

# ST. MARY'S CHRONICLES

ST. MARY'S  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
726 218th Place  
Pella, Iowa 50219-0144  
641-628-3078  
641-628-3165 fax  
stmarypella@iowatelecom.net  
www.stmarypellaia.com

## From the desk of Fr. Dennis!

Dear friends in Christ,

### Good- Bye

It is with fixed feelings that I write to you to say Good-bye. It is never easy to say Good-bye. Good-byes are a necessary part of living; that does not make them fun or easy - just necessary. For me, the six years as pastor here at Saint Mary has gone by quickly, and I want to thank-you for making me feel welcome and accepting the ministry to which God calls me, along with the necessary changes that come with it.

Saint Mary parish is a strong church. Saint Mary has a strong history. Saint Mary has a strong future. The commonality in those statements is obviously strength, solidity, endurance. I have enjoyed serving here - it has been fun, as well as difficult at times, But that is with everything in life. True strength comes from God alone; it works through you, and collectively we become the body of Christ - stronger even than death. Saint Mary is a church that is founded on the strength of the word of God, and it is that characteristic that will continue to steer this congregation through transitions and into a new and exciting phase of life.

My own life is guided by the same strength. For the next step on that journey, this transition will take me to two congregations: West Point and Farmington Iowa. To Begin the process of serving God and grow in Christ with the people in those places. I will miss you. It has been my privilege to serve you as your pastor. And for that privilege you have my sincere gratitude. For many good friends I have met here, I hope that our relationships can continue in a new and refreshing way.

No matter who your pastors have been, are, or will be, the promise of Jesus that, "I will be with you always," does not change. In fact, it becomes stronger the more we rely on it!

Jesus is with us always, to the furthest flung corners of the earth. We have no reason to stall or delay because we are God's people, moving forward into the promise of a certain and excellent future being the people we are created to be. It is the most challenging task we face. It means that we must learn and change; it means that we must move forward; it means that we must come to understand and live the mission God has in mind for each of us; but that it also where the fun is.

Fr. Jeff Belger, is a funny, warm hearted and friendly. He stopped by to talk to the staff and get the lay of the land. Fr. Jeff will serve you well.

Thank you for the opportunity to live and work among you for a time. If you are in the area of West Point or Farmington feel free to stop in and visit. I wish you God's peace and will continue to pray God's grace be with all of you.

*Fr. Dennis Hoffman*

June 2010  
Volume 12 Issue 6

### Inside this issue:

<b>Pastoral Council News</b>	2
<b>Commission Reports</b>	2-6
<b>Ministry of Worship News</b>	2-3
<b>Ministry of Faith Formation News</b>	4-6
<b>Building Process Report</b>	7
<b>Building Faith Report</b>	7
<b>Other Parish News</b>	7-8
<b>On the Lighter Side</b>	9
<b>Pastoral Council Minutes</b>	10
<b>Parish Monthly Calendar</b>	11
<b>Kids Page</b>	12
<b>Stewardship</b>	13



ST. MARY'S FINANCE COUNCIL	
Fr. Dennis Hoffman	628-4262
Mark Larson	628-4569
Jon Miller	628-8242
Dave Wisniewski	628-1421
Jane Burnett	620-8093
Matt Kissinger	628-3227
Joe Michaels	628-1698

**ST. MARY'S  
PASTORAL COUNCIL**

<b>President:</b>	Kathryn Kaul-Goodman 815-354-0646
<b>Vice President:</b>	Dawn Cairney 620-1271
<b>Secretary:</b>	Mindy Schnoebelen 628-2267
<b>Pastor:</b>	Fr. Dennis Hoffman 628-4262

**MINISTRY CHAIRPERSONS:**

<b>Ministry of Finance:</b>	Jon Miller.....628-8242
<b>Ministry of Administration:</b>	
<b>Ministry of Church Life:</b>	
<b>Ministry of Worship</b>	Deacon Don Efinger.....628-7144
<b>Ministry of Faith Formation:</b>	Dawn Cairney.....620-1271
<b>Ministry of Social Action:</b>	Carol Weihe.....628-3249
<b>Ministry of Family Life:</b>	Kelly Heerema.....628-3927

**Next Pastoral Council Meeting  
June 3, at 7:00 P.M.**



I've learned that it is just as important to forget a wrong as it is to remember a kindness.

