

The Pastor's Corner Fr. Paul Portland, SDS

I thank all those who participated in our discernment process for parish leadership, either by nominating someone or considering a nomination. Dennis Myers has accepted a third two-year term as trustee. Chris Graham and Megan Gonzales have accepted a three-year term on the Parish Council. We thank them for their willingness to serve and accompany them in prayer. We also thank Linda Jarowowicz and Steve Scheuing as they end their service on the council.

In the last month our children received First Communion and our young adults were confirmed, while final plans are underway for the Tosa Trio Mission Trip from June 10 through 15. Many of our parishioners are graduating from various schools, including Wauwatosa Catholic this Friday. We congratulate all of our young people on their achievements. We thank Sam El-Azem (Faith Formation for Children) and Barb Abler (Youth Ministry), as well as Heidi Hernandez (Principal) and the staff at Wauwatosa Catholic, for their ministry to our children. Please keep the Mission Trip in your prayers.

Changes in approach to the faith formation of children and youth are in process. Samantha El-Azem began her ministry to our parishes last year with the understanding that she will gradually introduce Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for K-3 through 5th grades, beginning with K-3 and K-4 this coming year. Based on the Montessori method of learning, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd strives to help children develop a personal relationship with the Lord. That relationship is then the context for learning about the Mass, the sacraments, our faith. Changes in the current programs will also take place this year, changes that will orient faith formation more toward a family experience than a classroom learning experience. Once again, experiencing a relationship with the Lord is crucial.

Barb Abler is retiring the end of this month from Youth Ministry. As announced elsewhere in this newsletter and in the most recent bulletin, Sarah Daszczuk will take over that position for the three parishes. Responsibility for the middle school program will be transferred from Samantha to her. The programs for middle school and high school also will shift focus from traditional programs to programs with emphasis similar to what I explained above.

I ask that we take a leap of Faith and be patient as we work our way through all these changes. Sometimes it seems better to keep going as before, rather than to take a chance on the unknown. But statistics (and our observation of reality) demonstrate that traditional methods of catechesis, that is, classes and studying material, are not as effective as they could be in helping our youth live the faith after they are on their own. The hope is that focusing first on a personal relationship with the Lord, and then adding the rest, will be more effective.

Please keep those involved in faith formation, both the leaders and children, in prayer as these changes unfold. It is a challenge to juggle three parishes and their available spaces, three sets of Mass times, two programs for children (Catechesis of the Good Shepherd needs to meet for more than an hour), a middle school program, and a youth program with only two paid ministers. All involved will need to be patient as programming, locations, and schedules are tried out and adjusted as the programs unfold. Parents might need to change their habits to be able to attend Mass weekly and participate more "hands on" in their children's faith formation. But I trust it will be worth it.

We welcome Sarah and thank her and Samantha for taking on this important ministry for our parishes. I hope all of you can stop by our open house on June 24th (11:15 to 1 pm in the Pius cafeteria) to thank Barb Abler for her many years of ministry and wish her well. Thanks Barb!

I am excited about these changes for our children and trust that the Spirit is accompanying us in all of this.



The Mission of St. Pius X Catholic Community is to nurture, deepen, celebrate and live out our identity as an apostolic community, a people who are called, gifted and sent by our God.

Served by the Society of the Divine Savior – Salvatorians

**Welcome to our new
Director of Youth Ministry**

We welcome Sarah Daszczuk, who will begin as Director of Youth Ministry on July 1, 2018. Sarah grew up in Kenosha, her home parish being St. Therese of Lisieux. After a powerful Confirmation experience, she knew God was calling her to dedicate her life to parish ministry. She received her BA in Theology and Youth Ministry from Benedictine College in Atchison, KS, and her MA in Evangelization and Catechesis from the Augustine Institute in Denver, CO. Sarah has been serving in Milwaukee area parishes for the past 6 years, in both youth ministry and adult formation. She also has been a speaker and conference coordinator with Arise Milwaukee for 5 years. In the future we will provide an opportunity for you to meet her. Please accompany Sarah in prayer as she begins this important ministry to our youth.



**Catholic Identity
Holly Cartier**

I was volunteering at the Scholastic Warehouse Sale (A very good deal, I get paid in books), and a teacher who identified herself as from a Lutheran school came to the register with a number of religious themed books. I mentioned I was happy to see those being purchased for other libraries. She asked if I was at a Lutheran school also and I told her that I was a Catholic School librarian. She then said, "Well, we really are rivals." I smiled at her and said, "I think we are playing for the same team, just different positions."

