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#### **Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday 8:00am-4:30pm Friday 8:00am-12:00pm

#### **Mass Schedule**

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm

Nursery available at all weekend Masses. Interpreter for hearing impaired at 11:00am.

#### Weekday Masses

Mondays 8:30am

Tuesdays 8:30am with Rosary to follow

Wednesdays 6:00pm Thursdays 8:30am Fridays 8:30am

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation (private)

Saturdays 4:00-4:30pm

**Mission Statement:** Pax Christi Catholic Community, in company with God, and guided by the Spirit of Vatican II, welcomes all as leaders in faith for service to the world.

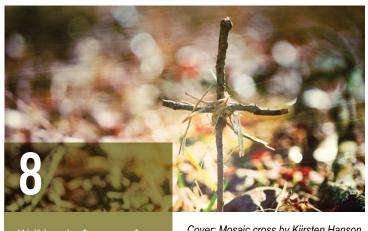
**Vision Statement:** Pax Christi Catholic Community will be a community guided by a cooperative spirit that supports growth in faith and calls for each member to engage in active and generous service to each other, our community and the greater world.

THE PAX CHRISTI NEWS IS PRINTED MONTHLY BY THE CHURCH OF PAX CHRISTI OF EDEN PRAIRIE. EMAIL COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS TO MELISSA NAULT, COMMUNICATION ARTS DIRECTOR, MNAULT@PAXCHRISTI.COM, OR 952-405-7221.





The Glory of Paradise by Fr. Steve McMichael



Walking the Journey of Holy Week and Easter Cover: Mosaic cross by Kjirsten Hanson, photography by Stan Bann, photo editing by Tim Meagan.





















# BEFORE I FORGET...



**Fr. Bill Murtaugh** Pastor

I KNOW THAT YOU ARE
LOOKING FOR JESUS
WHO WAS CRUCIFIED.
HE IS NOT HERE; FOR
HE HAS BEEN RAISED.
—THE ANGEL,
MATTHEW 28:5

SEVERAL YEARS AGO Tom Hanks starred in the movie Cast Away. It's a contemporary Robinson Crusoe story. Hanks plays a FedEx trainer named Chuck Noland. Early in the film, Chuck and several of his colleagues crash into the sea in a company plane, killing all except Noland. The next day his life raft washes ashore on a deserted island, along with numerous FedEx packages from the airplane. Noland opens the packages, hoping to find items that would help him survive on the island. One box contains a pair of ice skates; what good are ice skates on a deserted tropical island? Noland manages to find creative uses for them. He uses the shoelaces for rope and one of the ice blades for a hatchet. He even uses one of the skates as a dental tool!

Noland also finds a package containing a volleyball, which becomes his one and only friend: "Wilson." Another box contains video tapes, which Noland uses as ropes. One of the boxes he finds on the beach has angel wings on the outside, but interestingly, he never opens it. Instead, Noland saves the package for the entire four years he lives on the island. When he finally leaves the island on a raft, he throws the unopened package onto the craft and takes it with him.

In the final scene of the movie, Noland, now safely back in the United States, drives down a lonely Texas highway with the unopened angel wings FedEx package in the passenger seat of his car. As he drives, you can hear the car radio playing "Return to Sender," sung by Elvis Presley, and that is exactly what Noland is doing. He arrives at the home of the original sender, knocks on the door, but nobody is home. Noland places the box at the front door along with a note that reads, "This package saved my life." A few minutes later the movie ends.

So what did Chuck Noland mean when he wrote, "This package saved my life?" He never opened it. He didn't use its contents. Yet he claims it saved his life. If you've seen the movie, it's obvious what he meant. The package symbolized

HOPE for Chuck Noland. It represented his hope that one day he would leave that island, go home to family and friends, return to his job — and deliver that package. It was, literally, a package of hope. And that hope kept him going for four difficult years on a deserted island. At one point the endless drudgery and overwhelming loneliness of the island almost drove him to suicide. But hope of returning home kept him alive. "This package saved my life," wrote Noland. But what he really meant was, "Hope saved my life."

Hope does save people's lives! Hope can save us spiritually, emotionally, relationally, and sometime even physically. We hope for many things. We hope for forgiveness, reconciliation, and healing. We hope that faith will return, finances will recover,





or grief will finally end. We hope our addiction can be overcome or a marriage can be saved. People hope for life beyond divorce or courage to face "the valley of the shadow of death." When we can keep hope alive, we somehow find the strength to take another step in spite of the darkness and pain of the present moment. Hope is a powerful force. Hope can save a person's life in every way a life can be saved. Hope is what the resurrection of Jesus Christ is all about.

Little hope remained for the followers of Jesus on Good Friday and on Saturday. Their friend and teacher was betrayed, mocked, put on trial, beaten, and crucified. They watched as his lifeless body was placed in a tomb. The disciples felt devastated; all hope vanished. They went into hiding, fearful for their own lives. But on the third day,

Easter, something incredible happened. The good news spread; "He is not here; he has risen!" (Luke 24:6). The news of Christ's resurrection from the grave gave the followers of Jesus renewed hope — hope for life and hope even for death! The last word of the gospel is not death but resurrection. God is in the business of bringing life out of death, not just out of physical death but also out of smaller deaths like the death of a dream, the death of a marriage, the death of a career, or the death of good health.

And that great Easter Hope gives us hope for living and even hope for dying. Christianity stands or falls on the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God who gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. We are an Easter People 365 days a year.

