



SAINT MARY

Messenger



Jim Wilson and other catechumens signed their names in the Book of the Elect during the parish Rite of Sending as a sign of their desire to be baptized at Easter. Candidates viewed their names.

“Happy and strong and brave shall we be—able to endure all things—if we believe that every day, every hour, every moment of our life is in God’s hands.”

-Henry van Dyke

Never give up!

by Father Wayne

Easter gives us hope, and reminds us that joy can arise from pain, and new life from death.

Our parish was disappointed that our proposal to build a new education center was deemed too risky and thus sent back by the diocese for further development. This is not an insurmountable challenge, however. It is an opportunity for us to continue to work and grow together in faith, opening our hearts and minds through prayer and trust to the needs of the community.

We must stay focused on our end, which is to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ and thus responsible stewards. We need new facilities to live in, to grow, to nurture, to celebrate who we are—the visible presence of Christ, and to carry on the mission of Jesus Christ. Our most immediate need is new facilities to house a Catholic school, Parish School of Religion, Generations

cont on pg 2

Easter is *here!*

by Davi Stuhlsatz

Today we rejoice. We joyously welcome our newly baptized and professed brothers and sisters in Christ! They've been learning about our faith and preparing for this day for seven months now. Our voices join with the adult choir and all of creation, singing "Alleluia, Glory to God in the Highest!"

The church is filled with lilies and spring flowers, candles, the baptismal font, and white and gold material for the celebration of new life.

Jesus Christ has risen today. Now we, too, have eternal life! Alleluia! Christ the risen Lord is our light and our life!

INSIDE:	Faith formation.....5-9
Spiritual life.....2-4	Calendar.....7-8
Outreach.....4	Parish life.....10-14



Candidate Lisa Duncan, Sister Marie, Bishop Jackels and catechumen Chada Klaichang at the Rite of Election at the Cathedral.

Spiritual Life

Made new in faith: Congratulations and welcome to our newly baptized parishioners!



Kylin Marie Cornejo, daughter of Rocky and Juliana, granddaughter of Richard and Karol, was baptized on December 30.



Madelyn Rene McClure, daughter of Justin and Shelly, sister of Charlie and Bradyn, granddaughter of Tony and Rene Kilian, was baptized on December 29.



Jaryn Jelane Baker, daughter of Jared and Julie, sister of Jacob and Journey, granddaughter of John and Evie Kozicki, was baptized on December 30.

March 2008

2

Vol 14, Issue 1



Greyson Edward Pappas, son of Jim and Lisa, sister of Keyton and Eme, godson of Jo and Mike Dowling, was baptized February 3.



Elizabeth Grace DuLac, daughter of Brian and Leslie, granddaughter of Keith and Marcia, sister of Andrew, Jonah, Simon, and Thomas, was baptized January 12.



Not pictured:
Lucille Dawn Glover, daughter of Robert and Samantha, granddaughter of Judy Webster, was baptized on February 3.

Victoria Ann and Connor David Webster, children of Tyson and Jennifer, grandchildren of Judy, were baptized on February 3.

Never give up

(cont from pg 1)

of Faith, high school youth programs, large conferences, meetings and receptions. Yet, facilities are only tools to the mission of what it means to be Church.

We have to demonstrate to the diocese that we are a worthy risk. In other words, we need to show an increase in our ordinary giving *and* an individual commitment to an extraordinary pledge over and above the tithe. Inflation costs are unknown, so an example of the commitment the diocese is looking for would be an increase of 7% in our ordinary giving and pledge commitments over and above that of \$5 million. To put that into

perspective, if everyone gave \$5 more/week, we would have an increase of 11% in our ordinary giving. This is do-able, folks! Our future success is a direct result of our individual response to this.

You *will* be asked to pledge *and* to increase your giving level if God has gifted you with the ability. Please consider how YOU can give. Stewardship involves giving in the spirit of a "need to give," not through force or guilt. I hope you will not answer lightly, without prayerful and open-hearted discernment. I will respect your response.

The future of our parish depends on you and me. If you are asked to participate in an event, please take the request seriously. We can only be successful through open and prayerful hearts and moving forward together as one community. I look forward to the joy and freedom we will experience at growing in spirit and Stewardship as we continue on our journey of faith.

Consider a retreat!

by J.D. Betzen, Kapaun senior

Spiritual Life Center (SLC) staff invite people "to rest, to renew your heart, to restore your hope, to respond to the Word of God."

I was recently given the opportunity to experience these four aspects of the SLC mission during a Quo Vadis* retreat there.

The retreat spanned three days, from Friday night to Sunday afternoon. At first, because of my introverted nature, I felt that I didn't belong, but my fear was soon squelched by the friendly company. I participated in lectures, group discussions, Morning and Evening Prayer, a rosary, Confession, and Mass. We had fun with a social and even a "stump the priests" session where we were allowed to ask anything, serious or off-the-wall. There was also time for discussion among the guys at the retreat as well as silent reflection and prayer in our own rooms.

This silence came to be of particular importance to me. Before the retreat, I had dreaded the lack of contact with friends and the inability to check my email. I see myself as an average cell phone-toting, music-loving, Internet-addicted teenager,

so you can imagine my general dislike of the idea. At the SLC, though, the absence of TV, computers, and newspapers truly helped to facilitate this retreat from the busy, noisy world we live in. Since we cannot listen to God with our ears, we must let Him find us in the silence. We can accomplish this with meditation and prayer.

