



Bishop Robert Morlino incenses the body of Bishop George Wirz in the Final Commendation of the funeral Mass for Bishop Wirz, which was held at St. Maria Goretti Nov. 30. Archbishop Jerome Listecki, 11 bishops and more than 100 priests were in attendance. (Catholic Herald photo)

## Presbyteral Ordinations



*On December 10, seminarians Chad Droessler and John Putzer were ordained into the priesthood at St. Maria Goretti.*

Above, Bishop Morlino and all the priests present lay their hands on the candidates for ordination, invoking the Holy Spirit to be poured forth upon Chad and John. Right, Bishop Morlino presents a chalice to newly ordained Fr. Chad, imploring him to imitate the mystery he will celebrate at each Mass.



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Santa and Mrs. Claus paid a visit to the Parish Christmas Party Dec. 5



Parish members carry Advent candles to the altar

# From the Pastor's Desk

## *To Know Christ Jesus*

by Fr. David Carrano



For many people, the weeks before Christmas are filled with plans to “come home.” Transportation systems gear up for the onslaught of travelers. Preparation is 95% of “coming home.” Guest rooms are made ready, refrigerators and freezers stocked, cookies baked, bags packed, and cars are gassed up and running. We get caught up in the wonder of it all!

The most important preparation, from our faith perspective, is “coming home” to Christ and Christ “coming home” to our hearts and

souls. I hope that these Christmas activities open all of us to the sacredness of Christ’s birth among and within us. I’m always amazed at the passion, holy desire and holy longing that many, many people have for Christ. I’ve always enjoyed listening to someone articulate or desire the “hole in the heart” that can only be filled by Jesus Christ. This Advent and Christmas, let’s “come home” to Christ and invite him to “come home” to us in our hearts, souls and families. With all

the cribs that celebrate his birth, if he isn’t in our very being, heart and soul and actions, we are surely missing the grace of Advent and Christmas.

**On behalf of Fr. David Carrano, all our staff at St. Maria Goretti Parish and myself, I want to wish you and all your loved ones a very blessed and joy-filled Advent and Christmas.** Thank you to Martha Doherty and all the wonderful contributors to “Gatherings” for all they do for us to facilitate our communication with you, the parishioners.

Welcome home to all college students. Have a wonderful break! I’m glad you are home with us.

Come home for Christmas! See you in Church! Bring someone back to Christ this Advent and Christmas. They want to be invited home! You’re the means to getting them to come home! Keep hope alive!

Merry Christmas!

*P.S. Bucky is going home to Pasadena!*

Imagine that the U.S. were occupied by an opposing power. After a long period of oppression and suffering, however, word began to spread that a liberator was coming. We might be excited at first, but inevitably someone would ask: “How do we know this so-called liberator will be any better for us than the tyrant who currently oppresses us?” We would try to do anything in our power to find out just what type of liberator this was, just what kind of a person he is. Not only that, if we found that he was as good as we’d like to believe, we’d also want to know just how we could help him achieve his purpose.

When we think about it, how much do we really know about Jesus, the one we look to for salvation? As we know, salvation is a liberation from sin and death, forces to which we are enslaved if we are without Christ. Do we do all in our power to come to know this liberator and to find out what we can do to help him in his task?

*(continued page 3)*

### **Gatherings**

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*Gatherings is a quarterly publication of St. Maria Goretti Parish*

## Electronic Hymn Boards



*Have* you noticed those boxes with the numbers above the exit doors in the front corners of the church? Have you figured out yet that those show the next musical selection during Mass?

The electronic hymn boards are a result of a study conducted by the Liturgy Committee, which facilitated the use of the boards for our church as a means of communicating the numbers for the music during the liturgies. Some of the concepts the committee considered were:

- Hospitality to those who may not know the musical Gloria and the Eucharistic Acclamations by heart
- Visual communication to help with auditory challenges
- Less interruption to the prayerful flow of the liturgy



Fr. Mike offers a blessing of the new St. Maria Goretti statue for the school children. Please go to our web site to learn more about the new bronze statue that stands in our Commemorative Garden.



## Greeters Workshop focuses on evangelization

by Judy Hoffman

*A* Greeters Workshop held Saturday, Nov. 6th, was a wonderful opportunity for greeters from all four Masses to gather together, pray together and discuss the role of the Ministry of Hospitality at St. Maria Goretti.