#### TRIDUUM SCHEDULE

#### **HOLY WEEK/EASTER**

#### **HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 13**

7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (Followed by adoration in chapel until 10:00pm)

#### **GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 14**

3:00pm Living Stations 5:00pm Living Stations

7:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

#### HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 15 - NO PRIVATE RECONCILIATION

12:00noon Blessing of Easter Food 8:00pm Easter Vigil Mass

(All are invited to a reception immediately following Mass)

#### EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16 - THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

7:00am Easter Mass 9:00am Easter Mass

9:00am Easter Mass in Nazareth Hall

11:00am Easter Mass

11:00am Easter Mass in Nazareth Hall

(No 5:00pm Mass)

#### MONDAY, APRIL 17

Building Closed, No Morning Mass

#### PAX CHRISTI'S ANNUAL CROSS EXHIBIT On display through Holy Week in the Pacem In Terris Gallery, near the Main Entrance

We are privileged to have a wonderful collection of interesting crosses which is currently on display. Come spend Lenten prayer time in the Gallery. The exhibit will run through Holy Week, after which time these crosses will return to their respective classrooms, hallways, and offices here in our building.

# WALKING THE JOURNEY OF HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

#### **PALM SUNDAY**

Palm Sunday commemorates the triumphal entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem when, according to Matthew 21:1–11, the processional gospel for this year, cloaks and palm branches were placed on the road while Jesus rode a donkey into the holy city. This day we begin with the reading of the gospel telling of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, and we hold palm branches to be blessed, signifying our unity with the Anointed One as we journey forward this week. It is the beginning of the final week of Lent, and the mood changes swiftly from jubilation and welcome to anger and grief as the Passion of Jesus is read, the telling of the story of the abandonment by his closest friends and the false narrative that Jesus' enemies hold the victory. We must stay attuned to the dramatic movements of the week. We know the ancient story, but we refreshen our awareness to where our culpability lies in knowing we have much to do so that God's kingdom may be realized.



#### THE TRIDUUM

The word Triduum is Latin for "three days." The Triduum consists of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday. These days begin at sunset on Thursday and end at sunset on Sunday. It is a three day remembrance of events from the life of Jesus and our entrance into the Pascal Mystery.

#### **HOLY THURSDAY**

Holy Thursday is the celebration of the Mass of the Lord's Supper. It is key to why we gather each week in the celebration of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. It not only contains the directive of Jesus to celebrate

the meal in His memory, bringing Christ's presence with us in Word and in Sacrament, but the gospel of the day from John (13:1-15), in which Jesus shows His friends what discipleship means by washing the feet of His disciples. In the ritual that we commemorate, we avail ourselves of the opportunity to wash other's feet, so that we are able to stand with Jesus in service to others by following his words: "so that as I have done for you, you should also do" (v.15).

After Eucharist is celebrated that evening, the consecrated hosts are carried in procession to the chapel for adoration until 10:00pm. From there, the Eucharist is transferred to the reservation chapel until the Easter Vigil. After the procession, the altar is stripped bare, and the mood of the liturgy changes to reflect the somber and saddened tones of Good Friday.

#### **GOOD FRIDAY**

We are familiar with the story of Good Friday, recalling the suffering, passion, and death of Jesus. We enter into the story, and we recall what the cost of discipleship is. We bring our whole selves to this liturgy, stripped of pretensions, bias, self-loathing, and selfishness. We strive to believe the truth of the prophet's words, "by his wounds we are healed" (Isaiah 53:5).

After the Liturgy of the Word, we venerate the cross in whatever way we are called to express our communion with the death of Christ. For as the song writer says: "We hold the death of the Lord, deep in our hearts. Living, now we remain, with Jesus the Christ."

We go without Eucharist today, the only day of the year that Eucharist is not consecrated at a Mass. It is in this absence that we know our lives have been changed, and we acknowledge our hunger for a world where peace is sustainable.





#### THE EASTER VIGIL

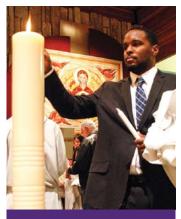
As much as there is a feeling of absence and abandonment in the Good Friday liturgy, the opposite is true in the liturgy of the Easter Vigil, with momentum of signs and symbols building to the crescendo of the final Alleluia of the evening. But first:

#### A FIRE IS LIT

We begin in darkness. A fire pierces the darkness, and from it we light the "Paschal" or Easter Candle, representing the light of Christ in the conquering of sin and death. This light is spread to one another, literally at the Vigil and figuratively as we journey forward in the new life of Christ. In the Exultant, the proclamation, "This is the night!" states our entrance into the eternal moment of salvation.

#### THE STORY IS TOLD

The readings of the evening tell how God has been with God's people throughout salvation history, culminating in the Easter story.



EASTER VIGIL 8:00PM
EASTER SUNDAY
7:00AM, 9:00AM, 11:00AM

#### WE ARE RENEWED WITH WATER AND SPIRIT

As we pray for those who are baptized this night, we remember our own baptism, and we renew our commitment to live in Christ.

Those baptized or confirmed will be anointed with the oil of Chrism. Anointing with oil is an ancient practice that set the person apart for a special life mission. We rejoice with those who are fully initiated into the faith community through Confirmation.

