



# The Proclaimer

VOLUME 27, NO.2

SPRING 2007

## Who Is He?

By Fr. Dick Morse, OSFS



I'll bet that question has been raised a lot since you heard who your new pastor is. A handful of people probably know me from when I lived at St. Francis High School and served as Provincial Treasurer for the Oblates. But to most of you I am only a name. A few facts may help.

I am the second of four children born August 26, 1941 to Vernon Morse and Ruth De Bolt Morse in Penn Yan, New York, located in the heart of the Finger Lakes district. I attended St. Michael's grade school and Penn Yan Academy. I then studied at St. Andrew and St. Bernard's seminaries in Rochester, New York. After completing my first year of theology, I entered the novitiate of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales. Following my first profession of vows in August 1965, I taught for one year in

Philadelphia and for one year in Salt Lake City.

The next three years were dedicated to completing my theological studies at De Sales Hall in Hyattsville, MD. I was ordained in Niagara Falls, NY, at the beginning of my fourth year of theology on September 6, 1969. In the summer of 1970 I began my first assignment as a pioneer with the first group of Oblates to begin teaching in Stockton, California. Since that time I have served in schools in both Michigan and California. In 1990 I became pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Dexter, MI near Ann Arbor.

In the summer of 1995 I agreed to serve as Treasurer for the Oblates, spending my day off each week working at the Provincial office in Toledo. After a short time, it became evident that one day a week was not enough. Therefore, in June of 1996 I resigned as pastor and moved to Toledo where I was able to give full time to the Treasurer's job in addition to serving as Director of our retired men. In January of 2000, I moved to Stockton, CA to serve as interim administrator of a parish and then became pastor of St. Anthony's in Manteca where I have happily served since July 15, 2000.

Leaving St. Anthony's is one of the most difficult things I have been asked to do. While I am very open to coming to St. Pius and am at peace with this move, I cannot deny the deep sadness I feel at saying goodbye to those who have been so integral a part of my life these past few years. The people here have been very supportive of me and of the parish, making it a joy to minister here.

But now that the Lord has called me to St. Pius, I am eager to get there, get settled, and get to meet new faces. I believe God is not only a God of surprises but also a God who has special blessings awaiting me. Otherwise I would not have been asked to accept this assignment. As you may already know, my assignment as pastor of St. Pius is effective July 2<sup>nd</sup>. However, I will not arrive until July 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> because of a previous commitment as well as the time needed to drive across country.

And for the sake of the curious, I enjoy reading, traveling, and cooking. I should also warn you that I am project oriented and enjoy improving and renovating parish facilities. So watch out! Meanwhile, pray for Fr. Jim and for me that we will have safe trips across the country.

ST. PIUS X PARISH



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Letters to the Editor are always welcomed and encouraged.

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**Introducing...**

**Ron Peeps, Sr.**

By Jane Butkowsky



**O**ur deacon, who started at St. Pius X about two weeks before Easter, was born and raised in Toledo. He has one brother and one sister, both of whom are older than he. His younger brother died at the age of 37. Ron attended UT where he studied engineering. At present he is employed at SSOE, a consulting engineering firm, where he has worked off and on since 1969. He has also been employed by Teledyne and Glasstech, where he was head of the electrical department.

Ron converted to the Catholic faith in 1969. He was baptized into the Lutheran religion, later became a Presbyterian, and then a Methodist. He married Donna at St. Teresa's Church in 1960 and they have four children: Dawn, who lives in Portland, OR; Dana; Ron, Jr.; and Deanna; all of whom reside in Toledo. Seven of their nine grandchildren also live here. Ron and Donna later became parishioners at St. Agnes, then St. Clement's Church

Ron prepared for the diaconate in the three-year program, but left one month shy of completing, as he was not sure of his vocation. He later

completed the necessary studies and was ordained in 1982, serving at St. Clement's for the next 20 years. At this time, Fr. Jim mentioned to Ron that he needed help, and the bishop appointed him to St. Hyacinth's where Fr. Jim was pastor. Later, Ron again followed Fr. Jim to St. Pius X with the permission of the bishop. He has joined the parish, but his wife remains registered at St. Clement's where she is very active. She does, however, come to church here with Ron. When asked how he felt about being here with Fr. Jim leaving, he replied that he likes the people (he referred to them as "kind, loving, and likeable") and knows the area very well.

