

THE CORNERSTONE

building the City of God

Summer 2008

Saint Ladislav Roman Catholic Church

Westlake, Ohio

CATHOLICS IN (CYBER) SPACE

As anyone knows who has spent time on the World Wide Web the sheer variety and depth of information available is astounding and can even be intimidating. The purpose of this article is to begin to acquaint our parish community with the wealth of information available on the web for and about the Catholic Church.

Our own St. Lad's parish website is a good place to start: www.StLads.org. It contains information about parish organizations, programs such as Generations of Faith and Vibrant Parish Life, current events, and an archive of past homilies. Look in "Table of Contents" to find links to many worthwhile websites. It would be impossible to review them all here but there are a few to be found of particular interest. If you click on Catholic Internet Resources it links you to the Diocese of Cleveland which maintains an extensive website with current events in the diocese, messages from Bishop Lennon, current initiatives, information about the diocese and its bishops, a TV Mass schedule, and movie reviews. There are links to other sites of interest to Catholics.

Our parish website contains links to daily Mass readings and reflections, Catholic Relief Services, and the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. Social justice teaching is provided by the Archdiocese of Minneapolis/St. Paul. This helpful website is titled "Office for Social Justice." Topics covered include Catholic social teaching,

legislative advocacy, action alerts, and parish social justice.

The Vatican maintains an extensive website that is both informative and fascinating. Here you can read an encyclical, peruse profiles of the Popes, and take a virtual tour of Vatican museums. There is also a lengthy section covering Pope Benedict's recent visit to the United States, including the text of the homilies and prayers he offered during this historic visit. If you have a question about the Vatican you will probably find the answer here.

Two final websites worth mentioning are Catholic.com and Americancatholic.org. The Catholic.com site contains a wide variety of information. There are online forums, radio programs, and many articles on such topics as faith and science, morality and ethics, the Pope, and

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scriptures. Answer guides cover specific issues such as Islam, gay marriage, liturgical abuses, the DaVinci Code and other topics of current interest.

Americancatholic.org , maintained by the St. Anthony Messenger is an extensive site that is well worth exploring. Included are daily meditations and Saint of the Day, feature articles from the Messenger, news features, an Update Your Faith section, seasonal features, prayer intentions, e-newsletters, Catholic e-greetings and even a place to shop!

This has been only a small overview of Catholic websites of interest, but it is hoped that it has stimulated your interest in exploring our faith in (cyber)space.

- Peggy Basch 

RESPECT LIFE NEWS ROSARY FOR LIFE



Rosary for Life, Inc., is a nonprofit tax-exempt organization whose members pledge to pray the traditional 5 decades of the Rosary, once a week, at a specific time on a certain day of their own choosing, praying for an end to abortion and the abortion mentality.

Our local Rosary for Life group meets in front of Planned Parenthood, 20800 Center Ridge Road, across from Westgate Mall, every Saturday morning at **10:00 a.m.**, and every Tuesday evening at **6:30 p.m.** In addition, they meet and pray in front of the Shaker Medical / Preterm abortion facility, 11710/12000 Shaker Boulevard at **9:30 a.m.**, on all Saturdays. On the 1st Saturday of the month, they first meet at **8:30 a.m.** at **St. Andrews Abbey**, 2900 Martin Luther King Drive, for confession and mass, before traveling to Shaker Boulevard to pray.

All are invited to pray with them at the clinics and/or to pray with them at home. For additional information, call Rosary for Life **(216) 362-1732**.

- Bob Bernath 

OPT OUT OF PAPER NEWSLETTERS AND SAVE A TREE

Are you an active recycler at home? Do you compost your fruit and vegetable scraps? Do you turn off the lights as you leave a room? Do you put The Cornerstone in the recycle bin after you have read it? Thousands of Ohio residents pay close attention to their consumption habits and monitor how they affect our environment. Considering this fact, the Newsletter Committee has an idea that can help you save a tree or two if you have an email address.

The Cornerstone is distributed via postal carrier to all registered parishioners of St. Ladislav, four times each year. This 6 to 8 page paper document is also available on line at www.stlads.org.