**MINISTRY REPORTS**

**MINISTRY OF WORSHIP:**



*If you have a prayer request for which you would like us to pray, please call one of the coordinators, so that they can get word out to others in the parish.*

- |                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| Patrice Langenfeld | 627-5200 |
| Sharon Weiler      | 628-4149 |
| Camelia Nelson     | 628-8108 |

“When we are true to our conscience ...God’s kingdom comes to us just where we are, living quite ordinarily, carrying on patiently.”  
- Karl Rahner

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**  
1st Friday June 4, 2010  
8:00 A.M. - 5:15 P.M.  
5:30 Mass  
**EVERY MONDAY EVENING**  
5:00—10:00 PM

What a profound way to be united with our Lord Jesus and Savior. Come let us adore Him so that he can attend to our broken hearts.

*“Could you not keep watch with me for one hour?” Lk 14:37*

**Eucharistic Ministry  
To The Homebound And Sick**

If you know of anyone who would like to have the Eucharist brought to them on Sunday’s after the 8:30 AM Mass, please call or have them call the Parish Office or Fr. Dennis so that they can be included on this list.

- Spiritual Renewal Opportunities*
- **Friday Mornings** following the 8:30 am mass, we will have a Bible study from 9:00 am to 10:30 am. There will be no class on the first Friday of the month so we can attend adoration. Call Rhonda Versluys at 628-1626 for more details. All are welcome to join us.
  - **Eucharistic Adoration:** Monday evenings 5-10 P.M. and First Friday’s 8:00 A.M. - 5:15 P.M.
  - **Grow Groups** — Women’s small group share/study groups. Contact Rhonda Versluys at 628-1626.
  - **Women of Grace** - Women’s Catholic foundational study group contact Nancy Meck at 628-4139



## MINISTRY OF WORSHIP (cont'd)

### Rite of Peace / Breaking of Bread

“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you; not as the world gives do I give you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid” (Jn. 14:27). Peace descends from above; it is the gift by which Christ prepares us to become one in the sacrament of his body and blood. By coming together for the Eucharist, we demonstrate our readiness to forgive each other, to accept the peace of Christ into our hearts, and to exchange it with one another.

The exchange of “peace” is not the expression of mere good wishes. It is that outward sign of a gift inwardly received, and as such is marked by reverence and dignity. “The priest may give the sign of peace to the ministers but always remains within the sanctuary, so as not to disturb the Celebration” (GIRM, 154). At the same time, “it is appropriate that each person offer the sign of peace only to those who are nearest and in sober manner” (GIRM, 82). “While the sign of peace is being given, one may say, *The peace of the Lord be with you always*, to which the response is *AMEN*” (GIRM, 154).

Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread” (1 Cor. 10:17). There was something unforgettable in the way Jesus broke the bread at the Last Supper and again for the disciples encountered on the road to Emmaus. “He was known to them in the breaking of the bread” (Lk. 14:35). The bread of like is broken to be given to the many, bringing into the unity of a single body all who receive it.

The priest breaks a piece of the host and puts it into the chalice to signify that in Holy Communion we receive Christ’s living and glorious body. He begins the breaking of the bread after the sign of peace and carries it out with reverence. “This rite is reserved to the priest and the deacon” (GIRM, 83). Even after the breaking, each fragment of the Eucharist is the whole Christ.

During the breaking of the bread, the choir or cantor sing the supplication to the Lamb of God, the *Agnus Dei*, to which the people respond, “have mercy on us.” The Invocation may be repeated until the rite is completed. At the last repetition the people respond, “grant us peace.”

### Holy Communion

“Lord Jesus Christ, with faith in your love and mercy I eat your body and drink your blood. Let it not bring me condemnation, but health in mind and body.” Saying quietly this prayer or another one found in the Roman Missal, the priest prepares to receive the Body and Blood of Christ. At the same time, the faithful prepare for Holy Communion in the silence of their hearts.

Lifting the Eucharistic bread above the chalice, the priest invites the faithful to look upon the Lamb of God and to receive in Holy Communion a foretaste of the “Supper of the Lamb” (Rev. 19:9) made ready for the blessed in heaven. “It is most desirable that the faithful, just as the priest himself is bound to do, receive the Lord’s body from hosts consecrated at the same Mass and that, in circumstances when it is permitted, they partake of the chalice” (GIRM, 85)

The Communion chant begins while the priest is receiving the sacrament. Like the entrance and offertory chants, it is, according to tradition, an antiphon—often drawn from the Gospel of the day—and a psalm chosen to resonate with it.