#### WE PARTAKE IN THE EUCHARISTIC FOOD AND DRINK

As at every Mass, we join in the Eucharistic feast and dine at the Lord's Table. The "rich fare" promised by Isaiah is shared by this community of believers.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 8.** 



## BLESSING THE EASTER FOOD: HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 15 AT NOON

The custom of bringing Easter food to the church a blessing began in Eastern Europe, was brought to the United immigrants, by and has become more increasingly mainstream. decorated basket containing a sampling of the foods to be eaten for Easter dinner is blessed on Holy Saturday. Some of the traditional foods are:

- A round loaf of Easter bread, usually decorated with a cross of dough, symbolizing Christ, the True Bread
- Ham or sausage representing the overabundance of God's mercy and generosity
- Brightly decorated hardboiled eggs representing new life and Resurrection
- Butter shaped into a figure of a lamb or small cross as a reminder of Christ
- Salt for flavor as a reminder of a Christian's duty to others



#### PAX CHRISTI MIRRORED CROSS

Parishioner Kjirsten Hanson was commissioned to create a cross, displayed in the west link of the building, which reflects the power of salvation in the cross of Christ. In her words:

The sacrifice of Christ's body and blood contains us on this journey called life (red glass border). We are fractured, yet made in the image of the Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit (pink, green, grey, and blue triangles). The closer we move toward the beauty and perfection of God, the more we can see parts of ourselves but still not whole (square mirror). The Creator aives us all we need to survive in the elements of fire, water, sunlight, and earth (red, blue, yellow, and green rods). The cross contains the hope of the resurrection (three jeweled butterflies amongst the triangles). We become whole and more fully alive as we move to the center where the love of God resides.

#### LIVING IN THE LIGHT OF MYSTAGOGY

#### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7.**

Mystagogy is a word still somewhat foreign to many and certainly not a word frequently used in the lexicon of everyday language. In the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, mystagogy is the concluding stage of the movements of initiation into the Christian community. However, in a much larger sense, mystagogy, a Greek word meaning "the uncovering of mystery," encompasses the rest of our faith journey as the people of God. The mysteries of God are always before us, waiting to be noticed, pondered, unfolded, and celebrated.

How do we, as followers of the Risen One, live mystagogy in our daily lives?

**TAKE NOTICE.** Go outside for a walk. Nature, and particularly now that it is spring, is a feast for the senses. Notice the scents surrounding you. Are they different in the morning than the evening? Do you hear the differences in the sounds of the chirping birds or which bird is making the sound? Count the many shades of green that surround you. Take off your shoes and go barefoot. How do these experiences speak to you of the mystery of God's love? Take in all of the ways we sense and "learn to savor how good the Lord is" (Psalm 34:9).

**BE WONDER-FULL.** You know the wonder in children as they ask questions of things that adults may take the answers for granted, the wondering of the hows and whys of life. Wondering has the potential to bring new insights and sensations. Do you wonder why there are so many kinds of flowers, appreciating their uniqueness? Wonder with others about how the apostles felt when they heard the news that Jesus had risen. Wonder what it must have been like for Jesus or the women at His resurrection. If wondering is an art form, then wondering about the mysteries that surround our faith adds color to the picture yet to be defined. Be curious about something every day. *Many, Lord my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us* (Psalm 40:5).

**BEQUEST THE QUEST.** Seekers come in all ages, shapes, and sizes. We are never done pondering why things happen when they do, what the meaning is, not only of life but of a particular event, both those filled with joy and with sorrow. We are always searching, sometimes asking the questions that are unanswerable. We request God's help, intervention, or solace when life becomes hard. Sometimes our questions will not have answers. The answer that is clear to us is that God is always with us, and to bask in that love sometimes is our only and best response. *Be still and know that I am God* (Psalm 46:10).

**GIVE PLAY A CHANCE.** Celebrating life doesn't always have to be well-planned, just well-intentioned. What brings you the freedom to live more fully? Be spontaneous. Be joyful. Forget the burdens of life, even just for a few moments. "Cast all your worries upon God because God cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7).

Living in the light of mystagogy doesn't have to be difficult, but it is real, and it is in this living we draw closer to the presence of Christ, risen and among us.

Written by Jane Schmitz, Parish Director.

### CONFIRMATION: OPENING OUR EYES TO A SACRAMENTAL VISION

THE SACRAMENT of Confirmation is an important step in the life of a Catholic Christian disciple. As one of the Sacraments of Initiation, Confirmation seals us with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and strengthens us to live out our gospel call each and every day. It's hard to believe, but Pax Christi's celebration of Confirmation is right around the corner for 88 young people in grades 10-12!

St. Augustine defined a sacrament as "a visible sign of invisible grace." As Catholics, our "sacramental vision" helps us to seek God's fingerprints everywhere in our world—in creation, in our fellow human beings, in our individual experiences, and in our collective experience as the human family. So if our goal is to recognize and experience God's grace everywhere in our lives, why do we need the sacraments at all?

We mark special sacramental experiences with the simplest of symbols—water, oil, fire, the laying on of hands—because in doing so, we give ourselves the opportunity to recognize God's grace in our daily lives. When we drink water or wash our hands, we are reminded of the life-giving waters of baptism. When we light a candle, we are reminded of our parents, godparents, and the community that rose up around us in love and support and encouraged us to "receive the light of Christ" when we were welcomed into the Church. When we use oil in our recipes, we are reminded that God has anointed each of us for the mission of the Gospel. God's grace is made evident in the simple elements we see and experience on a daily basis.

