

Easter 2011

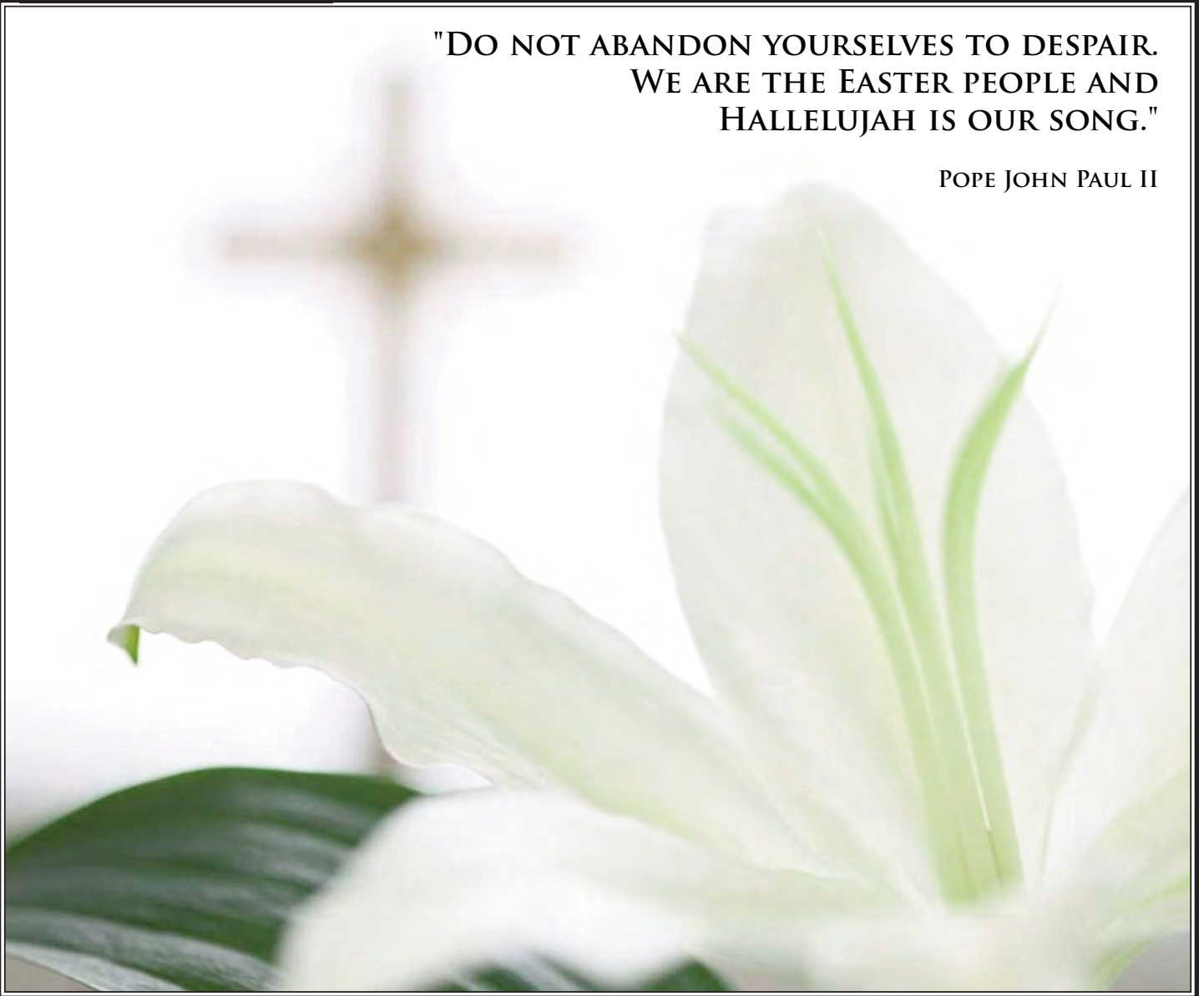


# COMMUNICATOR

St. John Vianney Catholic Church - Diocese of Cleveland

"DO NOT ABANDON YOURSELVES TO DESPAIR.  
WE ARE THE EASTER PEOPLE AND  
HALLELUJAH IS OUR SONG."

POPE JOHN PAUL II



**Mission Statement:** We are a vibrant Catholic community on a Christ-centered journey. Led by the Holy Spirit and nurtured by the Eucharist, we proclaim and live the gospel message of love of God and love of neighbor.