We approach the body and blood of Christ in “eucharistic amazement” and joy. The Church carefully regulates the manner of receiving Holy Communion. “The faithful are not permitted to take the consecrated bread or the sacred chalice by themselves and still less to hand them from one to another” (GIRM, 160). Holy Communion is never “taken”; it is a gift received with adoration.

“When receiving Holy Communion, the communicant bows his or her head before the Sacrament as a gesture of reverence and receives the Body of the Lord from the minister. The consecrated host may be received either on the tongue or in the hand, at the discretion of each communicant.... As soon as the communicant receives the host, he or she consumes it entirely.... When Holy Communion is received under both kinds, the sign of reverence is also made before receiving the Precious Blood” (GIRM, 160 and 161).

After the distribution of Holy Communion, the priest and the people spend some time praying in silence. If desired, a psalm or hymn of praise may be sung before the priest says the prayer after Communion.

## MINISTRY OF SOCIAL ACTION:

**ST. MARY'S MONTHLY  
FOOD COLLECTION:  
Weekend of June 5, 2010.**



When bags of food are returned for the food pantry on the first Sunday of the month, please bring them to the altar following the presentation of the gifts. Please use this as a time to involve the entire family.

## OTHER PARISH NEWS

### Congratulations to our Seniors! The Class of 2010!

Nathan Buchheit  
Lauren Cooper  
Mark Frommelt  
Megan Jablonski  
Jakub Martisovits  
Maria Mate-Kodjo  
Morgan Slycord

Nikki Burnett  
Emily Flahive  
Alex Hardine  
Megan Langenfeld  
Monique Meck  
Andrew Sagers  
Ranier Worstell



### RELIGIOUS ARTICLES

Contact Mary Boles at 628-3086 if you need any items. We can order things we do not have in the display case.

Looking for Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, Wedding gifts, and Birthday gifts, well look no further than here at St. Mary's. We can place orders for special medals and other items that are in the book. Please let us know if you are looking for something special or if you have any ideas to improve this project. - Thank you, for your support!

### AUTOMATIC PAYMENT PLAN

**Want to make your life easier? Want to give back to God in gratitude the easy way?**

You can pay on your their pledges to the Forward by Faith Campaign or make your weekly/monthly parish offering through an automatic debit from your checking or savings account.

Pick up a form in the back of the Church or pick it up in the office, fill it out and drop it off with a check marked 'VOID' either in the Sunday collection or bring it to the office and you will be on your way. It is as easy as that. **And God will always get His share!**

If you have any questions, please call Sue Pothoven at the Parish Office at 628-3078.

I believe that nothing I deserve to be ashamed of will ever make me unacceptable to God.

Lewis B. Smedes



Sorry Nothing submitted

## **Other Parish News**

### **The Joy of Generosity**

The one who has received much should also give much. It is essential to give a goodly part of what God has allowed us to accumulate. Otherwise greed and miserliness will seize our hearts and minds. Furthermore, by not giving generously, we will miss the many joys that generosity brings to us. Let us not cheat ourselves of those blessings.

Part of a letter from a parishioner

We think sometimes when things don't go the right way, when we suffer a defeat, that all has ended. Not true: It is only a beginning, always. Greatness comes not when things always go good for you, but the greatness come when you are really tested, when you take some knocks, some disappointments, when sadness comes. Because only if you have been in the deeper valley can you ever know how magnificent it is to be on the highest mountain .

### **SHARE Iowa**

#### **There are some fantastic specials!**

Would you like to save money on groceries? Do you know someone who could benefit from stretching his or her food dollars? SHARE can offer you up to a 50% savings on nutritious food packages for just 2 hours of volunteer service each month. To find out more about SHARE check out the web site: [www.shareiowa.com](http://www.shareiowa.com), email: [shareiowa@lisco.net](mailto:shareiowa@lisco.net) or call 1-800-344-1107. Volunteer service is sharing your time and talents with others without being paid. Ideas include, helping a neighbor, visiting a shut in, activities with your church or other local civic organization. You can even help out your local SHARE host site. You choose!

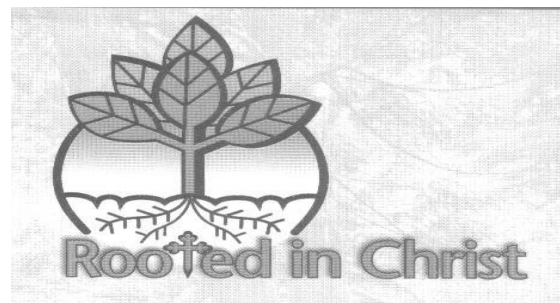
### **Annual Diocesan Appeal**

We have started this years ADA. You should have received by now a mailing from Bishop Amos. If you have not please notify the church office.

