

THIS WEEK'S MASSES

Tuesday, Oct 3 **9:00 a.m. River's Edge**
Saturday, Oct 7 **5:00 p.m. Dowling**
 -John Farley
Sunday, Oct 8 **8:45 a.m. Perrysburg HS**
 -Parish
 10:30 a.m. Perrysburg HS
 -Joseph Szul



**Pastor's Note:
A WALK IN THE
WOODS**

Two Sundays ago, I was privileged to walk with eighteen of our junior high group as part of "Hiking with Herb." The reports that I have heard indicate the kids enjoyed the outing. I know I did.

Since that afternoon walk in Oak Openings Park, I have asked myself what made it so great. Each participant was given a walking stick and some trail mix. We studied the map of trails together, and then set off. Along the way I, or other adult leaders – and the kids themselves – pointed out some of the sights. We also stopped to rest, ate some of the snacks, and told stories. As we walked, there was usually some easy conversation taking place. At times, however, we were silent and simply listened.

It all sounds like a normal walk in the woods. For me it has become a metaphor for church. The Second Vatican Council (1962-65) said we are a pilgrim church, on a journey to the Lord. It's very much like a group of people taking a walk together.

We have leaders to guide us and we have the assistance of maps and walking sticks. Our church heritage, the Scriptures, our teachings, and our beliefs keep us going.

As we travel together as church, we often point out sights along the way. No bishop or pastor has all the answers. The Holy Spirit truly works through all. Sometimes even children's words inspire us.

Perhaps the best thing to remember about walking and pilgrimage is that we have to keep moving. We can't settle in and think that we are 'there' yet. We know our destination is beyond the here and now.

Thanks to those who walked with me. And thanks to all of you who are traveling as church together in this exciting journey of Blessed John XXIII Parish. As we continue to find various places to meet for Mass, meetings, or Generations of Faith, we are truly pilgrims.

Readings for this Week	
Monday:	Jb 1:6-22; Mt 18:1-5, 10
Tuesday:	Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23; Lk 9:51-56
Wednesday:	Jb 9:1-12, 14-16; Lk 9:57-62
Thursday:	Jb 19:21-27; Lk 10:1-12
Friday:	Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5; Lk 10:13-16
Saturday:	Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17; Lk 10:17-24
Sunday:	Gn 2:18-24; Ps 128; Heb 2:9-11; Mk 10:2-16 [2-12]

Ministers for Oct 7 and Oct 8

Lectors: **Sat** Donny Burkin, and Maribeth Connor
Sun 8:45 Gary Christie, and Ann Eberly
Sun 10:30 John Farley and Cathleen Faykosh
Eucharist Ministers : **Sat** Alan LaCourse, Mary Oatis, and Kevin Wasserman
Sun 8:45 Amy Aschemeier, Lisa Rhodes, Jason Ripley, Linda Schrinel, and Shirley Urbaniak
Sun 10:30 Ingrid Alcover, Maribeth Connor, Linda Edwards, Wendy Foos, Erica Schaffer, Julie Snyder, and Jackie Venzel
Servers **Sat** Christopher Russell, Angela Overholt, and Allyson LaCourse
Sun 8:45 Makynzie Horvath, Sean Connor, Kayla Wagner
Sun 10:30 Callie Gray, Colleen Gray, and Brittany Overholt
Ushers: **Sat** Norm Horner, and Lana Horner
Sun 8:45 Emilia de la Pena, Fred Eberly, and Lynn Ripley
Sun 10:30 Dan Mouch, Kirk Kern, Connie Kern, Toni Kern, and Mike Kolb
Greeters: **Sat:** Greg Oatis, and Kathy LaCourse
Sun 8:45 Jackie Jurski, Ron Jurski, Karen Pierce, Keith Aschemeier, Ed Urbaniak, and Steve Pierce
Sun 10:30 Debra Blumberg, Mary Alice Farley, Laura Kolb, and Sharon Mouch

MAKING PEACE WITH...

Frequently, people want to talk about issues and experiences that have hurt them or alienated them from the church. If this is you, first of all, I want to express sorrow that you were hurt. Secondly, if you want to talk or try to find some peace, please consider giving me or Marla a call. We both have experience in addressing this kind of concern and are willing to walk this journey with you. – HW



GENERATIONS OF FAITH

The three gatherings of Generations of Faith last Sunday and Monday were true experiences in what church can be. Thanks to all the parents who conscientiously have made the commitment to continue learning with your children. And adults without kids, your presence helps us see the full picture of church.

Perhaps most impressive was the great number of junior high and high school kids who were involved. Some even helped the real little kids during one of the sessions.

