

THE VOICE

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Spring 2003

Lenten series looks to 'new life'

This year's Lenten series at SS. Peter and Paul will explore the core of our faith. "From Death to New Life: Jesus Shows Us the Way" will reflect on the "Paschal Mystery," the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

"We struggled with using that term, Paschal Mystery, because many people might not know what it means," said Monica Meagher, director of Christian Formation. "But that's exactly why we need to do this, to impact the mystery and not be afraid of tackling it in a deeper way. We, too, are called to die and rise, not just at the

end of our lives, but in many ways during our lives."

The programs will be held at 11:30 a.m. on four consecutive Sundays, March 16, 23 and 30 and April 6. A light lunch will be served at 11 a.m.

Because of this, the times for Sunday masses will be changed throughout Lent, beginning on March 9, to 8 and 10 a.m. There will not be a mass at 11 a.m. Evening masses will remain at the same time.

Topics for the series:

March 16: A reflection on Jesus as Suffering Messiah. Speaker: Dan



Scholz, professor of Biblical studies at St. Francis Seminary.

March 23: A reflection on dying to self in the context of our relationships to ourselves, to others, and ultimately even to God. Speaker, Father Joe Juknialis, associate pastor and theology instructor at St. Francis Seminary.

March 30: A reflection on life from those who face death. Speaker: Chaplain Scott Leannah, VITAS Hospice Care.

April 6: A reflection on dying to the world. Speaker: Margaret Byers, medical missionary to Peru and a member of SS. Peter and Paul Parish.

Block party will return in September

After a year's hiatus, SS. Peter and Paul's Block Party will return this September bigger than ever. It will be held on N. Murray Ave. from 3 to 10 p.m. Saturday, September 13.

Paul Carrier is the chair and Ruth Prus the co-chair of this year's event.

Carrier said there would be three entertainment acts this year: Rod Hinkford playing folk songs at the start; singer Monica Marshall from 4:30 to 5:30, and the popular Five Guys with Day Jobs from 6 to 10 p.m.

More items and services will be offered in the silent auction, Carrier said.

"We're urging people to donate services," he said. "If you're an electrician, you could donate two hours of work. If you can do lawn trimming, you could donate that. And people would bid for the services."

The food tent this year will not only features hot dogs, burgers and brats but also sandwiches and garden or veggie burgers.

Raffle prizes will also increase. First prize will be \$1,000, followed by prizes of \$750, \$500 and five prizes of \$100 each.

"I think this will be a great time to get together and connect with the parish community," Carrier said. "We want to make money, but that's not our sole intent. Mainly, it's an event where we can get to know one another and have a good time."



Ruth Prus and Paul Carrier

Father Tom talks about the new abuse norms

As the judicial vicar for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, our pastor, Father Tom Brundage, has been working on cases involving sex abuse of minors by the clergy. He was asked about the guidelines adopted by United States bishops in Dallas in June.

Q. What will be the Archdiocesan policy under the new guidelines adopted by the bishops?

A. Basically the guidelines will be the same throughout the United States. If a priest is accused of the sexual abuse of a minor, the case will be brought to the district attorney's office for investigation. Even if he is not charged civilly, the church will have a review board examine the case to see if there is probable cause that he in fact may have committed such a crime.

If there is probable cause, according to the norms that go into effect March 1, 2003, the Archdiocese would submit a summary of the case to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith at the Vatican. That body would assess the case to make a determination, in light of canon law, how the case is to be adjudicated.

There is a possibility, should the facts warrant it, that the case could be sent to the local church tribunal for a judicial trial against the priest. Should such a trial occur, there would be two tasks of the tribunal: first to determine guilt or innocence and then, if guilty, to assess a penalty. The highest penalty that a church tribunal can impose on a priest is dismissal from the clerical state.

Q. What will be your role in this? Will you be devoting more time to your Archdiocesan role in the future?

A. I have been appointed to a national pool of canonists who will be trained to hear cases throughout the United States. Since we are in uncharted territory, I am not sure what in reality this will mean.