Over the last eight months, confirmation candidates have been preparing to recognize and receive this grace in the following ways:

- 1. Attending weekly Faith Interest Connector sessions to learn how to live out their call to discipleship within their passions and interests,
- 2. Meeting with a sponsor to discuss their understanding of faith and how it influences them in everyday life,
- 3. Gathering in small conversation groups to dive deeper into the themes of initiation, sacrament, the Holy Spirit, community, witness, and the actual Rite of Confirmation,
- 4. Choosing a confirmation name, which signifies a conversion of heart,

- 5. Participating in community involvement opportunities here at Pax Christi to strengthen their connection with our local family of faith, and
- 6. Experiencing a two-day retreat with their fellow candidates, which provides a space to disconnect from the outside world and discover how they are gifted and called on mission for the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Please join us on Thursday, April 27, 7:00pm right here at Pax Christi for our celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation!

Written by Jessie Johnson, Sr. High Formation Minister.

COME HOLY SPIRIT, FILL THE HEARTS OF YOUR FAITHFUL AND KINDLE IN THEM THE FIRE OF YOUR LOVE. SEND FORTH YOUR SPIRIT AND THEY SHALL BE CREATED, AND YOU SHALL RENEW THE FACE OF THE EARTH. AMEN.

## **COME TO THE TABLE!**

**THE SUNDAY** celebration of the Eucharist is the "source and summit" for our lives as Christians. Preparing children to come to the Table of the Lord for the first time is a significant moment in their lives and the life of the community. There is nothing quite like coming to 'the Table' for the very first time. In April and May our second graders will receive the sacrament of Eucharist. They are prepared; they are ready; they are excited! We, the Pax Christi Catholic Community, hold these children and their families in our prayers. I had the wonderful experience of leading our large group sessions and watched the children grow deeper in their faith. In partnership with their parents, we learned the importance of gathering together at Mass to celebrate God's presence. We learned the Lord's Prayer and Sign of Peace. We experienced a tour of the church including: the chapels, sanctuary, baptismal font, and sacristy. We also learned about the Liturgy of the Word. A favorite activity was baking bread together! We understand the connection between Jesus as the Bread of Life and the spiritual nourishment He provides each one of us. We listen to the story of the Last Supper (Luke 22) and learn what it means to go forth as disciples bringing Christ's peace and love to others. Congratulations to all the children who celebrated for the first time! All are welcome at the Table! Written by Renee Dignan, Faith Formation Minister.







# THE GLORY OF PARADISE:

#### THE MEANING OF MEDIEVAL THEOLOGY OF THE RESURRECTION FOR TODAY

**AS I REFLECT** on what I have learned from my research into medieval theology, spirituality, and art, I have come to a fuller understanding of what Easter is all about. They have much to tell us about what is truly meaningful for the Feast of Feasts in the Roman Catholic calendar.

Many medieval spiritual writers and artists believed that Holy Saturday was not a day of pause between what they celebrated on Good Friday and what they will celebrate on Easter Sunday but a very special day of its own. This is a day in which Christ went among the dead (he descended into hell as the Apostles' Creed states) into the place they called the "Limbo of the Ancestors." Jesus rescued all the ancient ones who had hoped for His coming in history. These Old Testament figures include Adam and Eve, Abraham, Moses, the prophets, and women such as Saint Anne (mother of Mary), Esther, and Judith. We celebrate the universal nature of Christ's salvific activity in time on Holy Saturday, taking us back to Creation and the history of ancient Israel.

Medieval people were also very aware of the Easter Octave. They considered that the holiest week of the year was not Holy Week, but the eight days of the Easter Octave. Each day of the Octave is to be celebrated as if it was Easter Sunday. As I have joked about at Mass, every day should be a day of a splendid liturgical celebration, leisure, feasting, and the appearance of the Easter Bunny.

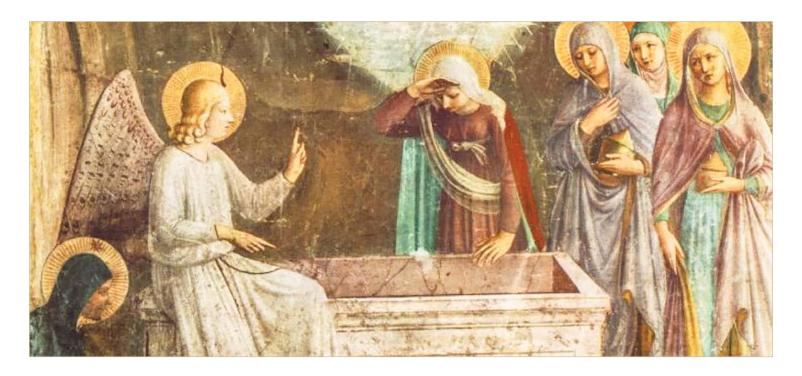
Since the medieval people lived a relatively shorter life than we do (average age of a women was 25 years and men around 35), they were very focused on the afterlife. They were concerned about what happens to the human person in the resurrection from the dead.

In preparation for the general resurrection, the medievals taught that we are called to live out the theological virtues (faith, hope, and love) and the cardinal virtues (justice, prudence, fortitude, and temperance) so that we are truly "whole" or "holy" people.

