



# The Proclaimer

VOLUME 28, NO.1

WINTER 2008

## A Conversation with Fr. Morse

By Mary Ann Niedzielski



In a recent interview, Fr. Morse provided a broad overview of the parish.

**QUESTION:** You have been our pastor now for a little over six months. What are some of your early impressions of St. Pius X parish?

**ANSWER:** My early impressions are very favorable. The people are friendly and welcoming. It is good to see so many of our people involved in the life of the parish. Parishioners enjoy spending time with one another, whether at liturgies or at social and athletic events. I also am pleased that parishioners are quick to respond when help is asked for.

**QUESTION:** What are some of St. Pius's strengths?

**ANSWER:** St. Pius people are interested in outreach of all types. First of all, the parish reaches out to its own members. Some examples are the programs we have for youth, for seniors (CLUB 55+), and for those seeking spiritual renewal (CHRPS). And there is real interest in outreach to those outside the parish who are in need. I have noticed that the people show a genuine openness and generosity as they respond to whatever needs surface.

**QUESTION:** What are some areas we need to focus on as we go forward?

**ANSWER:** We need to grow as a parish. Our program welcoming back inactive Catholics is part of our effort to build up our community. But our evangelization must also reach out to the unchurched, those without any religious affiliation. We also need to make ourselves more visible and welcoming to the neighboring community.

**QUESTION:** You recently initiated a stewardship program, requesting pledges of regular support from the parishioners. How has that worked out?

**ANSWER:** The response was very good. Thirty-eight percent of the people turned in pledge cards. Having a definite amount of money coming in on a regular basis is very important because we count on that regular income to pay salaries and cover operating expenses. That is why it is so important that parishioners remain faithful to their commitments.

**QUESTION:** Inevitably, pastors have to be concerned with the buildings and grounds of a parish. Are there any projects in the works?

**ANSWER:** We hope to finish upgrading school classrooms this summer. This involves possible asbestos abatement as well as painting and new carpeting. Sooner, rather than later, we have to complete roof replacement for the church/school building as well as the Parish Center and the rectory. We also are looking to install new windows and air conditioning in the school and provide an extension of our speaker system and appropriate acoustics in the narthex.

(Continued on page 2)

ST. PIUS X PARISH



**THE PROCLAIMER**  
**Volume 28 No.1 Winter 2008**

**EDITOR**

Jane Butkowsky

**DESIGN and LAYOUT**

Diane Saccone

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS:**

Deb O'Shea  
Fr. Dick Morse, OSFS  
Mary Ann Niedzielski  
Anne Etue  
Pat Urbaniak  
Jim White  
Rita Yates  
Jen Bine  
Teri Giaci

THE PROCLAIMER is published quarterly: Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter.

Letters to the Editor are always welcomed and encouraged.

**St. Pius X Church**  
**3011 Carskaddon Ave.**  
**Toledo, Ohio 43606**

**Pastor**

Fr. Dick Morse, OSFS

**Deacon**

Ron Peeps Sr.

**PARISH CENTER OFFICE**

Monday – Friday 830 – 3

Phone: 419-535-7672

Fax: 419-535-7810

Email: [stpius@buckeye-express.com](mailto:stpius@buckeye-express.com)

Website: [www.saint-pius.org](http://www.saint-pius.org)

**QUESTION:** One of your goals is to encourage inactive Catholics to return to the community. How might every parishioner further these efforts?

**ANSWER:** Encourage --- but don't nag --- friends and relatives to take part in the parish program for returning Catholics. Sometimes all people need is an invitation. Another way to welcome back Catholics is to invite them to a social event at the parish. Ask a friend or a relative to a parish fish fry, beer and brats party, or pig roast.

**QUESTION:** What are your impressions of the parish school?

**ANSWER:** I am very pleased with our school. We have a good school with good teachers and a very fine principal. Deb O'Shea and I work well together. The parents are appreciative and cooperative.

**QUESTION:** In your prayers for the parish, what do you most hope for?

**ANSWER:** I pray that our people will continue to grow spiritually. I pray that the parish will remain vibrant and healthy and that it will continue to grow while still maintaining its friendly and welcoming spirit.

