

Northern Lights

of Mercer & Auglaize Counties

☩ St. Aloysius ☩ St. Joseph (Wapakoneta) ☩ St. Francis
☩ St. Joseph (Egypt) ☩ St. Anthony ☩ Immaculate Conception
☩ St. Bernard ☩ St. Henry ☩ St. Augustine ☩ St. Wendelin
☩ Precious Blood ☩ St. Rose ☩ St. Patrick ☩ St. John (Fryburg)
☩ St. Joseph (St. Joseph) ☩ St. Teresa ☩ St. Peter ☩ St. Mary
☩ St. John the Baptist ☩ Holy Trinity ☩ St. Paul ☩ St. Sebastian
☩ Our Lady of Guadalupe ☩ Holy Redeemer ☩ Holy Rosary
☩ Mary Help of Christians ☩ Nativity of the Blessed Virgin

Fall 2010—Volume 50

Newsletter for the People of the St. Marys Deanery

From the Desk of the

“Let There Be Light” (Gn. 1:3)

If you have visited St. Charles Center recently, you may have noticed that we are installing outdoor lighting in front of our main building and the lane leading to it from the U.S. Route 127. Our front entrance has always been difficult to find at night. When the old elm trees were still standing, the entrance was easier to find. But several winters ago, those elms were irretrievably damaged by an ice storm and had to be removed. They were replaced with red sunset maple trees that are growing, but still not a landmark. We hope to rectify the situation with new lighting.

Originally, the trees and evergreens were planted with the idea that they would form a chalice. The base of the chalice was the bushes close to the highway; the elm trees were the stem and the pine trees east of the bridge fanned out to form the bowl of the chalice. Of course, the main building set at the top of the cup. Over time and the death of several of the evergreens, that idea has become blurred. We hope to resurrect that original concept with our new lighting.

The base of the chalice will be two new lighted signs at the highway with the pole lamps forming the stem and bowl. We will also light the dome of our main building and the statue of St. Charles that sets at the base of the dome.

Our hope is that our new lighting will enhance the beauty of St. Charles for our residents and visitors, as well as light the way to this place of welcome and peace. “Let there be light, and there was light!”

Fr. James C. Seibert, C.P.P.S.
Dean of St. Marys Deanery

New Pastors Welcomed

by: Tess Mescher

Fr. Ken Schnipke has recently taken the position of pastor for the parishes of Immaculate Conception, Celine and St. Teresa, Rockford. Fr. Ken comes from a family of 9 children, 28 nieces and nephews with 4 greats. His parents, Ott & Dolores, live in their hometown of Glandorf and his siblings live and work in the Glandorf/Ottawa area with the exception of Fr. Gene who is currently pastor at the Marion Cluster.



Fr. Ken greets Cindy Van Santvoord following Mass outside Immaculate Conception Church

Ordained 20 years ago, Fr. Ken spent three years at St. Augustine's Minster and the next 9 in Florida at St. Andrew Church in Orlando and later as pastor of Nativity Church in Longwood. Since 2002 he has been serving the Missionaries of the Precious Blood in the primary role of vocation director, and also served in other administrative roles within formation, personnel and leadership.

Fr. Schnipke states, “There were many blessings in the last 8 years, but I also knew that my pastor's heart was aching for parish ministry. I am happy to be back in parish ministry again and look forward to meeting everyone and growing in faith with the people of I.C. and St. Teresa.”

Although he is 100% committed to his parishioners he will also have additional responsibilities as he continues serving on the leadership team of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood as a councilor and working with personnel which will take him away from the parish several Tuesday's a month.

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Fr. Ken Alt becomes Parochial Vicar

On July 28th a group of Marion Catholic Community staff and volunteers celebrated Father Ken Alt's birthday and wished him well before he departed to his new assignment as Parochial Vicar at Immaculate Conception Parish in Celina and St. Teresa's Parish in Rockford. "It is kind of like going home again, as I was assigned to Celina IC from 1984-1988 so I know a lot of people and families there. I will have opportunity to do Sacramental work without the administrative responsibilities of a pastor. My joy is pastoral ministry." Fr. Ken Alt will serve the two parishes with Fr. Ken Schnipke as Pastor and Brother Nick Renner as Pastoral Minister.