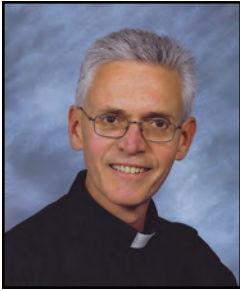


St. John Vianney Catholic Church  
7575 Bellflower Road, Mentor, OH 44060  
Diocese of Cleveland



Photo by Parishioner, Frankie Leighton

## From the desk of Fr. Thomas W. Johns, Pastor



Dear Parishioners,

I hope that you enjoy reading this Lent-Easter edition of *The Communicator*, and thank you to Cindy Hughes and Adam Cervenka for putting this edition (and the other editions) together in such a nice way and a timely fashion. This edition is mailed to the over 4,300 homes of registered parishioners and is a good way for me and the parish staff to communicate with the wider parish community. Please read *The Communicator* and share the information with your neighbors and friends so that they know about the good things which take place at our parish.

This year's Lenten Mission will be done in collaboration with our Mentor cluster parishes, Saint Bede the Venerable and Saint Mary of the Assumption. The four day Lenten Mission takes place in our church each night at 7:00 from April 10 to April 13. The Mission takes place the week before Holy Week and will give us a nice chance to prepare ourselves well for the celebration of Easter. Please check elsewhere in this edition to see the schedule of services for Holy Week and Easter Day.

The Life Teen program has been at our parish and Saint Mary Parish for over a year now, and we are pleased that a growing number of parishioners have been attending the Sunday evening Mass each week. Stephanie Skrout, Youth Coordinator, is pleased that more teens are also staying for the program after the Mass. This Sunday evening Mass will continue to be celebrated at our parish until May 22. Please remember that the Spring-Summer-Fall Schedule of Sunday Masses begins on May 1. The 11:00 Sunday Mass is celebrated at 10:30, and the 1:00 Mass is celebrated at 12 Noon.

We anticipate the priestly ordination of our seminarian, Joe Seebauer, on Saturday, May 21, and, should he be called to orders by the Bishop, we hope to celebrate his first priestly Mass the following day in our church at 12 Noon. The Friday Lenten Fish Fry

began on March 11 and continues until Friday, April 15 in the Father Kline Social Center. The Celtic Ball was a great success earlier this month and a good time was had by the 800 people who attended either the Ball or the Hooley. The Ministry Fair will take place on April 2 & 3, and I strongly encourage you to check out the displays in the gathering space of the church that weekend. The best way to get to know people at the parish and to keep our parish a vibrant one is to volunteer and get involved with parish activities. Call Cindy Lentz, our Director of Volunteers, for more information. The Annual Summer Festival will take place at the parish on July 7, 8, 9, & 10, 2011. Please save the dates, and please also save time to join us at the Central Lake County American Cancer Society Relay for Life on June 11.

You may have heard that Bishop Lennon has launched a diocesan wide capital campaign to raise funds for important causes and needed ministries in the Diocese. Our parish will be participating in the campaign in the coming months and I ask for your prayers and support. I will have more information for you in the coming weeks. Spend your Lent well and enjoy the Easter season when it arrives! God bless you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Tom Johns". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

## Some Changes Coming in the Way We will Celebrate Mass

By Fr. Thomas Johns

Change is a part of life and some find it difficult to accept. Those who are about my age will remember the significant changes in the way we celebrated Mass which took place after the Second Vatican Council. I recall as a young priest at Saint Gabriel Parish in Concord, how, even after ten years, some parishioners found it hard to accept the move from Latin to English, the removal of the communion rail, the option to receive communion in the hand and not only on the tongue, and the use of lay ministers at Mass to read or to assist with the distribution of Holy Communion. So much of the adult education I did as a junior clergy was explaining to various groups the rationale of such changes. I could always count on at least one or two people in the audience who would disagree with me or want the opportunity to voice their concerns or “vent” their frustrations over the one institution which they thought would never change. Even some of the clergy gatherings in those days included tense moments between priests concerning these changes and who was doing or was not doing what and how at a given parish. Fortunately, things have settled down and most people have become comfortable with the way in which we celebrate Mass today.

Some changes will be coming again soon; but they are nowhere near as drastic or significant as the changes which came in the days after Vatican II. In fact, we are always seeing some changes introduced in the ways we celebrate Mass, e.g. changes in the translation of the Scripture readings, some changes in our posture at Mass like standing at different times, bowing our head at reception of communion, holding our hands in a different way for the Our Father, etc. The additional changes will be introduced on the First Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2011, when we officially begin to use the 3rd Edition of the Roman Missal.

