

# REFLECTIONS

FEBRUARY 2007

## ST. JUDE CATHOLIC CHURCH

930 ASHLAND TERRACE, CHATTANOOGA, TN 37415

### RCIA Candidates and Catechumens Sent to Bishop Kurtz

The Rite of Christian Initiation Rite of Sending of Catechumens for Election and Candidates for Recognition by the Bishop provides an opportunity for godparents and sponsors to state publicly at a parish Mass their support for the people they are sponsoring and for the parish to pray for the Catechumens and Candidates.

The Rite of Sending, on Wednesday February 14 at the 7pm Mass at St. Jude, was attended by two Catechumens, Kelly Hix and John Lindsay and nine Candidates, Richard Clark, Sky Fahm, Thomas Kosik, Rusty Leutz, Adele' Lindsay, Joe Nichols, Maggie Shutters, Rob Ward, and Jennifer White. Godparents and Sponsors attending were Stephanie Eberle, Gary Labelle, Josie Adams, Kevin Gabor, Donna Kuhn, Carroll Shipley, Theresa Leutz, Scott Kuhn, Ann Shutters, Debra Ward, and Jamie Poole. Candidate Tracey Jullienne was not at the Rite of Sending due to illness but she has the support of her sponsor Karen Griffiths to continue on her path toward full communion with the Catholic Church.

The Rite of Election of Catechumens and the Call to Continuing Conversion of Candidates for Catechumens and Candidates from the Deanery of Chattanooga is to be celebrated by Bishop Kurtz at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church on Saturday February 24.

Pictured in the photograph, from left to right, are Joe Nichols, Maggie Shutters, Richard Clark, Rusty Leutz, Sky Fahm, Jennifer White, and Rob Ward.



### Moms And Tots Visit Fire Station # 1

By Michelle Bertani

If you are looking for an entertaining outing that is fun and appropriate for the entire family, look into visiting a fire station. Just call the Fire Marshal's office to set up the visit. The moms and tots had a great time and learned a lot from their visit.



Every Thursday at 10am the Moms and Tots group meets in a different location for fun and fellowship. In the past, the group has been to the Zoo, the Aquarium, the Creative Discovery Museum, the Chattanooga Nature Center, parks and playgrounds, and Playworld Down Under, etc. Michelle Bertani, the group's organizer is always looking for new ideas of places to go.

A few weeks ago, one of the group's members, Terri Foster, told the moms about a trip to a fire station while in Memphis visiting family. All the moms thought this was a great idea, so we planned to visit Station No. 1 on Main Street in Downtown Chattanooga.

The moms (and one dad) and tots were invading the fire fighters' home away from home but the fire fighters were very welcoming. The fire captain greeted us and told us a lot of interesting facts about the station and the Chattanooga Fire Department. The captain is one of about 25 women in the department. She said that Chattanooga has one of the highest percentages of female fire fighters in the U.S. Recently, an all female crew answered a call for a fire here in Chattanooga and made the news.

The captain showed us the kitchen, two social rooms, a public meeting room, the night watchman's room, the sleeping quarters, the weight room, the locker rooms, and of course the tots' favorite, the garage with the trucks. The trucks were very impressive with all of the most up to date equipment. The tots were invited into the trucks. They "drove" them and turned on the lights. One of the fire fighters even dressed out in the full fire garb and put his hat on the kids' heads so they could see how heavy it is.

For the moms, the Haz-Mat truck was very interesting with a complete research center including computers, a library, and different protective suits conducive to safe encounters with different chemicals.

The fire fighters were more than willing to answer any questions we had and pose for pictures with the children. The only way to pull the kids away from the trucks was to promise them their own badges and fire helmets. In addition to these souvenirs, they received stickers, potholders, jar openers, and coloring books. The fire fighters invited us to return any time to visit and take more pictures. Overall, we were very impressed with Chattanooga's bravest.