If you are interested in opting out of the printed newsletter and want to receive an email notice, which will inform you that the latest issue of the Cornerstone is available at www.stlads.org , please send an email to Brian Burke at bfburke@yahoo.com with "Opt Out" in the subject line. The parish office is exploring the logistics of managing our newsletter direct mail list. We will assess the amount of interest among our parishioners after this quarter's Cornerstone is distributed and then, given sufficient interest, we can consider ourselves among the parishes who are Going Paperless to Go Green.

- Brian Burke 

Editor's Note: Brian and many others are ecology-conscious and the desire to GO-Green is a passion to stop the waste and save our environment. He is willing to coordinate the requests from parishioners to remove them from the direct mailing list for the Cornerstone newsletter. Please contact Brian directly at bfburke@yahoo.com with "Opt Out" in the subject line.


A CONFIRMATION OF NEED AND, HOPEFULLY, A BEACON TO OTHERS

Hello. We are students planning to make our Confirmation this year at St. Ladislav Parish. On a recent Sunday, we went to Rae Ann Suburban Nursing Home to assist Mrs. Phelan and Mrs. Clemens with the Communion service. When we went there, we noticed there were many elderly citizens who were pleased to see us. They rarely get out of the nursing home, so they were excited to see young people.

When we first got there, we were a little scared and unsure how the elderly would respond. With some time, we all got more comfortable and happier to be a part of a great experience. One of the ladies we met there was 102 years old and still walking. She told us, "The secret to living long is walk everywhere and eat oatmeal." The trip to the home made us realize that we may have been the highlight of their week. Looking at many of the people, we realized that many of them had grown lonely sitting in their room hour after hour, day after day.

This short trip opened our eyes and showed us that there are numerous nursing homes in

Westlake, all with hundreds of residents. That makes for countless of elderly people, living lonely lives. If everyone at St. Lads could visit one nursing home every two months, I know the city of Westlake would be a happier place for everyone. We really enjoyed the experience and how the trip made us feel afterwards. Even though we are kids, we can still give the gift of a smile and a warm heart. We can share our laughter with others and maybe give someone the hope that they've been yearning for. We were touched by the heartwarming experience, and hope we have encouraged you to visit a nursing home because the good feeling you'll have is well worth the time.

- Maddie Maher, Lauren and Sarah Turgeon;
Confirmation Candidates 

Editor's Note: These young ladies were like a ray of sunshine to the residents who enjoyed their bright youthful countenance. Donna and Mary were glad to have them share in this experience. In the spring of their young lives, they have planted a seed; they will be a beacon to others who follow their lead.

THE FUNERAL CHOIR AT ST. LADISLAS PARISH

Singing for the Funeral Choir is a beautiful ministry of compassion and presence. Sister Mary Joan Grisez, the music director for St. Ladislav Parish, is also the director and founder of the Funeral Choir, which began in 1998. It started with five members and has now grown to thirty participants.



What is the purpose of a funeral choir? The Catechism of the Catholic Church, in Article 2, Christian Funerals, states: *it is a liturgical celebration of the church. By this final greeting, we sing for the person's departure from this life and separation from us, but also because there is a communion and a reunion. We shall never be separated, for we live for Christ, and now we are united with Christ as we go toward Him, and we shall all be together in Christ.*

The music that the choir sings is from sheet music that Sister Mary Joan provides and from the church music issue. The Pastoral considerations for music selections sometimes make it necessary for the choir to meet a half hour before the funeral Mass to rehearse. During the winter, the choir meets once a month for an hourly rehearsal on Monday or Tuesday mornings. Every other month members take turns to bring food for a light lunch after rehearsal.

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When a funeral is scheduled, each choir member is contacted by telephone. If someone is not able to attend the service, they make it known at that time.

Sister Mary Joan says that the faithful members of the funeral choir help with those who are grieving and bring a sense of celebration. She also recognizes that the choir pours out love and finds it life-giving. It also quiets the fear of death and helps them to help others.



Members Nick and Barbara Barone call it an honor, and say it is a spiritual fulfillment to listen to Father Snyder's homily about the deceased and their family. Ron and Deborah Charvat joined because they wanted to share with families of the deceased the same beautiful consoling spirit as they themselves experienced from funeral choirs. They say the choir is about giving of their time, and offering an uplifted spirit at a time of sadness in order to bring the joy and promise of resurrection.