I had expected the retreat to be like taking a nasty medicine: I wasn't exactly looking forward to it, but I knew it would help me. It far exceeded my expectations. I have never felt more refreshed, rejuvenated, rested, spiritual and happy! A retreat is a spiritual medicine that possesses a special quality: it can help us all, even if we're *not* sick (or don't think we are).

For this reason, I encourage YOU to look into a possible retreat, whether it's for a day or a week, at the SLC, St Mary, or someone's home. You'll be glad that you did! Contact the SLC at 744-0167, or visit their website at www.slcwichita.org—they have a wide variety of retreats and events.

*Where are you going?

"Quo Vadis," a Latin phrase, means "Where are you going?" In John 13:36, Simon Peter asks Jesus, "Where do you mean to go?" Jesus replies, "I am going where you cannot follow me now; later on you shall come after me."

The Quo Vadis Retreat gets its name from a phrase inscribed on a stone outside Jerusalem after the fall of the city in the first century—"Domine, quo vadis?", "Lord, where are you going?" While everyone else was fleeing the city, Peter had the courage to follow God back *into* the city, where he met his death. Still relevant today, this question is asked of the 30 or so young men who attend the retreat, contemplating a possible call to the seminary and, in effect, the priesthood.



Following the Confirmation Retreat, the Confirmandi participated in the Rite of Covenant. Sponsor Kelsey Kilian watches as Taylor Kilian signs her name in the Book of Covenant.

Father Wayne places his hands on Virginia Knoll's head during the Anointing of the Sick in March. The community gathered in prayerful support.

Spiritual Life & Outreach

Each one should confidently make known his need to the other, so that he might find what he needs and minister to him. And each one should love and care for his brother in all those things in which God will give him grace, as a mother loves and cares for her son. —St. Francis of Assisi

Prayer Line

by Roseann Bade

The prayer line list of Stewards has not been updated for some time. New people come in to the parish, and others get transferred out, making a periodic update necessary.

In November's *Messenger*, Lorene Miller-Landis wrote an article about this ministry and the good that it does. We have often heard great results because of our prayers.

Would you like to add your name to the list of Stewards that respond to requests for prayers for a family member, friend or another parishioner? We also need another phone activator. To be part of this ministry, please call Roseann at 788-0060 or Lorene at 789-0246.

Thank you for considering this gift to our parish family.

Apostle Build

by Richard Blake

During *Respect Life Month*, on October 7-11, 14-18, and 21-25, the Catholic Diocese of Wichita hopes to build a home in conjunction with Sedgwick County Habitat for Humanity. We here



at St Mary have pledged our support to the diocese and to the project to help with volunteers, financial support and prayers.

A plan has been established called an "Apostle Build" and, like the twelve Apostles, our diocesan family will complete this project by combining multiple talents from multiple sources. An experienced core team will guide the actual build, with Tama Dutton, diocesan director of Respect Life and Social Justice, leading the diocesan effort.

This project will help us all grow in Christ by serving others. Watch the weekly bulletin and *The St. Mary Messenger* for more details.



Alvera Kleman and Mary Ann Rhodes visit during a break in serving at The Lord's Diner.

Love's the main course

by Vicky Tully

St Mary has new captains leading the teams that serve at The Lord's Diner on the first Saturday of every month. Three teams rotate, serving once every three months. Team A is led by Alvera & Gene Kleman; Team B by Mary Rubel; and Team C by Sue Wright.

Each Saturday we work, there's a crew that comes in either for food prep in the afternoon beforehand or serving the evening meal. Members of the teams choose which they prefer. Mary Rubel, bless her, is Team B captain and also helps team A as a worker as well...that's devotion to Stewardship isn't it?! These parishioners and other folks from throughout the parish are devoted to serving a hot meal to those in need, and it makes The Lord's Diner run smoothly.

Faith Formation

*Go and make disciples
of all the nations.
-Mt 28:19*



Bob and Becky Mandala (seated) and Ed and Heather Sekerak (on the floor with their son Jozef and Rosemarie Mandala) discuss the Good News.

Good News

by Davi Stuhlsatz

Small children, busy lives and even a locked room were not enough to keep St Mary parishioners from The Good News during Lent!

“The Good News” is a term often used for the Word of God, the Gospel proclaimed every Sunday at Mass. It is also the name of the diocesan Lenten small group study materials. Parishes throughout the diocese used “The Good News” materials for faith sharing and reflection on the Lenten Sunday readings.

St Mary had ten small groups. Busy moms Heather Sekerak and Becky Mandala wanted their husbands to participate with them, so they hosted a Sunday afternoon group to include families with small children. When the group arrived at the Faith Center for their first meeting, they discovered that the rooms were all locked since the staff was at the RCIA Rite of Election at the Cathedral. They were not deterred—everyone headed to Charles and Jenna Long’s home nearby. Grade school children played in an adjoining room, and infants played at adults’ feet or on laps during the group discussion.

Participants discovered more Good News: talking about one’s faith and hearing that others have similar trials and temptations helps give strength for the journey. Becky’s husband Bob is a private person and does not generally enjoy sharing his experiences in a group; yet he said, “It was really nice, much better than I expected!”

Heather said, “I love doing this with other families. I really enjoyed the faith sharing. The Church comes alive in small communities! We really get to know one another, and be strengthened by the group.”

Jackie Kleespie said, “I wanted to do something special for Lent. I think this is a great opportunity, and it is so wonderful to be able to do it with others.”