# St. Jude School Ends Winter with a Flourish

## African-style Mass Highlights Catholic Schools Week



Catholic Schools Week was alive with festivity. Ice cream for students, lunch for the faculty and staff, and carnival activities were fun and so appreciated. But more importantly, students set up a village that represented the countries who benefited from the over \$6000 raised in the school-wide service project for Heifer International. Each grade set up a display that focused on the country's history, art, ethnicity and food. A joyous African themed mass concelebrated by former associate pastor, Fr. Augustine and Fr. Mike Creson and complete with special music and liturgical dancing, was a highlight of the week!

## Mardi Gras Festivities Prepare Students for Lent



As students made personal preparations for Lent, a festive Mardi Gras parade, led by drummers and flag wavers and the enjoyment of authentic King Cakes preceded a solemn prayer service, where the altar was cleared of any festive decoration in anticipation of Ash Wednesday. Students were commended for their enjoyment of the parade, as well as their respect for the need to turn quiet and inward in this time of spiritual reflection and preparation for Jesus' resurrection.

## Science Fair- Filled with Winners

Junior High Students sponsored their annual Science Fair with first place awards received by the following:

Morgan Howard - The Harmonious Harmonograph

Angie Marini - Transverse Water Waves

Carlton Mueller - Which Battery Lasts Longest?

Nola Pass - Little Black Dress

Al Salatka - Do You See What I "C"?



## The Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta Vocation Group Presents: Two Persons who made a difference

### Saint Peregrine

We often pray for guidance and assistance during times of difficulty, especially when a disease invades our body or that of a friend or loved one. Such an event occurred in Florence, Italy, during the 13<sup>th</sup> century when the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared separately to seven young men of that city, requesting their dedication to prayer and service. Thus began the Order of the Servants of Mary (Servites). Soon other men recognized their good works and joined them in the hills above the city.

In the city of Forli, Peregrine Laziosi had served as an activist in the anti-papal movement. He became impressed with the Servites, due to their Prior General, Philip Benizi, who was later named a saint. This led Peregrine to experience a change of heart and he applied for service within the Order. Brother Peregrine labored for years as a Servite. Eventually he was diagnosed with cancer of the leg. The cause was attributed to the many years in which he stood diligently to pray. The result was varicose veins which had become ulcerous. On the eve before his leg was to be amputated, Peregrine managed to drag himself to the foot of the cross in the community chapter room. Having fallen into a deep trance-like sleep, he awoke to find that his leg was completely cured. Many believed that his devout prayer life led to this miracle. He became the patron saint of cancer sufferers, AIDS patients, and those affected by other life-threatening diseases. He was canonized by the church in 1726. His feast day is May Fourth.

So often, events of this nature are seen as another of God's miracles. Let us also see it as the result of a human being who submitted to God unconditionally. What a model for all who deal with pain, sickness, or other crosses in their lives! The lesson of Peregrine's life is not that God worked a miracle, but that a faithful, trusting servant placed himself in the hands of our Lord. Peregrine's trust in God can be a model for all who live with pain, sickness, and the other crosses we bear during our journey through this earthly existence.

### Pope Saint Gregory the First

It seems like most stories are about people who began with nothing and through their vocation make a big contribution to the church. The story of St. Gregory begins differently. Gregory was born in Rome in 540 to a Christian Roman family. He was the son of a wealthy senator who owned large estates in Sicily and a mansion in Rome. Gregory pursued a secular political career, which climaxed at the age of 34 when Emperor Justin the Younger appointed him to the position of Prefect of Rome, the highest civil honor.

After the death of his father, he used his money to build six monasteries in Sicily and founded a seventh in his own home in Rome, which became the Benedictine Monastery of St. Andrew. Gregory was famous for his charity works. He built a hospital next to his house at his own expense. In 575 at the age of 35, he assumed the monastic habit at his home monastery. He was soon drawn out of his seclusion, in 578, when Pope Benedict 1 named him one of Rome's seven regional deacons, an important papal administrative office.