Sister Denise, along with Kathy Grzybowski and Mark Shapleigh from the Parish Council, helped us understand more fully the importance of evangelization. During faith sharing in small and large groups, we talked about the purpose of greeting and came up with an action plan, highlighting things to work on in the future as we help facilitate our parish goal of evangelization.

Thank you to Kathy and Mark for their excellent presentations, and to all the greeters who participated in this inspirational workshop.



## *...To Know Christ Jesus*

(continued from page 3)

One of my favorite books is a quite straightforward biography of Jesus of Nazareth's life entitled "To Know Christ Jesus," by Frank Sheed. The more I learn about the Gospels and the one they proclaim as Lord, the more I grow in the desire to know Jesus. In fact, I seek to make it my constant prayer and my one aim in life: To know Christ Jesus.

In the first chapter of the book, Sheed opens us up to the desire that's in his heart: "Think back to the first [believers in Jesus]. Unless they were quite monumentally incurious they must have wanted to know all that was to be known about the One to whom they had totally committed their lives here and hereafter, and their very selves. They would want to know who and what he was, and cherish every scrap of information about things said and done by him... The one longing must have been: 'Tell us about him. What was he like?'" (Frank Sheed, "To Know Christ Jesus," 17).

This desire to know Jesus is at the heart of what it means to believe and to look to him for salvation. John's Gospel says: "Now this is eternal life, that they should know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ" (Jn 17:3). With this in mind, Sheed concludes that salvation does not consist in merely believing, but in knowing the one in whom we believe. "To know Christ Jesus: If we do not know him as he lived among us, acted and reacted and suffered among us, we risk not knowing him at all" (Sheed, 10).

What better task, what better resolution than to commit our lives to seek to know Christ Jesus? What each of us can do to advance his kingdom will become abundantly clear if we simply and truly come to know him first.

# Fall Auction

by Karie Krantz

Thank you to everyone who attended SMG's 3rd Annual Fall Auction! The event was a huge success raising \$35,000 toward the Capital Campaign. Approximately 300 people came out to enjoy the dueling pianos, decadent desserts, and huge array of silent and live auction items. We appreciate the hard work of all of our committee members and volunteers! A big "thank you" goes to all of our corporate sponsors who made the evening possible. **The 2010 "Golden Globe" corporate table sponsors were: DeWitt Ross & Stevens, M&I Bank, SBA Management Services, Silverstone Partners, and Wisconsin Distributors.**



Above, Peter and Brenda Mortenson, Julie and Mark Rae  
Below, Piano Fondue pianist Chris Lange



Anyone interested in being involved in next year's fall auction, please contact Karie Krantz ([karielkrantz@gmail.com](mailto:karielkrantz@gmail.com)).



**The Fall Fish Fry** on Nov. 12 served approximately 670 people! This event, like all events at SMG, relies on the time and talent of our parishioners who volunteer to help out. Thanks go to Terri Kysely, who organizes the Fish Frys, and to the 150 volunteers who helped out, including servers, kitchen staff (left) and those who brought the yummy desserts!.

# Creativity and fun at Scrap, Stamp & More!

by Stephanie Dankert

The 2010 *Scrap, Stamp & More* event was held in November at SMG. There were 42 people who came to scrapbook, stamp, create cards, quilt, learn and have fun! Nearly \$1,800 was raised for the school's technology fund and many, many thanks go out for the donations from parishioners and community businesses!

## What's new online?

Some of the new features on [www.stmariagoretti.org](http://www.stmariagoretti.org) include:

- Online volunteer signups and online event registration
- Meet your Parish Council, including profiles (see page 8)
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion schedules and online signups for special Masses
- Audio recordings of Fr. David's gospel readings and homilies
- Ask SMG! (see page 7)

More than 1,500 SMG parishioners receive e-mail updates about the most current news and upcoming events. **Don't miss the latest news!** Go to the parish web site and log in to provide your current contact information in your secure parishioner profile, or e-mail [martha.doherty@stmariagoretti.org](mailto:martha.doherty@stmariagoretti.org) with your complete contact information.

## Rest in Peace

Recently deceased SMG members:

**James Zach, October 23**

**Lorraine K. Hammer, October 23**

**Kathryn Jean Riley, November 4**

**Deacon Wesley Brush, Jr.,  
November 5**

**Stanley Woods, November 30**

**Armando Romero, December 1**

**Audrey Hauser-Yanke, December 1**

St. Maria Goretti Parish received gifts between September 15 and November 30, 2010, in memory of the following:

John Buggy

Mary Rasmussen

We are very grateful to the families and friends of these individuals for remembering St. Maria Goretti Parish. May God reward them with eternal life.