Fr. Ken Alt was ordained on June 24, 1978. His assignments included: Our Lady of Good Counsel, Cleveland; Vocation-Formation Ministry, St. Augustine, Rensselaer; Most Precious Blood, Fort Wayne; St. Peter, St. Joseph and St. Anthony as a cluster and then the addition to that cluster of Mary Help of Christians; St. Michael, Kalida and most recently the Marion Catholic Community.

Fr. Ken grew up in Tiffin, Ohio and is the youngest of six, their parents are both deceased. Fr. Ken shares, "The home where I grew up on Ella Street in Tiffin was also the family home for Fr. Mueller from the Diocese of Toledo, whose family owned the property before the Alt family. Now a different family lives in that same home and this family has a son studying for the priesthood with the Diocese of Toledo. Something about that house seems to be nurturing vocations!"

In his free time Fr. Ken enjoys doing Jigsaw puzzles, designing and creating Halloween costumes as well as gardening, cooking, and taking the opportunity to savor a good cup of coffee and the beauty of nature from the backyard swing.

Katie Dippold, Rosie McClurg and Bill Homan join Fr. Ken Alt and several other staff and volunteers of the Marion Cluster to celebrate his birthday and say farewell on July 28th.

Continued from page 1....

Both Fr. Ken Alt and I are happy to be a part of this faith community and working together for the greater things of God," Fr. Schnipke recently shared during his first homily at I.C.

Fr. Tom Brenberger new at Marion Cluster

Fr. Tom Brenberger, former pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Celina and St. Teresa Parish in Rockford has recently settled into his newest assignment as "Senior Associate Pastor" for the parishes of the Marion Catholic Community.

Although the position of Senior Associate may be new to Fr. Brenberger his housemate and community surroundings may be described as somewhat familiar. Fr. Tom and Fr. Gene Schnipke, pastor of the Marion Cluster, will reside together in the St. John the Baptist rectory as they did twenty-seven years earlier when they both were assigned to St. Anthony Parish in Falls Church, Virginia. Additionally familiar are the names of many parishioners and those on the gravestones within the parish cemeteries. Each morning as Fr. Tom leaves to say Mass he sees his great-great grandparent's name, "Buehler", on a grave marker in the St. John the Baptist cemetery. He also is able to locate other relative's grave markers in St. Sebastian and Precious Blood cemeteries. No doubt Fr. Tom is ministering to many relatives through those blood lines.

Also familiar to Fr. Tom will be the responsibilities of a full Mass schedule and the pastoral needs of a cluster although in his new role as semi-retired he happily relinquishes the administration duties of pastor and the many meetings those entail. He intends to use his extra time for reading and taking his daily 5 mile walk, he also hopes to spend more time building ship models, his hobby for decades. He has built many to scale ships with several on display in museums through out the United States, including two at the Naval Academy and one of the U.S.S Iowa at the Pentagon.

Fr. Tom was ordained to the priesthood at St. Charles, he served for four years at the Peruvian Missions and as associate pastor in Indiana, Virginia, Illinois, and taught at St. Joseph's college, all before local assignments in 1993 at St. Augustine, Minster, and in 2000 at IC/ St. Teresa before his August assignment to the Marion Cluster.



Fr. Tom poses with Abby Moorman of Nativity parish outside Precious Blood Church, Chickasaw following Mass.

Full Time Youth Group Leader takes Reins

by: Tess Mescher



Kevin Schulze addresses college bound young adults

As a high school youth Kevin Schulze, a Ft. Loramie native, participated in St. Michael Youth Group activities; and later became involved in campus ministry as a student at the University of Dayton. This spring Kevin left the position of Director of Music and Liturgy/ Campus Minister at Bowling Green State University to accept a full time Youth Group Advisor position for the St. Henry Cluster. Kevin states he is a small town Catholic boy and that being in the St. Henry Cluster is a great fit for him and his wife Jessica who are expecting their first child this fall.

Kevin has launched new opportunities for both youth and adults in the cluster and beyond. He has developed a youth group website, a Facebook presence and started a rock band inviting musically inclined youth to participate and help others in prayer through music.