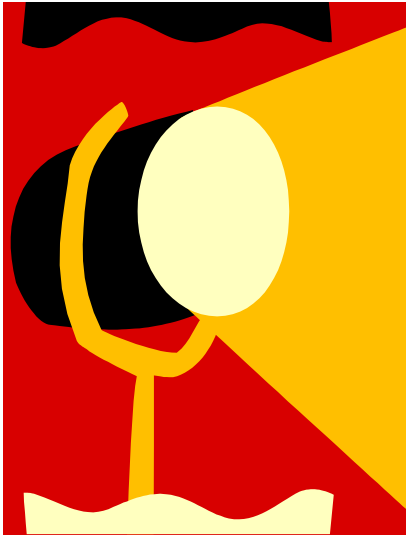
St. Gregory had a great influence in the formation of the early church. At the death of Pope Pelagius, he was chosen Pope by unanimous consent, in 590. His zeal extended over the entire known world; he was in contact with all the churches of Christendom. He was among the first to assert the primacy of the papal office. He was an able and determined administrator and a skilled and clever diplomat. Gregory is known for his tireless work for communication and understanding between the east and west.

Gregory had a momentous influence on the doctrine, organization, and discipline of the Catholic Church. He is known for his contribution to the liturgy of the Mass. The sacraments were directly influenced by his reforms. He saw the development of the concept of penance. For his great works he is referred to as St. Gregory the "Great" and is one of the four great Doctors of the Latin Church.

## P R A Y F O R V O C A T I O N S

Promoting vocations is the responsibility of everyone.

One person CAN make a difference!



## Spotlight on Stewardship in action

### *Scott and Donna Kuhn*

It's often said that the success of any activity or event hinges on the involvement and enthusiasm of the people who plan and participate. Whenever St. Jude parishioners, Scott and Donna Kuhn get involved, you can be sure it will be a success.

Parishioners since 2001, Scott and Donna are involved in multiple ministries within the parish. According to Parish Manager, Tom Picard, "Scott and Donna are great volunteers. They're easily here 2 -3 times each week, and even fill in for other volunteers when there is a need."

"We do it to serve God," is what they said when asked why they choose to spend so much time at St. Jude. And they serve Him well. Scott and Donna were very involved in planning and preparing for the Parish Picnic. They both serve as ushers at 5:30 mass on Saturdays, help with "donuts and coffee" on Sundays and even fill in as ushers at other masses if necessary. Donna is an active member of the Rosary Makers group. Scott adds, "She looks forward to making the rosaries every Thursday night."

Perhaps Scott and Donna are best known for their involvement with the Bereavement Group. Often spending up to eight hours of preparation for one service, Scott and Donna call food donors, pick up donations, cook and set up the Parish Life Center for funeral meals whenever necessary. And they do it because they want to help fellow parishioners in need and because, as they have said - they are called to serve God.

Originally from up north, Scott said it was easy to get involved at St. Jude when he moved here. "This is a great parish to get involved with; the people are so friendly and nice." Thank YOU, Scott and Donna. St. Jude Parish is lucky to count you among our parishioners and is grateful for the love, time and talent you share with all of us.

*Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labor of love.*

*1 Thessalonians i. 3.*

## Ten Great Dates Debut: A Smash

Valentine's Day proved to be a special evening for parish couples who began *Ten Great Dates*, a marriage enrichment program written by nationally known marriage educators David & Claudia Arp. A total of seventeen couples are participating in the program. They gather together with facilitators Paul & Karen Schulz, who give a brief overview of the evening's topic and show a short video clip. Couples are then ready to begin their date! They are free to remain at St. Jude for their date, or they may choose to go for coffee, dinner, or a walk in the park.

During this special time together, the couples complete a portion of their participant book, which fosters rich conversation.

Marriage takes work and with the busyness of today's society, it becomes quite easy to glide along and become complacent in one's marriage. With the help of *Ten Great Dates*, these couples have made a concerted effort to make a good marriage even better.