It is uplifting to connect with others and to talk about such everyday struggles as finding time or energy to pray when coming home tired from a long day of work, or with going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation or how we are sometimes embarrassed to pray in certain restaurants. It is Good News that we are not alone in our struggles—Jesus is with us, in the Eucharist, in the Word, and in these people with whom we share the joys and the struggles of life.

Catholic Schools Week



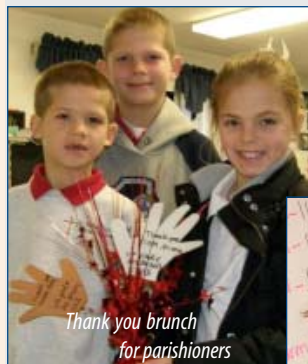
Kindergarteners singing “Awesome God” at church

Lexie Shelton, Luke Smith, Kaitlyn Wentworth, Hayden Kreutzer



100 balloons launched on 100th day of school

Tyler Wheeler



Thank you brunch for parishioners

Hunter Igo, Tanner Igo, Taylee Chvilicek



Gabby Miller, Emily Nolting, Claire Lathrop

2nd & 3rd grade Religion Bowl

Faith formation

Go and make disciples
of all the nations.
—Mt 28:19

True love

by J.D. Betzen, Kapaun senior

Kapaun Mt. Carmel and Bishop Carroll Catholic High School students were blessed in February with a visit by Jason Evert, a nationally renowned speaker on relationships, chastity, and true love.

Jason not only speaks to students, he interacts, beginning with a demonstration to show the foolishness of “seeing how far one can go” with a partner. If one really loves someone, one would instead respect that person and try to grow their relationship in ways other than sexual means. The media denies this truth, which leads to another of Jason’s points, about media’s pervasive distortions.

Barbie dolls’ bodies are not naturally possible and are scantily clad, and some magazine models are completely computer-generated, leading to expectations of beauty that cannot be fulfilled. And *Cosmopolitan* magazine tells readers how to have “safe sex,” a complete lie.

Our bodies are made for permanent commitment; we are not uncontrollable animals driven only by carnal desires. By encouraging “safe sex,” the media is creating problems, not solving them. Using a condom or other “safe sex” methods will not protect against HPV, the most common STD in the world, responsible for the deaths of 288,000 women each year, spread by skin-to-skin contact. This is just one of several of Jason’s examples.

Jason also speaks out about waiting for marriage, pornography, true freedom, healing, and God’s unending forgiveness of our transgressions. He is a true Catholic who has made mistakes himself and is not afraid to admit them, even to all the people he speaks to. He is now married to his wife Crystalina; both give speeches and inspire thousands of young adults each year.

For more information or to order materials written by Jason and Crystalina Evert, visit their website, www.PureLoveClub.com, or call Catholic Answers, 1-888-291-8000.



LIFE TEEN adopted a family through Derby’s Operation Holiday in December, buying, wrapping and delivering Christmas gifts for the family.



December

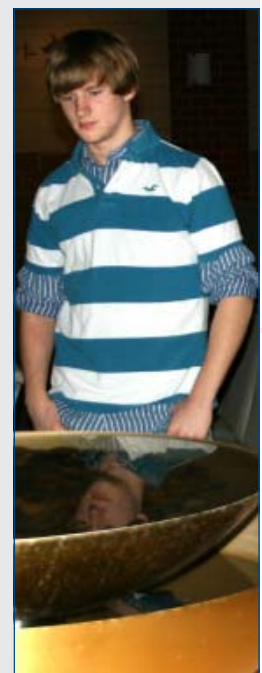


December 30, teens enjoyed the annual Eve of the Eve dance. Pictured above are Kylee Watson, Sarah Mahoney and Kealy Tully. At left, Aaron Williams decides how to spend his money during a December Life Night about Stewardship.

January



LIFE TEEN has fun Life Nights, teaching teens about our faith through the use of skits, discussion, games, and prayer. Pictured are Brice Walsten with the canoe and Craig Compton at the baptismal font during a Life Night entitled, “A River Runs Through It.”

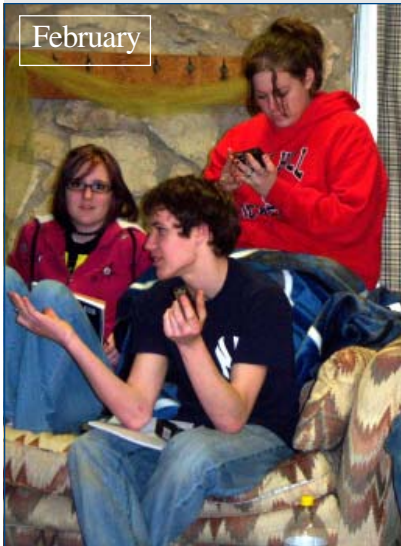


So many of our dreams seem impossible, then improbable, then inevitable. — Christopher Reeve

Our Calendar

LIFE TEEN (cont.)

February



Above are Harlee Alexander, Neil Metler and Monica Blake at February's LIFE TEEN weekend spiritual retreat at Camp Horizon south of Arkansas City.



March



LIFE TEEN presented Living Stations for the parish in March. Above are Kelsey Miller, Savanna McHenry as Mary, and Daniel Mahoney as Jesus.

