And we always enjoy doing it!”

The ministry is always accepting new volunteers to help organize and prepare dishes, as well as to assist with set-up and clean-up for receptions. For more information about Caring Hearts Hospitality, or to get involved, please contact Sharon Messier at 850-476-2005.



“It feels wonderful to be able to do this for people. We get a lot of feedback and they are so grateful. It’s just a gift to be able to give to someone during their time of need, because this is the last thing you want to be thinking about during the death of a loved one.” – Sharon Messier

Don't Forget to Return Your Commitment Card!

Please be sure to return your completed Commitment Card at any Mass on the weekend of November 22-23. If you've misplaced your Commitment Card or did not receive one, please contact the parish office at 850-434-2551.

a place to belong

St. Paul Catholic Church
2014-2015 Stewardship Renewal
Commitment Card

First & Last Name (One card per family) _____
Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Telephone (Important) _____
Email _____

A Letter From Our Pastor

A Time of Hope and Giving Thanks

Dear Parishioners,

In so many ways, November is special to us as Catholics, and also to us as Americans. It begins with All Saints Day on Nov. 1 and closes with the First Sunday of Advent on Nov. 30. Of course, the fourth Thursday of the month is Thanksgiving Day.

When it comes to the Solemnity of All Saints, we have always recognized the connection with those who have died and joined the Lord in heaven. All Saints Day was instituted to “honor all saints, known and unknown.” The “unknown” has always left me enthralled. How many saints have each of us known among our friends and family, in our parish and our neighborhoods? To me, a “saint” might be someone who has provided an example of what it means to be a disciple of Christ. Thus, we begin the month by paying tribute and recollecting all those in our lives who showed us what it meant to be a good Christian.

Thanksgiving Day also gives me pause to remember. It is a day to reflect on the ways in which God has so richly blessed us. We are all familiar with the story of how the Pilgrims set aside a time in November 1621 to thank the Lord for the harvest and for their many blessings. There was, however, no official holiday until it was declared by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863.

As part of his Proclamation that called for the last Thursday in November to be our “official” day of thanksgiving, Lincoln wrote, “I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in



foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens.” God is the source and the provider.

Every day and every week should be a time of thanksgiving for us as good stewards. Appreciating that God is the source of all our blessings is at the heart of stewardship. Just a few days after Thanksgiving, our Church launches our new year with Advent — a time of expectation of the coming of Christ, and a time when we begin the whole process of thanking God for the blessings we have received.

As part of his Advent message last year, Pope Francis said, “For the great human family, it is necessary to renew

always the common horizon toward which we are journeying. The horizon of hope!” This month should renew our hope, from honoring the saints we have known to our expectation of the coming of Christ. We join the Holy Father in recognizing the journey – may God continue to bless you and keep you on your own journey.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Handwritten signature of Rev. Doug Halsema

Fr. Doug Halsema
Pastor

Every day and every week should be a time of thanksgiving for us as good stewards. Appreciating that God is the source of all our blessings is at the heart of stewardship.

MARIAN GRACE

FEATURING COLLEEN NIXON & JIMMY MITCHELL



A FREE ADVENT CONCERT
*of Sacred Hymns & Original Songs
to help prepare for Christmas*

Sunday, December 14th
4:00pm

St. Paul Catholic Church
1700 Conway Drive | Pensacola, FL 32503

A Wonderful Opportunity to Provide for Those in Need

The Angel Tree

The Christmas season is often called “the most wonderful time of the year,” and one of things that makes this season so wonderful is the spirit of giving. For parishioners here at St. Paul Catholic Church, the Angel Tree is a tradition of giving during the Christmas season.

An annual event that has provided gifts to needy families for more than two decades, the Angel Tree can be found in the church narthex starting in mid-November. Hundreds of angel-shaped tags bearing the names of members of 50 families will decorate the tree. Parishioners wishing to help out will simply take an “angel” and purchase one or more of the items listed on the tag, and then bring it back to the church on a specific date.