## *A Season of Giving Embraced*

by Carol Vander Sluis

Each year when the holidays draw near, plans get under way for the **St. Maria Goretti Giving Tree**. The Giving Tree provides an opportunity for our parish members to support many people in need during the holidays throughout our community. First and foremost we support families in our own parish. In addition, we support agencies that serve families, many of whom are right in our parish neighborhood including Joining Forces for Families on Allied Drive and Russett Road, and the Meadowood Community Center. We also support agencies that serve individuals and families throughout our community such as the Elizabeth Seton House, Port St. Vincent men’s shelter, St. Vincent de Paul, the Elizabeth House maternity home, the Salvation Army, Care Net Pregnancy Center, Pregnancy Helpline and Badger Childhood Cancer Network. Despite the economic slowdown, **our parish responds with a bountiful spirit of giving, providing more than 600 gifts each season!** Needless to say, the agencies we serve are abundantly grateful for our support!

*It takes a small army of volunteers to manage and carry out The Giving Tree project each year. A few of us organize it, but many of you purchase gifts, volunteer to sort gifts after Mass or deliver gifts. We are thankful for each and every one of you who embrace this season of giving and bring it to life year after year!*

It is this spirit of giving that provides great joy and hope to many who cannot provide for their children’s basic needs. Last year we had a few extra gifts left under the Giving Tree with no ornament identifying the intended recipient. We kept them on hand until the last gifts were delivered to the agencies thinking we would find a place for them. I had a few last gifts to take to Joining Forces for Families on Russett Road and thought I would bring the two extra gifts along in case they could use them. When I arrived, Director Mike Bruce was finishing a phone call. He hung up the phone with a distressed look on his face saying he just received word that one of the mothers their agency serves was taken to the hospital and diagnosed with terminal cancer and she was frantic because her young boy didn’t have a winter coat to wear. My heart jumped when he said this. I asked what size he needed and he said the boy is 10 years old. In one of the bags of “extra gifts” was a boy’s size 10 winter coat! We both beamed with joy! It was God in action! This is one of many heartwarming stories we hear from people as gifts are delivered and the spirit of Christmas is shared.

*“It was God in action!”*

## **Fall/Winter Pro-life update**

By Laura Karlen and Alissa Hirscher

On Saturday, Oct. 30, SMG parishioners peacefully witnessed for life as part of Madison’s 40 Days for Life campaign at the east side Planned Parenthood abortion facility. Fr. David Carrano joined the group praying all afternoon and into the evening. Some parishioners were returning participants in 40 Days for Life, while others came out for the first time. This was a wonderful way for SMG to get involved in this international, 40-day-long pro-life vigil during which 788 babies were spared from abortion!

This year’s Giving Tree again includes ornaments that assist CareNet, the Elizabeth House and Pregnancy Helpline, offering a valuable way to

support local efforts to provide women with support and options for their babies.

Pregnancy Helpline is also looking for phone volunteers! You will receive training to answer questions about pregnancy, abortion alternatives, material goods, medical care and possible housing opportunities. Another need is in the Crib Share program. An individual is needed to fix and repair cribs, then take them to families’ homes and set them up. Please contact Alissa Hirscher (441-9575) if you are interested in these volunteer opportunities.

Thanks for all you do on behalf of life!

# The Healthanators take over SMG School!

by Mary Day

The SMG Healthanators (right), a health and wellness middle school group, meet weekly during lunch with middle school teacher, Miss Ross, focusing on a different theme relating to wellness.

For the months of November and December, the focus is the Fuel Bodies/Fuel Faith: All School Food Drive. The goal is to raise awareness about hunger and nutrition at the same time. All students at the school are encouraged to make donations that will be given to the Catholic Multicultural Center. The Healthanators are learning about wellness and, in the process, are gaining valuable experience in leadership and providing service to others. This is Catholic Education at work!



## Science and Math Club presenters needed!

by Val Blair

After Christmas, the 7th and 8th graders will again have an opportunity to attend the Science and Math Club after school to learn more about careers in these two fields. We will be meeting approximately every other Monday after school from 2:15 to 3 p.m. We are looking for speakers in the science and math fields who would be interested in briefly presenting information about their career and directing a student-centered activity. If you are interested in presenting to the SMG Science and Math Club, please contact Jenny Stein ([jenny.stein@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jenny.stein@sbcglobal.net)) or Val Blair ([valerie.blair@stmariagoretti.org](mailto:valerie.blair@stmariagoretti.org)) for more information. Thanks!



