



Holy Cross Connections

Celebrating 175 Years - Jubilee 2008



We've Got News - Newsnotes from the Parish

Compiled
By Sister
Pat Pieper

Our beloved **Msgr. Corcoran** celebrated the 65th anniversary of his Ordination on Thursday, April 17th!!

Vicki Meyer was recently honored as one of six local survivors, saved by our paramedics during the Firefighters Appreciation Week. Vicky was resuscitated through swift action, not once but twice, once while she was faithfully performing her volunteer service here at St. Lawrence Haven!

Jesse Smith and **Gus Manley** are graduating from 8th grade. Gus was confirmed this year and also received an Altar Server Award from the Bishop on May 11, at the Cathedral. Jesse is one of our cantors at the 11:00 Mass, following in the footsteps of his older brother, Michael.

Dan Dury, our seminarian studying at Emmitsburg, MD was privileged to be part of those

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A Mission to Remember

Jubilee Mission 2008 - by Fr. Jerry Stluka

Jim Houck participates in the parish



What a splendid time of grace and inspiration! Several participants re-

lected on their mission experience: "Words fall short in describing my Holy Cross retreat experience this past April. Our leaders did a fantastic job in proclaiming God's love and care for each of us. I've been personally enriched by their words

of wisdom. Over the years I would say: why go to confession? I haven't committed any sins. Now I realize that this

sacrament is a marvelous opportunity to experience the healing forgiveness and mercy of God. What a gift!"

Our evenings of reflection on the sacraments provided a time of grace

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Strategic Planning

On Sun., **June 29** from 3-5:00 p.m. we will gather as a parish family to conduct a self-study. After looking at our spiritual & material resources, we will creatively propose ways that we might better accomplish our mission and ministry as a parish.

After all parishes complete their self-studies, 15 deaneries of the diocese will meet to study how parishes might better collaborate in a more efficient and effective use of our gifts and resources. Our center-city deanery includes St. Joseph Cathedral, St. Patrick, Sts. Augustine and Gabriel, St. Thomas, Holy Rosary - St. John and St. Dominic.

Please pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we study, pray and plan for the future. Please come and participate in this important study of our past, present and future.

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welcoming Pope Benedict at the Washington Nationals' Stadium. Dan says, "It was such a moving and inspiring experience for all of us. He, as successor to St. Peter and Vicar of Christ has an effect on people that can barely be described. All we could do was chant and scream with great emotion *Viva il Papa* or *Long live the Pope!*"

Ann Seren, Sr. Pat and Jan Kustron finished the "rain walk" for NAMI, Franklin Co. the National Association for Mental Illness (no time given!!!) on Saturday, May 3. Thanks to the parishioners who sponsored them in this worthy event.

The Swaby baby arrived on Monday, May 19th. It's a boy, **Francis Alexander!! Winston and Francesca Swaby** are the

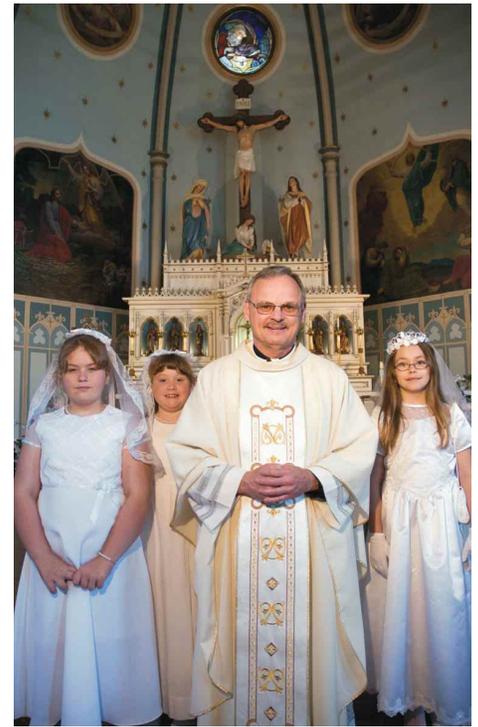
proud parents.

We are eagerly awaiting another new "baby parishioner": **Rachel and Tom Walsh** are expecting in October. Let us know if there are any others.

Areli Allen, daughter of **Jamie and Eric** (RCIA last year) and sister of **Ila** will be baptized on Fathers' Day.