My gut sense, having represented a few priests accused of such crimes, is that most priests accused of such crimes will

seek laization on their own and hence there would not be a need for a church trial. I would anticipate that the only trials to be held would be in cases where the priest would be asserting his innocence with regard to the accusation. In short, I don't think it will create a lot of extra work for me.



In light of the canonically uncharted territory we find ourselves in, Archbishop Dolan has asked me to remain in the Tribunal for the remainder of this year. Later this year we should have a better sense of how much work will occur because of these trials.

Q. What is your personal reaction to the guidelines?

A. I have to admit that the past year was taxing for me. I was in Dallas last June when the bishops adopted their "zero tolerance" policy. While I agreed that the church had to take strong action to end the crime of child sexual abuse, I was also concerned about the due process rights of priests. Under the Dallas guidelines, anyone could make an accusation against a priest regardless of its merits and the result would probably would have meant the end of his priestly life. Not only as Catholics, but as Americans, we should be concerned that only the guilty be punished.

With the November meeting of the bishops, and the subsequent approval by the Holy See of the amended Norms, I believe we have finally struck the correct balance of rights: the rights of children within the church not to be abused and the rights of the priest not to be penalized if he is not guilty. It has been a long time coming, but I feel that we now have proper procedures in place that protects the rights of all parties, especially the most vulnerable.

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SAINTS PETER AND PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

A quarterly newsletter for members of SS. Peter and Paul Parish, Milwaukee, Wis.
Spring 2003 • Volume 57, Number 3

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*The Voice welcomes comments and suggestions.
Call Paul Salsini, 964-8819.*





Tricia King is the computer lab instructor.



Two youngsters found much to explore at the open house.

Catholic East gets new computer lab

By Priscilla Tolan

Catholic East Elementary School students began the second semester of the school year with a new, state-of-the-art computer lab, thanks to the generosity of two parishioners.

“The students love their new computers,” said Larry Patterson, principal of Catholic East. “They think the lab is great.”

The twenty new PCs installed in the lab were purchased with a \$10,000 gift to the school from an anonymous couple who are members of SS. Peter and Paul. Patterson said the decision was made to spend the money on new computers because the school’s “greatest need” was in the area of technology.

“We think it’s important that students learn to use the tools that are going to help them now and in the future,” he said.

The project, which began late last year, involved relocating Catholic East’s computer lab from its former location in the Cramer Building to the Murray Avenue building, where it is closer to first- through eighth-grade classrooms. The school’s old computers were moved into classrooms.

Then, volunteers from the school’s supporting parishes (SS. Peter and Paul, St. John’s Cathedral, Three Holy Women, Old St. Mary’s, St. Casimir and St. Mary of Czestochowa) spent two and a half days over Christmas vacation wiring the school to accommodate a computer network that links the computers in the lab with those in the classrooms.

That means a student can begin a project in the lab during computer class and complete it later in the day on a computer in his or her classroom.

The computer network also allows students and staff to share files, use e-mail and connect to the Internet.

Patterson, who put the value of the volunteer labor at \$11,000, said the effort had been fun and gratifying.

“We felt we really accomplished a lot,” he said.

Each student at Catholic East will spend at least one hour a week working in the new lab, which will be run by Tricia King, the school’s full-time computer teacher.

“They think the lab is great.”

Patterson said students will learn word processing, spreadsheet and Internet research skills, and work with software designed to reinforce math and language arts concepts.

The lab will also be used for special workshops designed to help Catholic East teachers learn how to integrate technology into the curriculum.

And later this spring it will be the site of evening classes for adults interested in boosting their computer skills. Information about the classes, which will be taught by Father Jerry Hessel, pastor of St. Casimir and St. Mary of Czestochowa parishes, will be included in future church bulletins.

Patterson said the adult education classes would allow “the larger faith community” to benefit from the new computer lab. He also pointed out the importance of the lab to Catholic East families who can’t afford to buy their own computers.

“It’s doubly important that our school provide this type of experience and training for those kids,” he said.

Patterson also believes the new lab will help Catholic East attract new students. The school, with a current enrollment of 136, takes pride in its 13-1 pupil-teacher ratio, which gives teachers a chance to give each student personal attention.