Pope John Paul II called for the revision of the Roman Missal in 2000, at the start of the new millennium. The revision of the Roman Missal in Latin was done by 2002, and nine years later, after many revisions and much discussion, the Roman Missal to be used in English-speaking countries is now completed and available for use. The English translation of the Latin version of the Roman Missal took longer to complete for a number of reasons but especially because it was an international effort involving eleven English-speaking conferences. We will do some parish-wide preparation for this new Missal in the fall. For now, let me comment in a general way on some of the coming changes.

First, the changes are few and minor in comparison to the changes after Vatican II, and most of the changes in the Missal are in the prayers the priest prays rather than the prayers of the people. I will notice these changes but I would venture to guess that many of you will not even notice the changes in most of those prayers.

Second, these changes can be good for all of us in that they will help us to get out of the routine which we can easily get into when we repeat something week after week, year after year. Change can “shake things up a bit” and get us to pay attention or think more carefully concerning what we hear and say.

Third, this new Missal will allow us to celebrate the feast days of the many new saints who were canonized or beatified since the last Missal was published in 1973. The new Missal will include proper prayers for people such as Padre Pio, Mother Teresa of Calcutta, Edith Stein, Katherine Drexel and many more. It will also include some additional prefaces and new Votive Masses like “For Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life” which can be celebrated in our country to remember the day when abortion was legalized by the Supreme Court.

Fourth, you will notice in the prayers the congregation will recite that there will be a more literal or “word for word” translation from the Latin to the English. Past translations had what was called “dynamic equivalence” and this new translation has what is called “formal equivalence.” So, in the case of Spanish, if you translate “vaya con Dios” as “good-bye” or “see-you-later,” you have dynamic equivalence. If you translate the phrase as “go with God,” you have formal equivalence. Now we will have formal equivalence as we pray phrases like “and with your spirit,” “through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault,” “I believe in one God,” “I am not worthy to have you come under my roof,” etc. In addition to being formal equivalence, these changes remind us of beautiful images found in the Scriptures and words which have been part of our long tradition and history as a Catholic praying people.

As we get closer to implementing the new Missal, we will have the chance to do more preparation so that all of us are comfortable with what we will pray in Advent. Until then, let us all pray for a greater appreciation of the beauty of the Mass.

## Lent is a Busy Season at All Saints School

By Rose Wilson, Principal of All Saints School



2<sup>nd</sup> Graders Peyton Kosmerl,  
Kennedy Rieple, Carli Salatino

There is always plenty of activity at All Saints of St. John Vianney School. The season of Lent is one of the busiest. At our Ash Wednesday Mass, the theme of "Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving" was introduced. A whole school retreat was held on Friday, March 11 to further explore the Lenten theme.

At the school retreat, presentations were made by three seminarians, Deacon Joe Seebauer, Matt Cortnik and Jeff Barnish. Each presentation was followed by an activity related to the seminarian's talk. Throughout Lent, the classrooms will have lessons and activities on prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

The children and their families are always very generous in supporting the Easter Food Drive for the St. Vincent DePaul food pantry. In addition, a Penny War is held every year to support a cause. This year the proceeds of the Penny War to be held in May will go to the American Cancer Society.



Kindergardener Katie Caine

New to the curriculum for the 2011-12 school year will be Latin. Grades 4-8 will have weekly lessons. Rather than it being taught as a second language, it will emphasize writing and reading skills because English grammar is influenced by the structure of Latin. It will access the children to European history and culture and its impact on the Catholic Church. Another goal of teaching Latin is to help the students become better critical thinkers.

Thanks to the generosity of donors to our Endowment fund, the school is working to keep tuition affordable. The endowment is subsidizing next year's Kindergarten class with a \$700.00 discount on the tuition.



Blessing of the throats

If you are interested in learning more about our school, please call 440.943.1395 or e-mail [allsaints@oh.rr.com](mailto:allsaints@oh.rr.com).



## Youth Ministry Offers Many Activities

By Stephanie Skrout, Coordinator of Youth Ministry



Thank you for your continued prayers and support for the Youth Ministry Program. We have had a great start to the year, and continue to engage in many fun activities and service projects. Totally Yours Life Teen has had wonderful opportunities for prayer and fun over the last few months.