This years goal for our parish is \$44,040.00  
So far we have pledged: \$31,910.00  
Amount collected: \$26,645.00

You can turn your pledge card in at the office during business hours or place in the collection basket at church. Thank you for supporting the appeal. Your Gift helps others.

This year the Diocese is offering Electronic Transfer if you would like to do this see Sue or Jane in the church office.



## OTHER PARISH NEWS, cont'd:



### Knights of Columbus - see [www.kofc12334.org](http://www.kofc12334.org) for more information

Todd Wieser, Grand Knight – Council 12334; Pella, IA

Phone: 641-628-8539; please call anytime!

Next Meeting June 24, at 7:00 P.M

### Columbian Squires Corner:

Ryan Sievers, Chief Squire – Circle 4929; Pella, IA, Phone: 641- 628-8510

Greg Cairney, Chief Counselor, Phone: 641-620-1271

If your interested in joining the Squires or have any questions, please call Ryan.

Parents with questions, please call Greg.

Next Meeting – June 7, at 7:00 P.M.



### CARING HANDS

Sharon Miller, is coordinating the meals for Caring Hands to families in our parish who have for a variety of reasons to NEED a meal. please contact Sharon Miller at 628-8242. If you ever need a meal.

Every member of St. Mary's Church is assigned to a circle. The Circle Mission is: "The Church Family invites all parish members into organized groups to compliment the established commissions of the parish Council to serve, share our gifts and grow as a community of God." If corrections should be made to the list, if you are a new parishioner and need to be added, or you have been mistakenly left off, please contact Sarah Buchheit 628-4492, [msbuchheit@Iowatelecom.net](mailto:msbuchheit@Iowatelecom.net). We are in need of leaders/co-leaders too.

### Diocese of Davenport Capital Campaign

Members of our Campaign Executive Committee, parish volunteers, and I have worked to reach out to our entire parish community about our diocesan capital campaign — *Moving Forward in Faith and Hope*. We have been requesting that each family, as members of our larger Catholic Family, consider their participation in this historic undertaking to help our diocese and parish plan for the future.

Through the generosity of nearly 75 parish families, St Mary's Parish has raised more than \$85,000 toward our campaign goal of \$239,382. Our parish will receive 20% of these funds, which amounts to over \$15,000! funds raised through this campaign will put towards paying off the loan taken out for our new building. The generosity for this effort has been remarkable, but this achievement has been possible by only a small portion of the 275 families that call St. Mary's Parish their spiritual home. Your participation in this campaign will significantly help in reaching our goal.

Because of the size of our parish, we were not able to contact each family individually as we had hoped. We are sending a letter to invite you to join in this act of charity of supporting our parish and the Diocese of Davenport. Please return the bottom portion of the letter in the collection or directly to the parish office. Our hope is to receive a response from every family. I can answer any questions or if you prefer to talk with me privately about your gift, please call me at the parish office at 641-628-3078.

Lynn Cooper  
Dick Brown  
Fr. Dennis Hoffman

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE....

### Life after Death

A boss asked one of his employees, "Do you believe in life after death?" "Yes, Sir," replied the new employee. "I thought you would," said the boss. "Yesterday after you left to go to your grandmother's funeral, she stopped in to see you!"

Don't sweat the petty things, and don't pet the sweaty things.

A good pun is its own re-word.

### We've got questions... Got answers?

- What disease did cured ham have?
- Can you cry underwater?
- Why do we pay to get to the top of a tall buildings, then pay to use the binoculars to look at things on the ground?
- If we don't care that Jimmy cracked corn, why do we still sing about it?
- Do "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" and "The Alphabet Song" have the same tune?

The prospective son-in-law was asked by his girlfriend's father, "Son can you support a family?"

"Well, no, sir" he replied. "I was just planning to support your daughter. The rest of you have to fend for yourselves."