“We get a list of families from Catholic Charities in Pensacola,” explains ministry leader and coordinator Diane Wilkinson of the families who benefit from this ministry. “People know this is one of the things Catholic Charities offers as part of their assistance, and they will have people calling them as early as September to get on the list.”

Once the list is received by St. Paul, a team of volunteers helps create construction paper angel tags for each of the children and the parents.

“Each child gets one angel tag that is a request for clothing, and they get

another angel tag with their wishes for toys,” Diane says. “Of those 50 families, we can have a large number of angels as a result of that. Last year, we did 54 families, and included in that were 64 adults and 164 children. Last year’s tree had 392 angel tags.”

Those 392 tags mean that a lot of organization and effort are put forth by volunteers, Diane says. At every level, from creating and signing out the tags to making sure all of the gifts get wrapped to finally helping deliver them, volunteers play an integral part in helping local families have a better Christmas.

“The response has been overwhelming,” Diane says of the volunteers. “There may be people who can only help one Sunday, but they enjoy doing that. We usually send something the beginning of November to remind our volunteers of the different roles and how they can help out.”

For parishioners who would rather donate to the Angel Tree Ministry, Diane says those funds are used to purchase gifts for any remaining angel tags that aren’t selected and to help families in other ways.

“We have such a generous parish that I’ve had times where all of the angels have been selected, and I’ll use that money to buy food gift cards,” Diane

says. “So in addition to gifts, we have another way to support our families at the holidays.”

To guarantee that each family’s needs are filled, Diane notes that the parish also makes Angel Tree participating available at the Fellowship Suppers and to students at St. Paul school. Letters will be sent home with students asking parents’ permission to let their child choose an angel.

“It allows the kids to see that they’re each getting angels and increases participation for our families who may not be parishioners,” Diane says.

Finally, when it’s time to deliver the gifts, everything is loaded into a car trailer donated just for this purpose and taken to the Catholic Charities Community Outreach Center. From there, volunteers have the unique opportunity to see the fruits of their labor by helping load gifts into the families’ cars.

“That’s really a neat experience for the volunteers who help with that day,” Diane says. “It’s an opportunity to make a connection to the people that they’re helping. Just to see the appreciation on the families’ faces is just wonderful.”

If you are interested in becoming involved, please refer to the bulletin or email Diane Wilkinson at babydocmom@gmail.com.



Gifts being loaded into a donated car trailer to be transported to Catholic Charities



Volunteers helping to load gifts into one family’s trunk



Parishioners choosing tags from the 2013 Angel Tree

TREASURES OF OUR FAITH

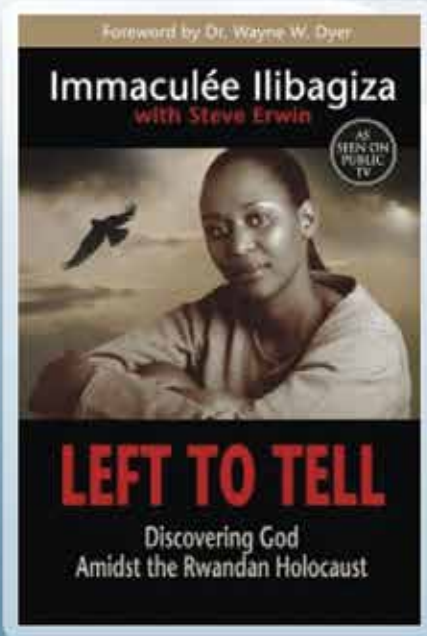
..: **RETREAT** :..

