

LITURGY SCHEDULE
August 29 - September 6, 2009

Saturday, August 29th
The Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist
3:30 pm Confession
4 pm Mass †Chester Swiontek req. by Ruth & Bob Weick

Sunday, August 30th
The Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:30 am Mass
†Steve Misak req. by Elaine Misak, Janette & Tim Olexa

Monday, August 31st
7 pm Holy Hour at St. Therese

Tuesday, September 1st
Choir Practice Praise Team 7 pm

Thursday, September 3rd *St. Gregory the Great*

Friday, September 4th
9 am - Chaplet of Divine Mercy (sung)
9:30 am Mass †First Friday Memorial Intentions
Choir Practice Joyful Noise 7 pm

Saturday, September 5th
3:30 pm Confession
4 pm Mass - For the Parish Youth req. by the Koval Family

Sunday, September 6th
The Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:30 am Mass †Jane Misak req. by Sandy Marcukaitis

Remember in your prayers the ill, injured and recovering:
Larry Pennypacker, Nancy Page, Robert Ek, Laurie Weick-Wood, Laura Taylor, Elda O'Brien, Marie Kurdelski, Ann Schumaker, Richard & Loretta Ausberger, Frances Mlynarchek, Theresa Rook, Maxine Boeve, Audrey Johnson, Daniel Tjoelker, Brian Ockerman, Ryan Tjoelker, Jean Stufflebeam, Verla Quackenboss, Chris Richardson, Margie Krump, Kay Jansheski, Judy Grasmeyer, Samara Kuhtic, April Meade, Edith Shaw, Ron Derhammer, Darcy Rook, Jan Shoemaker, Beverly Markel, Peter Thetard, Ted Kneibel, Donna Panyrek, Catherine DiBiagio, Donna Pastoor, Brian Fitz, Wilma DeRidder, Sandy Holbrook, Kathy Adams, Marcella Doran, Tracy Burley, Deborah Roe, Manisha, Mimi, Troy Hughs, VanSpronsen family, Sheryl Cook, Denise Hemmert, Don Berry, Marie Dale, Jack FitzPatrick, Becky McAdam, Gene Flint, Sharon Savage, Ken Carlisle, Tracy Ritchie, Morgan Boyle, Dennette Meeuwssen, Edward Vaughan, Erwin Doublestein, Barb Rook, Jim Schumaker, Lennon Smith, Bob Coppens, Roscoe Dodds, Tim Lamphere, Agnes Woodward, Russ Seger, Jerry Johnson, John Huizenga, Harold Campbell, Bill Bourdo, Terry Barton Jr., Jackie Markowski, Catherine Klok, Betty Beahan, Donna Judkins, Richard Thetard, & Ruth Kelley. Please call Evelyn Kneibel at 792-0886 if you wish to call in a prayer request or join our prayer chain.

Congratulations to Anne Ulin who won the book "Christians Courageous" from Catholic Information Center of Southwest Michigan last weekend.

From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

In our survey of the Bible, we finally come to the last subcategory of Old Testament books: the Minor Prophets. They are not minor because they are young or unimportant, but simply because they are fairly small works when compared to books like Isaiah or Jeremiah. The first of these minor prophets is **Hosea**. In the book of Hosea, God instructs the reader about the fate and redemption of Israel through the very life of the man Hosea. God orders Hosea to take for his wife a prostitute, Gomer. This marriage is symbolic of God and his relationship with his people. Hosea represents God as the loving and upright, whereas Gomer the prostitute represents the people of Israel who had not been faithful and had begun to worship so many other Gods. Like the wronged spouse, God states that he will take from Israel all that he had given her and that through this action, he hopes to win their hearts back to him when the people see that it is God and God alone who gives them any good thing they have.

Hosea and Gomer have three children whom God instructs Hosea to give symbolic names to. The first boy Hosea is told to name *Jezeel* which was symbolic of the valley of Jezeel where the northern kingdom of Israel suffered a major military defeat. The first daughter's name is *Lo-ruhama* which translated means "she is not pitied", because God tells them he will show no pity to Israel because of their unfaithfulness. The next son's name is *Lo-ammi*, "Not my people" denoting that the people had abandoned him and he would in turn abandon them for a time.

And so we start out on a rather foul note that there is strife, like marital strife between God and his people and there is going to be trouble. But then, we quickly see that God will turn his back on them, only to draw them closer to him. He will allow them to feel the pain which results from their infidelity only to teach them how much he loved them and how much he wants them back. We read "I will espouse you to me forever: I will espouse you in right and in justice, in love and in mercy: I will espouse you in fidelity, and you shall know the Lord.... I will have pity on Lo-ruhama. I will say to Lo-Amami, 'You are my people' and he shall say, 'My God!'" (Hos 2: 21-22, 25)

Therefore, we see that the punishment that comes upon the people is not something that came out of the blue, but was the direct result of their actions. He had always been good to them, they had prospered, and now they had forgotten him. God is basically saying, well, if you don't want me, live without me for a while and see what happens. He allows them to experience disaster only with the hopes that it will bring them back to him. It is much the same with our sins. They can often produce painful results in our lives but can be powerful experiences of conversion and learning if we let them.