Finally, with all the new parishioners we have, I hope GOF also will be a chance for people to get to know each other better. Thanks for your participation.

Our next session of Generations of Faith will be October 29/30. Our topic for this session will be Identity of Christ. We will be preparing for the great feast of Christ the King on November 26.

We are presently trying to decide if we should move to a larger meeting space on Sunday afternoons and evenings. A decision should be made soon. If you are interested in Generations of Faith materials, sign up in the notebook at the religious education table or email me at moverholt@blessededjohn.org and I will get materials to you as soon as they become available.

FEAST OF THE GUARDIAN ANGELS

If you were unable to attend GOF, your home kit is in your church file. Anyone who is not registered for GOF but would like some material on Angels, please stop by the Religious Education Table and pick some up. They are free to the takers. Marla

COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION

This week's class is a parent and child class. We will be meeting on Tuesday, at Christ Lutheran in Dowling, Ohio from 7:00-8:30 p.m. There will be babysitting available (Marla will watch them while Father Herb meets with the parents, and Pat meets with the children!)



Peace
be to
you-
and
also
with
you

TODAY'S READING:

In today's gospel when we hear Jesus called "Teacher," we remember that our family is a community of teachers where children, parents, and spouses teach each other the sacrificial demand of love and commitment. We are being taught, but we should ask ourselves, "are we learning?"

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

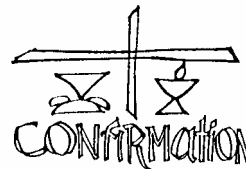
Our Sunday offering last weekend was \$5,218. Thank you very much.

WELCOME, WELCOME!

Several weeks ago, we began two Masses on Sunday morning to accommodate the crowd. The early Mass, at 8:45, draws a little over two hundred persons. Meanwhile, the 10:30 has already become crowded. I am not sure what we will do next, but in the mean time, let's remain welcoming and hospitable to everyone.

If you are new, we want you to feel at home. And we mean it. Please don't hesitate to ask questions, to look at the papers and brochures we have placed on the tables, and to just mill around after Mass.

Last week, I made the comment that we don't want to get caught up in some of the bad habits that plague many Catholic churches. Here at Blessed John, for example, we don't leave church early – special circumstances are a different matter – and we really try to participate at all levels. Please keep that in mind as you consider joining us. – HW



CONFIRMATION

SESSIONS BEGIN OCTOBER 4

Our first Confirmation session will be Oct. 4 at Christ Lutheran in Dowling, Ohio. Candidates are reminded to bring their sponsors and all their paperwork including their registrations for FIRE that were mailed and included in their Generations of Faith home kit! This session will begin at 6:30 p.m., and will end at 8:30 p.m. If you arrive at the first session by 6:30 p.m. you will receive a special treat!

NURSERY SCHEDULE

We have a co-op nursery available every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Mass. Please contact Lisa Suelzer at lisasuelzer@yahoo.com if you would like to volunteer.

Oct 8 Pablo and Ann Forbes-Ramirez

Teen Kayleen Jurski

Oct 15 *We need volunteers*

Babysitting is offered only at the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

PARISH LIFE MEETING

There will be a parish life committee meeting at the home of Linda Edwards on Thursday, Oct. 5 at 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in examining the parish needs and create ministries, plan to join us. Linda's address is 25338 Ramblehurst Dr. (Perrysburg), or call her at 419-878-0465.

NAMETAGS

If you attend Generations of Faith, you now have a parish nametag. Feel free to wear them at church to help others get to know you. **Check your church file this week to see if you are a winner of a Guardian Angel candle!**



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Our first organizational meeting will be Oct. 15 at the home of Dan and Sharon Mouch's at noon. The address is 21443 Mercer Rd. Anyone interested in this ministry, please come and bring a "brown bag" lunch and a drink. If you have questions, please contact Bill and Mary Batchelor at 419-874-5908.

RCIA CONTINUES

Please keep in prayer the men and women in our parish RCIA this year. They are on their own journey of faith. And if there is anyone else still considering joining the Catholic Church, please contact Fr. Herb very soon.

SOME OF OUR PARISHIONERS ARE PREFORMING IN THE MUSICAL "ANNIE"

Waterville Playshop is presenting the musical "Annie" on Thursday Oct. 19th - Sunday Oct. 22nd at Anthony Wayne High School auditorium. Advanced tickets will be on sale after both Sunday Masses (8:45am & 10:30am) on Oct. 8th and Oct. 15th.

Come, support our own Julia Balzer, Maggie Christie, and Steve Horvath.