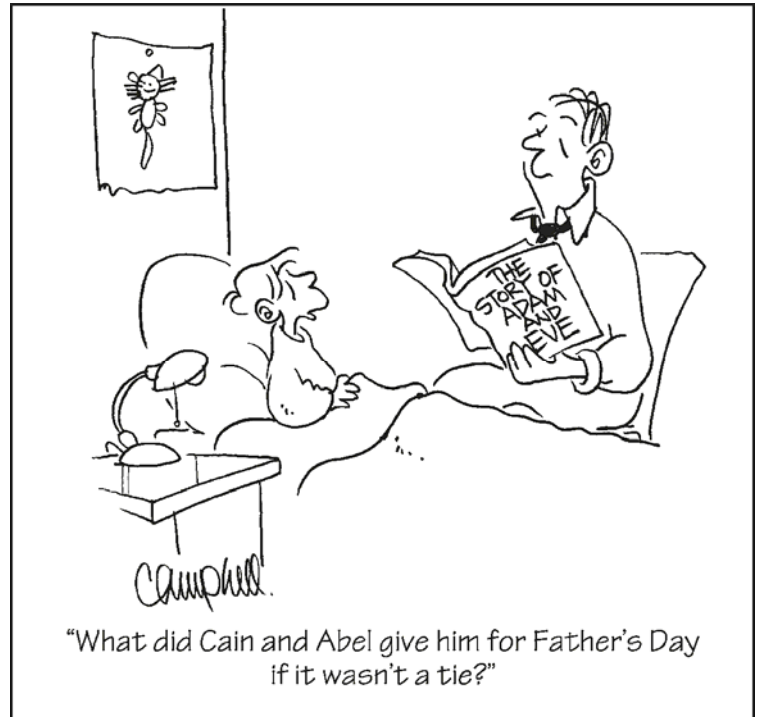
If a clock is hungry, does it go back for seconds?

Two Lawyers arrived at the bar and ordered a couple of drinks. They then take sandwiches from their briefcases and began to eat.

Seeing this, the angry bar owner approaches them and says, "Excuse me, but you cannot eat your own sandwiches in here!"

The two look at each other, shrug, and exchange sandwiches.

Want to make a cat nervous... put quick-sand in the litter box.



A gut decides to do some ice fishing, so he walks out onto the ice and begins drilling a hole. A loud voice - the voice of God - sounds around him, "There are no fish here." The man picks up his things and moves to another place on the ice. As he begins drilling his second hole, he again hears the voice say, "There are no fish here." Must be my lucky day, he thinks, and picks up his things and moves again. As he begins drilling his third hole, the voice rings out, "This is the rink attendant! There are NO FISH HERE!!"

### Wisdom from Seniors

I started with nothing; I still have most of it.

I finally got my head together and now my body is falling apart.

It's hard to make a comeback when you haven't been anywhere.

Funny, I don't remember being absent-minded.

If all is not lost, where is it?

If at first you do succeed, try not to look surprised.

A banker fell overboard from a friend's sailboat. Not knowing if the banker could swim, the friend grabbed a life preserver, held it up, and shouted, "Can you float alone?" "Obviously!" the banker replied. But this is hardly the time to talk business!"

2010 St. Mary's Parish Council Meeting Minutes-DRAFT  
Thursday, May 13, 2010 7-9:00 pm

Attending: Fr Dennis Hoffman, Carol Laughlin, Dc. Don Efinger, Kathryn Kaul-Goodman, Donna DeJoode, Louis Hartke, Dawn Cairney, Max Nguyen, Tim Crumley, Kenny Nedder, Robin Nossaman, Jon Miller, Danielle Bortscheller, Kelly Heerema, Dave Langenfeld, Patrice Langenfeld, Angela Halstead, Megan Langenfeld, Ranier Worstell, Stephan Crosby.  
Not Attending: Mindy Schnoebelen, Marshall Romero

Opening Prayer

Approved minutes with changes.

Theology of the Body for Teens program was reviewed and teens gave their thoughts regarding it.

Visitor Concerns-Questions brought up as to whether or not Youth Council vision was met or not. Concerns regarding communication and amount accomplished. Ideas were brought forward for emails, website, and youth newsletter.

Squire Rose information presented with request to approve starting a chapter here.

Ministry Reports

Finance and Administration-There has been some interest in the old church but nothing firm yet. Spring into Auction donated \$8400 to put toward the loan. Giving is down about 12% from a year ago.

Stewardship-Model is being made of kiosk. Kiosk will be paid for by donation for Spring into Auction and small amount of budget. Stewardship Fair will be this weekend and commission heads should get boards here tomorrow.

Youth Ministry-CIA will be June 27-29, CLI will be in July, TEC will be in June, students received info on attending two Christian concerts this summer. Senior Mass will be May 23 with parish brunch following Mass.

Family Life-Melissa Webb will be stepping down as chair of Advent by Candlelight so looking for new chair. Women who attended Women of Faith event are looking at having a women's event.