## Vacation Bible School Leaders Set Dates for 2007

Excitement is in the air as preparation takes place for VBS '07. A planning meeting was held and parishioners brainstormed with great enthusiasm.

Children will spend the week of June 18-22 exploring the great adventures of God's Bible Reef. Meanwhile, watch the anticipation build as planning continues and registration takes place.

If you would like to be part of our VBS team, you'll find that it is a week of excitement and fun for children and adults alike. Volunteer roles are available, whether you want to help before hand, for several days of VBS, or for the entire week. Call Marilyn Derbyshire at the parish office if you would like to be part of a true underwater adventure!

## Joyous News in January 2007's Parish Income and Expense Statement

The first thing to notice in January's Income and Expense Report is the bottom line. Until this month our fiscal year-to-date net was a red figure. Total expenditures consistently outweighed income by a relatively small amount. Those who read these numbers with past experienced warned people looking at the figures for the first time that things would get better. Well, by the end of January, the seventh month of the fiscal year, we have paid all our bills and have a surplus of \$15,102.89. That was due to a \$42,308.96 surplus of income vs. expenditures in January.

Part of the reason was an approximately \$17,000.00 increase in income from the December Statement. Many people contributed the lion's share of their annual pledge at the beginning of January. That more than made up for a decrease in income from "**Parishioner Envelopes**" of approximately \$12,000.00 from the previous month.

The "**Other Revenues**," which are detailed on the "**Parish Income**" page, remain steady for January reflecting a positive income of \$11,938.17 with a total revenue year to date of \$31,841.17.

The big difference maker was "**School Tuition / Subsidies**." They were up approximately \$37,000 over the previous month for out of parish and non-catholic students. It's nice when you send out notices to the parishes with children in our school and they respond as favorably as they did. We should have sent them out sooner.

Another major factor for the turn-around is the fact that the overall Expenses for January were down approximately \$25,000.00 from last month.

Here's an interesting tidbit. The "Holy Day Collection" total for January was \$766.00. This is a very interesting figure in that there were no Holy Days of Obligation in the month. Since January 1st fell on a Monday it lost its obligatory status. Still, the envelope was sent out in the monthly packets. We thank all those who did use the New Year's Day envelope.

There is no guarantee that this happy experience of a budget in the black will continue. However, the turning of the corner in January may be extremely significant. It was the first month of receipts for the new pledges. It's too early to tell; but perhaps "Responsible Stewardship" is working.

As you can see looking at the monthly statements, parishioners do not all give to the parish in equal amounts every month. Some give more at the end of the calendar year. Others give at the beginning. And most give whenever they can. The important message is that the cooperation of each family and person is vital to our success. Our is in the black by a razor-thin amount. To boot, the expenditures budgeted reflected a lot of belt-tightening. Many needed repairs were put off as well as other improvements to our Church and School and charities. It is a false economy to put them off much longer. So, we are depending on you to do your best to support the Church the best you can. We beg you to start giving 8% of the fruits of your labor. On our part we will do the best to be good stewards of the property of the parish. Reports such as those you can read in the "Reflections" will continually inform you of everything that is going on financially in the parish. So, stay tuned in and turned on to St. Jude.

## PARISH EXPENSES

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>JAN 1-31</u>	<u>SINCE 7/1/2006</u>
Office Staff Salaries/Benefits*	\$ 21,644.67	\$ 169,355.76
School Staff Salaries/Benefits*	\$ 128,142.52	\$ 920,747.68
3 Pastoral/Adminstrative	\$ 14,165.80	\$ 103,843.50
4 NDHS Assessment	\$ 9,045.00	\$ 45,225.00
5 Liturgy	\$ 1,910.81	\$ 17,836.72
6 Parish Religious Education	\$ 28.11	\$ 2,285.49
7 RCIA	\$ 173.64	\$ 947.99
8 Youth	\$ 481.46	\$ 3,913.35
9 Family	\$ 142.50	\$ 1,221.43
10 Parish Charity	\$ 1,029.49	\$ 7,282.27
11 Plant and Parish Operation and Maintenance	\$ 4,742.94	\$ 41,850.12
12 Major Repairs	\$ -	\$ -
13 School - K-8 including Operation and maintenance	\$ 14,356.44	\$ 130,702.89
14 Preschool	\$ 75.74	\$ 1,892.80
15 After School care	\$ 221.49	\$ 3,824.26
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 196,160.61</b>	<b>\$ 1,450,929.26</b>