During the summer an opportunity to better understand scripture was offered following Thursday morning Masses, when teens read and discussed the upcoming Sunday Mass readings over breakfast. "This has been a very active and alive youth group and a great situation to come into," says Kevin who also hopes to continue introducing and implementing new opportunities as the first full time Youth Group advisor in the cluster.

An August invitation was extended to all college age youth to learn techniques to keep their Catholic faith alive as college students. Schulze and a team of youth ministers shared experiences the youth could identify with and facilitated several activities for the youth to meet and mingle with one another. Nick, one of the speakers, explained his amazement during Freshmen orientation when college staff calmly explained condom use and how the guys in the dorm room next to him had invited him to watch porn movies with them. He immediately knew his Catholic faith and morals would be challenged. He told the youth, "My college peers asked me why I told my sins to a priest and why we prayed to Mary? I knew what Catholics do, but I couldn't back it up with the whys. Learn the whys of our Catholic faith. Keep learning and prepare yourself because you will be challenged, condemned, persecuted for your beliefs by professors, peers, co-workers. It is up to you to make your faith your own. You have to choose to get up in the morning, choose to go to class and choose to grow in your faith."

Nick's tips for the college bound:

1. Go to Sunday Mass, challenge yourself to attend Mass daily. It is uplifting, fills you to receive the Eucharist and is the best way to start the day.
2. Seek out a Catholic club at college, step out of your comfort zone. Some of the nicest people should be at a Catholic club.
3. Find good friends to support you and encourage one another.
4. Read the Bible. Start with a few verses in the morning and evening. Read books that support your Catholic faith, these will help you answer the why's when you are challenged.
5. Pray, start simple and work your way up, but you got to start somewhere.

The evening continued with many of the youth sharing college destinations, cell phone numbers and promises to keep in touch at common and nearby campuses. They had found friends with similar Catholic roots and the shared desire to nurture and grow in their faith.



Nick Meyer, right, leads a demonstration with two volunteers: one standing on the floor next to one standing on a chair. The one on the chair tried to lift the one off the floor. This took a great deal of effort with only slight success. Next the one on the floor tried to pull the person down from the chair. This was achieved quickly and easily. This activity demonstrated the fact that it is much easier to pull someone down than to pull someone up. Proving how essential it is to surround yourself with good quality friends.

Dorothy Stang Award

by: Fr. Tom Hemm, C.P.P.S. & Tess Mescher

The St. Henry Cluster recently honored parishioner and long time youth group minister, Linda Thieman, among those presented with the first annual “*Dorothy Stang Award*”. This award is sponsored by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur and several offices of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati in honor of Sister Dorothy Stang.

The staff of the St. Henry Cluster nominated Linda for this award in virtue of her missionary spirit. For three decades, with the dedicated support of her husband, Dan, she has taught religion to the young people of the cluster and developed a leading and vibrant youth group. Over the years she invited area youth to offer services in the local community. She encouraged them to reach out in solidarity with the Over the Rhine neighborhood in Cincinnati. She arranged for youth participation in many retreats as well as in the National Catholic Youth Conference. She led five groups to World Youth Day—Denver in 1990; Rome in 2000; Toronto in 2002; Cologne, Germany in 2005 and Sydney, Australia in 2008.



Linda Thieman greets young school children on a recent mission trip to Tanzania with Fr. Benedict Magabe, Associate Pastor of St. Henry Cluster.

Sr. Dorothy Stang was a local girl from Dayton who entered the Sisters of Notre Dame and eventually ministered for decades in Brazil's Amazon rainforest. Wealthy loggers and ranchers opposed her efforts to protect the land of poor farmers and create sustainable development in the rainforest. In February of 2005 she was shot as she walked with a friend to a community meeting. Two armed men blocked her on the road and asked if she had any weapons. She told them that the only weapon she had was her bible. Sister Dorothy was martyred that day as she read a passage from the Beatitudes, "Blessed are the poor in spirit..."