Church Life-no report

Social Action-no report

Faith Formation-Virtus dates June 26 and September 8 with reminder letters being sent for 5 year renewals.

Discussed Theology of the Body for Teens being on Wednesday from 7-8:30. Discussed Music being prior to class. Survey to be given as to time for K-6 (5:45-7) or (6-7:15). Important for Faith Formation and Liturgy to work together. Ideas were presented for service projects for students.

Old Business

Stewardship commitment forms will be the same as last time and handed in at offertory or after Mass.

Capital Campaign Leadership being sought. Patrice Langenfeld is a potential candidate for position.

Strategic Planning-Parish Plan Meeting went well with support being given by the parish. Kurtis Webb will set up a half way through the 90-days meeting.

Dc. Don presented that Dan Ebner's book, Servant Leadership, would be good for us to read.

Next weekend are council elections with 9 candidates for 4 positions.

Parish Council Retreat is scheduled for June 12 from 8:30-1. It is felt that Fr. Jeff should attend so will be contacted for his availability.

New Business

Chain of Command for ideas which come forward. There needs to be a documented process.

Bonfire /Hotdogs-All food will be donated and it is just a fun night brought forward by team leaders and DRE.

Calendar- Groups were given calendars to complete for upcoming year and are to be returned at next council meeting so calendar can be published before July 1.

Next meeting-June 3 at 7 pm.

# June 2010

SUN	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Reconciliation on Sat. 3:30 - 4:30 PM. Other times by appointment.		1  Liturgy 7 PM	2  Music Ministry 7 PM	3  Faith Formation 6 PM Parish Council 7 PM	4  First Friday Adoration 8:00 A.M. - 5:15 P.M. Mass 5:30 P.M.	5  Food Basket Offertory K of C Cheeseburger Orders Pick Up Stewardship Boards up
6 Body and Christ  Food Basket Offertory K of C Cheeseburger orders pick up Stewardship boards up	7 Eucharistic Adoration 5-10PM	8	9  Music Ministry 7 PM	10	11  Sacred Heart of Jesus	12  Parish Council Retreat 8:30 AM-1:00 PM Stewardship sign-up TEC
13  Stewardship Sign-up Youth Council 6 PM  TEC	14  Union VBS 9-11:30 AM Eucharistic Adoration 5—10 PM 4-H 5-8 PM TEC	15  Union VBS 9-11:30 AM  Staff Meeting 1:00 PM	16  Union VBS 9-11:30 AM  Music Ministry 7 PM	17  Union VBS 9-11:30 AM  Finance Council 7PM	18  Union VBS 9-11:30 AM	19  Larson/ McBride Wedding 2:30 P.M.
20  Father's Day	21  Eucharistic Adoration 5 - 10 PM	22	23  Music Ministry 7 PM	24  Nativity of John the Baptist  Knight of Columbus 7PM	25	26
27  Fr. Dennis' last Mass Christians in Action	28  Eucharistic Adoration 5 - 10 PM  Christians in Action	29  Peter and Paul Apostles	30  Deanery Adventure Land Party  Music Ministry 7 PM			

# MESSAGE BOTTLE

Give this unusual message to a family member or friend to announce summer's arrival — and invite them to join you in some summertime fun!

## What you need:

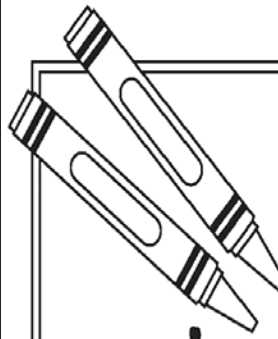
- Summer treasures and trinkets (see ideas below)
- Empty plastic bottle with cap
- Paper and pencil
- Ribbon or tape

## What you do:

1. With your parents, think of summertime activities and destinations. Then find, make or buy related items that will fit inside the bottle. (Note that you can also use stickers, magazine pictures or your own drawings.)

## Examples include:

- Beach day: sand or shells
  - Camping: ingredients for s'mores
  - Vacation Bible School: biblical bookmark or VBS trinket
  - Making Popsicles: wooden craft stick
  - Going to a movie: popcorn
2. Place all your objects in the bottle.
  3. Write a letter asking someone to guess your summer plans — and inviting them to join you.
  4. Roll up your letter tightly with ribbon or tape it closed. Then place the letter inside the bottle and close with cap.
  5. Deliver your message.








Just for **KIDS**












# God made the seasons








Warmer weather means summer has arrived! God's beautiful creation is always changing, and we can praise God for every season.


