*Congratulations to SMG art teacher Kris Quakenbush, who received the Leadership Award from Artsonia, an online art gallery. The award recognizes achievement in the area of technology integration within the school arts program and honors teachers who go beyond the classroom walls to encourage family and community involvement in arts education. Student artwork is electronically scanned and showcased on the Artsonia website ([www.artsonia.com](http://www.artsonia.com)), allowing friends and families to view a child's artwork, as well as purchase items imprinted with their child's art.*

## Familiar With Fellowship?

by Kevin Streatar

It's really all about meeting others in our parish and getting to know each other. It's the basis of the **SMG Men's Group**. Our fellowship events have included socials (Monday Night Football games), guests (Father David Greenfield giving us a recap of his very interesting journey to the priesthood) and faith sharing (we met and broke into small groups and discussed events in our lives that either brought us to Catholicism or deepened our faith).

In November, several members of the SMG Men's Group visited Father David Greenfield at one of his

new parishes, St. Mary of the Most Holy Rosary in Pardeeville. We attended Saturday Mass then took Father David to dinner. It was great seeing him again, albeit unusual to see him leading a whole different congregation! We may visit him again this spring.

We had an opportunity to get to know our newest Parochial Vicar Father David Carrano on Dec. 13th. Father David shared his faith journey from his hometown of Stoughton to his studies in Rome to St. Maria Goretti. Men in our Parish also had the opportunity to share their

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# Ask SMG!

One of the most popular features on [stmariagoretti.org](http://stmariagoretti.org) is “Ask SMG!” Parishioners have the opportunity to ask a question of a priest, council member or parish administrator (privately or for publication on the site). Here are a few sample questions and their answers:

**Q:** My Mom is 88 years old and following a fall ... is pretty much homebound. ... I wondered if I could bring her Holy Communion...do I need to take some training?

**A:** *Yes this can be arranged. Please contact Sr. Marge at the parish office, 271-7421, to learn how this can be done.*

**Q:** How can I obtain my sacrament records (baptism, first communion, confirmation)?

**A:** *If you received your sacraments here at St. Maria Goretti, just call our parish office at 271-7421 and we can help you. If you received your sacraments at another church, you will need to contact that church.*

**Q:** Can only parents volunteer at school, or could a grandparent volunteer also?

**A:** *Grandparents and other family members are always welcome to volunteer at SMG School! Anyone who volunteers at our school must first go through Virtus training.*

Go to [www.stmariagoretti.org](http://www.stmariagoretti.org) and click on “Ask SMG” in the box on the right to read more questions and answers. Have you been wondering about something in the parish? Ask SMG!

## *Lighting the Way*



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*On Dec. 1 and 2, more than 350 parish women and guests attended “Lighting the Way,” a program for women that celebrated the beginning of Advent with an evening of praise, prayer, reflection, music, socialization and dessert. Many thanks go to Dawn Grelle for organizing the event and to the approximately 70 volunteers who helped out!*

## *Receive the Cross...*

by Sr. Denise Herrmann

**“Catechumens and Candidates, are you prepared to embrace and carry the cross of Christ?”** With this question, Fr. Mike Burke received the declaration of intent of the adults in RCIA to enter the next phase of their preparation to become Catholic.

At the Nov. 7th 9 a.m. Mass, our parish celebrated the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens for the RCIA Inquirers who are seeking Baptism, Confirmation and the reception of their first Communion. Our new catechumens are Carly Knoche, Stephanie Nienaber and Lucie Yang.

We also celebrated the Rite of Welcome for the RCIA Candidates for Reception into Full Communion of the Catholic Church. These adults are already baptized and are preparing for their Profession of Faith, Confirmation and the reception of their first Communion. Our candidates are Julie Bauhs, Phillip Gantz, David Noyce and Tim Richter.

As part of the Rite, the Catechumens and Candidates were marked with the Sign of the Cross on the forehead, shoulders, hands, feet, etc. “Receive the Cross...” was repeated over and over, letting them soak in the importance of the cross of Jesus Christ as his gift of salvation through Baptism and initiation into the Church. The parish congregation surrounded the Catechumens and Candidates with its prayerful support and singing of the refrain “Christ Will Be Your Strength.”



# Parish Council Update

by Mark Shapleigh, council vice chair

Your Parish Council has been meeting monthly since our last update here. Our usual business has included hearing from the Finance Council on budget matters, from each of our six commissions on their activity, and from both Fr. Mike and Fr. David. Fall is always an active time, and it's been no exception for us!

