

REFLECTIONS

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TO SUBMIT REFLECTIONS ARTICLES

- Deadline: 15th of the month
- Each picture submitted should be accompanied by **at least** one paragraph explaining the event that has occurred.
- Email information and pictures to Charlotte Norris at:
norrisfam@comcast.net

ARRIVIDERCI, FATHER DAVID CARTER

BY MARILYN DERBYSHIRE



A special evening was planned as a farewell to Fr. David before he departs to Rome to continue his studies. Many parishioners attended the 5:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday, June 21, and gathered in Siener

Hall for the reception that followed.

The room was decorated with themed table centerpieces to represent Fr. David's involvement with the parishioners of St. Jude parish. A musi-

cal centerpiece, consisting of flowers made from sheet music, was made by the members of Schola Cantorum. The Legion of Mary displayed Our Lady of Grace; the Hispanic ministry created a beautiful arrangement with Our Lady of Guadalupe. Members of the Haiti ministry made a centerpiece reminiscent of Haiti, since Fr. David joined them on one of their trips, and the Scouts had a creative centerpiece in recognition of Fr. David, who is, himself, an Eagle Scout. One table was decorated with a boat, another with a great golf centerpiece. One centerpiece depicted Rome, the holy city where he is headed. (cont. on page 9)

An abundance of delicious food was provided by the mem-

BIENVENIDO, FATHER MIGUEL VELEZ

BY CHARLOTTE NORRIS

St Jude is happy to welcome our new Associate Pastor, Father Miguel Velez. I recently had the opportunity to interview Fr. Miguel, and he shared the wonderful story of his life and journey to his position here at St. Jude. The following is an overview of that conversation.

Father Miguel grew up in Pereira, Colombia, South America. He is the oldest of two children; he has a younger sister who will graduate from college in Colombia next summer with a teaching degree. Sadly, his father died when Fr. Miguel was very young; his mother is still living in Pereira.

Fr. Miguel began his forma-

tion for the priesthood in 1988, at the age of 17, in a seminary in Colombia; he spent six years studying very hard.

Now the story switches countries to the USA where

Bishop Kurtz (now Archbishop Kurtz) talked to Fr. Antonio Giraldo, associate pastor of St. Therese of Lisieux in Cleveland, Tennessee, regarding the (continued on page 9)



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - RAINFOREST ADVENTURE

BY MARILYN DERBYSHIRE

The week of June 16-20, approximately 130 of our parish youngsters got the chance to swing into a Rainforest Adventure for a week during our Vacation Bible School. Under the direction of Karl and Theresa Reddick, scenes were created that transformed the basketball gym to a tropical adventure complete with a waterfall, bridge, and greenery. The parents who gathered the Sunday evening beforehand for decorating and set-up did an excellent job creating a "tree top" oasis.

The children arrived Monday morning at 9:00 a.m. and reported to their appropriate group leaders, ranging from 4-year-old preschool to 5th grade. Preschool was led by Theresa Luetz with helpers Victoria Meiklejohn and Taylor Rodriguez; Kindergarten by Bethany Derbyshire and helpers Allyssa Partridge and Melissa Nguyen; 1st grade by Mary Arnold and helpers Erin McGonagil, her friend Heidi, and Molly Gadd; 2nd grade by Jessica Gadd and helper Samantha Turl; 3rd grade by Pat Meiklejohn and helpers Anne Laurell and Rachael Smith; and grades 4 and 5 were led by Lyn Price.

Many thanks to the volunteer help by parents who staffed a Welcome table on Monday morning. As the day was ready to begin, groups gathered for the Opening Celebration led by David Lowrance. This celebration went on each day as the children prayed together, learned the theme for the day, and sang together. Other events throughout the day included Crafts, Science projects, Music and Storytelling, Snacks and Bible time.

Crafts, led by Anna Partridge with assistance from Christine Reeves and helpers Nick Burch and Daniel Smith, enabled the children to create items like quilts, butterflies, peacocks, monkeys and picture frames. Science projects were led by Laura Eye and Jennifer Florio and helpers Brandon Sapala and Thomas Gaudin. Children enjoyed working with magnets, creating electricity with balloons, and making grapes dance. David Lowrance was back to lead Music and Storytelling, where the children listened to the daily Bible story and sang and learned actions to various songs. Daily snacks were organized by Maria Lowrance and Sue Gaudin to keep active kids energized and

cheerful. Bible time was a quieter activity guided by the class leaders, when the class would watch a DVD about the daily theme and do an activity or two with their leaders.