WITH **IMMACULEE ILIBAGIZA**
RWANDAN GENOCIDE SURVIVOR

AS SEEN ON

60
MINUTES

THE
early
show



DECEMBER 12TH & 13TH

- FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12TH (4PM - 9PM)
- SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13TH (8:30AM - 12:30PM)

REGISTER FOR THE RETREAT NOW AT WWW.IMMACULEE.COM

COST PER PERSON: **\$57.00** (SAVE 16% PER TICKET IF YOU BUY TWO)

LOCAL CONTACT: SARA EDWARDS SARA.EDWARDS2911@GMAIL.COM

LEARN MORE ABOUT IMMACULÉE BY READING HER BEST-SELLING BOOK,
LEFT TO TELL, NOW AVAILABLE IN THE ST. PAUL ANGEL GIFT SHOP

ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

3121 HYDE PARK ROAD, PENSACOLA, FL 32503

FOR MORE INFORMATION: WWW.STPAULCATHOLIC.NET

St. Paul Annual Financial Report

Fiscal Year 2013-14

Stewardship of Treasure: One of the three “Ts” of stewardship, your treasure represents monetary gifts that you offer to God and our parish with a true “attitude of gratitude” and in thanksgiving for the many blessings He has given to you. In carrying out the Word of God and giving as we are able, as a parish community we tithe a minimum of 10 percent of all collected offertory gifts and CSA over goal refund to diocesan second collections and other charitable activities each year. In the fiscal year 2013-14, St. Paul parish tithed \$144,570.

Our parish leadership believes it is important to share with you, the members of our parish community, how we have responsibly used your monetary gifts to serve God’s people in the past year. The members of our Finance Council take very seriously the financial management of our parish, and transparency is an important component of their service to our community.

If you would like further detail or have any questions about this annual financial report or our parish finances, please contact any member of our Finance Council or Donnie Plombon, our parish Business Manager, at 850-434-2551 ext. 103 or plombond@stpaulcatholic.net.

Finance Council: The parish Finance Council met on five occasions during the past year and has reviewed the end of the fiscal year financial report, due to the bishop by Oct. 1 of each year for the preceding fiscal year. In addition, the Finance Council has reviewed and approved the fiscal year 2014-2015 income, expense and capital budgets. Our Finance Council members and their contact information are as follows.

Chair: Brian DeMaria, brian@digital-secure.com
 Secretary: Mike Eddins, meddins@hilesmcleod.com
 Members: Stephen Burgess, sburgess@osullivancreel.com
 Anne Marie DeMatteo, adematteo32@gmail.com
 Ginny Stevens, stevenslll@cox.net
 Bruce Vredenburg, bruce.vredenburg@hancockbank.com

Balance Sheet Summary: With the commencement of the More Than We Can Imagine capital campaign in the spring of 2013, our Building Fund Savings Account balance showed an increase of \$548,331 this past fiscal year. As you have seen, Phase I of our building plan, the utility yard upgrade for our entire campus, was begun this past summer and will be completed this month. As expected, our Pipe Organ Savings Account balance dropped by \$419,232 over the past year as work continues on our Baumgarten pipe organ with an anticipated project completion date of Dec. 31, 2014. For the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2014, total cash changed from the previous year as shown in the table below.

	June 30, 2013	June 30, 2014	\$ Difference	% Difference
Checking and Savings	\$195,762	\$207,639	\$11,877	6.1%
Building Fund	\$386,989	\$935,320	\$548,331	141.7%
Pipe Organ Fund	\$526,353	\$107,121	-\$419,232	-79.6%
Hurricane Reserve Fund	\$151,640	\$156,241	\$4,601	3.0%

continued on page 8

Annual Financial Report *continued from page 7*

Profit & Loss Summary: Offertory giving and building campaign donations, which include both Building Fund and Pipe Organ contributions, both showed decreases from the previous fiscal year. Catholic Sharing Appeal (CSA) giving was strong, with a 35.5 percent increase in our parish CSA over goal refund this past year. Total parish income was down 3.6 percent for the fiscal year, while total parish expenses, less depreciation expense, were reduced by 8.1 percent. As mentioned earlier, \$144,570 was tithed to diocesan second collections and other charitable activities the past year. Additionally, \$295,549 was paid in loan principal and interest (new church and Our Savior loans), \$180,204 was paid in school tuition/subsidy and \$128,243 was paid in diocesan assessment.