The theme of Evangelization within St. Maria Goretti continues to grow. We began meeting with various SMG ministries recently. Our role has been to talk with them about what Evangelization means at SMG and to discuss specific actions they might take to incorporate Evangelization into their particular ministry work. Discussions with more groups are planned for January and are likely to continue into the spring.

With the turning of the calendar page shortly, we are also turning our eyes toward the future. It's time to explore the direction we'd like to head as a parish and to focus on plotting our course. While we don't yet know the timing, the process or even the expected outcome, we do know the time is now to start setting our compass. Stay tuned for more details in the coming months, as we will, of course, want to hear from YOU.

Finally, from the few of us to the many of you, we wish a safe and joyous Advent season and a most blessed Christmas. O come, O come, Emanuel!

*The time is now to start setting our compass.*

## ...Men's Group

(continued from page 6)

own journey if they chose. It was just another chance to get to know one of the leaders of our parish - and a future leader in our Church.

And we have more events in the works for the men of our Parish!

We are planning a Silent Retreat for Men, March 4-6, 2011, at the Redemptorist Retreat Center in Oconomowoc. The focus will be "Growing in God's Love." If you have not been on a retreat before, this is a terrific chance for quiet reflection on your relationship with God and on your life. (For more information, contact Bill Bullock at 698-5214 or go to [www.redemptoristretreat.org](http://www.redemptoristretreat.org)).

The Men's Group is also about helping others in our parish. We know of several needs for volunteers. If interested, let us know and we can get you in touch with those looking for help.

Send us your e-mail and we'll put you on our SMG Men's Group list to keep you up to date on upcoming events (send an e-mail to: [kjaa2@charter.net](mailto:kjaa2@charter.net) with "SMG Men's Group" in the subject line).

For more information regarding the SMG Men's Group please contact:

Kevin Streetar ([kjaa2@charter.net](mailto:kjaa2@charter.net))

Mark Shapleigh ([mark.shapleigh@fammed.wisc.edu](mailto:mark.shapleigh@fammed.wisc.edu))

Bill Bullock ([bill@aiai.biz](mailto:bill@aiai.biz))



Visit [www.stmariagoretti.org](http://www.stmariagoretti.org) to read profiles of the SMG Pastoral Council members; new profiles are added monthly. Below is a small excerpt from the members who have so far submitted reflections on their council service. If you spot one of these folks in church or around town, introduce yourself; they'd love to meet you and hear your thoughts!

**Ken Brown** (top left) - "...marveling at the strength of character and true dedication SMG has for the faith."



**Shannon Kramer**, council secretary (bottom left) - "Being a part of such a faith-filled group has been quite powerful and moving."

**Mark Shapleigh**, vice chair (top right) - (participating on the council) "helps fulfill my sense of gratitude, of giving something in return for all the blessings I've received."

**Kevin Streetar** (bottom right) - "My faith is always strengthened when I see our leaders work together to continually manage and improve our Parish."