Linda was instrumental in the development of a sister parish relationship with Saint Michel Parish in Haiti. Under her inspiration a relationship of solidarity has developed between the St. Henry area community and the people of Plaisance. Many local families have partnered with families in Haiti, with sustained financial support for the personal and educational needs of their children. This solidarity has also taken the form of a Medical Clinic and a school in Port of Prince.

Teresa Phillips of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Mission Office presented Linda with the Sister Dorothy Spirit Award during a Sunday Mass in July which was followed by a reception for the Thiemans.

Linda and many of the youth group members had the honor and pleasure of meeting Sister Dorothy when, she by chance, was in the area and accepted Linda's invitation to speak at a weekly Friday morning Breakfast Club just weeks before she was murdered.

Rural Life Farm Mass

by: Tess Mescher

The Rural Farm Mass was held at Holy Redeemer parish, New Bremen, on Tuesday evening, July 13 with farmers, those with farm roots and those thankful for the farm community in attendance. Gathering at the altar to celebrate the annual Mass were: Archbishop Dennis Schnurr, Fr. Tom Mannebach, Fr. Pat Slonker, Fr. Ernie Ranly, Fr. Jim Dugal, Fr. James O'Conner, Fr. Emmanuel - from Ghana, with deacons Marty Brown and Greg Bornhorst assisting. The Knights of Columbus Uniform Rank of Minster were also in attendance.

During the Archbishop's homily he correlated the mystery of our Creator with farming, "He sustains us through the seasons: Spring - we plant; Summer - we grow; Fall - we harvest; and Winter we rest." And he quoted the Book of Genesis, "Let the earth bring forth vegetation and every plant - and so it happened."

Archbishop Schnurr added, "If the harvest is to be bountiful, we realize we must labor and work hard. We give thanks this evening for our land, our labor, and our faith. As Mass concluded many farmers stepped out of their pews and immediately began discussions of rainfall amounts which continued as the congregation gathered in front of the church for refreshments and pick up a bottle of blessed water for their farms.





St. Charles Senior Living Community

by: Sr. Martha Bertke C.P.P.S.

The Saint John's Bible Art Exhibit was a wonderful experience at St. Charles! The Missionaries of the Precious Blood and the Senior Living Community were honored and humbled to extend hospitality to many visitors during the three weeks of this exhibit. It was indeed a privilege to showcase 25 prints from the first handwritten, illuminated Bible produced in 500 years.

It was also wonderful to welcome numerous people into the Assumption Chapel and have priests available to explain the symbolism in the incredible mosaic which forms a rich colorful backdrop for the altar, as well as to tell of the many other features in the chapel. Comments by so many of the visitors indicated they were delighted to have an opportunity to see this and to hear the meaningful explanations.

The Saint John's Bible speaks to hospitality for the poor, the pilgrim, the seeker and the stranger. The Missionaries were gratified to open their home, St. Charles Center, to all who wanted to see this prophetic witness to the Word of God in this 21st century. It was an opportunity for learning and a time for sharing with others.

To the planning committee, to all of the volunteers, and especially to the visitors we hope your life, your heart, your soul has been touched by the **Word of God** which has the power to transform your life and make you a better person. We simply express a sincere and heartfelt **Thank you** to each person. We are confident God's blessings will be with each of you. For more information, go to www.saintjohnsbible.org



A pair studying the meaning of the St. Johns Bible artwork

For information about St. Charles Senior Living Community go to www.st-charles-cpps.org or contact Sr. Martha Bertke, 419-925-4516, ext. 112 or e-mail smbertke@bright.net

Fatima USA 2010 at Spiritual Center

by: Tess Mescher



Archbishop Schnurr delivers his homily from the island to 1,400 pilgrims seated around the pond at the Spiritual Center for the annual Fatima USA Event as the Our Lady of Fatima statue rests on a bed of fresh flowers in the foreground.

To make a pilgrimage means to travel to a sacred place, often thought of as traveling a great distance to a foreign land. On Friday August 13, over 1,400 people made their pilgrimage locally to the Spiritual Center of Maria Stein, for the Fatima USA 2010 event. Carrying lawn chairs, rosaries and flashlights they gathered around the pond on the front lawn of the Center in neat rows singing praise as the Lady of Fatima statue was carried on a bed of yellow roses and white flowers. Several St. Marys and Sidney Deanery priest and deacons participated in the Mass with Archbishop Dennis Schnurr on the Island beneath the large cross.