	Jul 12 – Jun 13	Jul 13 – Jun 14	\$ Difference	% Difference
Offertory	\$1,393,251	\$1,322,092	-\$71,159	-5.1%
Building Campaigns	\$708,188	\$613,374	-\$94,814	-13.4%
CSA Over Goal Refund	\$69,338	\$93,980	\$24,642	35.5%
Other Income	\$128,428	\$187,421	\$58,993	45.9%
Total Income	\$2,299,205	\$2,216,867	-\$82,338	-3.6%
Total Expenses (Less Depreciation Expense)	\$1,531,383	\$1,406,895	-\$124,488	-8.1%

Budget vs. Actual Summary: Following the same pattern as seen above in the Profit & Loss Summary, offertory and building campaign donations did not meet budget expectations last fiscal year, while CSA giving slightly exceeded the budget expectation. Total income received was \$257,354 less than that budgeted for the fiscal year. Total expenses were held in check, coming in slightly under budget.

	Jul 13 – Jun 14	Budget	\$ Over/Under Budget	% of Budget
Offertory	\$1,322,092	\$1,417,745	-\$95,653	93.3%
Building Campaigns	\$613,374	\$831,000	-\$217,626	73.8%
CSA Over Goal Refund	\$93,980	\$90,000	\$3,980	104.4%
Other Income	\$187,421	\$135,476	\$51,945	138.3%
Total Income	\$2,216,867	\$2,474,221	-\$257,354	89.6%
Total Expenses (Less Depreciation Expense)	\$1,406,895	\$1,422,667	-\$15,772	98.9%

Parish Highlights of the Year

June 2013 – July 2014

We welcomed Fr. Kevin into our parish in July. We also welcomed seminarian Paul Moody, who spent the year with us. In November, John St. Amant retired and Donnie Plombon joined our parish team.

We celebrated the 50th anniversary of the establishment of our parish with 50 hours of adoration and our annual Parish Picnic in September. The school celebrated 50 years of education with a Homecoming Tailgate Party and Spartan Bowl. In February, we enjoyed a free concert with the very talented Tony Melendez, a Catholic musician born without arms who taught himself to play the guitar.

We concluded the Prayer Trees for the Year of Faith with prayers for the sick. And many in the parish participated in the 33 Days Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary, encouraged by Bishop Parkes, who then closed the Year of Faith with consecration of our Diocese to Mary on Dec. 9, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. We added several prayer opportunities throughout the year, including daily Evening Prayer in the Adoration Chapel led by the Lay Dominicans and a St. Peregrine Devotion the first Wednesday of every month to pray for those afflicted with cancer. In December, we held our first Blue Christmas Mass, an opportunity for those who may find the Christmas holidays a painful time, either because they are grieving a loss or come from a difficult family background, to celebrate the religious meaning of the holiday in a more reflective atmosphere. In February, an open house was held for the newly renovated Adoration Chapel, which now has a tabernacle to permanently house the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. We also reintroduced periods of silence and stillness into our prayer during Sunday and daily Mass to allow time to listen to God speaking to us. In the spring, we began a Small Groups series called Resolving Everyday Conflict and 350 people participated. We plan to have additional Small Group series in the future.

Our Parish Leadership Retreat, led by Fr. Michael Troha, was held in September and our Volunteer Appreciation Mass and Reception was held on Nov. 10. We held a Parish Assembly and Planning Summit the weekend of March 8-9, using a generative thought process known as “Appreciative Inquiry” to appreciate our best, dream our future, determine what should be, and develop creative initiatives to move us forward. We also moved forward in the conversion of our facilities to LED lighting with new sconces and chandeliers in the church. This conversion will save us thousands of dollars each year on energy and maintenance costs.

Ministry Highlights

COMMUNITY

ACTS: We have held fall and spring retreats for men and women since November 2010. Over 300 people have attended our retreats – 67 this past year. The ACTS Core Team that oversees ACTS in our community expanded to 12 members last year. The ACTS Community of former retreatants serves our parish by hosting the 3rd Sunday monthly Fellowship Coffee and Doughnuts. They also worked on a Habitat for Humanity house in May. A Spiritual Gathering and Christmas Social were held this year. Several Small Christian Communities have formed from these retreats, including the Community of St. Therese and the Community of St. Bernadette.