M.I.C.A.H. pushes for social justice



Its formal name is the Milwaukee Innerscity Congregations Allied for Hope, but its acronym, M.I.C.A.H., recalls the Old Testament prophet who spoke of God's justice.

Justice is what M.I.C.A.H. is all about, and why SS. Peter and Paul Parish is one of the 47 congregations that are members. Now, there is a renewed effort to let parishioners know how they can participate in a variety of social justice issues that will benefit the community.

Andy Schwab, who represents SS. Peter and Paul on M.I.C.A.H.'s board of directors, said that anyone committed to social justice would find opportunities in the organization. Various committees work on such issues as labor, education, immigration, youth, prisons, and alcohol and drug treatment programs.

“One of the reasons I like M.I.C.A.H. and SS. Peter and Paul is because I find it challenging to keep the message of social justice working.”

“M.I.C.A.H. is an attractive option for people who want to change their neighborhoods,” Schwab said. “The focus is on Milwaukee and the changes we can make in our block, our community and our city to promote social justice.

“It can be everything from shutting down a drug house to moving a bus stop. Parish members can have more impact than working on a national scale. They can see the change in a year, and it starts to ripple toward a larger goal.”

Schwab said he was intrigued by both the organization's mission and its methods.

“They use a kind of in-your-face social activism. They don't take a back seat to anyone and they go out and

work for it. It's not always a diplomatic approach, but they push their agenda aggressively, and I appreciate that.”

Peter Coffaro is one of the new members of M.I.C.A.H. Coffaro, who grew up in Milwaukee, joined the parish in 2000 when he and his wife returned from Cleveland.

Coffaro said he joined the organization after attending a meeting last September and hearing Jose Perez, an organizer.

“I had been looking for a way to become more involved in social justice and when I heard about the issues, I became interested in the organization,” he said.

Then he went to a training session in January.

“We learned how to put values into action and I think many of us came away with a good perspective on this,” he said. “Trying to access power is not a bad thing. We want power in how decisions in Milwaukee are made.”

Coffaro is particularly interested in economic development issues and how the average citizen can be involved in that process. That led to work on the organization's efforts to have an input in the Park East Development project.

“Here's an area that offers a prime opportunity for people to give input—the jobs that are created there, whether affordable housing will be part of the development, whether residents will have access to those jobs, what kind of transportation will be provided.

“There are 67 acres of unused land there, so it's a great opportunity to involve the community at large as opposed to developers whose goals don't always coincide with the community's. When was the last time 67 acres opened up here for development?”

Why, Coffaro was asked, should this East Side parish be concerned about what happens in an area miles away?

“First,” he replied, “I think people here have an interest here in affordable

housing—the success of the Habitat for Humanity home was an indication of that. Here is an area, near the downtown, which should have affordable housing. They could never afford some of the condos that are going up there. They could also become interested in transportation issues, what kind of bus lines will be there, whether there will be a bike path. And then there's the job component for people who want Milwaukee to provide jobs instead of the suburbs where the growth has been in recent years.

“Second, it's a way for us to collaborate with other church groups from across the city. And in doing so we can get to know other members of our parish who are working on justice issues.”

Coffaro said he worked in a Catholic Worker community for three years in Cleveland.

“That was like Introduction to Social Justice 101. It whetted my appetite for having a lifelong involvement in social justice and organizing. And I was a social worker for seven years, so I was involved in finding ways to change the conditions that cause poverty.

“One of the reasons I like M.I.C.A.H. and SS. Peter and Paul is because I find it challenging to keep the message of social justice working. We hear that message of social justice on Sunday, but if there's no concrete action, then what do we do? I find I'm not disciplined or as sure of myself or focused outside of a community which is involved.”

(Those who are interested in participating in M.I.C.A.H. activities should contact Deacon Tom Hunt at thunt@execpc.com)

A new focus for teens in the parish

By Barbara Salsini

Charlie Sweet remembers very well his teenage confusion and rebellion over religion. He knows that in those turbulent adolescent years, young people often give up on religion.