- Sun, Mar 23 **Easter Sunday**, 9 and 11 am Eucharist
NO Coffee and Donuts, RCIA, EDGE, LIFE TEEN, or 6 pm Eucharist
Easter Egg Hunt, 12:30, Faith Center grounds
- Mon, Mar 24 Easter Monday: **NO SMPS, NO 8 am Mass, Parish Offices closed**
- Tue, Mar 25 **NO 8 am Mass**
Sacred Heart Guild, 8:45 am, former rectory
Centering Prayer, 7:30 pm, FC Sanctuary
- Wed, Mar 26 FIAT, 8 am, school gym
PSR Sessions, 6 pm, school classrooms
Last Confirmation Sessions for school year, 7:30 pm, Faith Center
- Thu, Mar 27 First Eucharist Parent meeting, 6:30 pm, Neumann Hall
- Sat, Mar 29 Prairie Land Food pick-up, 6:30 am, School Gym
Knights Steak Fry, 6 pm, Knights Hall
- Sun, Mar 30 Coffee & Donuts, 10–11 am, FC Knights Hall
RCIA babysitting, 9:30–11:30 am, FC Rm 114
RCIA, 10–11:30 am, FC Rm 112
Welcome Luncheon, Noon, FC Knights Hall
EDGE, 12:30 pm, FC Rm 114
LIFE NIGHT after 6 pm Mass, FC Rm 114
Choir, 7:15 pm, FC Rm 112
- Mon, Mar 31 LIFE TEEN Core team, 7 pm, FC Rm 114
- Tue, Apr 1 Centering Prayer, 7:30 pm, FC Sanctuary
- Wed, Apr 2 PSR Sessions, 6 pm, School classrooms
Sacrament of Confirmation, 7 pm, Faith Center
- Thu, Apr 3 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, noon–6 am Friday, FC Rm 112
- Fri, Apr 4 First Friday Coffee and donuts, after 8 am Mass, Old rectory
Scrapbooking, 6 - 11 pm, FC Rm 114
- Sat, Apr 5 God's Food Pantry weekend
The Lord's Diner, Team B – M Rubel
- Sun, Apr 6 **NO Coffee and Donuts**
RCIA babysitting, 9:30–11:30 am, FC Rm 114
RCIA, 10–11:30 am, FC Rm 112
GOF: The Sacrament of Charity: The Eucharist, 12:15 pm, Faith Center
NO EDGE, LIFE TEEN or Choir
LIFE TEEN Core team, 7 pm, FC Rm 114
- Mon, Apr 7 Centering Prayer, 7:30 pm, FC Sanctuary
- Tue, Apr 8 **GOF: The Sacrament of Charity: The Eucharist**, 6 pm, Faith Center
- Wed, Apr 9 Altar Society, 7 pm, Knights Hall
- Thu, Apr 10 SMPS, noon dismissal
- Fri, Apr 11 Parish Breakfast, 10–11 am, Knights Hall
- Sun, Apr 13 RCIA babysitting, 9:30–11:30 am, FC Rm 114
RCIA session, 10–11:30 am, FC Rm 112
Altar Servers Appreciation Day
EDGE, 12:30 pm, FC Rm 114
LIFE NIGHT after 6 pm Mass, FC Rm 114
Choir, 7:15 pm, FC Rm 112
- Mon, Apr 14 LIFE TEEN Jr Core, 5:30 pm; LIFE TEEN Core team, 7 pm, FC Rm 114
K of C, 7:30 pm, Knights Hall
- Tue, Apr 15 Pastoral Council, 7 pm, FC Rm 114
- Wed, Apr 16 Centering Prayer, 7:30 pm, FC Sanctuary
PSR Sessions, 6 pm, school classrooms
PSR Eucharist, 7 pm, Weekday Chapel
- Thu, Apr 17 La Leche League, 9 am, FC Rm 114
Harvest House, 6:30 pm, Knights Hall
- Sat, Apr 19 Knights Steak Fry, 6 pm, Knights Hall
- Sun, Apr 20 RCIA babysitting, 9:30–11:30 am, FC Rm 114
RCIA session, 10–11:30 am, FC Rm 112
Coffee & Donuts, 10–11 am, FC Knights Hall
EDGE, 12:30 pm, FC Rm 114
LIFE NIGHT after 6 pm Mass, FC Rm 114

(calendar cont. on next page)