Angel Gift Shop: The Angel Gift Shop, established in 1975, offers a large selection of religious articles and books. It is located in the church and is open after Mass. There are 17 volunteers that help run the shop. Most of the proceeds go to CETAP, the Catholic Education Tuition Assistance Program, to help parents who are unable to meet the cost of tuition at St. Paul School.

Caring Hearts/Bereavement: This ministry was started in 2003 as a way to assist fellow parishioners along their grief journey by extending support and understanding after the death of a loved one. The eight members of this ministry offered services, including calls, visits, and correspondence, to 24 families this year and included the names of the families in the Diocesan Mass of Remembrance at Sacred Heart Cathedral in November.

Caring Hearts/Hospitality: There are 40 ladies involved in this ministry, which has been active since 1993. They provide set up and food for receptions for families after the funerals of loved ones.

Fellowship Suppers: Over 70 volunteers, organized by John and Jackie Dickinson since 2006, put on these Wednesday suppers once a month during the school year. A highlight is the Thanksgiving Dinner, when a traditional homemade dinner is served with turkey and all the fixings. Leftover food was donated to Loaves and Fishes, Appetite for Life, and/or Florida Baptist Children’s Home.

Knights of Columbus: Local Council #778, founded in 1903, has been affiliated with St. Paul Parish for three years. The Knights focus on six areas of outreach – Council Support, Church Support, Youth Support, Family Support, Community Support, and Pro-Life Support. This year, they hosted Parish Breakfasts and Lenten Fish Bakes for the parish.

continued on page 10

Parish Highlights of the Year *continued from page 9*

They also hosted a traveling Marian Icon in November with three evening events – Vespers, “Lessons and Carols,” and a Scriptural Rosary.

Newcomers Welcoming Ministry: This ministry was formed in November 2006. The 31 volunteers serve to greet potential new parishioners after Sunday Masses and to mentor newly registered parishioners.

Northwest Florida Guild of the Catholic Medical Association: This new guild was established in our parish on Sept. 23, 2012. The CMA is a physician-led community of healthcare professionals that informs, organizes, and inspires its members to uphold the principles of the Catholic faith in the practice of medicine.

Parish Picnic: Our annual picnic, provided free by the parish for all parishioners, was held on Sept. 29 this year, celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of our parish. Louise Videau and her incredible volunteers put on a great day of fun, food, and fellowship that was enjoyed by parishioners of all ages. There were about 1,000 people in attendance, including Bishop Parkes.

Parish Twinning: This year, we sent posters signed by parishioners sending blessings and good wishes to our brothers and sisters at our twin parish, St. Michael’s, on the Feast Day of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, the first native American canonized as a saint.

Scouts: Cub Scout Pack 425, designated a “Quality Unit” by the West Florida Council since 1984, had 20 boys this year. They held Pack and Den meetings monthly and went on two camping trips. The annual Pinewood Derby was held in January and the Blue and Gold Banquet in February. Boy Scout Troop 425 had 27 boys registered this year. In addition to their weekly meetings and monthly camping trips, they served our parish by hosting the first Sunday monthly Fellowship Coffees.

Softball Team, Coed: Our softball team, recognized as a ministry last year, has a mission to provide Christian Catholic witness in a recreational setting and to strengthen the bonds of community fellowship through athletic team sport animated with the spirit of Christ. The 17 members of the team play games on Monday nights.

Stephen Ministry: Our parish has 14 Stephen Ministers who have undergone 50 hours of training, and one Stephen Leader. They provided emotional and spiritual one-to-one support to fellow parishioners suffering a difficult loss. They also sent books called “Journeying Through Grief” to parishioners following the loss of a loved one.

WORD

Adult Faith Formation: This year, there were many Adult Faith Formation opportunities offered. There were Wednesday evening talks in October on various faith-related topics and in May on the Eucharist. On Thursday evenings during Advent, seminarian Paul Moody did a series on *Lectio Divina*. During Lent, there were eight sessions from a Catholic Guide to Prayer, as well as a Bible Study series. A Lenten Mission with Passionist Fr. Blaise Czaja was held March 30 to April 2. And Fr. Doug purchased an Easter gift for all parishioners – an online video program called *Symbolon*, designed to teach us more about Jesus and our faith.