We have had a chance to engage in retreats, attend the March for Life in Washington D.C., and go on a great Ski Trip to Peek'n Peak NY. We also gather every Sunday for the 5:00 pm Parish Mass to celebrate the Eucharist together and listen to the beautiful Praise and Worship music from the very talented Life Teen Band led by Ric Koenig. All are welcome to the Mass, and it is a great way to engage with our teen parishioners.

We welcome a new Student Leadership team to the Totally Yours family. These students were chosen by the adult Core team to help guide the vision of the Life Teen movement. These students work very hard to help engage other teens from both parishes and school communities to join the Totally Yours Life Teen family and grow closer to Christ.

I would like to thank all parishioners who have helped to prepare meals for our Sunday night gatherings, and engage in relational ministry with our teens. Sharing a meal together is very important to help us grow together as a family.

If you are interested in joining the adult Core team, or to help prepare a meal for the Life Teen family, please contact me with any questions.

I have continued to attend classes at Ursuline College for my Master Degree in Pastoral Counseling. Thanks to all of you who have helped support me in this process. I am learning so many great skills and have had practical training in the field. I am so blessed to have the opportunity to pursue this career, while also being able to work with this great parish.

Please be sure to pick up an activity calendar at the Parish office with all events listed for Junior High and the Senior High Life Teen program. Some events coming in the next few months include:

- **The District Spring Retreat for all high school students from April 8-10.**
- **Laser Tag and Whirly Ball for Jr. High on April 29**
- **Cookout party for all youth ministry programs on May 22.**

We have many more events planned before the end of the school year; I just wanted to take this opportunity to highlight a few.

The summer events calendar will be coming soon. Please make sure that you check the weekly church bulletin for more details.

I wish you all a beautiful and fresh spring ahead. May God continue to bless you and your family.



## St. John Vianney Welcomes New Members into our Parish Family

By Mary Kovach, Pastoral Associate

At the Easter Vigil, St. John Vianney will welcome into our parish community the following members who have completed the RCIA program this year:

**Candidates:** Brian Brooks, Tricia Brooks, Emily Dension, Shaina Edison, Michael Fox, Jodi Knuchel, Myrandas Kosmerl, Christine Meyers, Jacob Rago, Allison Schneider, Jessica Schwartz, Journey Sisko, Vincent Sisko, Dylan Tichenour, Ashley Torosian, Stephen Wentsler.

**Catechumens:** Amanda Bauerle, Danielle Bolyard, Amanda Burman, Justice Colon, Tania Day, Maryanne Gigliotti, Lindsay Greene, Joseph Jones, Jr., Brandon Kukoleck, Robert Koss, Lawrence Partin, Nicole Partin, Luis Reynoso, Alyssa Rose, Christian Rose.

## RCIA is Life Changing

By Maryanne Gigliotti



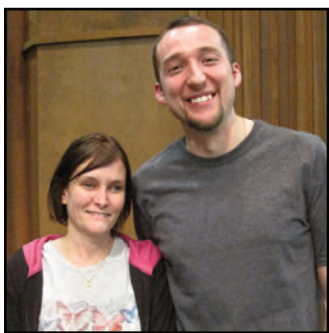
I was brought to the RCIA process because I felt the desire to join my family in becoming Catholic. My whole family was Catholic, but my parents decided to let me choose my own faith. After marrying my husband, who is Catholic, and having all three of our children baptized Catholic, I really felt drawn to share in the religion by becoming Catholic as well.

Although RCIA was something I have always wanted to do, I finally decided to go through with it just this past year. It was probably one of the best decisions I have ever made. I have met some of the most wonderful people and I can truly say that I feel as though I have changed for the better. My view and outlook on life is different, as though I am more aware of my purpose and presence. I feel closer to my family and friends in a way that I never knew was imaginable. It's amazing!

The RCIA process has been absolutely astounding and I would recommend it to anyone and everyone. It is a life-changing experience that brings you into a community full of love and the desire to share in the Catholic faith.

## Do You Want To Go To Church With Me?

By Christine Meyers



I am very blessed to be in RCIA. I was baptized in a different religion and started to learn about God when my parents gave me a children's bible as a gift. When I grew up I intended to raise my kids attending church. I was a single mom at the time and we were going to church weekly until the pastor and staff made very rude comments to me about not having a lot of money to give. We stopped going.