Although the heat was intense and the shade highly sought after, the pilgrim's faith and honor for the mother of Jesus would not be deterred. As the sun set and Mass ended the Sorrowful Mysteries of the rosary began. As each Hail Mary was recited a candle surrounding the island was lit. A procession followed with the Lady of Fatima statue leading the way over paved trails through out the Spiritual Center woods weaving around and through the stations of the cross and grottoes of the mysteries of the rosary.

Each year of this event, the crowds have grown attracting pilgrims from many local parishes and those from farther away as indicated by the license plates in the parking area.

The evening of mass prayer and song pay tribute to the Blessed Virgin Mary, who appeared six times to three separate shepherd children in 1917 in the little village of Fatima, Portugal.

Ladies Sodality Responds

by: Tess Mescher



The Nativity Ladies Sodality, Cassella, responded to a request for blood from the local Red Cross Chapter by agreeing to sponsor a blood drive for local citizens on August 2nd at the Knights of St. Johns Hall. Sodality President, Sharon Koesters, stated that 118 units of life saving blood were donated by people of all ages from high school students and young adults through to senior citizens. She also said that many sodality members and parishioners donated baked goods and volunteered their time to help at the blood drive.

A second Sodality sponsored Blood Drive will be held Nov. 22, 2010 at the Knights Hall.

Red Cross workers collect 118 units of blood with help of Sodality

Grandparent's Day—a longer history than first thought.....


by: Tess Mescher

Although the origin of National Grandparents Day may have come from Marian McQuade of West Virginia with the hopes of persuading grandchildren to embrace the wisdom and the heritage of their grandparents, the Catholic tradition has been encouraging the celebration of grandparents for a good number of years.


Fr. Louie Schmit announced from the pulpit on July 26th that it was "Grandparents Day"—the feast day celebrating Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. He shared that while this set of grandparents are not found anywhere in Scripture, they are part of the tradition of the Church since their names appear in early apocryphal writings. In the 6th century St. Anne was venerated as Mary's mother and later in the 8th century St. Joachim became a popularly venerated saint in his own right. In the first reading that day the book of Sirach 44:1,10-15, extols the blessings of Godly ancestors on future generations. As the Church rejoices in the ancestors of Mary, we are invited to remember and appreciate the holy men and women who have gone before us in faith and have given us a tradition of living in God's love. Our relationship toward others should reflect the faith that we have been given so it can be passed on to future generations.


As Fr. Louie concluded his homily I quickly recalled a Fr. John Corapi quote from a recent program at Xavier University, "We can not pass on what we do not know." How true this is, the Bible we know today only came about from the stories and teachings from generation to generation over hundreds of years until the ink quill was put to parchment and the pages of our Bible began to be written.

The value of what we have to pass from generation to generation is far greater than "things of this world" but more importantly "things from the heart and soul." When asked what they would like to pass on to their grandchildren this is what these grandparents had to say:

 *"My hope is that by my example of involvement and love of my faith and Catholic Church my grands will follow in my path. My love of helping people and volunteerism is another quality that I believe all of them are already following and gives me great joy."*


Liz Schindler—Holy Trinity.


 *"I would like to pass on to my grandchildren that they are a child of GOD and just like all His children they are loved by Him and by their parents, family, friends and so very much by their grandparents. When I see my grandchildren my cup runneth over and my heart skips a beat. I know there truly is a GOD, for He has fast forward what heaven will be like. I also want to instill on them never to make fun of anyone, it is not God's WAY. And I always want them to feel loved and welcomed at grandma and grandpa's house. That our house is a place of love and fun—but maybe we shouldn't share with their parents that we brought snow in the house to build a snowman, or blew bubbles in the TV room!"*
Linda Muhlenkamp, Nativity


