

Pastoral Council 2008

Mary Ann Niedzielski

On Pentecost Sunday, three parishioners were selected to serve three-year terms on the Pastoral Council. Rather than an election with ballots and vote counting, the names of **Joe Meyers, Jane Butkowsky,** and **John Pavlica** were drawn from a basket containing names of those who agreed to be candidates.

Joe, Jane, and John will join **Karl Litle, Tim Aukerman,** and **Cindy Zalewski,** who were elected to Council last year. One-year appointees are **Rodney Franks** and **Bonnie Tursich.** Permanent members include **Fr. Morse, Deacon Ron Peeps,** and **Deb O'Shea.**

Cindy Zalewski will serve as the new President with **Tim Aukerman** as Secretary. Cindy considers the Council as having an important role in the life of the parish. "The Pastoral Council provides feedback to the pastor as he leads the parish. Both the Pastor and the Council help determine the overall direction of the parish."

Cindy sees visioning and planning as the most important role of Council. "I would like to see Council review and/or formulate a theme at the beginning of each year. Perhaps it could be coordinated with the theme chosen by the school. From that theme, perhaps several initiatives could be planned in a specific year."

The Council can make a difference in the life of a parish, says Cindy. "If St. Pius has a vibrant, involved Council, it can assist the pastor as we grow our wonderful parish together."

Fr. Morse welcomes the assistance of the Council. "I see the Council as surfacing and addressing the needs of the parish. That is something no pastor can do alone."

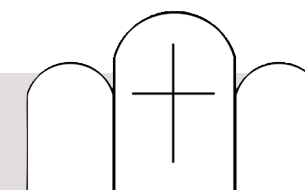
"I especially would like St. Pius to work on avoiding a 'maintenance mode', which keeps us centered on our own needs and uninterested in the outlying community," says Father. "In the near future, the diocese will be offering training sessions to prepare Catholics to go out and welcome and invite others to join their community. Besides caring for our own at St. Pius, we need to GROW the parish."

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Protecting Your Investment

Fr. Dick Morse, OSFS

Every responsible home owner knows the importance of maintaining and improving his/her investment. Roof and furnace replacement, rewiring, repairing, painting, updating, and landscaping are but a few of the things that have to be addressed over time. And what is true of a home is just as true of our parish property only on an even larger scale.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will find a list with projected costs of what we need to address in the next couple of years. A large part of these items is necessitated by the aging of our buildings and equipment. A couple of items are improvements designed to make our facilities more user-friendly such as air conditioning the school and building a new commercial-sized kitchen for our many social activities.

To make these improvements, we need your help. In the near future we will be launching a capital campaign. But, before we do this, our Finance Council together with our Buildings and Grounds Committee, have decided to share with you what needs to be done as well as the projected cost for each item. Please review this list and, if your means permit, consider sponsoring one of the projects in whole or in part. I hope to hear from some of you soon. Meanwhile, I ask everyone in the parish to consider what you can and will do to help protect the investment you and others have made to make this parish what it is today.

Thank you for all you have done in the past and for continuing to invest your time, talent, and treasure in our St. Pius X parish community.

From the Director of Religious Education

Anne Etue

After weeks of planning, Vacation Bible School took place June 16-20 on the parish grounds. Each day we began with supper at 5:30 p.m. and then the children went from prayer to music to crafts to Bible stories to games/science to snacks. The Church basement, Family Life Center, and Preschool classroom were transformed into a Rainforest and filled with adventures that teach children to share, give, grow, love and praise God's wondrous love. Our "teachers" for the week were Shari the Butterfly, Bill the Toucan, Tad the Frog, Esme the Macaw, and Cleo the Monkey. Each day the children learned about the life of a special saint. Some of the saints were St. Katharine Drexel, St. Vincent de Paul, St. Isadore, St. Monica, and Mary, the Mother of God. Every Vacation Bible School has a social outreach component and this year the children were asked to recycle items every day. We used the slogan, "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle," as we learned to be good stewards of God's wonderful creation.

Friday was a special family day for our rainforest adventure. On Friday our families were invited to join us for supper and other fun activities at the carnival. We had special games and a terrific treat of "build your own sundaes."