At the end of every busy day, all the groups gathered again in the rainforest gym with David to do a little more singing, go over that day's theme, and have a closing prayer.

At the end of the week, the parents were all invited to the closing celebration where the children performed the songs from the week and displayed their class quilts. After the celebration, the families went to the cafeteria where they shared picnic lunches. A terrific group of parents stayed after the picnic to clean up and help the gym return to clean, but less tropical, space.

The week was a great success loaded with fun and excitement! It was terrific to see all the older youth who returned as helpers. And thanks goes out to all who participated and volunteered to make the 2008 Rainforest Adventure magical!



VBS PHOTO GALLERY

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY MARIA LOWRANCE



DEACONS CELEBRATE 1ST YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Deacon Gaspar DeGaetano

Life can be considered a journey of faith for all of us, and my own faith journey happened to develop towards service as a deacon. I think it would be safe to say that all of us on our faith journeys have some ups and downs. I would like to share some liturgical highlights and lowlights of my first year as a deacon.

It was surely a highlight to give my first blessing as a deacon, right after my ordination,

funny lowlights of my first year, though they weren't funny at the time. As I set up for Mass in Istanbul, Turkey, on the Diocesan pilgrimage, I was in a hurry to get an extra chalice filled with wine from the sacristy. My eyes knew where I wanted to go, but my feet didn't, and I stumbled over an altar step, with the resulting wine spill making a mess of the altar and my alb. Another valuable lesson I received was here at St. Jude when I was

too, grew up here, as her family members were charter members. We were married at St. Jude in 1985; both our beautiful daughters were baptized here and went to school here. Recently, our granddaughter, Mary, was baptized here.

St. Jude is a very important part of who I am. To serve the parish as a deacon is so very humbling but so comfortable. I feel very pleased and extremely blessed to have this opportunity, and I hope and pray that God uses me as an additional way to touch the parish.



Deacon Tom McConnell

Earlier this June, within four days of each other, I celebrated two anniversaries, both of a marriage: one of 40 years with a most wonderful 'her' (Brenda) whom I courted many years before tying the knot of matrimony; the other of 1 year with another most wonderful 'her' (Holy Mother Church) whom I courted many years before tying the knot of ordination. My wish is that the '1' turns into decades of the same happiness and fulfillment that the '40' have given me. Please pray for me, your unworthy servant, and for both of my most worthy wives. God bless you all!

at the reception, to my oldest granddaughter Ellie, who was not quite three years old at the time. Another highlight was my first time presiding at a marriage over at the classically beautiful Sts. Peter and Paul Church. A third highlight was serving as a Deacon of the Word, as Archbishop Kurtz presided over the ordination of Deacon Moises Moreno at Holy Spirit Church. Deacon Moises is preparing for the priesthood. Another highlight was being able to give blessings to people who were in the faith journey of becoming Catholic through RCIA here at St. Jude.

Now for a couple of rather

extinguishing our rather tall Easter Candle. It was simple enough to remove the candle to have the altar server blow out the flame, but as I lifted it back up the melted wax splattered on my bald head, vestments, and the floor. Lessons learned.

Thanks for letting me share these highlights and lowlights of my first year with you.

Deacon Brian Gabor

St. Jude is the only parish I have ever been a part of. I grew up at St. Jude. My parents moved here in 1964 when I was three years old.

I met my wife, Donna, in the St. Jude singles group; she,

**St. Jude is so
blessed to have
these awesome
servants!**

Thank you so much.

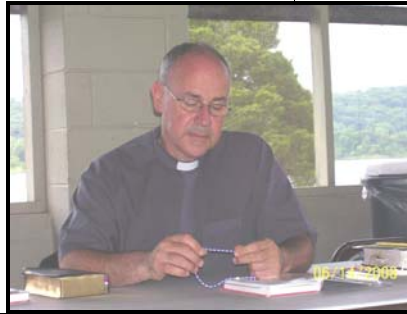
LEGION OF MARY'S ANNUAL CURIA PICNIC

On Saturday, June 14, the St. Jude Legion of Mary hosted the Diocese of Knoxville's annual Curia picnic at Camp Columbus.

Fr. John O'Neill, the Curia's Spiritual Director, led everyone in the recitation of the Rosary, as well as leading the monthly meeting.