That's one reason why he and his wife, Katie, are leading SS. Peter and Paul's effort to reach out to high school students.

He explained: Last year, two parishioners did a survey of teens who are registered parishioners at SSPP. The survey found a great interest in activities geared to that age group.

The teenagers were asked if they would be interested in joining with peers in three areas: social activities, service projects and spiritual activities. Not surprisingly, social activities got the most votes, but there was a decided interest in the other two areas as well.

"That's where Katie and I took it up," Charlie recalled. "We were happy to do it, but it's a little challenging because there's nothing in place. We have to make it up as we go along.

"One person who was very helpful was Claire Anderson. She's in charge of young adult ministry and youth ministry at St. Robert Parish. We had met her at World Youth Day in Toronto, so we just took her out to lunch and picked her brain."

Their goal is to help high school and junior high students maintain a connection with the church, Charlie said. "Even if it's just pizza parties — but we plan to do a lot more than that.

"Our focus is going to be on service projects, because they provide an opportunity to live out your faith, and they're also fun." Those who participate get to know each other and have a good time, "and at the same time do

something positive for their community."

In February, the SSPP group joined with a group of young people from St. Robert at Sojourner Truth House, a shelter for battered women. They put together welcome kits for new arrivals at the shelter—including toiletries, etc.—which a woman who had to leave home in a hurry might not have time to grab.

In March, the project was helping to rehab a house in the central city, working with the Dominican Center,



Katie and Charlie Sweet

which helps people buy and upgrade homes.

In April, they'll visit the Easter Seal Recreation Center to work on craft projects with adults with disabilities.

The Sweets also would like to see the young people work with more seasoned parish volunteers in such efforts as the St. Ben's meal program and the Guest House, a men's shelter. In the future, they hope to expand to several activities a month and some summer events.

Besides their youth ministry, the Sweets are members of the parish choir. They were married at SSPP in the fall of 2001. Charlie is the annual campaign manager in the philanthropy department of the Badger Association of the Blind and Visually Handicapped. Katie does picture framing for SV Glass

"Our focus is going to be on service projects..."

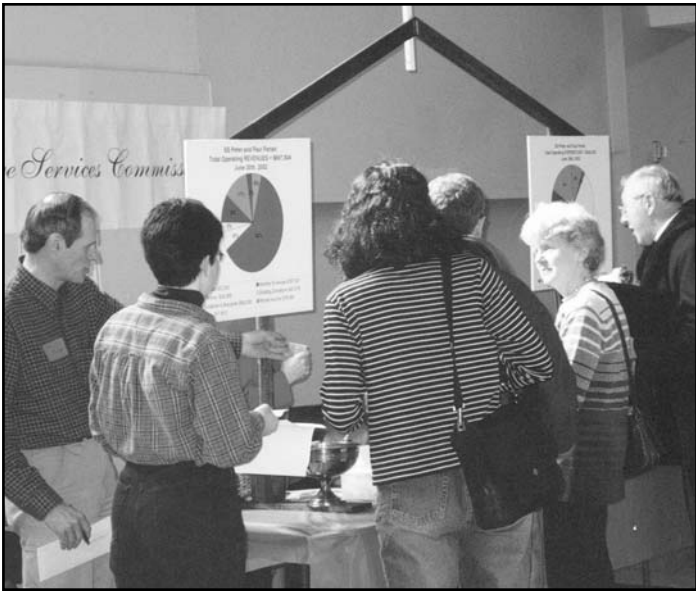
Company. They met at UWM, where both majored in photography (these days Charlie's camera skills are occasionally called upon for Badger Association events)

Charlie, who grew up in Menomonee Falls, was raised a Catholic. But in high school, he began questioning and challenging religion. "I had a childlike faith, but I never really tackled the tough questions. I began by throwing away everything I was taught."

He did a lot of reading about various religions and went to different churches. "I went to a fundamentalist church, one of the big influences on me. They present the gospel in a very, very simple, cut-and-dried way." In 1993, he attended the World Youth Day in Denver, and "wound up having this kind of born-again experience, where I turned my life over to Christ. It wasn't until maybe three years ago that I started being drawn back to the Catholic Church."