RAFFLE CONTINUES

Don't forget to purchase your raffle tickets. There will be two winners, each allowing two people to come to dinner with Fr. Herb at the new rectory. (The table seats only six people.) Proceeds will go to the furnishing of the house. Tickets cost \$5.00 each. Winners will be announced on Oct. 15, 2006.

SSMALL FAITH GROUPS BEGIN

We have nine groups that will begin meeting in people's homes this week. The complete list of all participants and their groups is posted near the doors for you to see. Your group facilitator should have contacted you to let you know where to gather.

As you read and discuss the following Sunday's readings, you will certainly come to church well prepared to listen to those readings.

PPRAYER BLANKET MINISTRY

We would like to begin a Prayer Blanket Ministry here at Blessed John, and we need volunteers to help sew these lap-size blankets that will be given to people who are either sick or enduring a difficult time in their life. Contact Tina Carella in the office 419-662-3180 or tcarella@blessedjohn.org if you would like to help out.

WWELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS!

We would like to offer a warm welcome to new parishioners: Joseph and Kathleen Frederick, Mark Frederick, Greg & Karen Bade and family, and Scott & Diane Regan.



SSISTERS OF NOTRE DAME FAMILYFEST 2006 TODAY

Sisters of Notre Dame FamilyFest 2006 will be Today, Oct. 1, from 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Crafts, baked goods, a silent auction, bingo, children's games and a homemade dinner are featured. It is held at Notre Dame Academy on Sylvania Avenue. This is the last festival of the year, and for those of you who enjoy them, this is one not to miss!

Question of the Week: WHAT ARE OUR BUILDING PLANS?

Many have followed closely our (Blessed John and the Toledo Diocese) plans to purchase land on Highway 25. As I write this, I can announce that the bishop has exercised the option to purchase the land!!!! Closing will be in about thirty days.

Some time ago it was agreed by all – the parish building committee, the Bishop, and other Diocesan personnel – that our first building should be a multi-purpose building that will allow Sunday worship as well as room for Generations of Faith, meetings, and offices. That is still our plan.

Of course, building something like this takes lots of planning. Our parish building committee has been working closely with architects (SSOE) to come up with a plan. The parish finance committee has been addressing the important question of how to raise the money. (Probably most of you knew this was coming when you joined the parish.)

So we have many exciting steps ahead of us. I will try to keep you informed. If I don't say anything for a while, it usually means there is nothing to new to say. However, please don't hesitate to ask.-Fr. Herb

AN OPEN LETTER TO CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dear Pastor Tim and all the members of Christ Lutheran,

On October 1, 2006, we are observing the first anniversary of our Saturday evening masses at your church. Throughout this past year, we have been blessed to praise God and ask for God's assistance in the setting of your wonderful 'Little Church on the Hill.'

Having mass at your place, of course, is only one of the many ways in which we have been blessed by your generosity. Countless times we have made use of your facilities for various religion classes or meetings. Without your facility, I really don't know what we would have done this past year.

Our parish is growing, in many ways thanks to you. From what I see, your congregation also is growing in energy and vitality. I love to see the creative programming and activities taking place so frequently.

Our prayer is that our two congregations will continue to find commonality in our discipleship of the Lord.

May God bless all of us and may our joint efforts make a bold statement about the desire, the goal, and the possibility of church unity.

In the name of our Savior Jesus,
Fr. Herb Weber and all of Blessed John XXIII Catholic Church

A LOOK AT STEWARDSHIP

Any good pastor knows the importance of maintaining healthy finances for the parish. Even more important, however, is the desire of a pastor to help people grow spiritually. In other words, increasing Sunday offering is not just about bringing in more money; it can be a way of helping everyone grow in their sense of discipleship of Christ.

Here are a few thoughts to keep in mind as you give.

- ❖ All that we have is a gift from God. Expressing thanks is something we want to do daily.
- ❖ We don't give back to God (through the church or other charities) only from what is left over. Instead, we do it first.
- ❖ God's generosity cannot be outdone. People who are generous with time, energy, talent, prayer, and finances ALWAYS get more back from God than they give.
- ❖ We don't give to a church because it needs it (and most churches do), but we give because WE NEED IT; that is, we need to give to be fully human, fully Christian.
- ❖ A way to be honest about our generosity is to consider a percentage of gross income. Starting with 3% or 5% and moving towards 10%, people can calculate a type of "tithe" to be given. This part of one's income symbolizes the entire amount that already belongs to God.

During the next few weeks you will hear more about this Stewardship effort. Please respond with an open heart. It will certainly bring us closer to God.

THIS WEEK'S SPOTLIGHTED ADVERTISER

Please place "TruGreen ChemLawn" ad here.