When they spoke of eternal life, quite often the conversation was about the reward for living out these seven virtues. The reward is to be given to both the soul and the body, as these two parts of us formed our "personhood." There were to be three gifts given to the soul: clear vision, which meant we will totally see and understand God; eternal possession, which meant our eternal grasp of the Divine without any fear of losing God; and perfect love which gives us absolute goodness. This means that we will see, possess, and enjoy for all eternity the One who has called us to this eternal glory: God.

The body will be rewarded with the four gifts of the resurrected body: subtlety, clarity, impassibility, and agility. Thomas Aquinas held that subtlety is a term that denotes the perfect accommodation of the body to the "spiritual person." Clarity does not refer to a luminous skin but indicates that the clarity of the soul is expressed materially in the beauty of the body. Impassibility corresponds to the perfect working of the soul in regard to the preservation of the body and the fact that there will be no more suffering. Agility concerns the perfect control of the soul over the body with regard to corporeal movements. These gifts or "dowries" materially express the spiritual perfection of the glorified human being.

Even though the body is going to be glorious in heaven, the body does not derive its glory by itself but owes that glory to the soul. The quality of the risen body should be seen from the perspective of the beatified soul, which God created to overflow (redundantia) into the body so that it prevents the body from experiencing anything



contrary to its perfection. It is important to understand the Latin word redundantia (and its verb form *redundare*) when speaking of the medieval approach to the soul/body relationship. The word means 'overflow' and it speaks of the overflow of the soul into the body. A recent study of the resurrection theology of Thomas Aquinas states: "Whereas the soul participates directly in the life of God, the body does so only by an 'overflow,' (redundantia) of the beatitude of the soul." The overflow of the soul has a dramatic, transforming effect on the body, not only in life but also in the resurrected state. The theology of redundantia, therefore, was very important to the entire theology of resurrection in the Middle Ages in regard to the soul-body relationship in human beings and here applied to the exemplary human being, the Virgin Mary.

Finally, the Virgin Mary played a major role in the understanding of what Easter was about in the Middle Ages. She was seen as the first witness to her son's resurrection. They believed (though it is not in scripture) that Jesus appeared to her before Mary Magdalene and the disciples. Since Mary and Jesus shared the same flesh, Mary was honored by her son to have experienced the Assumption without having to undergo the corruption of the grave (as all other human beings do). Her Assumption into heaven gave human beings the hope that they, too, would rise from their own tombs into the glory of heaven. In heaven, her main role is to be the intercessor for us as we live virtuous lives on the pathway to heaven. She is now experiencing in heaven the glorious communion of the blessed—the communion with the Divine that we all will experience after our own resurrection.

Written by Fr. Steve McMichael, OFM Conv., Associate Professor in the Theology Department at the University of Saint Thomas

#### THE GLORY OF PARADISE: RISEN LIFE IN THE EASTER OCTAVE SERMONS OF BERNARDINO DA SIENA

Wednesday, April 5, 6:30pm In the Chapel Following the 6:00pm Mass; No Fee

Fr. McMichael will share his research into the world of medieval theology as it pertains to the resurrection of Christ and to the end times. The talk will focus on what we can learn from medieval preaching, spiritual literature, and preaching in regard to Easter.

Steven J. McMichael, OFM Conv., is an Associate Professor in the Theology Department at the University of Saint Thomas (Saint Paul, Minnesota). He is currently researching and writing on the topic of the resurrection of Jesus in late medieval Franciscan theology, spirituality and preaching. He has just published a book entitled "The Glory of Paradise: Risen Life in the Easter Octave Sermons of Bernardino da Siena" (Tau Press, July, 2016). He continues to work on the medieval Easter sermons of Bernardino and Roberto da Lecce. Fr. McMichael regularly presides at masses, funerals, weddings, and other sacraments at Pax Christi.

#### **BOOK SIGNING WITH FR STEVE MCMICHAEL**

Sunday, April 23, in the Back of the church following the 9:00am and 11:00am Masses; No Fee

Book signing of *The Glory of Paradise: Risen Life in the Easter Octave Sermons of Bernadino da Siena* by Fr. Steve McMichael. Books will be available for purchase.



### THE BALANCING ACT OF A STEWARD

LIFE IS LIKE RIDING A
BICYCLE. TO KEEP YOUR
BALANCE, YOU MUST
KEEP MOVING.
-ALBERT EINSTEIN

**THERE'S** something about spring — for some it is the sight of April showers washing away the last of the winter's snow; for others, it is the sight of the early spring flower bursting through the soil — but for both parties, that sight, smell, or sound of spring simply rejuvenates the soul. For me, it is truly spring when I can get the bicycle out of storage and back on the trails.

Do you remember when you first learned to ride a bike? Being the first girl in the family, I got to take the lead on the family's first girl's bike, and in a family where hand-me-downs

ruled, this was a treat of the highest order. I do remember training wheels, but I think I had to give those up fairly quickly as my younger brother was nipping at my heels. I also think I can recall more than a few bruised knees and elbows while learning bicycle essentials. In truth, what I remember most is actually riding the bicycle, the learning part quickly relegated to the done that, been there category. I fell in love with my bicycle and to this day still find it an essential part of spring, summer, and fall.

I fondly remember shoving off from the driveway, pedaling as fast as humanly possible to gain necessary speed, then lifting my feet off the pedals to rest on the frame and away from our neighbor's menacing chicken who loved to chase down and peck at the ankle bones of unsuspecting riders. Once past the Gustafson's then you had to get those feet back on the pedals again and pedal as hard

as possible around the corner, down the block, and around the next corner which was the top of a gentle hill in front of St. Leo's Church and School. Throwing caution to the wind, the rider would coast down the hill as fast as could be. If ever a girl could imagine solo flight, this was it. On a good day, I could make the trip down the hill, around the corner and nearly back to our street again. Next? Of course, pedal- pedal -lift- pedal - pedal -soar- pedal - pedal some more.