Thanks to the individual members for providing such a delicious array of food and to the Knights of Columbus for allowing us to use their terrific facility.

For more information about the Legion of Mary, call Charlotte Norris at 886-9298 or Jean Trudel at 843-1611.



SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

BY GAIL CAMPBELL



The Channel of Peace fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order attended a retreat at Monteagle with several other fraternities from Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama. The retreat, which is planned and

organized annually by the Channel of Peace fraternity, was led by the BSSF Regional Spiritual Assistant, Fr. Linus DeSantis, ofm, and focused on the Secular Franciscan vocation.

Nine members attended the SFO Regional gathering at Asheville, NC. Nearly 200 Franciscans from several eastern states were in attendance. They heard a presentation from Channel of Peace member Faye Martin, sfo, who is also the Regional Formation Director.

Channel of Peace, which meets at St. Jude Church, is a vibrant fraternity with 20 professed members and 3 candi-

dates. The Rule of St. Francis of Assisi compels Secular Franciscans to live from gospel to life and life to gospel. Thus the members are involved in the spiritual life of the Church as well as many areas of community outreach.

Anyone wanting to know more about the Secular Franciscan Order is invited to attend a "Come and See" session on September 21 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Stephen Church. For more information, contact Gail Campbell, Minister, at 843-1858 or Marlene Dickshinski, Formation Director, at 238-6909.

PARISH INCOME

<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>JUNE 1-30</u>	<u>SINCE 7/1/2007</u>
1 Parishioner's Envelopes	\$ 147,903.93	\$ 1,855,177.96
1a 1/2 Christmas	\$ -	\$ 6,534.79
2 Loose Contributions	\$ 3,761.78	\$ 40,806.97
3 Children's Envelopes	\$ 25.45	\$ 201.35
4 Holy Day Collections	\$ -	\$ 16,615.56
5 Other Revenues *	\$ 8,604.30	\$ 40,884.84
6 Parish Religious Education	\$ 290.00	\$ 2,835.00
7 School Revenues	\$ 1,413.00	\$ 598,800.49
8 After School Care	\$ 6,583.50	\$ 63,765.50
9 G.I.F.T. Subsidy (Annual)	\$ -	\$ 26,250.00
Total	<u>\$ 168,581.96</u>	<u>\$ 2,651,872.46</u>
INCOME TOTALS	\$ 168,581.96	\$ 2,651,872.46
EXPENSE TOTALS	<u>\$ 220,482.30</u>	<u>\$ 2,742,956.55</u>
	\$ (51,900.34)	\$ (91,084.09)

Second Collections/ASA/G.I.F.T. Campaign/Building Fund

	<u>Month to Date</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
10 Second Collections	\$ 2,784.06	\$ 80,020.61
11 ASA Contribution to Diocese	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 90,000.00
12 Building Fund Receipts	\$ 7,788.00	\$ 146,603.87

* Other Revenues, Includes Memorials, Stipends, Stole Fees, Sacramental Contributions, Candles, Religious Articles, Rental, Interest on Checking/Savings Accounts

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house, and try me in this, says the Lord of hosts: Shall I not open for you the floodgates of heaven, to pour down blessing upon you without measure?

-Malachi 3:10

PARISH EXPENSES

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>JUNE 1-30</u>	<u>SINCE 7/1/2007</u>
1 Office Staff Salaries/Benefits*	\$ 27,288.94	\$ 308,076.40
2 School Staff Salaries/Benefits*	\$ 142,376.03	\$ 1,674,517.69
3 Pastoral/Adminstrative	\$ 14,373.91	\$ 171,626.47
4 NDHS Assessment	\$ 9,180.00	\$ 85,680.00
5 Liturgy	\$ 2,599.00	\$ 37,906.33
6 Parish Religious Education	\$ 918.18	\$ 5,500.19
7 RCIA	\$ -	\$ 768.46
8 Youth	\$ 524.20	\$ 5,284.45
9 Family	\$ 1,569.12	\$ 4,767.07
10 Parish Charity	\$ 804.00	\$ 13,258.66
11 Plant and Parish Operation and Maintenance	\$ 3,947.89	\$ 73,740.10
12 Major Repairs	\$ -	\$ 29,395.00
13 School - K-8 including Operation and maintenance	\$ 14,820.23	\$ 319,942.68
14 Preschool	\$ 695.13	\$ 3,802.47
15 After School care	\$ 1,385.67	\$ 8,690.58
TOTALS	\$ 220,482.30	\$ 2,742,956.55