Children’s Religious Education: Classes for grades K-5 were held on Wednesday evenings. There were 90 children with 12 catechists. They built their faith through lessons, prayer, crafts, and more. Twenty middle school youth participated in the Edge Program.

Natural Family Planning: Scott and Mary Thomas have served as our parish contacts for this ministry since 2011. The mission of this ministry is to build joyful marriages by teaching Natural Family Planning with materials obtained through the Couple to Couple League website.

Fidelis: In its fourth year, this program for girls in grades 6-12 had about 25 girls in attendance at its weekly meetings. They participated in several “Days of Charity.” The aim of the group is to mentor girls to grow in the fullness of the Christian life and to the perfection of charity.

Fraternus: Fraternus, dedicated to the formation of boys into chaste young men of integrity, faithful to the Catholic Church as disciples of Jesus Christ, had a successful sixth year in our parish. About 25 boys in grades 6-12, from St. Paul and other parishes, regularly attend the weekly meetings. High school boys also met in small mentoring HAWC groups – Honest, Accountable, Willing, and Chaste. Joe McGovern served as Commander. The Accolade Ceremony was held in May and seven Senior Brothers became Knights of Fraternus.

Men of St. Joseph: Formed in 2009, this group of about 60 men, dedicated to becoming the spiritual leaders of their families and “putting the family back into the hands of the Father,” continued to meet early Tuesday mornings for prayer and reflection. They organized a city-wide Mass at St. Ann’s in Gulf Breeze on the feast of St. Joseph. The group has been so successful that their organizational model is being adopted nationally as the standard for all other MOSJ chapters to follow.

Vacation Bible School: VBS was not held this year due to construction.

Women’s Study Group: A new Morning Women’s Study Group formed in February. Led by Kelly Aldridge, the group

Parish Highlights of the Year *continued from page 10*

meets weekly in her home. The Evening Women's Study Group of about 14 women, headed by Tristan DeSorbo, met monthly to study and share the Word of God.

Youth Events: Over 40 high school youth from our parish went to Steubenville - Atlanta in July. About 12 high school youth met every Tuesday evening throughout the year for fellowship and an hour of Eucharistic Adoration. We also had youth participate in several Diocesan youth events, including Youth Rally in October, 15 to Youth Conference in January and to campout in April, and three to CLI (Christian Leadership Institute). Forty youth participated in a Holy Thursday Adoration Pilgrimage.

SERVICE

Angel Tree: This year, our parish again helped provide Christmas gifts for 54 families, comprised of 164 children and 64 adults. This program, coordinated through Catholic Charities, was begun in our parish over 20 years ago and continues with the help of over 70 volunteers.

Feed My Sheep: In its third year, this ministry, led by John Schwab, provides nutritious hot meals for the homeless served at the Alfred-Washburn Center and other homeless care agencies in the area. Ten volunteers helped him serve 150 lunches three Wednesdays each month.

Respect Life: Revitalized in our parish three years ago, this ministry provided education to the parish about the Catholic perspective on life issues. Meeting every few months, events planned included prayer and public witness in front of the abortion clinic, especially during the fall and spring 40 Days for Life Campaigns, as well as assisting the Alpha Center Crisis Pregnancy Center.

St. Vincent de Paul: Members of our SVdP conference volunteer in several ways, including working at the SVdP Thrift Shop and the Alfred-Washburn Center, which provides shower and laundry facilities and some meals for the homeless as well as making home visits to those in need. They also help provide homeless veterans with proper identification and living assistance.

WORSHIP

Altar Linen Group: The 10 women in this ministry, which began in 2002, cared for the altar linens and altar cloths diligently and reverently throughout the year according to the prescribed rubrics.