God always remained with us. We struggled for a long time and God was always right there watching over us and leading the way. I was very blessed to meet my sponsor, Tim. He asked me, "Do you want to go to church with me?" They are treasured words to me now.

We joined RCIA and attending church on Sundays is our main priority. It has been a great journey getting closer to God. RCIA has changed what my future will be. Everyone in RCIA has been so nice. I am so happy to be going to church again. I believe God has led me here. Becoming Catholic will be one of the proudest and greatest moments of my life.

## Sacraments Received Through the Rite of Christian Initiation for Children

By Jessica Schwartz



My name is Jessica Schwartz and I am a sixth grader at Willoughby Middle School. I started the RCIC program because I wanted to learn about God through the Catholic faith. My mom and I chose St. John Vianney Parish because of a past personal experience with Father Johns. We started attending church on a regular basis and found this was where I wanted to receive my holy sacraments.

The RCIC program has changed me in many ways. I am starting to understand God and Jesus and that helps me understand people and the world around me. I learn something new every day in class. It makes me look at my life different now. I am grateful for my teachers, my sponsor, Sharon Fazzone, and for Father Jared and Father Johns for helping me through this. I am happy to be in touch with God!

## A Promise is Kept

By Tricia and Brian Brooks



Brian and I began the RCIA process in August 2010. We are so thankful that we are participating in this group and found wonderful benefits to joining the Catholic faith.

Brian and I met in 2006 and had a mutual belief in God. We were both baptized Catholic, but never finished our sacraments or practiced our faith. Once we decided to get married and have a family, we made a promise that one day we would go back to church and make it a part of our lives. We were married in 2009 outside of the Catholic faith. Though we loved our wedding, we felt that something was missing by not going through the full Catholic process to become married. Again, we made a promise that we would go back to the Catholic religion and make it a part of our lives.

Life as a newly-married couple became very busy and we did not make religion a priority. Shortly after our wedding we received news that Brian's father was diagnosed with lung cancer and did not have much time left to live. Although this was the most challenging time of our lives, the experience taught us that nothing is more important than family and faith.

Brian's dad taught us the value of living life to the fullest and putting your faith in God, even during difficult times. We also saw the impact of the Catholic faith in Brian's family and how the religion gave them strength. We eventually lost Brian's father, but gained a greater understanding of the power of prayer. We used prayer to communicate with Brian's father and strengthen us after the devastating loss. We promised that we would continue to practice the faith and join a Catholic church.

Brian and I received a warm welcome at St. John Vianney and that hospitality has continued through our RCIA process. We have learned the value of religion and the impact that Catholicism can have in your life. Shortly after beginning the process we learned that we are expecting our first child. We feel that we have truly been blessed and we have the Catholic faith to thank.

## Mentor Mission for Lent Presented by the Three T's

Three of the four Catholic parishes of Mentor will sponsor a traditional Lenten Mission from Sunday, April 10, to Wednesday, April 13, at Saint John Vianney Catholic Church, each evening at 7:00. Saint Mary of the Assumption, Saint Bede and Saint John Vianney parishes have been working together as a "Mentor Cluster" for several years at the request of Bishop Richard Lennon and his Vibrant Parish Life initiatives.

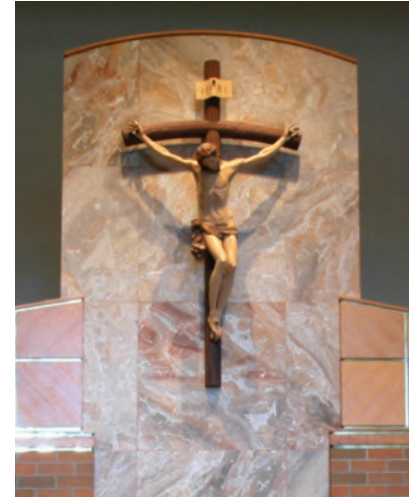


Fr. Tom Elsasser

Fathers Tom Johns, Tom Elsasser and Tim Plavac, the pastors of the three parishes, will each give a presentation at the four day Mission. The forty-five minute presentation will be given each night in the context of an evening prayer service. Father Plavac will speak on prayer on Sunday, Father Johns will speak on fasting on Monday, and Father Elsasser will speak on almsgiving on Tuesday – the three traditional practices of the Lenten season. The Mission will conclude with a Lenten Communal Penance Service on

Wednesday evening. In addition to the priests from the three parishes, priests from other parishes of the area will be available to hear confessions on Wednesday after a short Penance Service presided over by one of the Mentor permanent deacons.