**Reverse Raffle**

**Thank You**

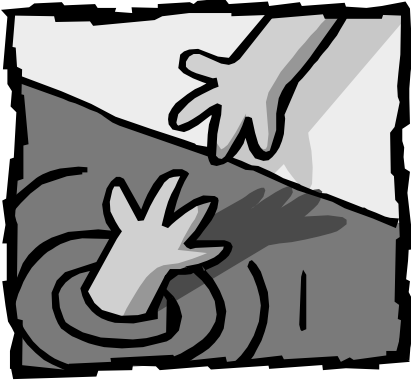
By Jim White



With college football games showing on a big screen TV, guests enjoyed a great meal prepared by Let's Dish as 220 raffle tickets were drawn one at a time at the 5th annual SPX Reverse Raffle. **Sarah and Dave Latta** won the \$2000 grand prize, **Brian Weber** won the \$1000 2nd Prize, and **Les and Ellen Breininger** won the 3<sup>rd</sup> place prize of \$500. The Webers kindly gave back \$500 of their prize to the SPX Athletic Association. Over 70 other ticket holders also received gifts, including retail gift certificates, jewelry, Libbey glassware, golf passes, and many other valuable items. The evening was a great success and will directly benefit the student athletes at St. Pius. Many thanks from the SPX Athletic Association to those in attendance, sponsors, gift donors, and volunteers. Look for the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Reverse Raffle next September.

## Ministering to the Poor

By Mary Ann Niedzielski



In a recent book, author Katherine Newman chronicles the lives of those who comprise THE MISSING CLASS. These are Americans who do not meet the statistical requirements (income under \$20,000 for a family of four) to be labeled poor, but who nonetheless are living close to the brink of poverty. An illness, loss of a job, a debilitating accident, a divorce, an unexpected pregnancy --- any number of setbacks can place the near poor into emergency situations.

Members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society deal with the emergency needs of the poor every day. Each week, on a rotating basis, teams of two SVDP members respond to requests for help that come through the parish office.

Typically, the parish secretary phones the SVDP team that is assigned for the week, providing information on the request for help that she has received: name of client, address, phone number, what is needed (food, help with rent, utility bills, furniture, etc.). The SVDP members then check the city map to determine whether the client lives within parish

boundaries. If not, the person, unless a registered parishioner, will be referred to a neighboring parish.

Next, the parish SVDP team checks the client's name against an ongoing list of those who previously have been helped. Assistance with rent bills can only be offered once a year to the same client, whereas help with food is allowed twice a year. Finally, the Vincentians phone the client to get additional information about size of family, reasons why help is needed, and other important circumstances (threat of eviction, shut off of electricity, babies needing formula, etc.)

The stories of the people who ask for help are often very distressing. A woman with three children moved into an apartment near the parish with no furniture except a card table and two chairs. She and her teenage son both had jobs but they were struggling to pay their bills. She requested beds and chests of drawers. St. Pius people responded to her needs by providing the bedroom furniture, as well as a dining table and chairs, and two upholstered chairs for the living room.

A young man, a single parent with two toddler boys, lost his job when the business that employed him let go all its employees. He needed food for his children, although he had no refrigerator. He also was in arrears with his rent and threatened with eviction. The man was helped by SVDP for the short term, but only a job and dependable child care could

help him survive the long term. In these cases, other local agencies need to provide assistance.

**Rita Denies** and **Ginny Knapp** recently handled a moving call for help. An elderly widow living alone called for assistance with food and electric bills. She was living on a very minimal income, but, because she suffered from cancer and mental depression, had many additional medical expenses. SVDP was able to provide her with a food voucher and sent a check to Toledo Edison to pay her electric bill. This assistance resolved an immediate need and was greatly appreciated

The SVDP Society of St. Pius X has been responding to the community's needs for over 50 years. If you think you might be interested in being part of this ministry, give Sue Roskuski a call at 419.471.0569. She will be happy to answer any of your questions.

Last, but not least, a big thank you to all parishioners who donate money to SVDP. Without your financial assistance, SVDP would not be able to continue its ministry to the poor.



## The Saint Louis Soup Kitchen

By Rita Yates



St. Pius X Parish has been volunteering services to the **Helping Hands of St. Louis Soup Kitchen** for 20 years. **Sr. Faith**, a former Director of Religious Education at St. Pius X Church, began the program in 1988 with 14 volunteers who went once a month. When Sr. Faith was reassigned, she appointed **Rose Collins** and **Rita Yates** to coordinate the program here, and the service to St. Louis still continues. Rose Collins is no longer able to go to the kitchen, but she helps by telephoning.