He is rapidly becoming involved in the life of the Parish. He attends the Council meetings and is going to bring Marriage Encounter to our church. Next school year he plans to be present at the school masses, and hopes to participate further in parish activities upon retirement. For those of you who are unaware, deacons serve their parishes without pay, but have some financial support for purchasing periodicals, attending one retreat each year, and taking weekend classes twice each year. They may perform marriages, burial services, baptize, and preach. Ron will be preaching at two of the Masses the fourth weekend of June.

We welcome you, Deacon Peeps, and hope to have you with us for a long time!

## Club 55+: Alive and Well and Still Going Strong

By Mary Ann Niedzielski



Since the autumn of 2000, parishioners 55 years of age and older have been enjoying lunches, dinners, and a variety of programs --- all because of the generosity of one parishioner. **Pat Miller**, who died in 1999, left a percentage of her estate to fund “social and educational programs” for St. Pius X seniors. Eight years later, Club 55+ is alive and well and looking forward to many more gatherings in the future.

A typical social event includes a lunch or dinner and entertainment. The majority of the meals are catered, although this past year potlucks were introduced to help preserve funds. At every gathering, a basket is made available for donations (strictly voluntary) to a designated charity. To date over three thousand dollars has been donated to local, national, and international charities, including our own St. Vincent de Paul Society chapter.

A regular part of the Club 55+ program is the crowning of two or three attendees as king or queen for a day. Each is cited for his/her service to the parish community. Every parish ministry has representation in Club 55+, including choir

members, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, money counters, Pastoral Council, etc.

**Maureen O'Connor** is a regular at Club 55+ events. “I just enjoy being with the people. Everyone is so friendly. I like donating to charities. It carries out what Pat Miller would have wanted. And the programs are wonderful. Not a one I didn’t like.”

“After all the years of cooking family meals, it’s a treat to share a prepared meal with my St. Pius friends,” says **Jane Butkowsky**. “I look forward to each and every Club 55 event. The programs are delightful.”

**Irv Wisniewski** is also enthusiastic. “Our parish does a lot for the seniors. I always enjoy the Club 55 get-togethers. I get to see people I don’t often see since we don’t usually go to the same Masses. I really enjoy the people of St. Pius. They’re so friendly.” Although many singles, widows, and widowers are “Club Fifty-five’s”, a number of couples also participate. “We enjoy coming to the ‘Club’ because we meet new people and like seeing and visiting with the people of the parish,” say **Len and Trish Pudlicki**. “We have enjoyed every speaker and other forms of entertainment. We always look forward to these luncheons and dinners.”

Club 55+ meets four times a year. The next event will be in the fall. New participants are always encouraged to join the group and take part in the festivities.

## News from the Pews

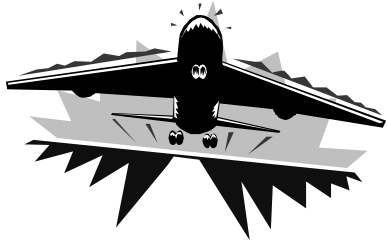


**Marty Wilhelm** was overwhelmed with emotion at seeing his daughter, Sara, in the school uniform when she started kindergarten this past year. It is the same as those worn by the girls when he was a student here. His sister, **Gretchen (Wilhelm) Squires**, received her PhD in Psychology from UT last spring. Brother **Ted** is finishing his last year of teaching at The International School in Bangladesh. He and his wife, Natalie, and son, Noah, will be going to Santiago, Chili for two years where Ted will again be teaching for the same school. Noah was so named because of their narrow escape from the tsunami! At that time, Natalie didn't know she was expecting.