# Parish Contact List

| ORGANIZATION/OFFICE  | CONTACT PERSON                        | PHONE                 |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Parish Office Staff</b> (Staff emails: <a href="mailto:firstname.lastname@stmariagoretti.org">firstname.lastname@stmariagoretti.org</a> ) |                                       |                       |
| Pastor .....   | Rev. Msgr. Michael Burke .....        | 271-7421              |
| Parochial Vicar .....  | Rev. David Carrano .....              | 271-7421              |
| Pastoral Associate .....   | Sr. Denise Herrmann, CSA .....        | 268-2960              |
| Pastoral Associate (volunteer) .....   | Sr. Marie Kees, CSA .....             | 268-2958              |
| Pastoral Associate, Director of Pastoral Care .....  | Sr. Marge Kalina, SSJ-TOSF .....      | 268-2976              |
| Deacon/Coordinator of Library.....   | Deacon Jerome Buhman.....             | 268-2959              |
| Deacon.....  | Deacon Dick Martin .....              | 277-5806              |
| Director of Administration & Parish Ambassador .....   | Tim Endres .....                      | 268-2965              |
| Director of Liturgy & Worship.....   | Sr. Denise Herrmann.....              | 268-2960              |
| Director of Parish Maintenance.....  | Pat Doherty.....                      | 271-7421, ext. 241    |
| Business Manager & Director of Facilities .....  | Tom Wildenborg.....                   | 268-2962              |
| Bookkeeper .....   | Ruth Kramer .....                     | 268-2963              |
| Liturgical Music Coordinator .....   | Mary Clemons.....                     | 277-9724              |
| Membership Coordinator (volunteer).....  | Mary Murphy.....                      | 271-7421 ext. 224     |
| Pastoral Asst. (volunteer) .....   | Dave Ross.....                        | 268-2954              |
| Parish Secretary .....   | Linda Degenhardt .....                | 271-7421 ext. 202     |
| Administrative Asst. to the Pastor.....  | Laurie Fleurette.....                 | 271-7421 ext. 201     |
| Secretary to Parish Ambassador .....   | Colleen Nelson .....                  | 271-7421 ext. 221     |
| Parish Computer Consultant.....  | Dan Dankert .....                     | 271-7421 ext. 244     |
| Parish Office Receptionist .....   | Rachel Hellen .....                   | 271-7421              |
| Coordinator of Special Events .....  | Dana Jacobs.....                      | 438-2017              |
| Coordinator of Communications .....  | Martha Doherty .....                  | 271-7421 ext. 232     |
| <b>Parish Pastoral Council</b>   |                                       |                       |
| Chairperson .....  | Kathy Grzybowski .....                | 270-9855              |
| Secretary.....   | Shannon Kramer.....                   | 513-2646              |
| <b>Worship &amp; Prayer Commission</b>   |                                       |                       |
| Commission Chairperson.....  | Marti Hake .....                      | 271-7057              |
| Adult Servers.....   | Sister Denise Herrmann.....           | 268-2960              |
| Baptism Prep. Class.....   | Sister Denise Herrmann.....           | 268-2960              |
| Commentator & Lector Scheduling .....  | Dick Sorensen.....                    | 442-7263              |
| Decorating Church Environment.....   | Sister Denise Herrmann.....           | 268-2960              |
| Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Sched. ...   | Mary Martin.....                      | 274-7455              |
| Church Flowers/Plants .....  | Sister Denise Herrmann.....           | 268-2960              |
| FOCCUS (Facilitating Open Couple Communication, Understanding & Study) .....   | Marilyn Kinney .....                  | 271-2760              |
| Greeters Scheduling.....   | Judy Hoffman .....                    | 845-6707              |
| Liturgy Committee .....  | Terry Steiger.....                    | 271-7421              |
| Marriage Encounter Program .....   | Diocesan Family Ministry Office ..... | 821-3175              |
| Marriage Prep Program Presenter .....  | Diocesan Family Ministry Office ..... | 821-3175              |
| <b>Music Ministry</b>  |                                       |                       |
| Adult Choir.....   | Dennis McKinley.....                  | 497-0143              |
| Cantor/Song-Leaders.....   | Mary Clemons .....                    | 277-9724              |
| Contemporary Choir.....  | Amy Carran .....                      | 288-9255              |
| SpiritSong .....   | Tessa Sawchuk..... 274-7740           | Jane Henneberry ..... |
| Funeral/Resurrection Choir.....  | Mary Clemons.....277-9724             | Lisa Kjentvet .....   |
| Musicians .....  | Mary Clemons .....                    | 277-9724              |
| Prayer Line.....   | Shirley Eckstein .....                | 271-1824              |
| Sacristans.....  | Sister Denise Herrmann.....           | 268-2960              |
| Sanctuary & Sacristy Cleaning .....  | Sue Luedtke .....                     | 274-6133              |
| Servers Scheduling Coordinator .....   | Jenny & Noli Ybanez .....             | 848-2859              |
| Servers Training Coordinators .....  | Dave Ross .....                       | 268-2954              |
| Sewing/Seamstresses .....  | Sister Denise Herrmann.....           | 268-2960              |
| Ushers, Scheduling.....  | Bill Bremer .....                     | 273-1731              |
| Wedding Coordinators .....   | Linda Degenhardt.....                 | 271-7421              |

(more)

## Parish Contact List (continued)

### Christian Education/Formation Commission

Commission Chairperson.....TBD

### St. Maria Goretti School - 271-7551

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Principal.....Elizabeth Young            | Athletic Board .....Mike Roche ..... 288-8721               |
| Asst. Principal .....Ann Martinelli      | Home & School Assoc. Pres. ....Julie Schmitt ..... 848-2032 |
| Secretaries.....Beth Wilson, Maria Dulli | Maintenance .....Pat Doherty ..... 271-7551                 |
|  | .....Ed Palzkill..... 271-7551                              |
|  | Scrip Program .....Ruth Becker ..... 273-2325               |
|  | .....Amy Hartlieb ..... 848-4596                            |