The Funeral Choir also fulfills the Commandments of the Church: In the Spiritual Works of Mercy, it states we are to pray for the living and the dead. The singing by the funeral choir is a prayer for the deceased and the family. In the Corporal Works of Mercy, it says we are to bury the dead. The singing by the Funeral Choir helps on a spiritual level to bury the dead, while offering an act of love and respect for the deceased and the family.

New members are always welcome. There is no audition. You only need the ability to sing. So come join the St. Ladislav Funeral Choir. Please contact Sister Mary Joan or any of the following members: Mary Jane Davis, Dottie Dudash, Ron or Deborah Charvat. Your name will then be added to the calling list to be contacted when the Funeral Choir is needed.

NOTE: When I receive a Funeral Choir request, it is always a respectful and spiritual calling for me, and I make every effort to adjust my schedule to attend. My own personal reason for being with the Funeral Choir is that by singing, I'm helping the family of the deceased to feel God's presence. By the words of the songs and the beauty of our voices, we can hear the promises of God, the promises of forgiveness, mercy, love, and the awesome promise of the resurrection. What a renewal of our faith!

- Mary Jane Davis



OUR FIRST COMMUNION

My son, Daniel, and 47 other seven and eight-year-old boys and girls prepared for their first communion held on May 4. These children gathered around the altar at Sunday Mass six months prior to begin a period of instruction in their young faith.

It was a sunny day in the suburban community of Waterford, Michigan, on April 6, 1968, when I received my first communion at Our Lady of the Lakes Church. Like the other boys in my class, I wore a white shirt, tie, and blue blazer, while the girls donned white dresses with glittering crowns. Family and friends gathered at our home, the food was plentiful, and I collected \$14 and assorted religious gifts such as a prayer book and rosary. Most importantly, I understood that I had received Jesus in the host. It was emphasized to not have serious sin on the soul, so a first confession had been part of the initiation. Now, that was a bit scary! What do you remember about your first communion experience? Perhaps not much has changed. First Communion is still one of the three sacraments of initiation into the Church. (In the early Church, the local Bishop administered Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation

to the new Christians at Easter.) We believe that communion is still the sharing of Christ's real presence under the forms of bread and wine with other members of the Church. His sacrifice on the cross is again made present to us at the Mass. However, the preparation for first communion has changed.

At St. Ladislav, the children are instructed and prepare for their first communion through the Good Shepherd Program. The Good Shepherd catechesis (= catechism, religious instruction) puts renewed emphasis on knowing Jesus in the Scriptures and having the children explore their faith.

At the parents' meeting earlier in the year, we were told that five Gospel passages are used to help with an understanding of First Communion: the parables of the good shepherd and the lost sheep, the woman who searches for the lost coin, the metaphor of the vine and the branches, the well-known story of the loving father and his prodigal son, and the story of the centurion's servant who is healed by Jesus. Each child has an area of "works" where they might use a broom at a station to search for a lost coin, or they may prepare the altar with chalice and cloth, or they may pray quietly alone. They also have prepared their own prayer books, carefully writing out the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be prayers, among others. The goal is to understand how much God loves them and gives of Himself to each one of them.

Marcia Franks, a trained Good Shepherd instructor, told me how excited the children are when she meets with them one-on-one. When asked about their First Communion, the dominant feelings are excitement and enthusiasm.

I asked my son, Daniel, about the coin parable. He said that the coin was special and he understands that he is special too. At a time when many Catholics think that the bread and wine are mere symbols, Daniel was able to tell me that they are Jesus' body and blood. Do we maintain the same sense of appreciation at Sunday Mass?

Keep up the good work, Sr. Johnica and Marcia. Kudos to you and the other dedicated volunteers of the Good Shepherd Program!

