

Thirtieth Sunday of Ordinary Time



Liturgy Schedule

Monday, October 27, Weekday

Eph 4:32-5:8/Lk 13:10-17

7:30 AM Communion Service

Tuesday, October 28, Ss. Simon & Jude

Eph 2:19-22/Lk 6:12-16

7:30 AM Josephine Crist, Anniversary

Wednesday, October 29, Weekday

Eph 6:1-9/Lk 13:22-30

9:30 AM Children and Youth of our Community

7:00 PM Devotions to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

Thursday, October 30, Weekday

Eph 6:10-20/Lk 13:31-35

7:30 AM Priests and Deacons of our Diocese

Friday, October 31, Weekday

Phil 1:1-11/Lk 14:1-6

7:30 AM Joe Vigneau, Anniversary

Saturday, November 1, All Saints

Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a

4:30 PM Willa Manning, Louella Eaton, Ray Thelen

November 2, Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed

Wis 3:1-9/Rom 5:5-11 or 6:3-9/Jn 6:27-40

7:30 AM The Intention of our Holy Father

9:30 AM For the People

11:30 AM Monica Thelen, 5th Anniversary

7:00 PM All the Faithful Departed

ALTAR APPOINTMENTS – November 1 & 2, 2008

LECTORS

4:30 PM Connie Vallier 9:30 AM Sharon Hoffman

7:30 AM Beverly Sobolewski 11:30 AM Kim Schrauben

Altar Servers

4:30 PM Noah Pung, Taran Arwood, Cody Cathcart, Jenna Falor

7:30 AM Michael Kreiner and Connor Hengesbach

9:30 AM Royce Cook, Jessika Grapentien

Haley Kihn, Adam Gunderman

11:30 AM Anna & Jennifer Bosworth, Zakary Leah, Devann Hattis

7:00 PM Ben Lawless, Samantha Kramer, Casey Wilcox

Tangela Willemin, Colin Gensterblum

GREETERS

4:30 PM Don Boos, Jim & Jean Klein

7:30 AM Janet Kransz and Marlene McAllister

9:30 AM Harry Klein, Tom Lehman, Connie Reay

11:30 AM Kim Schrauben, Brenda Smith, Kurt Thelen

The Commandments of Justice

Exodus 22:20-26

"You shall not wrong or oppress a resident alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt."

How does your church community help the poor? Do you have collections for the needy? Do you distribute food through a pantry? Do you help people find jobs? Do you offer job training?

Does your church perform acts of justice that try to change the condition of the poor? Do you advocate for improved legislation? Do you call attention to the ways that the wealth of the few impairs the resources of the many? Do you educate people about means of reducing poverty?

The book of Exodus includes many of the laws that God asked the Israelites to observe. The most famous are the Ten Commandments. But in addition to them, hundreds of other commandments found their way into the legislative books of God's people.

Some commandments pertained to the poor: Do not hinder travelers. Protect the widow and orphan. Do not take advantage of people needing loans. All these rules helped Israel live out the big picture of the Ten Commandments in the everyday situations that constitute the moral life.

The reduction of poverty will take many efforts. It will mean living every day mindful of the needs of the poor, and it will also mean working for justice for the oppressed.

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Sunday Offering Report

July 1, 2008 through October 19, 2008

Weekly Parish Ministry Needs	\$17,980.00
Our Gifts for October 19	15,662.79*
Our Gifts – Fiscal Year to Date	267,505.71
Parish Needs – Fiscal Year to Date	287,680.00
Over/(Under) – Fiscal Year to Date	(20,174.29)
*Includes Children/Youth envelopes totaling	19.63
World Mission Sunday Collection	2,297.00

Church Leaders Speak Out Against Proposal 2

The bishops of our state have written to every registered Catholic home in Michigan urging opposition to Proposal 2. This ballot proposal seeks to destroy human embryos for research and opens the door to human cloning in Michigan. The bishops articulate clearly in their letter that the killing of human embryos is never acceptable and must be rejected as strongly as possible. As Pope John II taught in the encyclical "The Gospel of Life," human life must be protected from conception until natural death, beginning with the human embryo. If our state amends its constitution to allow the intentional destruction of human embryos, there is no telling where this unrestricted science will lead or where the killing will end. We must avoid heading down this path by upholding the wise and enduring teachings of the Catholic faith concerning human life.

2 Goes 2 Far: Vote NO on Proposal 2!

Sponsor of the Week

October 26, 2008

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH...

SUN RCIA, 9:30 AM
K of C Bingo, 2:00 PM
Jr. High Youth Ministry, 4:00 PM
Sr. High Youth Ministry, 6:30 PM

MON Eucharistic Adoration, Noon to 5:00 PM
Faith Formation Classes, 6:30 PM

TUES Pro-Life Rosary following Mass in the Chapel
Faith Formation Commission Meeting, 7:00 PM

WED Eucharistic Adoration, Noon to 7:00 PM
Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM

SAT Men's Group, 6:30 AM
Rosary in the Chapel, 7:30 AM
Reconciliation, 3:00 PM

SUN St. Pat's Athletic Association Meeting, 9:00 AM
Coffee and Donuts after 9:30 & 11:30 Masses
in the Parish Hall
RCIA, 9:30 AM
Jr. High Youth Ministry, 4:30 PM
Sr. High Youth Ministry, 6:30 PM

Attention Snowbirds -- Please call the parish office and let us know when you will be leaving for your winter homes and when you anticipate returning to Portland. We can save the parish some money by terminating the delivery of your offering envelopes while you are away. With our budget crunch, every dollar saved is appreciated.