At that time he was participating in activities at Elmbrook Church's college ministry in downtown Milwaukee. "I have a lot of good things to say about all those people I met—very open, very genuine, very caring." One woman at the college ministry told him, "If you feel that God is drawing you back to the Catholic Church, you should go, but always know that all of our resources are here for you."

Charlie noted that the Elmbrook ministry "does outreach well"—an example and inspiration for the Sweets in their new role in working with our parish's young people.



There have been some busy weekends at SS. Peter and Paul: Above, the choir sang and parishioners found out how they could get involved at the Ministry Fair on Feb. 16. The Administrative Services Commission won the prize for best booth. Parishioners are urged to return their Time and Talent volunteer sheets. At left, Catholic East welcomed visitors at an open house on Feb. 2. Below, the annual chili cookoff was again a success on Feb. 9.



Father Joe's back from time of reflection

Father Joe Juknialis, our associate pastor, spent three and a half months last fall in a “very positive experience” during a sabbatical break from his parish duties. The archdiocese allows priests to take a sabbatical every ten years; Father Joe's last sabbatical was in 1990. He didn't quite separate himself from St. Francis Seminary, where he teaches, though. He continued to teach a course every other Saturday, and every Tuesday evening he conducted a formation night for students in the college prep program.



Q. What did you do during this time?

A. During the first two months I took courses, two at Marquette and one at UWM. At Marquette, the courses were Modern Poetry and Social Transformation and Literature and Psychology. In the first, we learned how to explore a poem and I found that it was like exploring Scripture, exploring the allusions and the illusions. In effect, one prayed with the poetry.

In the second, I wanted to explore the creative dynamics of the human spirit, and I thought literature and psychology would help me do that—how literature articulates the same thing that theology articulates, but from another perspective. Early on we did some things with fairy tales and Freud, how fairy tales were Freudian in a lot of aspects. We looked at Freud and Jung and how what they articulate in psychology is also present in literature.

Q. And the writing course at UWM? You've already written nine books and you've had a column in the Catholic Herald.

A. The course was creative nonfiction writing. I've always been interested in writing, but lately it's been mostly commentaries, how to bring Scripture and life together and do it in a poetic fashion. Ten years ago I took a poetry workshop, but I'm not writing poetry.

I'm not writing now because I don't have a reason to write. It the beginning it was novel and fun. Now it's become work—satisfying work, but also work. Part of it also is that when I was writing for the Catholic Herald, I was doing creative work with preaching and creative work with writing, so I was trying to divide a limited pool of creative juices. Now that I'm not doing the writing, preaching has become more enjoyable and creative. So I'm reluctant to getting back to writing.

Q. And what did you do during November?

A. I went to the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. It's a consortium of a number of Catholic groups and is in the Hyde Park area. I took a month-long seminar on sexuality and spirituality. The formal name was the Christian

Institute on the Study of Human Sexuality. It was founded fifteen years ago by Father James Gill, who is a medical doctor, a psychiatrist and a Jesuit. He's in his 70s now.

It's primarily for people who do formation in seminaries, and most of the people were professional church people, priests, brothers, nuns, lay people.

The workshop dealt with the psychology of sexuality, the moral dimensions, the spiritual side, counseling on one's sexuality. It wasn't to deal with one's own issues, but how to approach sexuality.

I went there because when I do admissions into the seminary program, I wanted to know how we could incorporate that aspect in the interviews, how to help students explore sexuality in terms of celibacy, for example. How they should think about it, talk about it, be comfortable with it.

We met twice a day for group input and they recommended areas to read. I came back ready to integrate the various things I learned into what I do at the seminary. It gave me some tools to help students resolve conflicts in that area.

Q. What do you think you gained most from the sabbatical?

A. The piece in Chicago was the most intensive. I did a lot of reading, worthwhile reading, and explored a lot. The challenge is not to let it slip away but to do something about it. I'll be doing a session on intimacy for the Lenten series in the parish and I'm planning a workshop for the college students.