This Lenten Mission will provide us with a good preparation for Holy Week and the Communal Penance Service on Wednesday night will allow participants to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance in preparation for Easter. Parishioners and friends from all three parishes and the surrounding community are welcome to participate.



The 8th Annual Celtic Weekend took place on March 5 & 6, with about 800 people attending the two-day event. Rose Wilson, Maureen Kelly and Jim Heckman were the 2011 honorees. Cheryl SkROUT won the grand prize of a trip for two on the parish's 2012 Southern Caribbean Cruise.

Good Clean Fun from New York was the band for both days. Participants had a great time and we were able to raise funds for the parish, the school, the All Saints Endowment Fund, and the American Cancer Society. Also an anonymous donor made a \$25,000 donation to the Rose Wilson Scholarship Fund of All Saints Elementary School and challenged participants at the Celtic Ball to match the amount. The challenge was accepted and an additional \$25,000 was raised for the scholarship at the Ball.

Next year's Celtic Weekend will take place on March 3 & 4. Save the dates!



## **New and Improved Ministry Fair – April 2-3, 2011**

*By Maureen G. Kelly, Parish Council Chairperson*

### **Matthew 7:7**

**“Ask and it will be given to you**

**Seek and you will find**

**Knock and the door will be opened unto you”**

As one of the ten largest parishes in the diocese (4400 registered families), our parishioners have a great deal of expertise. Many generous individuals donate their time and talent to serve the needs of our congregation. Conversely, a parish of this size mirrors a cross section of need.

Need isn't always expressed in monetary terms. Certainly, many of our parishioners are assisted by the wonderful members of the St Vincent de Paul Society or the Lake-Geauga Furniture Bank during difficult financial times. But “need” can express itself in ways that transcend the physical to a personal and/or spiritual nature.

It has been several years since our Parish has held a MINISTRY FAIR. This year, the Parish Pastoral Council is assisting Cindy Lentz, Volunteer Coordinator, with a NEW AND IMPROVED FAIR to be held in the Gathering Area on the weekend of April 2 and 3 after all Masses.

### **Our goals are threefold:**

- 1. To educate current parishioners regarding parish ministries and services**
- 2. To recruit new members to assist at all levels**
- 3. To serve as a New Parishioner Orientation**

Members of existing Committees, Groups, Special Interests, and Ministries currently operating within the scope of our Parish Community, will be present to answer your questions about their activities. Some groups are specific to a time frame, (Parish Festival or Holiday Meal Committee); some groups are ongoing (baking) and need folks they can call upon to use their talents to bake occasionally. Other groups meet a need when tragedy strikes such as the bereavement group who may assist parishioners when a death occurs.

Some groups are looking for new members and fresh ideas. Others want you to know that they exist so you can call upon them. Your life situation may have changed recently and you now have time to volunteer and a desire to meet other like minded individuals. Wherever you exist along the continuum of life, our Ministry Fair has something for you.

Our Parish is truly blessed and to whom much is given, much is required.

Our Ministry Fair coincides with Fellowship Weekend. Make good use of your time as you wend your way toward the donut area.

**The Priests will make themselves available to speak to visitors that weekend. Invite your family, neighbors and friends.** If you have any questions, please contact the Ministry Fair Committee: Cindy Lentz, Volunteer Coordinator or Maureen Kelly, Parish Council Chairperson

# ST. JOHN VIANNEY ANNUAL FISH FRY

Every Friday of Lent Except Good Friday  
5:00 PM – 7:30 PM

## ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET

Assorted Salads  
Three Delicious Soups  
Rolls & Butter  
Baked and Fried Alaskan Pollock  
Potato Cheese Pierogis, Macaroni & Cheese  
Steak Fries, Vegetables  
Assorted Pies and Cookies



Hot Dogs and Chicken Tenders (For Children)

Soft Drinks, Milk, Coffee and Tea

Adults: \$10.00  
Seniors (62 and over): \$9.00  
Take-out (one time through the line): \$8.00  
Children ages 5 thru 10: \$5.00  
Children under 5: FREE

We are sorry that with the change to an all you can eat buffet we no longer will offer ala carte items or allow you to take home left-overs