Use this code to finish Genesis 8:22, NIV.










A = 	I = 	T = 	S = 
E = 	O = 	R = 	N = 
	U = 	D = 	








"   l   g   h      h









      

     m    h  v   

c  l    h  

      w     

  y     gh 

w  ll  v    c    ."

Genesis 8:22, NIV

Answer: "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."

### An Active Member of the Church

What does being an Active church member mean? It means sharing more fully in the life of your church. Active church members choose to WORSHIP regularly. WITNESS and share God's love in their lives. SERVE God and neighbor responsibly and faithfully. GIVE their time, talent and treasure to further the church's mission, locally and throughout the world.

Why is it important for me to be active in my church? 1.) Because you are the church! The church is more than the building you worship in. The church is people — the combined life of all who believe that Jesus Christ is Savior. 2.) Because the church needs you! As a follower of Christ, you are called to let your faith and your good works bring light to the world.

But I'm already committed to Christ — why should I be more involved in my church? Because each of us needs the help and guidance of the other Christians in order to follow Christ. You deepen your bond with:

**1.) Jesus Christ**, Christ's ministry belongs to the church. This means Christ is alive and present in each church member. Being an active church member allows you to: EXPRESS more fully your commitment to Christ through worshipping and serving God. ANTICIPATE more joyfully everlasting life with Christ. **2.) Christ's Followers**, active church membership strengthens your involvement with other members of the church, and with potential members, too. It enables you to: ENRICH your relationships with other people. INCREASE your opportunity to love and be loved in the same way Christ loves you. The main reason for being active in the church is love — for God, ourselves, and for one another.

The Benefits of active church membership They includes: PERSONAL GROWTH that comes from basing your goals, priorities, and relations with others on your involvement with Christ. A SENSE OF BELONGING, knowing you are a unique and contributing member in the faith community. CHURCH GROWTH, as a result of renewed church activity, witness, mission, and service by active members. A SENSE OF FULFILLMENT, knowing you are carrying out your role as a Christian — whether as a teacher, parent, counselor, church leader, choir member, volunteer or other lay person. RENEWED PURPOSE from the fact that, as a Christian, you are participating in a special mission and a destiny that goes beyond day-to-day living. SPIRITUAL JOY— the talents and spiritual gifts of other active church members can be a joyous blessing to you. And, your gifts can bring joy to others!

Active church membership is also a chance for you to: SERVE OTHERS. Remember that Christ "came not to be served but to serve" (Mt. 20:28). So each of us, acting out of love, is called to minister to people's needs. You can serve others in many different ways. Use your Spiritual Gifts. God gave each of us special gifts to use in furthering Christ's work. Active church membership is an ideal way to: Discover your gifts, whether for teaching, running an office, preparing food, or providing comfort. The church provides many avenues for service. Use them to glorify and serve others. Although God gives you a gift, it is up to You to nurture, strengthen and use it wisely.

Follow these guidelines to make your experience as an active church member satisfying and rewarding. 1. Start with the right attitude. Let your attitude be guided by obedience and faith. Look at each day as an opportunity to act on your love for Christ. 2. Listen to God. Scriptures, homilies, music, spiritual counsel, and prayer all enable you to receive God's guidance. Know how to listen when God speaks. 3. Know your resources. Know your God-given strengths and abilities. For instance, you may have enthusiasm, a special ability to communicate, an aptitude for management, etc. How can you use your strengths to participate most effectively in church activities? Which activities interest you? 4. Identify needs. Look around you. What are the spiritual need or physical needs of your neighbor's? What are your church's ministry and mission needs? The needs of youth or the elderly? Who is working to meet them? What opportunities are there for changing people's lives through the Gospel? 5. Set Goals choose personal goals that relate to Christ's work and mission. For instance, your goal may be to: develop spiritual gifts, increase church growth through recruiting new members, increase your understanding of the Bible by regularly attending education classes, participate in family ministry programs, help your church feed the hungry. 6. Put your faith in action! Surrender yourself to the work at hand, and trust in God's grace to help you do your part. Whatever you do, remember that your efforts really can make a difference! 7. Manage your time effectively. Don't over commit yourself. Remember that work, home, and civic affairs also need to be taken care of. Know your priorities. Make a list each day of things to do. Plan wisely. Take a course in time management or read on of many good books on the subject. 8. Enjoy! Let yourself experience the true joy of being an active Christian.