The St. Patrick's students will be having a Community Service Day on October 31, 2008. If you know of anyone, within walking distance of school, who may need their yard raked, please contact the school office at 647-7551 or the parish office at 647-6505.

Attention Jr. High Youth Group!
Please come to our SCARY Halloween party today, October 26 at 4pm! We'll have prizes for the best costumes, so please dress up! (But come anyway, even if you don't wear a costume!) See you there!

Portland Right-to-Life is taking sub sandwich orders. \$3.00 per sub. You may place order with Roxie Pline, 647-2224, until November 2. Pick up is November 15, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM in St. Patrick School Cafeteria.

A new group, the Reminiscence Group, for people 55 and older will be gathering at the Portland Library on Wednesdays, October 29 thru December 17, (8 weeks) from 10:00 to 11:45 AM. There is no cost to attend. You will reminisce life's major branching points and reflect on the "Good Ole Days". Please RSVP to Audrey Philips of Ionia Community Mental Health at 616-527-1790 by Tuesday, October 28.

Statement from Bishop Walter Hurley on the current economic crisis

"The current financial crisis has affected everyone in one way or another.

As believers in a God who promises to be with us, we trust that God will give us what we need – not always what we want. When all is well we may be inclined to place our trust and hope in ourselves, other people, our employers or the government. We can even develop a sense of entitlement.

The current financial situation challenges us to reflect on the way we live and the values that are important to us. It reminds us that we are the stewards of God's gifts and we are called to use His many gifts in accord with His will. I am grateful for the efforts of Catholic Charities West Michigan and our parishes for the generous assistance they offer to those in need.

Our hope, as Christians, is in God and the love He revealed to us in Christ Jesus, who is present in Word, sacrament and community. A crisis passes; God and His love remain."

Most Reverend Walter A. Hurley
Bishop of Grand Rapids
October 17, 2008

On behalf of the St. Patrick Festival chair committee, we are very pleased with the bottom line profit of \$60,093.22, from our parish festival, especially considering the current economic times. Due to the volunteer efforts of hundreds of St. Pat's parishioners and the support of our community we had a very successful festival measured by the outstanding level of participation we had and the financial contribution we are able to provide the Parish. This festival with all of its activities, coordination, and volunteer efforts is something that very few organizations could be successful with. Our parish does it year after year thanks to the volunteer efforts and participation of our parishioners. This is something we should all be proud of. Thanks again for all of your support in 2008.

Rick & Tammy Bengel
Mike & Deb Coyne
Kevin & Teresa Schneider

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

Christmas Choir needs YOU!

Why: to help us celebrate the Christmas Liturgy for Children

Who: ALL singers grades 3 thru 8

Where: Multi-purpose room

When: Nov 1, 15, 22 & Dec 6, 13, 20, 22

What time: 10:30am – NOON

Questions? Call Therese Jandernoa 647-4344

St. Patrick Parish, 140 Church St., Portland, MI -
Oct. 26 2008

KING'S KORNER

New Boiler Project Update...

Last weekend and this weekend, as the weather has turned a bit more brisk, you probably noticed that we now have HEAT in the church (and school). The new boiler project is winding down and should be completed by the end of October, if not before then.

I'd like to take this opportunity to publicly **THANK** the members of the **B.O.G. (Boiler Oversight Group)** who worked closely with the Finance Council and the Parish Administration in bringing this project to a successful completion. The members of the group are: **Dick Lawless, Mike Kissane, Scott Brown, Keith Schneider, and Dan Lawless**. You guys have been an outstanding example of good stewardship of Time and Talent!!! You had the talents and you stepped forward and offered your service and time for the good of the whole parish. The end result is truly magnificent!!!

I know that the rest of the parish doesn't see much of anything that's different because so much of what was done is out of sight. If you walk through our school, about the only real difference you'll notice is that there's a lowered ceiling and better lighting in the hallways, everything else, especially the piping for heat, is all hidden above the drop ceiling.

However, if you walk down into the basement of the church you will see a tremendous difference because that's where the guts of the heating system are located. It's such a huge difference from what we had down there before to heat the church and school. When you look at the complexity of the system I know you'll be as profoundly impressed as I am.

So, I'm going to give all of you a chance to go down into the basement after Masses on the **weekend of November 1-2** and see for yourselves. We'll have people go down the steps from outside the church in the parking lot and exit through the music room and up the stairs into the sacristy.

I'm also hoping that anyone who chose not to or was unable to help financially support this project would be inclined to do so now. As you know we did not reach our goal (about \$1.9 million dollars once all the unexpected things got figured into the equation), but the bills still have to be paid now. To date we have used up **ALL** of our savings that were set aside for Capital Improvements and with the pledge monies that have already come in we have paid out about \$1.1 million dollars of these bills. We still owe about \$750,000 that is coming due within this next month. We will do what we can to borrow the money needed, but borrowing is not as easy as it was in a healthier economy. A few of you have already stepped forward and paid off your entire 3-year pledge early. **THANK YOU!** So, if anyone else would like to do so or even pay off a part of your pledge early, I invite you to do so. It will mean that much less money we will need to borrow and pay back with interest. Borrowing a smaller amount of money will probably be an easier thing to do in these economic times.

Some of you may be living on a fixed income and find yourselves unable to participate in this project, even though you would like to do so. If you find yourself in this situation, I'd like to invite you to remember our parish, our school or the Father Flohe Foundation in your will, and in doing so help ensure the well being of our parish for future generations.

THANK YOU again to all who have made sacrificial gifts for this project!!! God will not forget your generosity!!!

Fr. Larry