LOAN ON FAMILY LIFE CENTER

Beginning Loan	Balance to date
\$ 1,119,186.22	\$ 1,248,004.29
	up due to parish loan payback

* Includes salaries, FICA, retirement and insurance

On June 30, 2008, the end of the 2007-08 Parish fiscal year, our expenses exceeded our income by \$91,084.09. However, if all of the pledges made by St. Jude Parishioners had been up to date at the end of the fiscal year we would have ended the year with a positive balance of \$5,154.52. As you can see it takes all of us fully participating in Responsible Stewardship to make our plan work. Every pledged contribution is very important and directly ties to the parish operating budget. We realized at the beginning of Responsible Stewardship that reaching that goal would be taken in steps. Now is the time for each of us to take the next step. We sincerely ask all parish families to increase the percentage of their giving each year until they reach the goal of 8% of its income being given to God. The more we trust in God, especially in this time of economic difficulty, the more God will bless us.

PRO-LIFE COMMITTEE CELEBRATES 1ST YEAR

Our parish's Pro-Life Committee marks its first anniversary this summer. The group was initially brought together by Deacon Gaspar DeGaetano and has been led by volunteers. Our Lady of Guadalupe is our patroness. She is the Patroness of the Americas as well as the Protectress of the Unborn.

The committee serves the parish as a resource for infor-

awareness and involvement among parishioners. Prayer is essential in pro-life work, so a time for the rosary was held before each weekend Mass during the month of October. The Marian grotto in front of the rectory provided beautiful surroundings. On an October weekday evening, the group sponsored a "living rosary" with pro-life meditations for each bead of the rosary to celebrate both the month of the holy rosary and Respect Life Month.

The Spiritual Adoption program began in March, near the feast of the Annunciation. It continues until Christmas. That timing coincides with the pregnancy of the Blessed Mother, for the nine months she carried the unborn Jesus. While this year's S.A. program is nearing the halfway point, new participants are always welcome. You are invited to "spiritually" adopt a baby who may be in danger of having his or her life ended before birth. This "adoption" means committing to pray daily for an unborn baby, that he or she will be brought to full term. The church vestibule has additional information, including monthly updates describing the development of the babies for whom parishioners are praying. The S.A. program includes pledge cards for people who want to formalize their participation,

but using a pledge card is not necessary. We don't know how many people are actually praying for the unborn babies, but we know that God knows!

The group also provides outreach to women and men who have been affected by the loss of an unborn child and information about the healing ministry of Rachel's Vineyard. Pro-life materials such as book-marks, bumper stickers, and the Precious Feet pins are also available for you to help spread the message of the beauty of life. Please make effective use of those materials by "wearing" them yourself and "sharing" them with other people.

The committee usually meets on the first Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the PLC. Please call 876-7935 or send us an email at pro-life@stjudechattanooga.org to find the date/time/location of the next meeting. New members are always welcome, including people from other parishes. Attending meetings is not required; you may simply join the mailing list to receive email messages to keep you aware of news, events, and other pro-life information. The committee is happy to serve you, so please let us know anytime our ministry can help!



mation, materials, and activities that promote respect for the life and dignity of all people. The main emphasis is protection of the unborn, but all human life is valuable and other areas of concern can be emphasized when new members offer their time to help this ministry expand.

This first year resulted in several opportunities to raise

*Welcome Back, St. Jude School
Students and Staff!!!*

FR. DAVID CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

bers of various ministries such as the Legion of Mary, the school faculty, the Rosary Makers, the CCW, the Hispanic Ministry, Extraordinary Ministers, all of the choir groups, the lectors, the Haiti Ministry, and Bea Cox. Getting such a large number of parishioners through the serving line ran smoothly with the help of the ladies from the CCW and the Knights, who worked in the kitchen.

After the meal, Fr. Joe extended his gratitude to Fr. David and presented him with a gift from the parish as he bid him farewell. In addition, parishioners showered him with cards and contributed pictures of themselves with Fr. David during family events and sacramental occasions, which were later arranged into a scrap book by Margaret Ryan as a keepsake

for Fr. David. Fr. David then cut two sheet cakes: one saying “Arrivederci,” which means “until we meet again,” and another baked and decorated by Blessie DeGuzman. We were especially honored to have Fr. David’s parents, brother, sisters, and brother-in-law with us to share in this bittersweet occasion.