Riding a bicycle is difficult at first, but once your brain and feet get coordinated, it is just the matter of finding the balance. Moreover, isn't that exactly what we need to do in most areas of our lives? Finding the balance in work, relationships, and our faith life is essential to live the life we aspire to live. Do I go to work or school early to get ahead of the game or stay late? If I stay late, I can have less traffic, but

then I also have that much less time to spend with the family. What is the most important need right now? Which wheel is squeaking the loudest? Try throwing a service opportunity on top of an already jam-packed schedule, and the whole chain can break apart. Yep, balance is a tricky thing, but Einstein is right — you have to keep moving, pushing down on the pedal when you must, and sometimes it will take all you have in you to keep that pedal moving. However, we can never forget that every once in a while the beauty of life's spectacular ride can be discovered after some mad pedaling, in coasting down the hill, and enjoying God's creation. When you are rejuvenated, then you can take up the pedals once again, ready and able to meet head on the needs and wants of this world.

Written by Mary Kennedy, Director of Stewardship and Development.

# PAX CHRISTI'S PRINCIPLES OF CHRISTIAN HOSPITALITY

THIS IS THE FIRST in a series of three articles, written collaboratively by the Member Engagement Committee, which explores the hospitality principles of Welcome and Invite, Accept and Include, and Share Love, Grow. The first principle, Welcome and Invite, is considered below.

**WELCOME AND INVITE.** We live our key message: All Are Welcome. We invite you to walk on your faith journey with us. We are about inviting and cultivating new relationships and strengthening existing ones. We recognize our human need to connect with one another in community.

COMMENTARY. "All Are Welcome" is prominently displayed on the cornerstone and the Pax Christi website. The members of Pax Christi live that message daily. The summons to welcoming and inviting is found in Vatican II, Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World. section 27: "Today there is an inescapable duty to make ourselves the neighbor of every individual, without exception, to take positive steps to help a neighbor whom we encounter, whether that neighbor be an elderly person abandoned by everyone, a foreign worker who suffers the injustice of being despised, a refugee, ... or a starving human being who awakens our conscience by calling to mind the words of Christ: "As you did it to one of the least of these my brothers or sisters, you did it to me" (Mt. 25:40).

Each of us, individually and communally, is called to welcome and invite each other and those who are strangers. On the one hand, we as humans tend to hang around with those who look like us, have similar values and tastes, agree with us on many issues, and even smell like us. On the other hand, we as humans tend to fear or at least be suspicious of the stranger, especially if he/she looks different and maybe comes from a very different background. How do we welcome and invite strangers? How do we overcome our fears or suspicions?

The words 'how do we' imply action. But it is not primarily about acting. The essence of hospitality is spirituality, spirituality is about relationships. When welcome and invite, we are giving something of ourselves (time, attention, grace) to others. When we welcome and invite, we are engaging with others, forming relationships. We as humans have a need to connect with others, to open up with others, to have a relationship.

The Jewish theologian Martin Buber said that our relationships with other humans lead us to a relationship with God. This takes work on our part, spiritual work. It also may mean taking a risk as we welcome and invite those unlike ourselves. Am I willing to do that?

Again from the same Vatican II document, section 24: "God, who has a parent's care for all of us, desired that all men and women should form one family and deal with each other as brothers and sisters. All, in fact, are destined to the very same end, namely God himself, since they have been created

in the likeness of God, who 'made from one every nation of humankind who live on all the face of the earth' (Acts 17:26). Love of God and of one's neighbor, then, is the first and greatest commandment."

Welcoming and inviting others mean also that we go out into the larger community. There is a great need for a place where others, the strangers who also are children of God, can find someone who will listen, who will be patient, who will respect their dignity as another human being. Welcome and Invite.

Written by the Member Engagement Committee.



## HAPPY EARTH DAY

**EARTH DAY** was first celebrated on April 22, 1970. Today it is celebrated in 193 countries.

This date gave voice to an emerging consciousness of the need to bring environmental concerns out front. Gaylord Nelson, a US senator from Wisconsin, started the program. He enlisted Republican and Democrat, rich and poor, city members and farmers, entrepreneurs and labor leaders. By the end of the year, the first Earth Day led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Earth Day today also includes global warming and a push for clean energy.

Today the need of a clean environment continues. Pope Francis' letter addressed waste, culture, and modern day ills in the encyclical Laudato Si'. Climate change is a global problem with grave environmental, social, economic. and political implications, the pope wrote. Many of the world's poor live in areas particularly affected by phenomena related to global warming, and their subsistence depends on keeping the Earth healthy. We invite you to be a part of Earth Day 2017 and your part to keep our earth happy.



#### HERE ARE A FEW THOUGHTS TO HELP YOU CELEBRATE:

- Plant a tree or plan a garden area you can tend during the summer months.
- Check out your Carbon Footprint (forms can be found on the Justice Bulletin Boards).
- Practice smart water conservation.
- Keep a healthy, pollinator friendly lawn mow high, 2-3", for deeper roots to soak in more rain. Sweep grass clippings off the streets and out of the drains. When purchasing plants to use in your yard, buy plants with no neo nics.
- Be aware of Consumer Consumption Before purchasing something, ask yourself if it is really something that you need. Can I use something I already have or borrow from a neighbor? Is the product recyclable, renewable, and safe for the earth?