- John Alfes



JESUS LOVES ME (Adult version)

*Jesus loves me, this I know,
Though my hair is white as snow
Though my sight is growing dim,
Still He bids me trust in Him.*

(CHORUS)

*Though my steps are oh, so slow,
With my hand in His I'll go
On through life, let come what may,
He'll be there to lead the way.*

(CHORUS)

*When the nights are dark and long,
In my heart He puts a song.
Telling me in words so clear,
"Have no fear, for I am near."*



(CHORUS)

*When my work on earth is done,
And life's victories have been won.
He will take me home above,
Then I'll understand His love*

(CHORUS)

*I love Jesus, does He know?
Have I ever told Him so?
Jesus loves to hear me say,
That I love Him every day.*

(CHORUS)

*YES, JESUS LOVES ME.
YES, JESUS LOVES ME.*

*YES, JESUS LOVES ME
FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO.*

DEACON DAVE'S MEMORIAL

Since Deacon Dave's death on May 23rd a number of parishioners have asked if there is some way they could donate to a memorial honoring Deacon Dave. Based on some of the many ways Deacon Dave ministered at St. Ladislav, the staff has singled out four areas:

1. A NEW PASCHAL CANDLE STAND

Since Deacon Dave was involved in many of the Baptisms and funerals of the parish we thought it fitting to have a new paschal candle stand designed in his memory. We would have the sculptor Norbert Koehn who had designed many of the stone and wood furnishings for our church, create the design. This paschal candle stand holds the candle which is lighted at every Baptism and every funeral as well as placed in the sanctuary throughout the Easter Season.

2. LANDSCAPE PLANTINGS

Deacon Dave was instrumental in developing the landscaping design both current and future for St. Ladislav. With the consultation of our landscaper, plants and trees could be purchased to complete the plan and then planted in memory of Deacon Dave.

3. STAINED GLASS WINDOW

Deacon Dave was a vital part of the Church Renovation project. Individuals could donate toward a stained glass window in memory of Deacon Dave.

4. ORGAN FUND

Deacon Dave frequently assisted Sr. Mary Joan regarding some of the physical needs in the Music Program of the parish. We have currently an on-going fund for the purchase of a new organ. Individuals could donate to the fund in memory of Deacon Dave.



REV. DAVID KINZEL, DEACON, RAN PASTORAL MINISTRY OF DIOCESE



WESTLAKE — As an ordained deacon of the Catholic Church, the Rev David Kinzel worked with hundreds of laymen who wanted to do pastoral work in churches. Kinzel, 68, who directed the lay pastoral ministry program of the Cleveland Catholic Diocese for several years, died Friday in his Westlake home. He had cancer.

After stepping down from the director's post, he continued working with laymen, first as a member of St. Bernadette Catholic Church in Westlake, and then as a member of St. Ladislav Catholic Church, also in Westlake. He served as the parish administrator at St. Ladislav.

Kinzel was born in Avon and graduated from St. Edward High School. He attended the University of Arizona, then earned a degree in education at John Carroll University. He received a Master's degree in education at the Catholic University of America. He returned to St. Edward High School to teach English in the 1960s. He also taught English at Arizona State University.

Kinzel joined the teaching staff of Cuyahoga Community College in the 1970s. He moved into the administration as director of human resources and personnel relations.

In 1978, Kinzel was ordained a permanent deacon of the Catholic Church. He joined St. Vincent Charity Hospital in the mid-1980s as a hospital administrator. While working at Cuyahoga Community College and St. Vincent, Kinzel continued as a layman in the pastoral ministry.

Kinzel retired in the early 1990s and spent much of his time with the St. Ladislav ministry, assisting priests in the services. He also continued his work with laymen seeking pastoral work in churches. One of his last duties with the church was performing a wedding ceremony 10 days before his death, his family said.

He also did ministry work with Alcoholics Anonymous.

Kinzel fished throughout the United States. He enjoyed spending time with his 14 grandchildren. He and his wife, Marilyn, were married 45 years.

By Wally Guenther, Plain Dealer Reporter
from the Wednesday, May 28, 2008 issue of
The Cleveland Plain Dealer.



Saint Ladislav
Roman Catholic Church
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Upcoming Parish Events

- June 29** Welcome Reception for New Parishioners
- July 4** Independence Day - Mass @ 9:00 AM (*Office Closed!*)
- August** Parish Mailing for Registration in Generations of Faith and Catechesis of Good Shepherd
- August 10** Parish Picnic from 1:00 - 6:00 PM All Invited!
- August 15** Holy Day - Feast of the Assumption
Parish Anniversary 35 years
- September 1** Labor Day - Mass @ 9:00 AM

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