We really had a fantastic time. Over 60 children participated in our fun-filled week of crafts, music, bible stories, games, and food. We thank **Maggie Crosley** for taking on this project as well as the many Moms and Dads who helped throughout the week. We also had the assistance of almost thirty student helpers who made the week so special. And thanks to our wonderful St. Pius X Parish community, we had many items for our meals and cleaning up because of their generous donations from the giving tree. We look forward to another adventure next summer!

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Among those present and sponsors of the event were **Missy and Andy Anderzack, Judy and Gene Canestra-ro, Gloria and Mark Buganski, Mary Kay and Hendricus Albregt,** and **Diane and Garry Saccone.** Other sponsors included Z and Z Electric, **Scott and Sue Deller,** Genoa Bank, **James Kennedy Jr.,** Poole's Printing, SPX Athletic Assoc., St. Pius Parents Assoc., Toledo Area Community Credit Union, Walker Funeral Home, Payak Insurance, **Dan and Amy Schoeck** and Mercy Health Partners/St. Anne Hospital. In kind donations were made by Bellbinder LLC, Custom Deco, Libbey Glass Factory Outlet Store, and Newfax Corp. Over one hundred and fifty donors supplied the items for the live auction, silent auctions, fish bowls, and treasure boxes. A complete listing appeared in a church bulletin. Please thank these donors and patronize their businesses whenever possible.

The committee wishes to thank everyone involved in making this year's auction contribution to the endowment fund over \$38,000. We could not have done it without the tremendous support from our parish, school families, alumni, and friends. Committee members included: **Elise Buchhop, Mary Bukowski, John Clark, Sheila Con-way, Teri Giacci, Elaine Gabalac, Lynne Gochenour, Dave Hertz, Gary Holewinski, Duane Hoschak. Vicki Jagielski, Bob Kleinfelter, Aili Meyers, Anna Mosler, Deb & Tom O'Shea, Beth Patrilla, Marty Petersen, Sam Posey, Diane Saccone,** and **Dina Skelding.**

News from the Pews

Dr. Robert Niedzielski was honored at Central Catholic High School's May commencement as the recipient of the Msgr. Herrington Award, which is given annually to a non-alumnus who has made an outstanding contribution of service to the Central Catholic community. Bob serves as Chairman of the Board of Regents and is serving his second term on the Board of Directors at Central Catholic.

Cole Simon (St. Pius X '99 and St. Francis H.S.'03) is co-writer and director of *Glass City*, a film about Toledo which was shown locally in April before being submitted to film festivals.

Henk and Mary Kay (Kanary) Albregt had a most unusual honeymoon in Italy. Barely a week into their trip, Mary Kay fell and broke her hip. After two days in a local hospital, she was air-lifted to the American Hospital in Paris for surgery. All is well; recovery is almost complete! We wish them nothing but good as they are preparing to move into their new condo by the end of the summer.

Dale Wiltse retired at the end of the school year from Highland Elementary School where he served as principal for many years. May he enjoy a well-earned rest before going on to new, and as yet, undecided endeavors.

Two former parishioners, **Charlotte Best** (Central Catholic High School) and **Carol Lindsley** (St. Joseph, Sylvania), were awarded the Golden Apple Award for their dedication to Catholic education. See School News to read about our own 6th grade teacher, **Cathy Ujvagi.** Only 9 teachers from the Diocese of Toledo were granted this honor at a banquet on June 5 at the Toledo Club. Each winner received \$5,000 as well as a certificate, a golden apple memento, and a lapel pin. Congratulations go to these excellent teachers!

School News

Deb O'Shea

Awards

Representing St. Pius X School at the state tournament for the Power of the Pen on May 23, 2008 were **Mara Kalinoski, Eileen Iannone,** and **Olivia Hauser.** These girls successfully competed at district and regional tournaments to win an invitation to the State Tournament which was held in Wooster, Ohio. St. Pius X School is proud to announce that **Mara Kalinoski** is the number one, first place prize winner for 7th graders in the state of Ohio. Mara also received the regional Best of the Best awards. Also in the top twelve was **Olivia Hauser,** 9th place winner. The St. Pius X School Power of the Pen team is coached by **Mrs. Beth Patrilla,** the seventh grade teacher.