Written by Peg Musegades, Environmental Challenge Ministry.

# PROPHETIC RESISTANCE

#### HERE I AM, LORD! SEND ME!

At Pax Christi, we have a strong tradition of honoring prophetic leaders in the peaceful struggle for human rights, or what I like to call the struggle to *love everyone without exception*. Just look at the way we have named the rooms in our church building: Martin Luther King, Jr., Dorothy Day, Mahatma Gandhi, Chief Joseph, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Thomas Merton, and so many others. These courageous contemporary prophets chose to stand in the world calling for unconditional love and acceptance of fellow human beings. Each of these ordinary human beings chose the extraordinary path, risking ridicule, risking freedom, risking even death. In standing for unconditional love, these brave prophets resisted the social and political conditions of their time to give hope to the hopeless and comfort to the marginalized. We honor them because they stood for the truth given to us by our God through Jesus: we are all called to love our neighbor without exception.

In our own time, many of us also feel called to prophetic resistance. The work of our Justice Council, the Justice Grant Board, and the Justice Advocacy Committee is inspired by the prophets who have come before us. As we cultivate a culture of encounter with people who are marginalized, feared, and forgotten, we also open our consciousness to the social structures that keep poverty, hunger, homelessness, and inequity in place. As we, the shared ministers of Pax Christi go out into our community to serve meals at St. Stephen's, to support the food shelf at PROP, to gather blankets, hats, mittens, and diapers for those who have little, we also understand that these circumstances can be overcome when we work together to solve the systemic conditions which create them.

Our Justice Advocacy Committee is still in the beginning stages of its work. We gather once a month to bring our individual concerns into committee to work to shift structures of oppression. We are currently working specifically on issues of affordable housing and homelessness in the state of Minnesota, taking our lead from the Minnesota Homes for All Coalition. We are also focusing on advocating for safety-net programs that have proven successful in moving families from economic uncertainty to a more solid financial footing. This initiative is being shepherded by the Minnesota Joint Religious Legislative Coalition. If you would like to know more about the Pax Christi Justice Advocacy Committee or if you would like to come join us, we welcome you! Contact Joan Howe-Pullis, Justice and Liturgy Coordinator, jhowe-pullis@paxchristi.com.

Written by Joan Howe-Pullis, Justice and Liturgy Coordinator.



### THE SPIRITUAL PRACTICE OF PAYING TAXES

#### **OUR ANNUAL RITUAL RE-FRAMED**

Perhaps you have never thought of this mid-April obligation as a spiritual practice. But stay with me a bit here, and just try this idea on for size:

Each year, I purchase the TurboTax software and gather all of my documents. I am a "type-A" keeper of records, and getting all of my documents in the appropriate piles is a chore that I don't relish. It takes time and patience, and I usually discover that there is something missing, and I tell myself that I am going to do the taxes earlier next year! But, I also love doing the taxes myself. There is something that is quite satisfying about understanding all of the ins and outs of the tax questions as I sign my return knowing that I fully understand the information contained on my return. (I may be fooling myself on this count, but I do my absolute best.)

I have to admit that when I am done with the whole thing, if I still owe more in taxes than I paid in throughout the year, I am a bit disappointed. It's hard to come up with the extra cash when needed. Also, looking at how much was withheld is sometimes hard to take as well. Turbo Tax has a function to show how you did compared to last year and provides information about the actual percentage rate that you have paid. The lower the rate, the better, right? More money stays in my pocket!

Whether you are like me and do your own return or if you have an accountant prepare your return, I invite you to consider taking a new approach to tax season this year and enter into the process as a spiritual practice.

It's quite a remarkable thing actually. Each year, we Americans take collective action to pool our financial resources in a way that supports the common good. Through this collaboration, we have the resources for roads and bridges, clean water, sanitation, education, health care, parks, and other public infrastructure. We all affirm our commitment to a healthy, prosperous community, state, and country.

I personally may not be able to cure cancer, but our pooled resources support research. I may not be able to invite a homeless person move into my home, but our pooled resources can help support safety-net programs. It's not possible for me to keep up with all of the community needs that are begging to be solved. I'm one person who is doing my best to do my job well and take care of my family and community. It can be overwhelming, to say the least.

So here's the thing: I have come to know that the things that I cannot accomplish on my own are always possible in community! Jesus came to tell us that we are not in this life alone and that we are meant to live in community. We are meant to love our neighbor! And, here's the additional good news; we are meant to receive the love of our neighbors as well!

In this practice of pooling financial resources for the common good, you and I together can accomplish the work of loving our neighbor and being loved by one another. As I pay my taxes, in the middle of making sure that I am "not paying more than required," I stop and consider that this practice of contribution to pooled resources is an honorable and joyful (even if financially painful) task!

We are in this life together, and the support of community needs and collective aspirations help us all to grow, live, and love together more deeply.

Written by Joan Howe-Pullis, Justice and Liturgy Coordinator.