## Holy Week Liturgical Celebrations Easter 2011

### **Passion (Palm) Sunday, April 17th**

Masses: Saturday - 4 & 6pm; Sunday - 7:30, 9, 11am, 1pm & 5:00pm  
(Palms will be distributed at all liturgies)

### **Monday, April 18th**

Masses: 8 & 11am

### **Tuesday, April 19th**

Mass: 8am

*What a Week for Jesus*

(Dramatization of the Stations of the Cross presented by the students of All Saints of St. John Vianney School):

7pm

(No 7pm Mass)

### **Wednesday, April 20th**

Masses: 8 & 11am

### **Holy Thursday, April 21st**

Mass: 7pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass until Midnight in the Daily Mass Chapel (No 8am Mass)

### **Good Friday, April 22nd**

Celebration of the Lord's Passion: 3 & 7pm

(No 8 or 11am Masses)

### **Holy Saturday, April 23rd**

Blessing of food and Easter Baskets: 1pm

Easter Vigil (Reception of Candidates and Catechumens for the Sacrament of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist): 9:30pm

(No 8am, 4 & 6pm Masses)

### **Easter Sunday, April 24th**

Masses: 7, 9, 11am & 1pm in the Church

There will be two additional Masses in the Lake Catholic auditorium  
at 9:15 & 11:15am

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

### **Wednesday, April 13th**

Joint Lenten Communal Penance Service at  
St. John Vianney : 7pm

### **Monday, April 18th**

From 7 to 8 pm

### **Tuesday, April 19th**

From 10 to 11am

### **Wednesday, April 20th**

From 7 to 8pm

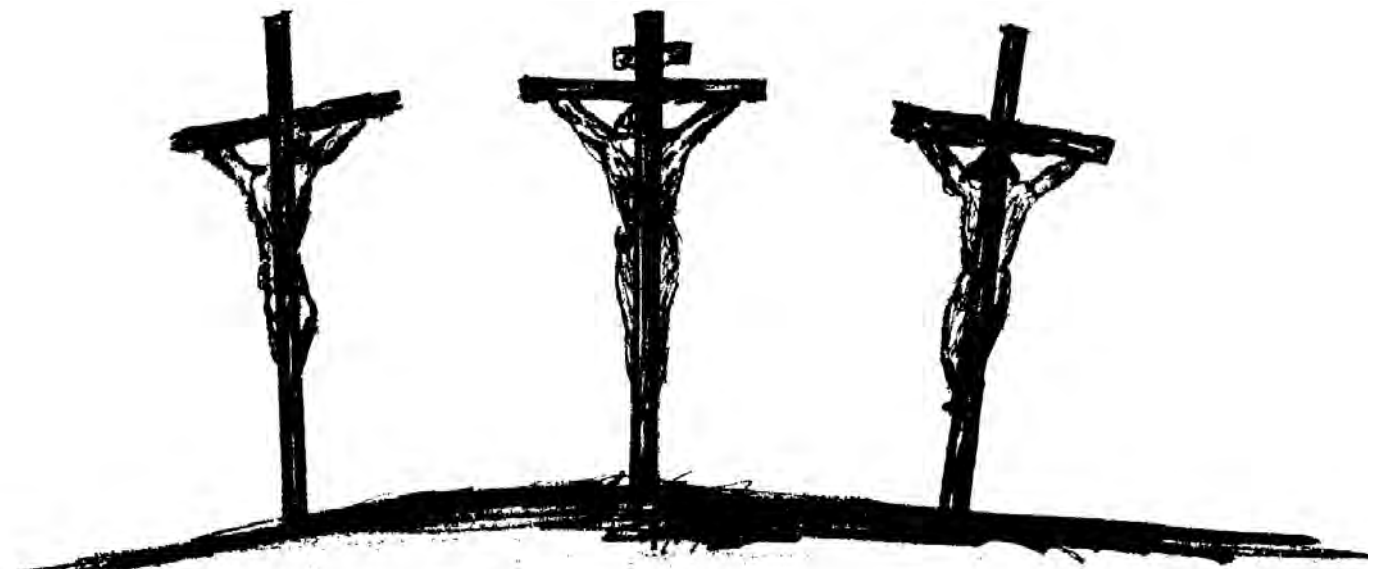
No confessions will be heard during the Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday or Holy Saturday

St. John Vianney Catholic Church  
7575 Bellflower Road  
Mentor, OH 44060



NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
HUNTINGTON, IN  
PERMIT #632

Return Service Requested



Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.