Altar Servers: This year, the altar server roster included 56 boys and 17 girls in fifth grade or older. There were 17 lead altar servers, who are boys in eighth grade or older. Matt Ernde continued to help with the training and scheduling of servers. An altar server core team was created this year to work on updating the altar server guidelines and help with training of

new servers. In April, many of the altar servers participated in a Holy Thursday Pilgrimage to seven churches for Eucharistic Adoration.

Charismatic Prayer Group: This year our prayer group, which was started in 1978, began meeting in conjunction with the St. Ann's Gulf Breeze group. They gathered together to grow closer to the Lord and each other through prayer, praise and worship. They also participate each year in the diocesan-wide Charismatic Conference held this year March 21-23 at Holy Name of Jesus in Niceville.

Eucharistic Adoration: Weekly adoration in our parish began in June 1995 and continues for 24 hours every Thursday to Friday morning. About 65 committed adorers each week prayed and worshiped in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament in the Prayer Chapel. There are another 20-25 parishioners who substitute as needed.

Extra Ordinary Ministers - Shut-Ins: Under Deacon Lurton's leadership, over 60 people who are shut-ins or in nursing homes received weekly Communion from 17 volunteer ministers. Additionally, the Eucharist is brought to residents of six assisted living facilities.

Lay Apostles of Jesus Christ: In its fifth year, this small but growing group of about a dozen parishioners, led by Susie and Jim Nalley, held monthly prayer meetings and participated in weekly Eucharistic Adoration with a special emphasis on prayers for their children.

Lay Dominicans: Our parish was host to a Lay Dominicans group, formed in September 2012. Membership includes 15 men and 7 women. The group's priorities are prayer, penance and preaching.

Music Ministry: The Music Ministry streamlined the ministry team this year to employ four cantors, two choir singers, and a violinist to work with the Director and his assistant, Camille Woods, and to bolster the strong 15-member volunteer choir. In October, A. David Moore Organ Company from Pomfret, Vt. began phase one of the pipe organ construction, installing the ruckpositiv division. Phase two began in May.

Other Ministries This Year Included:

Community: Fellowship Coffee, Sports Program
Word: RCIA, St. Augustine Circle

Leadership: Building Committee, Finance Council, Pastoral Council, Stewardship Council

Worship: Baptism Prep, Extraordinary Ministers, Funeral Sacristans, Greeters, Marriage Ministry, Nursery, Readers, Rosary Society, Rosary Wednesday Group, Sacristans, Spanish Rosary, Ushers

continued on back cover

Address Service Requested

Parish Highlights of the Year *continued from page 11*

Our Parish By the Numbers

Priests	2
Priest in Residence	1
Deacons	2
Registered Families	1,454
New Families	103
Retired Deacons	2
Adults	1,221
Children	2,800
Ushers	60
Sacristans	12
Funeral Sacristans	4
EOM, active	112
Readers	54
Altar Servers	73
Baptism, Children	64
First Communion	65
Anointing of Sick	59
Baptism, Adults	2

First Confession	64
Funerals	36
Confirmation	65
Profession of Faith	12
RCIA	19
Marriage	23
Convalidation	9
Masses Offered	585

Youth Numbers

RE Grades K-5	90
Catechists	12
Fraternus	25
Middle School Edge	20
Catechists	5
Fidelis	25
Boy Scouts	27
Cub Scouts	20

Giving Numbers

Average Sunday Mass Attendance	1,357
Average weekly offertory gift per registered family	\$17.57
Average annual offertory gift per registered family	\$ 913.68
Average annual offertory gift per contributing family	\$3,081.80
Number of families giving to Offertory and CSA	414
Number of Families pledged to CSA	579
Average annual CSA gift per giving family	\$385.07
Number of households regularly using e-giving	100

Liturgy Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m. | **Sunday:** 9:00, 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m. | **Daily Mass:** Monday-Saturday, 8:30 a.m.
Confessions: Saturdays, 9:00 a.m., 3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.,
 most Sundays during 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Mass, 1st Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., and by appointment
Eucharistic Adoration: Thursday 9:00 a.m. until Friday 7:30 a.m.