### Parish Education and Youth Ministry

|  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Director of Religious Education & Youth Ministry .....               | Joe Rausch.....298-2098          |
| Youth Ministry Program Assistant .....                               | Maria Dulli .....268-2967        |
| Sunday School Program (Age 3-K), Grades 1-5 Religious Education..... | Shari Kuemmel .....271-3732      |
| Grades 6-12 Youth Ministry .....                                     | Joe Rausch.....298-2098          |
| Religious Education Secretary .....                                  | Misty Brumm.....271-8081         |
| RCIA .....   | Sr. Denise Herrmann.....268-2960 |

### Human Concerns/Social Justice Commission

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Commission Chairperson.....                    | Jerry Halverson .....277-0243               |
| Community Meal Program .....                   | Janet Powell.....271-0776                   |
| Funeral Lunches   Serving .....                | Mary Schuman.....271-5385                   |
| Donating Salads/Desserts .....                 | Ann Kleckner.....271-7418                   |
| Home Eucharistic Ministers .....               | Sr. Marge Kalina.....268-2976               |
| Pro-Life.....                                  | Steve & Laura Karlen .....445-2063/445-2064 |
|  | Erica Tejada.....661-9338                   |
| St. Vincent de Paul Membership Conference..... | Dave Crow.....347-2246                      |

### Parish Life Commission

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Commission Chairperson. Kristin Pilgrim .....          | Knights of Columbus..... Tim Endres ..... 268-2965               |
| Book Club ..... Margaret Ferry.....274-7973            | Little Tots Play Group ..... Rachel Enright ..... 358-1937       |
| Boy Scout/Cub Scouts..... Mike Kleckner.....275-3344   | Special Events..... Dana Jacobs..... 438-2017                    |
| Carefree Years Club ..... Barbara Brown.....271-9397   | Gorettifest..... Ken Brown ..... 209-0240                        |
| Coffee & Donuts ..... Tom & Joni Lownik ..... 848-2411 | Co-chairs..... TBD   |
| Girl Scouts/Brownies..... Beth Wilson.....271-7551     | <i>Gatherings</i> Newsletter ..... Martha Doherty ..... 271-7421 |

### Vocations Commission

Commission Chairperson

### Stewardship Commission

Commission Chairperson..... Tim Endres..... 268-2965

### Other Volunteer Opportunities/Ministries

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Diocesan Singles Club.....   | Diocesan Family Ministry Office ..... 821-3175 |
| Facilities & Grounds Chairperson .....                             | Mark Nelson..... 848-4933                      |
| Coordinator of Parish Landscaping/Oversight of Parish Grounds..... | Mike Hurtgen..... 273-6086                     |
| Parish Office.....   | Tom Wildenborg ..... 268-2962                  |
| Red Cross (One-A-Week) Blood Donors .....                          | Terry Steiger..... 271-3331                    |

### Finance Council

Council Chairperson..... John McClure..... 833-2540

**St. Maria Goretti Catholic Parish**  
 5313 Flad Ave., Madison, Wisconsin 53711  
 608 -271-7421  
[www.stmariagoretti.org](http://www.stmariagoretti.org)

# Youth Ministry is Alive and Growing

*A great deal of life and promise for the future of our Church*

by Joe Rausch, director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry

Do you wonder about all those announcements at Mass? What are they all for? Well, we have large, vibrant, active, and growing youth ministry programs for middle and high school students. All those announcements are a sign of a great deal of life and promise for the future of our Church. I'd like to let you know what has been happening in Youth Ministry just during the fall months.

- **St. Maria Goretti Middle School Youth Ministry** meets Wednesday evenings. We have 190 students registered from 13 different schools that are led by 38 small group leaders.
- **High School Youth Ministry** meets Sunday evenings. We have 126 freshmen and sophomores registered from seven different area high schools. HS Youth Ministry is faith formation and Confirmation preparation for our parish teens, who are usually confirmed in the spring of their sophomore year. The program is led by 30 volunteer small group leaders, many of whom are high school juniors and seniors who have been confirmed in the past year or two.
- In September, we took 35 8th grade students from the parish school for an overnight **Retreat** at Camp Gray, with a focus on building faith, community and leadership.
- Nov. 5-7 **Weekend Mission Trip**: We traveled up to Rochester, Minn., with 27 students where we joined other area churches helping the community recover from severe flooding. We helped a Christian camp director's family with the gutting and rebuilding of their home, which was devastated by the flood, and also did camp cleanup and repairs. You would have been proud of all the hard work the teens did!
- **Confirmation Retreat**: At the end of November, we took 33 high school sophomores out to Camp Gray for the weekend for their Confirmation retreat. The retreat was led by a team of 10 young

adults and high school juniors and seniors.