### LOAN ON FAMILY LIFE CENTER

<b>Loan as of 12/31</b>	<b>Balance to date</b>
\$ 1,233,074.71	\$ 1,224,759.01

\* Includes salaries, FICA, retirement and insurance

## PARISH INCOME

<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>JAN 1-31</u>	<u>SINCE 7/1/2006</u>
1 Parishioner's Envelopes*	\$ 160,500.19	\$ 1,058,465.85
2 Loose Contributions	\$ 4,787.56	\$ 28,257.39
3 Children's Envelopes	\$ 14.15	\$ 132.55
4 Holy Day Collections	\$ 766.00	\$ 5,852.44
5 Other Revenues**	\$ 11,938.17	\$ 31,841.17
6 Parish Religious Education	\$ -	\$ 2,891.95
7 School Tuition/Subsidies	\$ 57,579.50	\$ 274,316.05
8 After School Care	\$ 2,884.00	\$ 36,687.75
9 Partners in Faith	\$ -	\$ -
10 G.I.F.T. Subsidy (Annual)	\$ -	\$ 27,587.00
<b>INCOME TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 238,469.57</b>	<b>\$ 1,466,032.15</b>
<b>EXPENSE TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 196,160.61</b>	<b>\$ 1,450,929.26</b>
	<b>\$ 42,308.96</b>	<b>\$ 15,102.89</b>

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

	<u>Month to Date</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
11 Second Collections	\$ 2,054.89	\$ 31,070.63
12 ASA	\$ 105.00	\$ 41,856.36
13 G.I.F.T. Campaign	\$ 1,439.91	\$ 49,902.05
14 Building Fund Receipts	\$ 8,976.60	\$ 97,516.25

\* Average number of envelopes per week turned in during Mass this month - 307

\*\* Includes Memorials, Stipends, Stole Fees, Sacramental Contributions, Candles, Religious Articles, Rental, Interest on Checking/Savings Accounts, Sunday Bulletin Ads

# Spirited Mardi Gras Party Ushers in a Meaningful Lent

“Welcome to the St. Jude Mardi Gras Celebration!” greeted the sign at the door on Tuesday evening, Feb. 20. “Please take one pom-pon per person,” it further advised, encouraging each person to collect as many as possible from others, and cautioning not to lose one’s own pom-pon.

Authentic Louisiana Bayou music greeted the mélange of parishioners – some of the Rosary Prayer Group, some young families, and some junior high youth group members, among others.

The groaning tables offered brownies, cakes, pies, candy, cookies, ice cream and other desserts. High school youth group members Olivia Dailey, Jacqueline Bruce, and Jonathan Turl stood ready, scoops in hand, to serve Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough, Rocky Road, Butter Pecan, and Vanilla ice cream with hot fudge, caramel sauce, rainbow sprinkles, mini-M&Ms, and whip cream for toppings.

Fr. Joe Brando presided at the Coronation Ceremony for Rose Lovelace; at the St. Jude Three Kings Party in January, she found the hidden token, thereby denoting her as the Mardi Gras Queen.

Parishioners bid on a family-pack of Groucho Marx glasses by hunting for the coin with the oldest date; craft supplies enticed individuals to enter the mask-making contest, and pom-pons traded hands until the final tally of a winner.

After about an hour and a half, party-goers collected their coats, tired yet excited children, and empty dishes of their dessert, well-gorged with fellowship and sweets, and ready to embark on the journey of Lent.