NFL football should be exciting this year, as St. Pius X graduate **Ryne Robinson** was drafted by the Carolina Panthers recently.

**Michael Velker**, son of Chris and Christine Velker, will be attending University of Dayton, College of Engineering this fall and has been awarded: The President’s Grant, University Founder’s Grant, Ohio Student Choice Grant, and Department of Engineering Scholarship.

## Adieu, Auf Wiedersehen, Adios



**G**oodbyes are difficult in any language, but we must say so long to Fr. Jim Sanford at the end of June. His time here at St. Pius has been fairly short, but he has done much to improve the physical plant, from having the garage cleaned up to this summer's big projects of school roof repair and the complete remodeling of the men's and women's bathrooms to make them handicapped accessible. The new sacristy, although smaller, is well organized and a nicer place for the priests to prepare for Mass.

The storage area at the rear of the building has been cleaned out, and the Eucharistic Ministers are very pleased with the "new" cabinets and drawers (they cost nothing as they were from the "old" sacristy) for the sacred vessels and linens. Fr. Jim's penchant for decorating is evident in the rearrangement of the sanctuary with the baptismal font taking a prominent place.

Fr. Jim is moving to Salt Lake City, Utah where he will be teaching Religion classes part time at Judge Memorial High School and participating in campus ministry. He will also assist at times when needed at the local church and will be

living in community with two other Oblate priests. We will miss his homilies and his sense of humor (weird at times, but very funny), and we'll continue to remember him in prayer...especially for recovery from his physical problems. Thanks for everything, Fr. Jim, and good luck in your new way of serving the Lord!!!

## School News

By Deb O'Shea

**T**he new members of School Advisory Council (SAC) are **Missy Anderzack, Mary Bukowski, Barb Coventry, Bob Kleinfelter, Dale Jones, and Paul Molnar**. These parents are committing to a three-year term on this council to work for the benefit of all at St. Pius X School. Three members leaving council this year are **Marty Petersen, Greg Nusbaum, and Dan Kelley**. Thanks for all your time and talents.



Members beginning their second year on SAC are **Laurie Sheehy** (Secretary), **Paramita Mukherjee, Ann Rose, and Greg Fretti** (Vice-President). Members beginning their third year on SAC are **Connie**

**Collins** (President), **John Deku, Sheila Conway, and Neil Duhon.** **John Clark** is beginning his fourth year on SAC. As our bylaws state (since he was President this year), John is asked to serve one more year as an ex-officio member. Thanks for your dedication to St. Pius, John!

**Lisa Burns** has consented to another year as our liaison between the SAC and Parish Council. Thanks so much, Lisa. One of Lisa's services is to tally family service hours.



## **St. Pius X Preschool**

**S**t. Pius X Preschool is a full time program that will allow our families to register their preschool children for half time or full time. Students must sign up for at least two days a week but may choose any days they wish. Morning session runs from 8:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. and the afternoon session runs from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00. All day session is as follows, 8:15 to 3:00. Extended day is also available; it will operate from 3:00 to 6:00. Please contact the school office at 419-535-7688 if you are interested in attending our preschool. We have 2 openings left.