Bobby Myers, a graduate of our eighth grade, won our school Geography Bee.

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Scholarships

Scholarships for our graduates to area Catholic High Schools include Notre Dame's Marian Award to **Haley McPartland,** St. Francis' George Shugrue Scholarship (\$1,000 Renewable) to **Nicholas William Reaper,** Francis de Sales Scholarship (\$500 Renewable) to **Alexander John Bibeau, Bradley Thomas Kalucki,** and **Thomas Harold Quattromani,** St. Francis Academic Scholarship (\$1,000 Renewable) to **Alexander John Bibeau,** St. Ursula's St. Angela Merici Scholarship (\$1,000 Renewable) to **Catherine Ann Weaver,** Cardinal Stritch Legacy Scholarship to **Nicholas Paul Torres,** Cardinal Stritch's Fr. John Stites Grant to **Nicholas Paul Torres,** Cardinal Stritch's Academic Grant to **Nicholas Paul Torres,** Central Catholic's Troy Simon Scholarship (\$750) to **Zoe Mae Jones,** Central Catholic Principal's Scholarship (\$1,000) to **JohnPaul Xavier Laberde,** Central Catholic's Legacy Grant (\$1,000) to **Zachary James Born, Maggie Marie Steinmiller,** and **Kaylie Marie Wales,** Central Catholic's Young Irish Scholars (\$500) to **Zoe Marie Jones, Allison Marie Latta, Logan William Lorenzen, Maggie Marie Steinmiller,** and **Kaylie Marie Wales,** St. John's Jesuit Berchman Jesuit Leadership Scholarship to **Steven Carl Fuller** and **Robert Patrick Myers,** the St. Pius CYO Leadership Award to **JohnPaul Laberde** and **Haley McPartland,** and the St. Pius X Parent Association Scholarships (\$500) to **Alexander Bibeau** and **Khadija Thompson.**

Enrollment

Currently we have 222 students enrolled in our K-8 program with an additional 23 students enrolled in our Preschool for the 2008-2009 school year. The only classes that have openings are Kindergarten and 5th grade. Please contact the school office if you know of someone interested in either of these classes. We are truly blessed to be financially sound, maintaining our enrollment from year to year.

Musical

We are pleased to announce the musical *Annie Jr.* as our school production for the 2008-2009 school year. The cast has just been chosen and Mrs. Jane Butkowsky is very excited to be directing 53 students in this endeavor. The musical will be presented on Friday, April 3, 2009 in the evening and Saturday, April 4, 2009 in the afternoon at the NDA Auditorium. Please mark your calendars now!

Golden Apple Award

Mrs. Cathie Ujvagi, our sixth grade teacher, has received the diocesan Golden Apple Award this year. Through parent nominations and then principal and pastor letters of recommendation, one teacher from every elementary school and secondary school in the Diocese of Toledo is eligible to receive the award. However, only 7 elementary and 2 secondary teachers are chosen. We are so very proud and pleased that Mrs. Ujvagi has been one of the few selected. Her recognition includes a dinner and photographs with **Bishop Blair** at the Toledo Club, along with a \$5,000 cash award, a golden apple lapel pin, and a golden apple with a cross. St. Pius X School especially wants to thank those parents who took the time to nominate one of our numerous excellent teachers here. God is good, all the time!

Youth News

Jen Bine

Summer is the time of the year for big youth group events. In June, the Toledo area will have our annual Y.E.S. (Youth Elect Service) project. This is a 3 day service project for high school students who help less fortunate people and non-profit organizations. I am directing it this year and it is being hosted by Little Flower Parish. We have 10 St. Pius youth who are participating.

In July we have an opportunity to partake in a world wide Catholic event. Every two years World Youth Day, a youth centered event with the Pope, takes place. This year it is being held in Sydney, Australia. To have some kind of participation at a lower cost, all the dioceses in Michigan and Ohio are creating a World Youth Day in Sidney, Ohio on July 19 and 20. There are 12 of us who will be attending that weekend.

Something even bigger that we are looking forward to is the National Catholic Youth Conference that will be held next November in Kansas City, Missouri.