

LITURGY SCHEDULE
September 5 - 13, 2009

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

Monday, September 7th
7 pm Holy Hour at St. Therese

Tuesday, September 8th
The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Choir Practice Praise Team 7 pm

Wednesday, September 9th *St. Peter Claver*
Choir Practice:
Little Lambs 5:45 - 6:15 pm Young Shepherds 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Friday, September 11th
9 am - Chaplet of Divine Mercy (sung)
9:30 am Mass - For the People of our Parish
Choir Practice Joyful Noise 7 pm

Saturday, September 12th
3:30 pm Confession Chaplet of Divine Mercy (sung)
4 pm Mass †Jane Misak req. by Bob & Helen Gardner

Sunday, September 13th
The Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:30 am Mass †Jane Misak req. by The Altar Society

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 Meeuwesen, 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.

Thanks to the wonderful people who volunteered and participated in our **5th Annual Golf Outing and Raffle** we raised **\$11,407** toward our future Parish Center. Thank you to all for making this possible again this year.

From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Happy new school year to all of the teachers and students (and parents)! It was a short summer (as always) and not always very summery, but I hope you are all rested and ready to learn. It is a blessing and a privilege that along with all the other good schools of our area, that we also have the opportunities provided by our own St. Therese parish school. We have a very loving and highly qualified staff who provide both a great education as well as a Christian example. Let us all keep our school in our prayers and support it to the best of our ability so that it can continue to pass on the faith to future generations.

Speaking of learning, we continue on with the books of the Bible, coming to the book of Joel. Joel has all the makings of a bad horror movie. I'm of course, not saying that the book of Joel is bad, but that the central topic and image of the story is a devastating swarm of locusts. Apparently, at the time of the writing of this work (about 400 years before Christ) there had been a terrible onslaught of these insects in the land of Israel. In our day and location, most of us for good or (more likely) for bad are separated from the production of food. We might have our little hobby gardens, but if our garden is destroyed by insects in a year, that doesn't mean that we are going to die of hunger. For the agrarian society of ancient Israel, it did mean just that: crop failure meant starvation and death. The prophet Joel speaks of these insects as an invading army, "Like warriors they run, like soldiers they scale the wall; they advance, each in his own lane, without swerving from their paths... They assault the city, they run upon the wall, they climb into the houses; In at the windows they come like thieves. Before them the earth trembles, the heavens shake; The sun and the moon are darkened, and the stars withhold their brightness." (Joel 2:7, 9-10)

This image of the horrible swarms of insects who ate all the produce and devastated the land the prophet Joel uses as an image of the judgment of God. This was an image that everyone who lived in that time could relate to and it would symbolize for them that, should God turn away from them, all the good of life, all that sustains us, would vanish and we would be doomed. After we read this story of destruction and waste, we see a sudden turn in the prophecy. Joel writes, "Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning; Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the Lord, your God. For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness, and relenting in punishment." (Joel 2: 12-13) So this is a lesson not only to the people of ancient Israel but to us of modern Michigan, that no matter how deep we get ourselves into mischief and trouble, we may always turn back to God for mercy. Our sins, as great as they may be, are not an obstacle to us so long as we repent of them and throw ourselves into the embrace of God.

In Christ,
Fr. Christian

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



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**.

RCIA 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 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. For more information 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
Pledged/Paid	26,265
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 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.



Thank you to all who attended the Parish Picnic. The food was great and the Men's Club hamburgers and hotdogs on the NEW grill were over the top. It was a fun afternoon.

The **Crop Walk** is scheduled for **October 4th**. Wayland Christian Reformed Church is the host church this year. There will be a Crop Walk table set up in the narthex starting this weekend for sign up. More information to follow.



Want to get involved in the Parish? Want to meet new people? You may ask how? Ladies join the Altar Society and men join the Men's Club. We usually meet on the 3rd Saturday of each month following the 4 pm Mass (no meetings during the summer). Come and join us - see what we are all about. We look forward to seeing you at our first meeting on September 19th around 5 pm.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT
August 29/30, 2009

85 Adult Envelopes	\$2,833.00
1 Direct Tithing Transfer	50.00
7 Pew Envelopes	140.00
11 Children's Envelopes	11.95
Loose checks/money	710.50
Total Collection	\$3,745.45

Needed Weekly	\$ 3,850.00
Budget Year-to-Date	34,650.00
Collection Year-to-Date	36,230.77
Ahead	\$ 1,580.77

BUILDING FUND

1 Building Fund Envelopes	\$100.00
Building Fund Savings	\$102,649.77

CHURCH MINISTRIES
September 12/13, 2009

USHERS
Saturday: Brad Bernier and Joey Koval
Sunday: Dorothy & Greg Flaska, Dorothy & Dave Quada

LECTORS
Saturday: Sandy Bernier and Jamie Chlebana
Sunday: Jerri Jansma and Kelly Smart

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of HOLY COMMUNION
Saturday: Jerri Jansma, Sandy Bernier and Gus Scott
Sunday: Robin Dinkel, Helen Gardner, Marie Graham, Phil Kuhtic, Patti Powers, Jerri Jansma and Gus Scott

ALTAR SERVERS
Saturday: Daniel McAlary, Hailey & Anna Luyk
Sunday: Ian Stein, Jerry Smart and Cameron Stein

MUSIC Dorothy Seger	SACRISTAN Jerri Jansma
COFFEE HOUR The Stein Family	COUNTING Team 1

From the Catechism - C2270 Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person - among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life. "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you" (Jer 1:5; cf Job 10:8-12; Ps 22:10-11). "My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately wrought in the depths of the earth" (Ps. 139:15). 2271 Since the first century the Church has affirmed the moral evil of every procured abortion. This teaching has not changed and remains unchangeable. Direct abortion, that is to say, abortion willed either as an end or a means, is gravely contrary to the moral law: "You shall not kill the embryo by abortion and shall not cause the newborn to perish" (Didache 2, 2).

Right to Life Corner