Make your church an important part of your life. Worship regularly at church and in small groups whenever you can. Regular worship is the best way to stay active and involved in church activities. It is also the root of your vision and activity. Welcome others to the church. Encourage new members to participate in church projects. Get to know them and make them feel personally involved in the church's life. Consult your Priest and other leaders when you deciding to undertake new projects or activities. Your pastor can help you discover your particular calling and help make sure that both your needs and the church's are being met. So, be an active church member! Experience the unique joy of serving Christ. Nurture your gifts and talents. Put your faith in Christ into positive action Work to fulfill Christ's mission in the world. Use your body, mind, and spirit to better serve God.

## MINISTRY OF FAITH FORMATION:

### Parish-wide Fun-For-All

In appreciation of our parish family, the team members and DRE are going to have a bonfire and a hot dog roast! Friday, June 4, after the first Friday Adoration 5:30 Mass we will begin (approximately 6:30 pm). Bring nothing but an appetite as the food has been donated for this event. It will be right here at the church.

### Union Vacation Bible School:

UVBS will be on June 14-18 from 9:00 - 11:30 A.M.

Registration can still be done by calling the coordinator of the grade your child will be going into this fall. Forms with those names and numbers are on the table in the gathering space

Donations for snack supplies are still needed. Please sign up and bring your donations to the box in the gathering space.

**Catholics in Action** High School Youth Service Retreat. Three-day service retreat opportunity to learn about need for direct service and social change needs and work with people in need. Catholics in Action includes prayer, worship, journaling, recreation and social time.

**Who:** Those who will be freshman in high school this fall through those who are graduating high school seniors.

**When:** June 27-29 Registration forms contact Carol Laughlin. **Where:** Regina High School Iowa City.

**Christian Leadership Institute** is a weeklong training designed to teach the skills necessary for effective leadership in youth ministry setting.

**Who:** Youth 15-18, who are preparing to enter their sophomore year of high school.

**When:** July 25 - 30 registration deadline July 14. Registration forms contact Carol Laughlin. **Where:** Newton,.

**TEC (Teens Encounter Christ)** Three-day retreat designed to give youth an opportunity to reflect and grow in faith with other youth away from their busy life.

**Who:** Those who will be juniors and seniors.



YOUTH GROUP

### ADVENTURELAND

Come join the Grinnell Deanery on Wednesday, June 30 at ADVENTURELAND! Tickets cost \$21.50 each (for ages 4 and up). Money should be given to Carol Laughlin in the parish offices by Monday, June 28 and tickets will be issued on site. This event is being planned for students in grades 7-12 and /or families of all ages and sizes.

Students in 7-12 grades that will not be coming with a family member will need to have a permission form (form on back of the flyer in the church bulletin or in the office) filled out by a parent. Students younger than 7th grade will need to come with an adult chaperone. For additional information contact Carol Laughlin (628-3078 or 780-3819).

The Youth Council has established a web site to use for communication. Please visit this site as [pellastmary.webs.com](http://pellastmary.webs.com) to see what has already been done. And what we will be doing.

**Youth Council** will meet again on Sunday, May 2, at 8:30 P.M.



## MINISTRY OF FAITH FORMATION, cont'd:

### Baptisms

Welcome our newest member through water  
and the Holy Spirit.

April 4, 2010

**Luke Carl Hartke**

Son of  
Louis and Julie Hartke

April 17, 2010

**Ian Andrew Hunsinger**

Son of  
Andy and Michelle Hunsinger

and

**Julia Ann Nedder**

Daughter of  
Ken and Kim Nedder

### Bible Quiz

Ephesians 6:2 mentions one of the Ten Commandments as being "the first commandment with a promise." The commandment is the fifth which reads: "Honor your father and mother."

Which statements below is the promise?.

- A. "So that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth."
- B. "So that you will have a happy home life."
- C. "So that they may be proud of you. Always."
- D. "So that you may learn and grow from their wisdom."

Hint: The answer is in Ephesians 6:3

***Honor your father and mother...***

Answer: A

## MINISTRY OF CHURCH LIFE:

### COFFEETIME HOSTS FOR June 2010

*After the 10:00 A.M. Mass*

June 6 Hood, Frommelt, Ryan families

June 13 Hackman, Moriarity, Boots families

June 20 Howard, Weiler, Miller families

June 27 Klein, Wolf/Morgan, Vander Horst families

As always, thank you for giving of your time, talents and treasures for this ministry. If you have questions call Mary Linde at 621-1497.

### QUILT RAFFLE

Judy Borgerding won the quilt.

Congratulations!