- **Monthly Social Events**: We've had various monthly social events for middle school students to help build community, stay connected and just have fun! We've done things like...
  - **Fun Night at the O'Connor Center**: In October, we met at the Diocesan Center for open gym time, games, rock band, snacks, swimming and more! There were 70 parish middle schoolers who joined with other students from west side area Catholic parishes for a night of fun!
  - **Halloween Dance**: costumes, open gym, DJ and dancing, lots of food, and fun for the 195 attendees.
  - **Westside Network Party Bus**: 40 of our parish middle schoolers gobbled up pizza at St. Thomas Aquinas and then piled on buses with kids from other area Catholic parishes for a night of bowling at Schwoeggler's and games/fun at Vitense.
- **Fundraisers**: With many, many generous volunteers we were able to accomplish:
  - Installing 4,000 seat backs in Camp Randall during two full weekends.
  - Removing 4,000 seat backs at Camp Randall in ONE DAY with an army of volunteers! God bless you all! This is a huge fundraiser for Youth Ministry.
  - Ran a **Concession Stand** for UW Badger home football games with 20 people for each of seven games, September through November.
  - Did our annual **Bread From the Mound** Sale that also supports Youth Ministry and the Sinsinawa sisters.

We cannot thank you enough! Thank you to the many generous volunteers for your countless volunteers hours, for your chaperoning of events, for your prayers and for your support of our sales. We truly are a blessed parish! **God is good!**

St. Maria Goretti Parish  
5313 Flad Ave.  
Madison WI 53711

*Please inform the parish office of any changes in your family's contact information via your online parishioner profile, e-mail, phone call, mail or stop in and see us!*

*Help save time, printing and postage costs: read or download your Gatherings newsletter online! Register via your secure parishioner profile.*

***www.stmariagoretti.org***

## ***SMG Calendar of Upcoming Events***

Please check the web site and bulletin for specific event details, as information may change.

Many events now offer online volunteer signup and/or event registration!

***Volunteer!*** We need many volunteers for each event, from event chairs to set-up and clean-up, plus everything in between.

Contact Dana Jacobs in the Parish Office for more information. Event proceeds support the Capital Campaign.

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Event</b>                                      | <b>Location</b>  | <b>Details</b>  |
|-------------|---|------------------|---|
| January 8   | Movie Night ( <b><i>Event Chair Needed!</i></b> ) | School Cafeteria | Doors open at 6:15 p.m.; movie starts at 6:45 p.m.; <b>Price: \$2.50/meal</b> (hot dog, chips, small drink) |
| January 30  | Pancake Breakfast                                 | Parish Hall      | 7:30-11:30 a.m.; <b>Price: \$6/adults; \$5/children</b>   |
| January 30  | Free Throw Contest                                | School Gym       | 10 a.m.-5 p.m.  |
| February 13 | Spaghetti Dinner                                  | Parish Hall      | Noon-6 p.m.; <b>Price TBD</b>   |
| March 5     | Trivia Night                                      | School Gym       | 6:30-10:30 p.m. <b>Price: \$240/table of eight</b>  |
| March 11    | Spring Fish Fry                                   | Parish Hall      | 4:30-7:30 p.m.; <b>Price: \$9.50/adults; \$5.50 ages 3-12</b>   |
| March 26    | Movie Night ( <b><i>Event Chair Needed!</i></b> ) | School Cafeteria | Doors open at 6:15 p.m.; movie starts at 6:45 p.m.; <b>Price: \$2.50/meal</b> (hot dog, chips, small drink) |
| April 9     | Sports Night                                      | School Gym       | TBA   |
| April 15    | Spring Fish Fry                                   | Parish Hall      | 4:30-7:30 p.m.; <b>Price: \$9.50/adults; \$5.50 ages 3-12</b>   |

## ***Gorettifest***

**June 4-5, 2011**

***Join the fun for our biggest event of the year!***

***We need HUNDREDS of people to plan, organize and present Gorettifest!***

***Contact Dana Jacobs (dana.jacobs@stmariagoretti.org) to lend your organizational talents!***