Clean-up was a breeze with the Scouts and the Knights both pitching in to assist. All the help and cooperation of the many ministries made this truly a parish event as we came together to send Fr. David off with love and gratitude.

Fr. David says, “I am going to Rose to study for a degree in Canon Law. Canon Law can best be described as the ‘by-laws’ of the church, and with a world wide population of over one billion people you can see

why this is so necessary so that everyone’s rights and obligations as a people of God are respected. The degree takes three years to obtain. I have already finished one year ... I will return for the last two years of the program.”

We Wish You Godspeed!

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Europe

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FR. MIGUEL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

recruitment of other priests from Colombia to be diocesan priests for the Diocese of Knoxville. Father Giraldo contacted his uncle, a teacher at a seminary in Colombia. The uncle approached Fr. Miguel, and he rose to the challenge. Eight months later on September 8, 2004, he arrived in the United States.

The first year he was here, he lived on Signal Mountain; initially with the Kedrowski family, until he moved into the rectory at St. Augustine with Fr. Peter Iorio. During this time, Fr. Miguel took English language classes at UTC. He recounts that he did not speak English when he arrived and the Kedrowskis did not speak Spanish; he said this was very helpful, and he learned the language very quickly. He re-

marked about how wonderful everyone was in helping him to make the transition.

Upon completion of the language classes, Fr. Miguel was sent to the Mundelein Seminary in Chicago, Illinois — St Mary of the Lake. He spent three years studying there. (Nine years of study!)

Fr. Miguel was ordained as a deacon on December 21, 2007, at St. Augustine. On June 7, 2008, he was ordained as a priest in his native country. Fr. Miguel says he feels as though he is “floating in the clouds.” His family is very happy for him and extremely proud of his achievements.

Unfortunately, his struggles were not yet over. Fr. Miguel’s travel visa was not what it needed to be for his return to the United States. After many

weeks of waiting, he arrived at St. Jude in the wee hours of the morning on August 12. He hit the ground running by concelebrating the 8:15 a.m. Mass that very morning with Fr. Joe Brando and heading out to Knoxville for a meeting. The first Mass he celebrated at St. Jude was the 7 p.m. Mass on Wednesday, August 13.

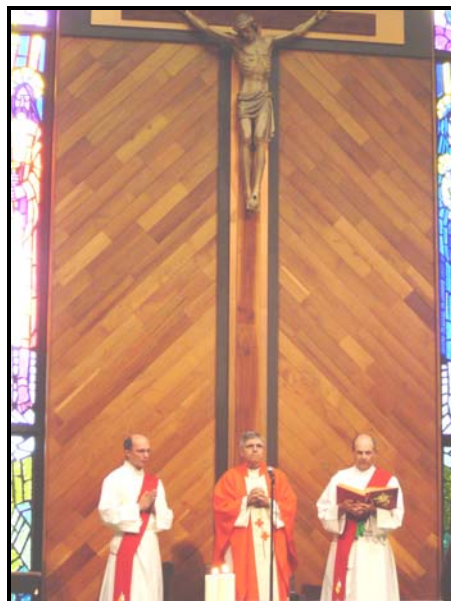
Fr. Miguel will certainly be assigned many duties here, at which he is sure to succeed wonderfully. Currently, he is assisting with the Hispanic Ministry, the Youth Ministry, the Legion of Mary, and St. Jude School.

I am quite sure all of you will join me in welcoming Fr. Miguel with open hearts and arms!

FR. JOE'S ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY MASS

On June 3, Father Joe Brando celebrated his 36th year as a priest at a special Mass here at St. Jude. Approximately 60 people came to celebrate this very special occasion, and a lovely card with many signatures was presented to this very special man of God.

*Thank you, Fr. Joe, for your
many years of service to the
Church and her people.*



St. Jude Church
930 Ashland Terrace
Chattanooga, TN 37415
(423) 870-2386

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE:

Sat 5:30 pm
10:30 pm in Spanish
Sun 8:00 am, 10:30 am,
12:15pm, 5:30 pm

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Mon-Sat 8:15 am
Wed and First Fri 7:00 pm

RCIA INQUIRY CLASSES are offered for anyone interested in learning what the Catholic faith is all about. Please contact the parish office for more information.

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