**Helping Hands of St. Louis** serves approximately 200-300 hot meals daily. The food is provided by that organization and the menu is planned by the kitchen manager. St. Pius volunteers arrive at the kitchen at 8:30am, cook the meal (usually a main dish and a vegetable), put fruit and dessert in their dishes, and then serve the meal from 11:00am to 1:00pm. Clean up is easy, and the volunteers do not have to wash the dishes.

This group, like other agencies, has had recent cuts in their funds, so parishes in the deanery have been asked to

contribute food supplies and/or money twice a year. These collections, known as *Pasta Sundays* are in January and July. The foods needed are pastas, canned tuna and vegetables, and peanut butter.

Our parishioners have always been very generous to the **Feed Your Neighbor** program run by **Mary Agnes Hierholzer** for 24 years. Although a different program, Feed Your Neighbor shared donations with Helping Hands last November and again in January.



Our current volunteers are St. Pius parishioners **Vikki Wiltse, Henk and Mary Kay Albregt, Margaret Allen, Mary Bell, Jeff Crawford, Jane and Mary Ann Jarzynski, Carolyn Moening, Charles and Andra Murrel, Len and Trish Pudlicki, Jackie Seguin, Rose Collins, Rita Yates, Hanna (Pat) Simon, and Peggy Vogtsberger**. They are joined

by **Therese Smrekar** of Christ the King Parish and **Ardis Dardenne** of St. Joseph Parish in Maumee.

We are always in need of more volunteers. It's not a difficult job. You don't have to be a gourmet cook, either, as the meals are rather basic and easy to prepare. Some of our volunteers do not have time to serve, but will make desserts such as cookies or cakes which are taken to the kitchen by the scheduled helpers.

We go to the kitchen the first Monday of the month and on a Tuesday every 6 weeks. Four or five people go together on a scheduled date, and these schedules are made out for 6 months in advance.

If you are interested in learning more about this program, please contact **Hannah (Pat) Simon** at 419.536.0153 or **Rita Yates** at 419.474.8425.

### News from the Pews

On Saturday, February 16 **Margie Kolinski**, a parishioner of the deaf community will receive the Diocesan Open Arms Award during the 5 pm Mass in Lexington, Ohio.

## “Heart and Soul Spirituality”

### 2008 Lenten Parish Mission

by Pat Urbaniak

*Coming Soon!*

We have planned a parish Mission with three other parishes of our St. Agnes Deanery (St. Catherine, Blessed Sacrament, and St. Clement). The mission will take place on **March 2, 3, 4 and 5, 2008** and this year will be held at **St. Catherine Parish, 4555 North Haven, Toledo, Ohio.**

“Heart and Soul Spirituality” will be presented by a long-time friend of St. Pius, **Fr. John Graden, OSFS** and the recently ordained **Fr. Allan Zabler, OSFS**. The mission begins at all the weekend liturgies on March 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> with an invitation to attend this four-day mission experience to renew and support our spiritual life in a practical and prayerful way.

Beginning Sunday evening, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7 pm and continuing through Wednesday evening, March 5<sup>th</sup>, the presenters will explore the following ideas: Being the Beloved; Responding to the Divine Lover; Being in Christ, and Sharing the Life.

#### **Session One:**

“Being the Beloved: Identity as God’s Own” will get us in touch with the fundamental reality of our faith: God loves us beyond all imaginings because God is love and God is faithful. This is a night to recognize our need and to begin again to let the Lord fill it.

#### **Session Two:**

“Responding to God: Sin and Reconciliation” is an opportunity for the sacrament of reconciliation with many confessors. It will examine our dysfunction as we run from the source of life and are attracted to self-destruction, reminding us that salvation and forgiveness comes in and through Jesus Christ.

#### **Session Three:**

“Being in Christ: Ministry of the Baptized” involves our transformation by the power of the Holy Spirit, as we put on the mind of Christ, celebrate our part as a member of the Body of Christ, and serve and heal our brothers and sisters.

#### **Session Four:**

“A Faith to be Shared: Liturgy of the Eucharist” includes the celebration of the Mass and calls us to evangelization. Who sowed the seeds of God and Jesus in our hearts? What seeds do we sow in the lives of those who come behind us?