Q. How did it affect you?

A. I think part of it is to just get away so that you come back refreshed and with enthusiasm to jump back into things. It's given me some tools for spiritual direction, counseling, working with students.

It's hard to put an inner journey into words. You don't understand it yourself. You're not sure of what happened. But it's good to go away and reflect on life and its dimensions. It was a good positive experience.



Father Joe Juknialis

CALENDAR

Here are dates—subject to change—for events at SS. Peter and Paul in the coming months. Please watch the Bulletin for specific information. Regular Masses are 5 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, and 8 a.m. weekdays (M-F). Confessions are 4-4:30 p.m. Saturday. Centering Prayer is each Tuesday at 7:15 p.m. in the Church Center. For more information, call the rectory, 962-2443.

March

- March 1: Women's Group, 9:30 a.m., Church Center
- March 2: Apostles Cafe, 8 p.m., Church Center
- March 3: Young Adult Education, 7 p.m., Holy Rosary Church Center
- March 4: Lectio Divina, 7:15 p.m., Church Center
- March 5: Ash Wednesday Services, 8:15 a.m., 7 p.m., Church; Confirmation Candidates, 8 p.m., Church Center
- March 10: St. Vincent de Paul, 6:30 p.m., Church Center
- March 12: Adult Confirmation, 7 p.m., St. John's Cathedral; Parish Council, 6:45 p.m., Church Center
- March 16: Lenten Series I, 11 a.m., Cramer Cafe
- March 20: Baptism Preparation (class 1 of 2), 7 p.m., Church Center
- March 22: Market Day, 8:30-9:30 a.m. pickup, Cramer Cafe
- March 24: St. Vincent de Paul, 6:30 p.m., Church Center
- March 25: 4th Tuesday Group, 7 p.m., Chiapas Room
- March 26: Catholic East Elementary School Board, 7 p.m., Cramer Loft
- March 26: Adult Confirmation, 7 p.m., St. John's Cathedral
- March 27: Baptism Preparation (class 2 of 2), 7 p.m., Church Center

April

- April 2: Parish Council, 6:45 p.m., Church Center
- Apostles Cafe, 8 p.m., Church Center
- April 7: Young Adult Education Potluck/Mass, 7 p.m., Holy Rosary Church
- April 8: Young Adult Sandwich Making, 7 p.m., St. John's Cathedral, Weakland Center
- April 9: Adult Confirmation, 7 p.m., St. John's Cathedral.
- April 14: St. Vincent de Paul, 6:30 p.m., Church Center
- April 17: Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7 p.m., Church
- April 18: Good Friday Service, 1 p.m., Church
- April 19: Holy Saturday Service, 7:30 p.m., Church
- April 22: 4th Tuesday Meeting, 7 p.m., Chiapas Room
- April 23: Confirmation, 7 p.m., St. John's Cathedral
- April 24: Catholic East Elementary School Board, 7 p.m., Cramer Loft
- April 28: St. Vincent de Paul, 6:30 p.m., Church Center

May

- May 3: Market Day, 8:30-9:30 a.m. pickup, Cramer Cafe
- May 3 and 4: Youth First Communion, All Masses
- May 4: Youth Confirmation, 2:30 p.m., All Saints Church; Apostles Cafe, 8 p.m., Church Center
- May 7: Parish Council, 6:45 p.m., Church Center
- May 12: St. Vincent de Paul, 6:30 p.m., Church Center
- May 14: Adult Confirmation, 7 p.m., St. John's Cathedral
- May 14: Baptism Class (1 of 2), 7 p.m., Church Center
- May 17/18: Tentative Bundle Sunday after all Sunday Masses
- May 21: Baptism (class 2 of 2), 7 p.m., Church Center
- May 26: St. Vincent De Paul, 6:30 p.m., Church Center
- May 27: 4th Tuesday Group, 7 p.m., Chiapas Room
- May 28: Adult Confirmation, 7 p.m., St. John's Cathedral
- May 31: Market Day, 8:30-9:30 a.m. pickup, Cramer Cafe

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