 *"Being a grandparent makes our own children become even more special to us as they bring into this world these wonderful little children. New lives with something from each of their parents mixed in with a little of each grand-parent and became themselves in their own little way. Our time with our grandchildren is so special and what more could a grandpa and grandma want to hear than "Can I stay at Grandpa and Grandma's?" "We wish to pass onto them the importance of their heritage and to remember what the Thieman name means to them and how they are now a part of that name. We want to pass on the value of making each minute of life count, do things for others knowing they won't get paid for doing it. Each night thank God for every opportunity He put in front of them that day, knowing that most opportunities only pass you by but once. By our example we hope they will see the way to success is to pray, work and play— but to keep each of them in the right places."*
Dan & Linda Thieman, St. Henry



Grandparents continued:

 "I do hope that at some point I will become a grandparent— what I wish to pass to my grandchildren will be what I received from my grandparents— from them and through my parents. My grandmother's wedding band is precious to me as is what it represents: marriage is a life covenant with God, a man and a woman where the only certainty is His constant love and His strength for the couple to hurdle obstacles and challenges that often come along. The fragile Baptismal gown my parents dressed me in decades ago represent that a life without strong faith is a life that is of this earth with little concern of eternity. The single set of flatware used thousands of times over at my grandparent's table joyfully reminds me of extended family and the value of meals shared together. The old wash boiler reminds me that nothing is easy and to succeed takes hard work, this is true for life in this world and for entering the Kingdom of God. This is what has been passed to me and this is what I hope to pass to others." Tess Mescher, Nativity

 "Grand-parenting is a privilege and another chance to pass on our wisdom, knowledge and faith. I also find it is an opportunity for us to rethink our own life and what it is all about; grand-parenting puts life in perspective. We have much more patience with our grandchildren and as a couple we see one another through new eyes and new life. My husband has become a "kid" again and I get to shop again for the little surprises that delight my grandchildren." Jean Borgert, St. Augustine

 "As new grandparents we have a number of thoughts about what this stage in our lives really means.... We hope to have the opportunity to share our wisdom, whatever that might be...hopefully some of the efforts we put in to succeed at this stage in our lives will resonate with our grandchildren. We will help them understand that hard work is the only way to move forward—that you do not succeed sitting back and waiting for someone to help you succeed. Always look for ways to help someone...sharing your strengths with someone else opens doors you would never imagine. "Seize the Day"...every day is a new opportunity to impact your own life and also an opportunity to help someone else feel good about themselves. Pray to God...he wants to hear from you. Terry & Cindy Liette—Holy Trinity



New Administrator at Shrine of Holy Relics

Donald C. Rosenbeck has been named administrator of the Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics and began in the new position on June 28 succeeding Sister Barbara Ann Hoying, C.P.P.S. who had been director of the shrine since 1997. A native of St. Henry, Ohio, Rosenbeck graduated from Wright State University with a bachelor's degree in business. He holds a Master's in Business Administration from the University of Dayton and previously served as business manager at the Maria Stein Center from 1983 to 1988. More recently, he was director of logistics and corporate planner at Motoman, Inc./Yaskawa in Troy, Ohio and resides with his wife in Jackson Center. Stated a recent press release by the Sisters of the Precious Blood.

JOURNEYS..... by: *Don Rosenbeck*

For many, the Maria Stein Shrine is the destination for a journey they choose to undertake. Their journey is a pilgrimage. Indeed, as you enter the Relic Chapel of the Shrine, look up and you will see these words embossed in masonry above the entrance door in both German and English:

"Enter devoutly O Pilgrim, for no place is holier than this on the New Continent!"

Whether we make a pilgrimage to a holy place such as Maria Stein, or just go about our daily tasks, we are all on a journey—a faith journey. We all have just a finite time on this earth. All too often, it seems to be far too little time. We spend our time chasing after a host of activities which seem to consume our life. May we learn to slow down and savor our journey and take to heart this gospel passage:

"Martha, dear friend, you are so upset over all these details! There is really only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it—and I won't take it away for her!" (see Luke 10: 41-42). May we take quality time to listen to God speak to us: in our daily lives, in church, on our life's pilgrimage toward our eternal destiny of eternal happiness with the Creator who made the stars which give us light and delight, and the Creator who made each of us in the divine image to praise and thank God with all our hearts all our days.