Each evening’s talk will last an hour and a half and will be followed by hospitality. Morning sessions will be held on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday for anyone who is unable to get out at night, but who still wants to take advantage of this wonderful mission. These sessions also will be held at St. Catherine’s. This is the first time St. Pius has participated in the St. Agnes Deanery four-parish mission. St. Pius is responsible for hosting and staffing Monday evening’s session. We are in

need of ushers/greeters; lectors; hospitality servers and snack items; and people to handle the CFCA, book and tape sales. If you are available to help in any of these ways, please contact the Parish Office 419-535-7672, Ext. 226.

**Vicki Jagielski** and **Pat Urbaniak** are coordinating the St. Pius team.

Next year, 2009, the 4-Parish Mission will be held right here at St. Pius X Parish!

### Our RCIA Candidates and Catechumen

By Anne Etue



**Mary Bukowski**, age 36. Mary is becoming Catholic from another tradition so she will receive the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil. Her husband is Dan, and they have a daughter, Olivia. Mary’s sponsor is Vicki Kurtz. Mary wants to be Catholic because her husband and daughter are Catholic. She came to St. Pius because of school for Olivia, but *the warmth of the community* is what makes her stay. Mary enjoys spending time at the lake with her family.

Our RCIA Candidates and Catechumen

(Continued from previous page)



**Anna Mosler**, age 44. Anna will be baptized, receive Eucharist, and be confirmed at the Easter Vigil. Her sponsor is Brian McCarthy. Anna is a widow with two children. Her hobbies are painting and drawing. Anna came to RCIA because she wanted to be able to share the same faith as her children. They are in school at St. Pius and since they are learning the Catholic beliefs, she wanted to be a part of that learning. After moving into the neighborhood, Anna responded to Brian's invitation to attend St. Pius and to investigate St. Pius X School for her children. Anna says her experience with the school and parish was *an enveloping blanket of welcome*. It felt right in her heart for the first time to join and formalize her love of Christ and celebrate God's love.



**Julie Cousino**, age 22. Julie is a baptized Catholic and is completing the Sacraments of Initiation by being confirmed at

the Easter Vigil. She is a student at Owens Community College and recently became engaged to Kevin Parkins who is her sponsor. Julie enjoys volunteering, youth ministry, and spending her summers planning and working with the YES (Youth Elect Service) project. She was first drawn to the parish by an invitation from a close friend and then was amazed by *the welcoming atmosphere* the people of the parish offered.

### School News

By Deb O'Shea



St. Pius X School just celebrated Catholic Schools Week. What a way to affirm all the positive aspects of our school! We had a concert with Jesse Manibusan (Christian singer) on Monday, Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>. That was an uplifting experience. Amongst all the other activities of the week, there was a Quiz Bowl competition between the faculty and this year's Quiz Bowl team (consisting of various 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders).

Over the past four years, numerous St. Pius X Middle School students have participated in the statewide Power of the Pen writing competition. Our students have been successful on all levels of

competition, District, Regional, and even the State Competition in Wooster, OH. This year our 7<sup>th</sup> grade team members, **Brennan Crawford, Olivia Hauser, Eileen Ianonne, and Mara Kalinoski** competed at Perrysburg Junior High on January 15<sup>th</sup> at the district meet. The top 15 out of nearly 170 writers were given awards. Congratulations to **Eileen Ianonne** who placed 12<sup>th</sup> overall and **Mara Kalinoski** who placed 4<sup>th</sup> overall.

At each of the competitions, the writers write to 3 separate prompts and for each of these rounds, a Best of Round writer is picked. The Best of Round winner is the best of the 170 writers for each round. This year we are very fortunate to announce that **Mara Kalinoski** won for both rounds one and three.

We are proud and pleased to announce that **Bob Myers**, an eighth grader, has won our Geography Bee this year. Grades 5 – 8 attended the assembly last week and we had 10 finalists including: **Sean Edinger, Connor Kelley, Jessi Riley, Julianne Aukerman, Alec Platz, Morgan Ziegelhofer, Jake Anderzack, Steven Fuller, Zoe Jones, and Bob Myers.**



Our Open House is on Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> this year from 12:30 – 2:30 in the afternoon. We encourage prospective families to check out our school. If you can't attend the Open House, but would like to know more about our school, please contact the school office at 419-535-7688 to schedule a tour of the school. We offer an excellent Preschool program that is in session during the school year from 8:15 a.m. until 6 p.m. if needed. Our kindergarten program offers a full or half day program. We offer faith-filled, innovative teaching strategies based on the best practices in the educational field for grades Preschool – Grade 8, with special classes in Spanish, Algebra, Phys. Ed., Music, Technology, and Art. If you have friends or relatives who might be interested in our school, please let them know of our Open House.