Our Calendar

March 2008

8

Vol 14, Issue 1

- Mon, Apr 21 LIFE TEEN Core team, 7 pm, FC Rm 114
K of C 4th Degree, 7:30 pm, Knights Hall
- Tue, Apr 22 Centering Prayer, 7:30 pm, FC Sanctuary
- Wed, Apr 23 PSR Sessions, 6 pm, School classrooms
- Sat, Apr 26 Prairie Land Food pick-up, 6:30 am, School Gym
Where Faith is Formed, National Catechesis Workshop,
8:30 am– 3 pm, Knights Hall
- Sun, Apr 27 RCIA babysitting, 9:30–11:30 am, FC Rm 114
Final RCIA session, 10–11:30 am, FC Rm 112
Coffee & Donuts, 10–11 am, FC Knights Hall
EDGE, 12:30 pm, FC Rm 114
Senior Recognition, blessing and dinner, 3:30 pm, Knights Hall
- Mon, Apr 28 LIFE TEEN Jr Core, 5:30 pm, FC Rm 114
LIFE TEEN Core meeting, 7 pm, FC Rm 114
K of C Officers, 7:30 pm, Knights Hall
- Tue, Apr 29 Sacred Heart Guild, 8:45 am, former rectory
Centering Prayer, 7:30 pm, FC Sanctuary
Home and School, 7 pm, Neumann Hall
PSR Sessions, 6 pm, School classrooms
- Wed, Apr 30
- Thu, May 1 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, noon-6 am Friday, FC Rm 112
- Fri, May 2 First Friday Coffee and donuts, after 8 am Mass, Old rectory
Scrapbooking, 6 - 11 pm, FC Rm 114
- Sat, May 3 God's Food Pantry weekend
The Lord's Diner, Team C – Sue and Harlan Wright
First Eucharist, 5 pm Mass, Faith Center
- Sun, May 4 Ascension of the Lord
First Eucharist, at all Masses, Faith Center
Coffee & Donuts, 10–11 am, FC Knights Hall
EDGE, 12:30 pm, FC Rm 114
LIFE NIGHT after 6 pm Mass, FC Rm 114
- Mon, May 5 SMPS First Communicants at 8 am Eucharist, Weekday Chapel
LIFE TEEN Core meeting, 7 pm, FC Rm 114
- Tue, May 6 Centering Prayer, 7:30 pm, FC Sanctuary
- Wed, May 7 **PSR Final session/Mass/Picnic**, 6 pm, school, chapel, school grounds
PSR Mass at 6:10 pm with PSR First Communicants, Weekday Chapel
- Thu, May 8 Altar Society-Covered Dish dinner, 6:30 pm, Knights Hall
- Sun, May 11 **Pentecost and Mothers Day**
Mother's Day Breakfast (mothers eat free!), 10-11 am, Knights Hall
LIFE NIGHT after 6 pm Mass, FC Rm 114
- Mon, May 12 LIFE TEEN Jr Core, 5:30 pm; LIFE TEEN Core team, 7 pm, FC Rm 114
K of C members, 7:30 pm, Knights Hall
- Tue, May 13 Centering Prayer, 7:30 pm, FC Sanctuary
- Wed, May 14 Catechists Appreciation dinner, 6 pm, FC Knights Hall
Finance Council, 7 pm, FC Off Conf Rm 106
School Council, 7 pm, Annex
- Thu, May 15 La Leche League, 9 am, FC Rm 114
Harvest House, 6:30 pm, Knights Hall
- Sat, May 17 Chapel cleaning, 8:30 – 10:30 am, Weekday Chapel
- Sun, May 18 Coffee & Donuts, 10–11 am, FC Knights Hall
Senior Graduations, NO Life Night
- Mon, May 19 LIFE TEEN Core team, 7 pm, FC Rm 114
- Tue, May 20 Pastoral Council, 7 pm, FC Rm 114
Centering Prayer, 7:30 pm, FC Sanctuary
- Thu, May 22 **Last Day of SMPS**, noon dismissal
Eighth grade recognition–6 pm Mass,
Weekday Chapel, reception following
- Sun, May 25 Coffee & Donuts, 10–11 am, FC Knights Hall
- Mon, May 26 Memorial Day– Parish Offices closed
NO Knights Officers meeting

NEWSLETTER

INFORMATION, LAYOUT & DESIGN

Davi Stuhlsatz 788-5525 or
vbdragon@cox.net

Kendra Fernandez, 788-5211

ADVISORS: Father Wayne Schmid,
Sister Marie Zoglman, Kathy Parisio
and Andrea Eastman

*All decisions regarding editing are
at the sole discretion of the staff.*

Submit articles, photos, family news
and information to St Mary Church,
2300 E Meadowlark, Derby 67037
or email to Davi (above). Call Davi
with suggestions or comments or to
share your gifts *regularly* as a digital
photographer, writer or editor.

Praying at home

by Ellen Herdler

The Knights of Columbus' sponsored *Family Home Rosary* met for the first time on January 4 at the home of Steve and Ellen Herdler. When asked how she felt this first rosary gathering went, my daughter Lea responded, "Great! We used up all of our chairs!" That *is* pretty impressive for a new program.

The *Family Home Rosary* is open to interested individuals and families to get together to pray the rosary at alternating homes on Friday evenings. Arrive any time after 6:30 pm; the rosary starts promptly at 7 pm to accommodate those with small children. For further information, contact Steve or Ellen Herdler, 789-0809.



family home rosary



Faith

Formation

Spring-ing up in faith!

by Ann Hughes

This is a very busy time of year for faith formation! Children in Special Sacramental Preparation Class and in second grade celebrated First Reconciliation in January, the Rite of Covenant in February, and are now completing preparation to celebrate First Eucharist the first weekend of May.

Numerous adult parishioners joined small groups to use *The Good News*, the diocesan Lenten faith formation program. Others took advantage of the invitation to use these materials in their homes, either privately or with their families. Many who joined groups commented how much their faith had grown as they listened to others share how God's grace had made such a difference in their lives, especially in times of stress.

The faith of a child

Sacramental prep student Noah Brooks (beaming at right after First Reconciliation and during the Rite of Covenant below with Kyle VanderGiesen and their moms): "I thought talking to Father about my sins was cool, because I could get the sins off my back! I'm happy that I'm going to be able to take the bread and wine soon, too. I can't wait!"



Students preparing for First Eucharist gave red felt hearts to Father Wayne during the Rite of Covenant as a sign of their desire to give their hearts to Jesus.