Opportunities offered at Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics

Autumn Adventure—Sunday, Sept. 26 from 2:30—5:00. An afternoon exploring God's creation at the Maria Stein Relic Shrine. A time to thank God and enjoy His creation through a nature walk and family activities. A time to count your blessings for all ages: Grandparents, parents teens and toddlers are invited. \$5.00 donation per family. Pre-register by 9-23-10 by calling Sr. Mary Ellen at 419-925-4532 or programs@mariasteincenter.org

WOMEN'S DAY on October 9th, repeated on October 23rd. This event is open to women of all ages and walks of life with a theme of "He Touched Me" presented by Sr. Maryann Bremke, CPPS. Pamper your spirit with quality time reflecting on the "**Daughter of Jairus**". There will be times for sharing, Opening and Closing Communal Prayer, quiet prayer space on the grounds and in chapel, Mass, Lunch, Gift Shop time, and guided meditation time. Begin at 9:00am with coffee and muffins; closing with a prayer service ending at 3:30pm. To register or for more information call Sr. Mary Ellen at 419-925-4532 or programs@mariasteincenter.org by the deadline of October 2nd or October 16th. The donation is \$15 at the door or \$20 if not pre-registered.

Calendar of Opportunities

Procession of the Blessed Sacrament:

40 Hour Devotion

begins at Holy Trinity church on Fri.,

Sept. 24th at 8:00 am. Concluding with the Blessed Sacra-

ment procession at 4:00 pm on Sun., Sept. 26 throughout the streets of Coldwater with area priests and Archbishop Dennis

Schnurr. A life-changing video on the Eucharist will be shown at 7:00pm both Fri. & Sat. evenings in the church basement.

Contact Holy Trinity for further information - 419-678-4802.

Organ Recital: On Sunday, September 26 at 3pm James D. Clouser, will perform a recital on an historic Holtkamp instrument at St. Charles Center. The recital will program traditional works by Bach, Mozart and Liszt, and premiere a new work, *Music Ministry Suite for Solo Organ*, by Rev. Ralph C. Verdi, C.P.P.S., a resident of St. Charles Center. Free will offering.

Introduction to the Holy Spirit and Spiritual Gifts—Threshold Bible Study facilitator's evening:

Mon., Sept., 27 at 7:00 in the auditorium of St. Charles Center with Carolyn Stucke and Jane Pierron.

No Charge. Register by calling 419-925-5022 or office@stmarysdeanery.com. No charge.

Learn about Catholic Social Teaching: series at Holy Trinity basement, Coldwater, Tues., in Oct. from 7:00/8:30.

Oct. 5: Faith in Action, Br. Raymond Fitz; **Oct. 12:** Church's Teaching on Climate Change, Tony Stieritz

Oct. 19: Toward a 21st Century Spirituality, Sr. Paula Gonzalez; **Oct. 26,** Recognizing Violence in Ourselves and Addressing Violence in Society, Sr. Alice Gerdemann. For info call 419-678-2851 or pmhonigford@bright.net

Revelation in a Day: Holy Rosary, St. Marys parish with Thomas Smith - Fri., Nov. 5th: 7:00—9:00 pm explores Old Testament foreshadowing of the Eucharist, free will offering. Sat., Nov., 6th 8:00—3:00pm Memorial High School. Explore Revelation of how the Kingdom established by Christ in His Church is intimately connected with the Kingdom of Heaven, especially through the Mass. Learn the mysterious figures & images of Revelation & what will happen during the Second Coming of Christ, what has already happened, and what is happening now in salvation history. Cost. Contact 419-394-5050

Worship Ways Conference: Well known composers: Marty Haugen, Rev. Jan Michael Joncas and Tony Alonso, present a rewarding and stimulating experience for **anyone** involved in church ministries. They will explore where the church has been, where it is now, and especially where it is going including addressing the challenges of the new translations at Holy Redeemer, New Bremen. Contact: worshipwaysconference@gmail.com for information.

Thurs., Dec. 2nd—7:00pm: opening; general session; Taize prayer.

Fri., Dec. 3rd— Mass; sessions; lunch; breakouts; (cost) 7:00pm: concert (open to public—no charge)

Sat., Dec. 4th—8:30am: morning prayer; general session; lunch; session; (cost). Closing Eucharist: 3:00.