**2006-2007 St. Pius X  
School 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Student Scholarship  
Awards**



**Cardinal Strich High School**

**Fr. John Stites Grant**  
Gregory Richard Kilis  
Jacob Thomas Pavlica

**Strich Legacy Scholarship**  
\$1000-Jacob Thomas Pavlica

**Music Booster's Scholarship**  
\$250-Jacob Thomas Pavlica

**Academic Grant**  
Gregory Richard Kilis  
Jacob Thomas Pavlica  
Alexandra Kaye Weber

**Central Catholic High School**

**Sullivan Scholarship**  
\$3000 Renewable  
Bernard Anthony Iannone

**Troy Simon Scholarship**  
\$700-Bernard Anthony Iannone

**Legacy Grant-\$1000**  
Devon Daniel Desmond  
Joseph David Velker

**Young Irish Scholars-\$500**  
Devon Daniel Desmond  
Bernard Anthony Iannone  
Jessica Ann Lemble

**St. Francis de Sales High  
School**

**Rev. George Shugrue  
Scholarship**  
\$1000 Renewable  
Christopher Thomas Reaper

**Francis de Sales Scholarship**  
\$500 Renewable  
Tyler Steven Bugaj  
Connor Christopher Frey  
Leroy Robert Madison

**Notre Dame Academy**

**Marian Award-\$500**  
Madeline Marie Petee

**Women of Service-\$500**  
Dolly Charlotte Darwish  
Holly Marie Davis

**Diedre Malhoit Scholarship**  
\$1000  
Dolly Charlotte Darwish

**St. Ursula Academy**

**Academic Scholarship**  
\$3000 Renewable  
Jessica Renee Duhon

**St. Angela Merici Scholarship**  
\$1000 Renewable  
Melissa Marie Myers

**Academic Scholarship-\$1000**  
Claire Elizabeth Opfermann  
Nusbaum

**Academic Scholarship-\$700**  
Molly Kay McCabe

**Alumnae Scholarship**  
\$700 Renewable  
Abigail Carole Rieker

**Student Leader Scholarship**  
\$1000  
Clare Ashleigh Kelly

**Pedaling Pumas  
Bike to the Bay**



**S**t. Pius will be represented again this year by **John Clark, Ian Creager, Larry Hack, David Hertz, Elizabeth Hertz, Susan Hertz, Paul Molnar, Jason Toth and John Ziegelhofer** in the 2007 Ohio Multiple Sclerosis Bike to the Bay. The event takes place on June 23-24 and they will complete the 150-mile round trip course over 2 days. If you are interested in supporting the team visit the Pedalin Pumas Multiple Sclerosis team web site at:

**[www.nationalmssociety.org/site/TR?team\\_id=51272&pg=team&fr\\_id=5250](http://www.nationalmssociety.org/site/TR?team_id=51272&pg=team&fr_id=5250)**

or drop off a donation at the Parish office to the attention of John Clark, Pedalin Pumas.

Pledges can be made to the team or a specific individual.

Of particular interest, is the on air challenge that was made to **Fred LeFebvre** of WSPD radio team "WSPD Wheelers" by John Clark of the "Pedalin Pumas", that the St. Pius Team donations would exceed their donations. Help the St. Pius Team win this challenge by making a generous donation to our Puma biking team!

## A Living Lent in 2007

By Anne and Time Etue

The following is a little history explaining why **Anne Etue** has not been available for the past 3 months.

The arthritis in her back became so painful last November that she went to a pain specialist at the recommendation of her neurosurgeon. This was in the hope that she would not need surgery. She received three pain shots over a six-week period; they did not help at all.

Back surgery was then recommended as the only way to relieve the pain. This took place Feb. 27, 2007. The surgery went very well, but she did get a staph infection from the surgery. Anne was able to return to work within a two-week time frame, but the infection then took charge of her life.

On Monday morning, March 19, 2007, it was necessary to take her by ambulance to St. Anne's because her sugar was over 500 and her blood pressure was very low. She also didn't realize what was taking place. She couldn't stand or even talk.

It was determined in the emergency room that Anne needed to have her back opened again because of the infection. Her surgeon came to the hospital and performed another surgery to clean out the infected area and to stop her spinal column from leaking. She almost died that day. Then on the following evening her heart began to beat much too fast and

she was again near death. On Thursday of that week it was necessary for the surgeon to come back and surgically install a special drainage bag because her back was leaking too much. On Sunday, April 2, it was determined that another emergency surgery was needed because Anne's back was showing signs of more infection and excessive spinal leakage. That surgery took place at 10:30 a.m. and was completed by noon. She was returned once again to her room in the intensive care unit.