We realize that the most effective way to market our school is “word of mouth”. Current school families will receive their registration packets for next year the second week of February. Parish families are encouraged to come into the school office and receive their registration packets the third week of February.

## 2008 Auction

By Teri Giacci

We'll be **Cruising the Caribbean** on **Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>** at our **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit Auction**. This year's event promises to be ship shape! We thank our general sponsor, Carrabba's Italian Grill, for jumping on board to prepare another wonderful Italian dinner. We are privileged to have Dave Carlson from Channel 11 as our Master of Ceremonies and that is just the beginning...

As you walk the gang plank onto our “ship”, you will be transported into an atmosphere of high seas fun! Of course we will have Fish Bowls with fabulous prizes and the ever popular Treasure Boxes (previously Mystery Boxes). An exciting addition to this year's event is the Treasure Chest, a prize valued at \$1000. Only those present will be allowed to purchase a key (only 50 will be sold) for a chance to win. So, mark your calendar, dust off your sandals or boat shoes, and press your favorite Caribbean floral shirt. You won't want to miss this one!

We need everyone's support to surpass last year's successful auction and endowment fund contribution. Please consider either sponsoring the event or donating an item, a service, or a special package. Sponsor and donor forms are available in the school office or on the website ([www.saint-pius.org](http://www.saint-pius.org)).

## St. Pius Youth Group

By Jen Bine

There are many exciting things happening in the St. Pius Youth Group. First off, as of January 2008, 8<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome to attend all events. The group meets on various Sunday nights so check the Sunday bulletin or youth group board outside of church for specifics.

The youth group just participated in a program called Souper Bowl of Caring. We had parishioners order sub sandwiches for Super Bowl Sunday and the profit is going to Our Lady of Lourdes Soup Kitchen. Thank you to all who ordered subs and thank you to Sofo Foods for their contributions

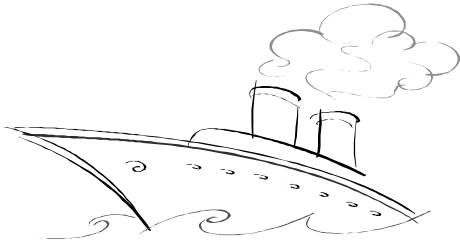
We have many wonderful events planned for the future. We will have hang out nights in the youth group room, ice skating at Tam-O-Shanter, participation in Living Stations with other youth groups at Little Flower on March 12, and a Seder Meal with other youth groups at St. Pats on Heatherdowns, March 18.

The Toledo Diocesan Walk for Life from Frenchtown to Carey is on Good Friday and the youth group is helping with the parish Easter egg hunt on Holy Saturday. A youth group Lock-In will be April 5-6.

Again, check the bulletin or youth group board for more details or contact Jen Bine at St. Pius School.

## **2008 Auction**

By Teri Giacci



We'll be **Cruising the Caribbean** on **Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>** at our **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit Auction**. This year's event promises to be ship shape! We thank our general sponsor, Carrabba's Italian Grill, for jumping on board to prepare another wonderful Italian

dinner. We are privileged to have Dave Carlson from Channel 11 as our Master of Ceremonies and that is just the beginning...

As you walk the gangplank onto our "ship", you will be transported into an atmosphere of high seas fun! Of course we will have Fish Bowls with fabulous prizes and the ever-popular Treasure Boxes (previously Mystery Boxes). An exciting addition to this year's event is the Treasure Chest, a prize valued at \$1000. Only those present will be allowed to purchase a key (only 50 will be sold) for a chance to win. So, mark your calendar, dust off your sandals or boat shoes, and press your favorite Caribbean floral

shirt. You won't want to miss this one!

We need everyone's support to surpass last year's successful auction and endowment fund contribution. Please consider either sponsoring the event or donating an item, a service, or a special package. Sponsor and donor forms are available in the school office or on the website ([www.saint-pius.org](http://www.saint-pius.org)).

**St. Pius X Parish**  
**3011 Carskaddon**  
**Toledo, Ohio 43606**  
**Address Service Requested**

**NONPROFIT**  
**ORGANIZATION**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**Toledo, Ohio**  
**PERMIT NO. 262**