Jesus said, "Let the children come to me...the kingdom of God belongs to such as these... Whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it." —Lk 18:16-17

Our February Generations of Faith gathering focused on Eucharist: The Real Presence. It was an opportunity to pray with the symbols we use at celebrations of the Eucharist, especially the ones associated with Baptism, the Table of the Word (ambo) and the Table of the Eucharist (altar). Adult participants were asked to consider the relationship between the Eucharist and the Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil). They also spent time understanding the Eucharist as Meal, Sacrifice and Real Presence.

Adolescents and Families with Children groups spent time becoming more aware of the Last Supper and its connection to Eucharist. They also focused on the Eucharistic Prayer, hoping to see the connection between the Prayer, Jesus, and their lives. Our youngest group, preschool and kindergarten children, also talked about the Last Supper, Eucharist as thanksgiving, and made placemats decorated with their favorite foods, for which they were thankful to both God and their parents.

Our next GOF gatherings will be April 6 and 9, focused on The Sacrament of Charity: The Eucharist. Father John Lanzrath will be our guest speaker for all of our adolescents and adults in the break out session. Registration forms are available in the gathering space until March 30.



Margaret Klosterman and her daughter Natalie work together during the Parents with Children breakout session on Eucharist.

Family matters

Now this is what the LORD says to the family of Israel: "Come back to me and live!" —Am 5:4

by Sylvia Sommerhauser

Together we mark the milestones of our lives, celebrating the joys and sharing the sorrows.

Births

Chloe Madison Stuhlsatz, daughter of Brock and Amy, granddaughter of John and Kathy, great-granddaughter of Bill and Marilyn, was born on March 4.

Quinlan Joel Egan, son of Chris and Kristina, brother of Kayden, grandson of Pat and Ann, was born on March 6.

Congratulations

Matt Smith, son of Ed and Kim, received his bachelor's degree from Kansas State University in Electrical Engineering on December 8. He is employed by Larson Binkley in Kansas City as an electrical engineer.

Jordan Korphage, son of Warren and Sheila, received a Bachelor's degree in Communication with an emphasis in Integrated Marketing Communication from WSU on December 16. He began work on his Master's degree in January and is a graduate assistant in the Media Relations office of WSU's Athletics department.

Freshman **Deidre Mikolajcik**, daughter of Stephen and Candy, set a school record at Lewis University by swimming the 500 freestyle in 5:08:33 last fall.

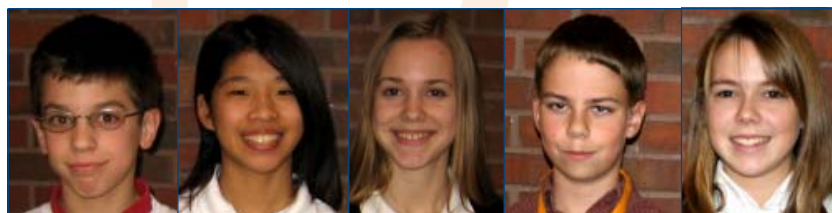
Bill Hand bowled a 300 on February 28 during the men's league!

Ethan Barr, **Crystal Klaichang** and **Olivia Smith** were winners in the Daughters of the American Revolution Essay Contest. Crystal is multi-talented—she also took third place in this year's Wichita Eagle's Photo Contest with her picture of a snake!

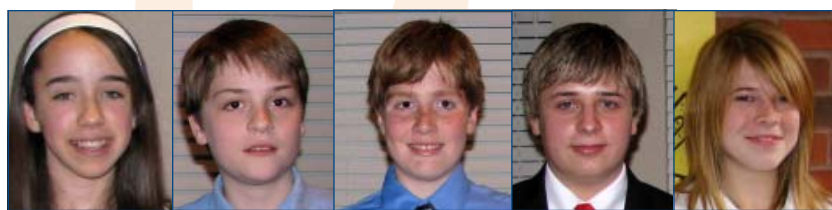
Josh Lund took first place in the St Mary Parish School Geography Bee, and **Courtney Wells** took second.



Chloe Stuhlsatz Quinlan Egan Matt Smith Jordan Korphage Bill Hand



Ethan Barr Crystal Klaichang Olivia Smith Josh Lund Courtney Wells



LaReine Schock Noah Montgomery Matthew Galley J.W. Waldschmidt Chelsy Stegman



James Stroebel

Chelsy Stegman won the St. Mary Parish School Spelling Bee, and **Matthew Galley** took second. Fifth grader

James Stroebel took first in the Park Hill Elementary Spelling Bee.

SMPS seventh grader **LaReine Schock** took first place in the girls division of the Optimist Speech Contest. Seventh grader **Noah Montgomery** won the boys division, eighth grader **Matthew Galley** took second, and DHS freshman **J.W. Waldschmidt** took third.

Four St Mary girls placed in the top three at the Kansas Association State Career Development Conference in Overland Park and therefore qualified for the International Career Development Conference in Atlanta in April. The qualifiers were first place finisher **Jessica**



Jessica Tormey, Dani Stuhlsatz, Claire Compton and Caty Compton

Tormey in Advertising Campaign; **Claire** and **Caty Compton**, second place in Hospitality and Recreation marketing, and **Dani Stuhlsatz**, third place in Business Services Marketing. Caty was also elected President of the Kansas Association for 2008-09. **Kellie Smith-Degenhardt** is the sponsor for DECA and will be going to Atlanta as well. Jessica also recently won a \$500 scholarship in the Optimist Essay Contest! Way to go, Jessica!

LORD, bless our families.

Family matters (cont.)