In our sports-oriented society, there is so much that is ready to make us rivals, instead of tying us together. Jesus' words to the Apostles help us remember that we should be playing for the same team. "You did not choose me, but I chose you" (John 15:16). Our best teacher and coach wants us to be part of the same Body, the same community, the same team. At our Baptisms, we were directed to bring all to Christ, and Christ to all. Let us continue to 'play,' as well as pray together. This is our Faith, this is our Catholic Identity.

All comments are welcome. Please address them to hcarters.hc@gmail.com.

**Thank you and farewell
to Barb Abler**



Barb Abler is retiring after 18 years of service to our parishes in Wauwatosa. Tosa Trio (St. Pius X, St. Bernard, and Christ King parishes), and for four years as interim Director of Religious Ed K-8 for St. Pius and St. Bernard. Her work on behalf of our children was recognized in 2006 when she received the Woman of Faith Award from the Sisters of the Divine Savior.

As a response to teens' busy schedules, Barb initiated a Teen Mass on Sunday evenings, which is celebrated before the high school faith formation sessions. This gives young people opportunities to serve in varied liturgical ministries. As part of her responsibilities, she also coordinates the process of preparing teens for the sacrament of Confirmation, which includes retreats and varied service experiences. An exciting part of the youth ministry for teens is the summer outreach programs. Our teens have traveled to the Appalachia Project and the Lakota Mission Vacation Bible School in South Dakota, and this year to Mishawaka, Indiana.

Barb said she felt called to this ministry. She is known for going the extra mile to help our youth stay involved. She feels she is always on call and will help out as needed.

One of Barbara's favorite sayings is: "Accept me where I'm at, but please don't leave me there." Barb has dedicated her life to enriching the spiritual journeys of people of all ages.

We thank Barb for her service and wish her all the best in her retirement.

Be sure to stop by our open house on **June 24th** (11:15 to 1 pm in the Pius cafeteria) to thank Barb Abler for her many years of ministry and wish her well

Stewardship Notes

Please remember that although you may be out of town on vacation this summer, our church still has bills to pay. Please remember your pledge and send in your envelopes. We invite you to bring your summer guests to Mass and enjoy the spirit of our community!

Have a safe, joyful and blessed summer!

Health Ministry News

What's New for Your Mind, Body and Spiritual Health?

Check regularly the Health Ministry (HM) bulletin board and resources in the church vestibule (out back by the doors, south side middle board). There you will find information on:

- any upcoming (HM) workshops
- community resources and programs
- spiritual and health information.

Much of this rotates throughout the year.

The lower shelf contains the two popular magazines: *Senior Resources' Senior Housing Options* and *Senior Resource Health Care Guide for Older Adults*. Adult children (caregivers) as well as older adults can find a wealth of guidance, suggestions, information, resources and listings. These publications can be very helpful when anticipating, facing or trying to make a myriad of decisions later in life.

Health Ministry News "Yoga for You"

The nature of Yoga is to shine the light of awareness into the darkest corners of the body.

Present session: May 21st. to July 2nd. Room 101 *
"Yoga in the Court Yard"

Come and ground yourself to the earth.
New Session will start August 6th. To Sept. 17th. No Class Sept. 3rd. *
Monday 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 weather permitting the court yard or room 101
Bring your mat or a chair is available
Enter off 76th Street in front of Parish office.
Classes are free, offered by parish member, Mary Snow, licensed and certified yoga teacher.

*You are welcome to come and try Yoga or participate for as many or few classes as you would like

Dates to Remember

Wauwatosa Catholic:

August 20 - Family Picnic
August 22 - Meet and Greet/Picture Day
August 27 - First day of school
September 6 - All parent curriculum/IB Meeting
Sept. 21 - World Peace Day
October 20 - Soles for Catholic Education Walk
November 3 - Auction for Education

Parish:

September 9 - Grass Mass

A Few More Notes on Caring for our Common Home from the Justice and Peace Commission

A group of Pius parishioners, both young and old, joined with hundreds of other community members for Milwaukee River Keeper's Clean Up on April 21st. You might recall that there was still snow on the ground that day, so much garbage was actually hidden from sight. But our hearty garbage pickers tromped through snow and mud and were able to gather quite a bit of trash, keeping it out of our waterways. Thank you, Jeff, Maureen, Luke and Josh Millmann, Jen, Tim, Abby and Leo Sumiec, Colleen and Julie Leslie, Tom and Alea Pehls, Mary Cook, Katy Steinbach, and Joan Quinn for your service to our environment.