Cristina Lageman, daughter of **Judy and Frank**, was the key production assistant to the Executive Director of the "American Gladiators". You may have seen her by-line or a quick shot of her in a hallway if you watch the show.

Our First Communion recipients this year - May 18, are: **Storm Boyer and Katie and Tricia Tripp!**



Katie Tripp, Tricia Tripp, Fr. Jerry and Storm Boyer pause for a picture after the girls' First Communion.

CONGRATULATIONS to all those mentioned!

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to consider new ways of appreciating and cherishing these wonderful Gifts of God. Jesus is truly present in each of the sacraments: healing, reconciling, and bringing new life. In the Sacraments of Initiation we die and rise with Christ (Baptism); we are sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit who empowers us to continue the mission and ministry of Christ (Confirmation); we are strengthened by the Bread of Life and Cup of Salvation (Eucharist) as we are united with all God's children in the communion of saints.

In the Sacraments of Healing (Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick), we experience the spiritual and physical healing of relationships, body, mind and spirit.

In the Sacraments of Vocation/

Commitment (Holy Orders & Marriage) Christ is made powerfully present by loving spouses and parents that have creative life-giving marriages and ordained deacons, priests and bishops who act as servant leaders to shepherd God's people with care and compassion.

Special attention and appreciation were given to single persons who give their lives in wholehearted service to God's people, responding to so many in need.

Our jubilee mission also included two Bible Studies. Participants were invited to contemplate the Word of God and share their insight with others as we grew in our appreciation of the wonderful Gift of God's holy Word.

We need YOUR news!

Now that the Holy Cross Connections newsletter is one year old we want to invite you, our parishioners, to contribute to our publication. **Tell us your news!** We want to know about births, graduations, honors, travels and those things that make us a parish family.

Drop off a note at the rectory and we'll get your news in the next edition. **OR** send an email to Jack Kustron - jack@photoj.com.

Behind the Scenes *By Jack Kustron*

Right - Ann Reinhardt in the rectory kitchen.

In a variation of the old saying that the way to a man's heart is through his stomach; Anna Reinhardt knows that the way to a Pastor and Monsignor's heart is through her home cooked meals.

Anna, who prefers to be called Ann, was born and raised in the Blue Grass State of Kentucky. She has a daughter, Cheri, of Fredricksburg, VA and three grandchildren. She's another member of our parish who is a convert to Catholicism, and has been a member of the Holy Cross family since 2000.

She is the official parish cook for special occasions, such as when several priests gather for Holy Thursday, or when the Bishop visits. She also prepares a meal for Fr. Jerry and Msgr. Corcoran twice a week. When asked what their favorites meals were, Ann said "they told me anything I fix is good – they never complain - the only time that Father said anything is once he asked me what it was that I had prepared that week and I said that it was vegetable lasagna and he said please don't make that any more – we like our meat," she said laughing.

In addition to her cooking duties, Ann also fills in for Claire Miller, as the bride hostess, to help at weddings when needed. "Keep the bride away from the groom – that's the biggest problem," she said with a laugh.

Ann, along with Sr. Pat and Claire Miller also do the planning and a lot of the set up for our annual parish picnic. And she volunteers to drive those in need in her spiffy new car. Another deed that Ann performs is acting as a greeter for funerals and has been an RCIA sponsor once and said that she's "working on another one."

When asked what she likes best about Holy Cross, she said "Fr. Stluka makes everyone feel special and I know that when he talks to me about anything, he's very sincere." Just talking to Ann makes it easy to see that she is also a sincere and special person.



Dates to Remember:

Annual Parish Potluck - Friday, June 13
5:30 p.m., on the grounds between the church and
Cum Christo Center

Parish Self-study - Sunday, June 29
3:00 - 5:00 p.m., at the church

Parish Feast Day - Sunday September 14
10:00 a.m. Mass - Bishop Campbell celebrant

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Parish Staff

Reverend Father Jerome D. Stluka, Pastor
Reverend Monsignor Lawrence J. Corcoran, P.A., In Residence
Sister Patricia A. Pieper, SNDdeN, Pastoral Associate
Michael P. Agriesti, Administrative Assistant

Liturgy Schedule

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Daily: 11:30 a.m. Monday - Saturday

Confessions

Every Friday: 11:00 a.m.
Every Sunday: 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

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