Kellie & Steve Degenhardt

Marriage

Kellie Smith, daughter of Ed and Kim, married Steven Degenhardt, son of Dennis and RoseMarie Degenhardt of Wichita, at St Mary on January 19. Kellie is a graduate of DHS and received her degree in Secondary Education from Kansas State University (KSU). She also received her Master of Science in Business Education from Emporia State University. She currently teaches business education at DHS. Steven is a graduate of Bishop Carroll High School and received his degree in Civil Engineering from KSU. He is currently employed with the City of Wichita as a Senior Engineer.

Deaths

Richard Timmermeyer, father of Stephen, died on December 20.

Elizabeth Farley, mother of Pat, died on December 30.

Rosie Benner died on January 22.

Jean Dumont, aunt of Fay and Jim Lyle, died on February 9.

John David Dean died on February 10.

Ellen Wilbert, wife of Cal, mother of Dave, died on February 15.

← **DECA Night at Wendy's:**
Thu, Apr 3, 5-9 pm
All Receipts benefit DECA

*A special welcome
to our new parishioners!*



Johnson



Hunt



Mitchell



Juarez



Beal

Adults

Najet Beal
Chris & Kristina Egan
Sherry Goodvin
Glenn & Shirley Grimsley
Kevin & Missy Hansen
Michael & Diane Hinton
Evin & Carissa Hunt
Lonnie & Kim Johnson
Greg & Christina Juarez
Brian & Megan Mitchell
Ryan & Kendra Potucek
Paul & Stacy Sula
Annette Tehel
Kyle & Christina Walter

Children

Kayden, Quinlan
Ransom, Tommy
Danielle, Michael, Nicholas
Sheldon, Braydon
Hannah, Adrienne, Megan
Andrez
Madelyn, Carter
Jake
Jordan
Graeson

Jim Dubetsky, father of Lynn Cowles, died on February 21.

Mary Carolyn Burkemper, mother of Bryan, died on March 12.

Family Matters news?

Call Sylvia at 776-0537
or email Davi at
vbdragon@cox.net.

Dear brothers and sisters: **Rejoice**. Change your ways. **Encourage** each other. Live in harmony and peace. Then the **GOD** of love and peace will be with you. —2 Cor 13:11



Grand Knight Bob Stuhlsatz gives Carol Keller money for the Derby Free Spirits.

Giving it away

by Kendra Fernandez

In the October 2007 Tootsie Roll Drive, the Derby community gave over \$10,000 to the men in yellow and red aprons distributing Tootsie Rolls, which is a record! Derby Knights send 20% of these contributions to the State Knights of Columbus to support Kansas State Special Olympics basketball, 40% stays here in Derby with the Derby Free Spirits, and 40% goes to Wichita agencies serving the intellectually disabled.

The Derby Knights presented checks in January 2008 to the Derby Free Spirits, Starkey Foundation, and Holy Family Special Needs Foundation, and certificates of appreciation to Dillon's and Wal-Mart for last year's Tootsie Roll Drive.

The Knights are really excited that their hard work and the community's generosity has resulted in such generous gifts to

serve people with intellectual disabilities. Grand Knight Bob Stuhlsatz said, "Giving these checks to these agencies is so rewarding—it feels really great to be able to help them serve the disabled in our community!"

Those accepting the awards were thrilled with the large donations. Carol Keller, board member of the Derby Free Spirits, excitedly accepted a check for \$4,300 and expressed gratitude that it would help fund a new initiative of the Free Spirits to reach out to members of the community who have not previously participated in Derby Free Spirits.

Knights news



Andy Shearrer, Brian Mitchell, and Doug Nolting joined the Knights in February. The Knights also hosted several well attended events: an appreciation dinner for the parish staff, a Pro Life lasagna dinner, and a Fish Fry.

Free Throw contest mania

by Kendra Fernandez

In January, Derby Knights of Columbus held their annual Free Throw Championship for 10-14 year-old youths in the community. The winners of the council competition in the various age groups were:

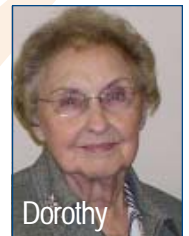
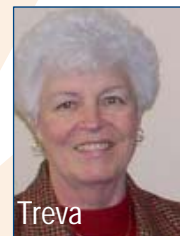
Girls: Allie Smith (11), Jessica Egan (12), Mari Hoffman (13) and Boys: John Doerksen (10), John Coufal(11), John Kennedy (12), Austin Watchous (13), and Will Parmelee (14).

Jessica Egan, Mari Hoffman and John Coufal were winners at the district level as well.

Encouraging vocations

by Pat Egan

Treva Schaffer and Dorothy Nolting recently joined the Serra Club. Serra International aims to foster and promote vocations to the priesthood and vowed religious life of the Catholic Church, to develop appreciation of the priesthood and of all religious vocations in the Catholic Church, and to further Catholicism by encouraging its members through fellowship and education to fulfill their Christian vocations to service. To learn more, visit www.serraus.org or call Pat or Ann Egan at 788-0726 or Tony Duran at 788-2251.



Treva

Dorothy

Think of ways to encourage one another
to outbursts of love and good deeds. —Heb 10:24



Left to right: Ashtyn Koob, 4"; Aubrey Buzzi, 10", Jenna Rossillon, 6"; Nina Galley, 15"; Anna Mahoney, 8"; Janelle Richardson, 10"; not pictured: Ashlee Schif, 12 inches.