Have a great week.

In Christ,
Fr. Christian



Please pray for our loved ones in active duty:
SSGT John Honeysett (4th tour in Iraq Afghanistan) son of Phil & Darlene - **Brandon Field** son of Marie Graham - and **Aaron Mlynarchek**.

Family Perspective - In today's gospel Jesus reminds us it is not WHAT we do but WHY we do it which gives religious significance to our actions. Family life is full of rituals and routines. When they are done "in the Lord" with love, they are holy.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is the process where adults who are not Catholic learn the 'Why' of our Catholic faith, as they join the Church. Inquiry is a 'no obligation', introduction to RCIA where informally you come, ask questions and learn. For anyone wishing to learn more about Inquiry/RCIA, there will be a meeting following Mass on Sept. 13th. If you are not a member of our Catholic faith, and have been thinking about joining the Church, this is your time. Come join us. For more information, you can call Gus Scott at 792-9363, Barb Townshend at 672-9698 or Jeff Ulin at 792-0791.

KDSA 2009 - We Are Many Parts, We Are All One Body

We are getting a little closer to our goal, thank you to all who have helped us get this far. If you have not yet pledged, we hope to hear from you soon.

Target	\$29,045
<u>Pledged/Paid</u>	<u>26,265</u>
Balance	\$ 2,780

YOO-HOO to all the young singers out there (3 years old thru 8th grade) music practice for your first Mass on Sept. 27 will begin on **Wed., Sept. 9**. Little Lambs will practice from 5:45 to 6:15 and Young Shepherds from 6:30 to 7:30. All young people of the parish are enthusiastically encouraged to participate. For any new singers debating whether to join, ask any of our choir members if they enjoyed singing over the past year. See Gerry Orszula or Nate LaVoie if you have any questions or call Gerry at 795-2310. Parents may drop their young singers off or enjoy fellowship in the narthex with the other parents. See you on the 9th.



Youth Group
Our Youth Ministry has **Super Saint T-shirts** on sale for \$10 each. Check them out following Mass this weekend and next in the narthex. The Youth Group will host a **Halloween Party** on Friday, Oct 30th for grades 5-12. We are in need of donations and **VOLUNTEERS**. Please join us Wed., Sept 9th at 7 pm at St Therese Church in the conference room for our first volunteers meeting. Any questions call Cindy Chlebana 616-272-6816, Liz Ryan 792-4437 or Mary Podskalan 792-4565.

A report of sexual misconduct may be initiated at the Diocese of Kalamazoo Sexual Misconduct Question and Reporting Line 877-802-0115. All calls will be returned, usually within one hour.



The summer months are quickly coming to a close, as are the summertime bake sales hosted by the Altar Society. Labor Day week-end, Sept 5th and 6th will be the last bake sale of the season so please put on your baking caps and help make this another huge success. Thank you all for your many contributions.
The Altar Society

Registration forms for CCD (grades K-8), **Confirmation Class** and **Adult Education** are available in the narthex. If you have questions, please call the parish office at 792-3543. Thank you

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT
August 22/23, 2009

82 Adult Envelopes	\$2,758.00
1 Direct Tithing Transfer	50.00
8 Pew Envelopes	170.00
7 Children's Envelopes	8.70
<u>Loose checks/money</u>	<u>699.52</u>
Total Collection	\$3,686.22

Needed Weekly	\$ 3,850.00
Budget Year-to-Date	30,800.00
Collection Year-to-Date	32,485.32
Ahead	\$ 1,685.32

BUILDING FUND

2 Building Fund Envelopes	\$35.00
Building Fund Savings	\$102,649.77

CHURCH MINISTRIES
September 5/6, 2009

USHERS
Saturday: Steven Crawford and Sam Martus
Sunday: Phil Honeysett, Jan & Bob Lippert and Jerry Schwartz

LECTORS
Saturday: Jessica Crawford and Colleen Crawford
Sunday: Helen Gardner and Cathy Williamson

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of HOLY COMMUNION
Saturday: Colleen Crawford, Theresa & Rich Paiz
Sunday: Mindy Cutlip, Helen Gardner, Joyce & David Irvine, Linda Schwartz, Stacey & Brian Willshire

ALTAR SERVERS
Saturday: Caleb & Kate Scheidel and Kendall Goosen
Sunday: Camille & Spencer Irvine and Lizzie Cutlip

MUSIC Jan Kuhtic, Paul & Geri Halloran	SACRISTAN Theresa Paiz
COFFEE HOUR The Langlois Family	COUNTING Team 1

"In the United States abortion is legal throughout pregnancy. Yet abortion is a violation of human rights incomparable in magnitude and an atrocity for the whole human family. While Roe v. Wade appeared to create a right with some limitations, Doe v. Bolton, which was decided the same day, erased those limitations by creating a 'health' exception so broad that it effectively allows abortion for any reason at any time...Most Americans are surprised and shocked to learn about the lack of any meaningful legal limitations for abortion. Most know things have gone too far. Together with those from many other faith communities, we work to bring about a society that recognizes abortion for what it truly is." (A Matter of the Heart - A Statement of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops on the Thirtieth Anniversary of Roe v. Wade)