Because her sugar count was so out of control, her diabetic specialist had to put her on a continuous IV feed system. This meant that she had to have her sugar tested with a finger prick every hour of the day. Yes, it was very difficult for her to get any real sleep when she was awakened every hour. That went on for 3 weeks. They did try to have Anne sit and stand, but she was not able to do either.

After 31 days in the intensive care unit, she was moved to a room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor for about two weeks. She was given what physical therapy the hospital had available, but she needed a much more comprehensive program than what was available at St. Anne's. Because she was so weak, she was not accepted at either University of Toledo Rehab Hospital or at St. Luke's Hospital. We were told to find a Rehab Center for her, so we reviewed those that were listed on our hospitalization plan and

selected Arbors of Sylvania where she is currently living. Her ability to use her arms has greatly improved. She is able to feed herself now, but she is not able to stand or walk on her own yet. It is hoped that she will be able to gain enough strength in her legs to do this in four to five weeks.

She has enjoyed the visits, cards, letters, phone calls, and the outing with Ken and Sandy Moore. We were invited to have a double date with them and go out in their handicap-equipped van. We went to our home and found that our daughter was there with our grandson who just loves to be with his grandma. We had a great visit with them and finished the date by going to have some ice cream. Oh, yes, Anne's sugar did go up, but it did come back down quickly!

We are hoping and praying that Anne will be able to be home for July 4<sup>th</sup> celebrations of her INDEPENDENCE from all the problems she has encountered from the staph infection.

Just to let you know, the surgery was successful, she does not have any more back pain! Please continue to keep us in your prayers. We know we could not have come as far as we have without all the prayers everyone has said for us. *Update: Anne Etue was transferred to Toledo Hospital June 1 and had surgery the following day. All of the installed hardware was removed and the infection completely cleaned out. She will have to go thru some serious rehabilitation, as she will have to wear a brace whenever she is mobile.*



## As Time Flew By...

By Teri Giacci

**T**ime flew by for the sell out crowd of over 230 at the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Pius X Benefit Auction on March 31<sup>st</sup>. The event titled "As Time Goes By" from the movie title, *Casablanca*, was a huge success for the school's endowment fund. The net for the night was over \$50,000. Thanks to the hundreds of donations to the live and silent auctions, over 300 items were sold; many of those over the value of the item! The support of the St. Pius community was once again immeasurable.

The unique auction items included a gift from a past St. Pius X graduate. **Tad Wolfe**, class of 1993, is a current resident fellow at the Creative Glass Center of America at Weaton Arts in Millville, NJ. Tad donated one of his own creations, a gorgeous hand blown glass bowl that saw some serious competitive bidding!

Sponsors for the event helped provide the seed money and much needed materials. The general sponsor, Carrabba's Italian Grill, provided a savory

Italian dinner that was enjoyed by all in attendance. In addition to Carrabba's, Gold Sponsors (\$1000) were **Andy Anderzack** and **Gene Canestraro**; **Hendricus Albregt** was the Silver Sponsor (\$500). Bronze Sponsors gave a total of \$3500 and there were 13 Special Mention Sponsors who gave from \$50 to \$100.

Committee members were **John Clark, Teri Giacci, Dave Hertz, Gary Holewinski, Vicki Jagielski, Bob Kleinfelter, Deb O'Shea, Marty Petersen, Diane Saccone and Fr. Jim Sanford**. The ambience of a Casa Blanca lounge was created by **Elise Buchhop, Mary Bukowski, Aili Meyers and Ginny Pavlica**. Volunteering for the evening were members of the University of Toledo business fraternity, Alpha Kappa Psi.





Send us your **News from the Pews!**

St. Pius X *Proclaimer* is interested in what you and your family has been up to. Information about accomplishments, jobs, promotions will be included in the News from the Pews section. Just complete the form below and mail to:

St. Pius X Parish, Attention *Proclaimer* Editor, 3011 Carskaddon Avenue, Toledo, OH 43606

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E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Your News from the Pews:

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**News can also be emailed directly to the parish: [stpius@buckeye-express.com](mailto:stpius@buckeye-express.com)**

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