Love is in the (H)air

by Maria Galley

Lop, lop! There went the long brown tresses.

Our virtue (for St Marys Little Flowers Girls Club) for February was, appropriately enough with Valentine's Day, love. Since love was our virtue, and with St Mary teacher Jo McGovern having lost her hair due to chemo, I first brought up the idea of donating to Locks of Love (LOL) with my daughter Nina.

After years of hesitancy when it came to cutting her hair, Nina seemed to like the idea. I told her that of course it was *her* decision, so she went to the website locksoflove.org to read about this public non-profit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children suffering from long-term medical hair loss. She decided to do it, and told her fellow Little Flowers about LOL the next day. I was substitute teaching for Mrs. McGovern that day and several girls came up to me and asked if they could have their hair cut too; they were so excited. Their enthusiasm was contagious, and so it became a Little Flowers service project.

Nina also told her friend Ashlee Schif (6th grade) about LOL. Ashlee decided to have her hair cut, too—in honor of Mrs. McGovern, but also

for her four-year old niece, who has leukemia. I put a notice in the school newsletter inviting others to participate and Laurie Ford contacted me and offered Eric Fisher Academy to do the cutting and then Stephanie Birmingham called me and wanted to do a news story—it was incredible.

Donation requirements state that donated hair has to be at least 10 inches long to make a wig for LOL, but donations of shorter lengths are accepted because they can sell that hair to help offset the cost of making the hairpieces. Locks of Love doesn't call them wigs as I just did – they call them prostheses, because they're made differently than a wig; there's some kind of suction device so that kids can wear them anywhere without fear of their hair falling off.

Annie McHenry fully intended to get her hair cut, but although it was long enough when wet, it has such a tight curl she'd have had nothing left if they had cut the full 10 inches. She's fine now, but she was in tears that evening at *not* being able to donate. Mrs. McGovern made each of the girls (including Annie) a beautiful little beaded bracelet that says "Locks of Love". It really was an amazing outpouring of love all the way around.

Sweet Stewards

by Kendra Fernandez

The Little Flowers 4th grade St Mary students wish to thank all those who assisted in their Christmas cookie sale. Each girl baked cookies with her mom and then sold them after Mass. This exercise taught the girls about time, talent and treasure.

The *time* spent with the moms was special. Jenna Rossillon said, "I loved baking the cookies with my mom. But it took a long time! After a while my dad had to help us because we got tired!"

The *talent* was the girls baking the cookies themselves and selling them after Mass. Zoe Cosgrove said, "I didn't like going to the church early, but I did like baking and selling the cookies and giving the bags to people," and Nina Galley said, "I thought that the cookie making and selling was fun and at some points a little frustrating."

Finally, the *treasure* to the church was \$50, 10% of the profit. "It felt good making cookies for other people," said Ashton Koob. Janelle Richardson felt like God was calling her to be his servant. Other girls commented that they felt really good about their project and had a lot of fun. Thanks again to everyone who supported the Little Flowers and St Mary Parish!

All of you, be of one mind, sympathetic, loving toward one another, compassionate, humble. —1 Peter 3:8

Living out her faith...



Janet

by Davi Stuhlsatz

Janet Clark was named St. Mary Parish School Distinguished Alumnus for 2008 by Principal Richard Montgomery.

Janet began her ministry as a Parish School of Religion volunteer when her daughter started first grade, eventually becoming the volunteer PSR coordinator. When Father Wayne arrived at St Mary in 1998, he made it a part-time staff position and hired Janet. He asked her and parishioner John Stuhlsatz to investigate LIFE TEEN as a catechetical and social program for high school youth a couple of years later. The program was introduced to parish teens in 2000, and EDGE for seventh and eighth grade students was initiated a couple of years after that

Eventually, Father Wayne asked Janet to transition into Director of Youth Ministry, overseeing LIFE TEEN, EDGE, and parish Confirmation classes, the position she holds today. Janet has touched the lives of countless parish youth in her many years of service. She will graduate in May with a degree in theology from Newman University.



Bethany

by Davi Stuhlsatz

Bethany Ramsey was presented with the Outstanding Young Elementary School Teacher award by Catholic school superintendent Bob Voboril in February.

Bethany teaches fourth grade at St Mary, her mother is a special education teacher at Hoisington High School and her grandfather was a teacher and principal in Ellinwood for many years.

Bethany's first two years of formal education were at St. John the Evangelist Catholic School in Hoisington. She received her degree in education from Wichita State University.

Bethany cherishes the opportunity to help students achieve academically *and* to help them grown in their faith, too. She said, "We want the students to learn something new about their faith in religion, on the playground or in any subject...I can't tell you how good it makes me feel to talk about God every day. Teaching at a Catholic school makes me more aware of the sacrifices that are made on a daily basis for me. And, I can give thanks to God for them."

Special thanks to The Derby Informer



Altar Society

by Davi Stuhlsatz

Women of the parish enjoyed three "wisemen" during Altar Society's Epiphany Dinner in January, including parishioner Sandy Tauer, above right, who shared her experiences in Ethiopia, and friends of Kyong Berry's (above left) from South Korea.

Fridays during Lent, the guilds hosted Soup Suppers after the Stations of the Cross, treating parishioners to a tasty meatless meal while earning money for the guild's charities.



Warm hearts

by Maria Galley

Third grade Little Flowers, including Chauncy Jackson and Baylee Schif here made blankets for the homeless and handed out the blankets and hand warmers personally on a field trip to Union Rescue Mission.