Not able to come on April 21st? No doubt there is a lot of garbage that didn't get picked up because of the snow cover. Because so much trash was hidden, members of the Justice and Peace Commission are planning to do another informal clean up on our own on **July 11th**, before Tosa Tonight. Please join us on the parkway for a short time before you move on to Hart Park. (Look for more specific information as the time gets closer.) If that doesn't work for you, consider giving an hour or so of your time collecting trash wherever and whenever you can. It can be a great family activity for beautiful summer days and is a very tangible way to demonstrate care for our planet. Not only is litter unsightly, but much of it eventually finds its way to our river ways and Lake Michigan, posing a danger to wildlife as they may ingest it.

Additionally, in the fall, St. Pius will officially become a part of Milwaukee Riverkeeper's "Adopt a River" program. That will involve only two work days a year for a specific section of the Menomonee River. More information will be coming in the fall. We hope you will plan to be a part of our community's on-going action to protect our waterways.

Also, if you weren't able to see the documentary "Bag It" (shown at Pius last year), you can check it out at the Tosa Public Library. We guarantee after watching it, you'll never look at plastic the same way and perhaps be even more motivated to take action for our planet.

Friday Morning Prayer

Join the group that meets with Br. Silas Henderson, SDS, after the 8:00 AM Mass in the rectory each Friday morning. Read and learn about the Mass readings for the next Sunday and share in discussion and prayer. All are welcome.

St. Pius Garden Angels

The St. Pius Garden Angels are always looking for new people who would like to help keep the grounds looking pretty during the summer months. People come help when they can to clean the gardens, plant and water the annuals, weed, etc.

If you are interested in helping or finding out more, please contact Mary Nold-Klett at 414-453-1079, or Diana Krumenauer 453-7987. We're always looking for new energy and new ideas!

Living Waters – A Call to Help Our Tanzanian Sisters and Brothers

Our Living Waters Campaign ended at Pentecost. Thanks to your generosity we once again raised enough to build **six wells** for the people in rural Tanzania. A total of **\$32,633** was donated. The amount over \$30,000 will be used to repair wells already dug. We also keep this account open all year in case you want to continue to donate. That way we have a small amount to begin next year's campaign.

Once our donations are received, the wells will begin to be dug. As we receive news about their progress, we will post information on the bulletin board in the church entrance. Check the binder with pictures and letters from the past years.

Sue Haertel, SDS will also be traveling to Tanzania on June 4. She will return around July 13. She and Sister Barbara Reynolds, SDS will be teaching English to the Salvatorian Sisters in Masasi, Tanzania.

You can keep track of their adventures by checking their blog: <http://sdsvisittz.blogspot.com>



SCRIP – Will continue through the Summer!

SCRIP is sold after all weekend Masses in the back of church or in the parish office M-Th 9 am -3 pm.

You can use SCRIP for all your everyday purchases (We now carry \$50 and \$100 VISA cards). Our parish gets a percentage of each card purchased and it costs you nothing!

It is also possible to purchase SCRIP directly from your computer or phone. Talk with the people at the SCRIP table for more information. If you are out shopping or eating, you can buy SCRIP to use immediately. How convenient!

About this Newsletter: *The Invitation*

The Stewardship Commission publishes this newsletter as an outreach to all parish members. **This edition will be the last until September.**

To receive the newsletter electronically, go to our parish website (www.stpiusparish.org) and click on the email sign-up tab. Our goal is to have as many people as possible sign up on our email list. Save us paper and postage costs and learn about important news of our parish!

Thank you to all the people who contribute articles for our newsletter each month and thank you to everyone who helps prepare the newsletter for mailing after Mass each month!

News From our School Wauwatosa Catholic

It seems impossible that our 7th year as Wauwatosa Catholic School is nearing an end. Our last day of school is Wednesday, June 6th. We celebrate the last day with a Mass, followed by our last Awards Program of the year. Every month we highlight one of the IB Learner Profile attributes. Teachers select students who exemplify the targeted monthly attribute, and these students of the month are honored at the program. These programs are very special to our students. They are excited when they are a student of the month. More importantly, they celebrate with their classmates when they are honored.

We look back on a year filled to the brim with exceptional learning opportunities, both in school and in the community. We look forward to a new school year with anticipation of many more such activities. As always, we thank the parishioners who support Wauwatosa Catholic School. We do hope we make you proud of your school!