#### **PARISHIONER NEWS**

#### **FEBRUARY BAPTISMS**

Chapel Marie Dolenc	2/5/2017
Elise Mae Martin	2/12/2017
Colette Frances Clark	2/19/2017
Audrey Ann Reckinger	2/19/2017
James Harold Stack	2/19/2017
Ariana Lux Vaughn	2/19/2017
Lily Marie Dunker	2/26/2017
Luella Rose Eaton	2/26/2017
Aiden Wayne Johnson	2/26/2017
Benjamin Joseph Kelm	2/26/2017

#### FEBRUARY FUNERALS

Harry G. Gillham 2/23/2017 Clare (Clarence) Bugman 2/28/2017

#### **FEBRUARY NEW MEMBERS**

Jean Bierbaum Laura Carlson Marc Chu

Jonathan and Jessica Dendauw Kyle Fischer and Courtney Kral Jeffrey and Angela Kleinedler Jason and Kristin Larson Kathleen Lynch Michael and Donna Mirvis Linda Palecek

James Sturdevant Benedict and Toyin Umukoro





#### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 2, 2017**

Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-8/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 Sunday:

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-6/Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-21/Jn 8:21-30 Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52-56/Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-9/Jn 8:51-59 Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-7/Jn 10:31-42 Friday:

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jr 31:10-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56

#### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 9, 2017**

Mt 21:1-11/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24/Phil 2:6-11/ Sunday:

Mt 26:14--27:66

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1-3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15, 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38 Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34/Mt 26:14-25 Thursday: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18/

1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

ls 52:13--53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25/ Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1--19:42 Friday:

Genesis 1:1-2--2:4, Exodus 14:15–15:1, Isaiah 55:1-11, Ezekial 36:16-18, Romans 6:3-11, Matthew 28:1-10 Saturday:

#### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 16, 2017**

Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Col 3:1-4 Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11/Mt 28:8-15 Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22/Jn 20:11-18 Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-4, 6-9/Lk 24:13-35 Thursday: Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab, 5-9/Lk 24:35-48 Friday: Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-27a/Jn 21:1-14 Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1, 14-15ab, 16-21/Mk 16:9-15 Saturday:

#### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 23, 2017**

Acts 2:42-47/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24/1 Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31 Sunday:

Monday: Acts 4:23-31/Ps 2:1-9/Jn 3:1-8

1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/Mk 16:15-20 Tuesday:

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-9/Jn 3:16-21 Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20/Jn 3:31-36 Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Jn 6:1-15 Friday: Saturday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/Jn 6:16-21

#### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 30, 2017**

Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35

Monday: Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30/Jn 6:22-29 Tuesday: Acts 7:51--8:1a/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17, 21ab/Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 66:1-3a, 4-7a/Jn 14:6-14 Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20/Jn 6:44-51 Friday: Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 6:52-59 Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-17/Jn 6:60-69 Saturday:

#### **APRIL**

#### TWELVE BASKETS EASTER BASKET DRIVE

#### Collecting weekends of March 25/26 and April 1/2

Twelve Baskets Ministry invites us to once again use our imaginations to create colorful, bountiful Easter Baskets for children in need. Some suggestions are crayons, books for K–6, small games, coloring books, small toys, school supplies, healthy snacks, small amounts of Easter candy, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo. If possible, please wrap your Easter Basket in cellophane. Baskets will be delivered to Holy Rosary, Eastside Learning Center, Extension Services, and PROP. Baskets for boys are especially needed. Thank you for responding with a generous heart!

#### LABYRINTH WALK

#### Monday, April 3, 6:30-8:30pm

We are blessed with a beautiful outdoor labyrinth as well as an indoor replica for our Minnesota winters. A labyrinth is a walking meditation, a path of prayer. It has only one path that leads from the outer edge in a circuitous way to the center. It is a spiritual tool that can help you find your way unlike a maze where you lose your way. Walking a labyrinth reduces stress, feeds the spirit, quiets the mind, and opens the heart. Walks are facilitated by parishioner Carrie Chevalier-Mosher. Questions or to RSVP, contact Carrie at Carrie@ Indigoorbis.com.

#### SPIRITUALITY AND MENTAL WELLNESS GROUP

First Thursday of Each Month: April 6, 3:00-4:30pm

#### THEOLOGY DAY AT PAX CHRISTI

Immigration: Moving From Political Rhetoric to the Moral Discourse of Pope Francis

THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 6:00–9:00pm, Hall of Martyrs RSVP

For a very long time politicians have been talking about the "problem of immigration" and how the United States needs to develop more effective ways of preventing undocumented persons from entering our nation, especially those crossing our southern border. Pope Francis never tires of embracing immigrants and refugees, and of modelling the biblical call to welcome the stranger. Join Bernard Evans, retired faculty from St. John's School of Theology and Seminary, for an evening of thoughtful presentation and discussion.

Registration is required at www.csbsju.edu/sot/theologyday or call 320-363-3560. There is no fee, but gifts to support the mission of the School of Theology and Seminary and to ensure the continuation of Theology Day are gratefully accepted.



#### **BOOMERS ANNUAL RETREAT**

Monday, May 8, Beginning with Mass at 8:30am at Pax Christi

BOOMERS AND BEYOND invites all seniors of the parish to our annual end-of-the year retreat, co-sponsored with the Young at Heart senior group at the Church of St. Edward. Retreat begins with Mass at 8:30am, followed by a light breakfast, presentation, and lunch will follow in the Hall of Martyrs. Our featured speaker will be Dr. Jacquelyne Witter, well known retreat leader, speaker, educator, and spiritual director. She has chosen to address us on the topic of *We Are an Easter People and Alleluia Is Our Song!* As Christians we are called to be filled with joy and to share that joy with everyone we meet. Pope Francis, in his writing *The Joy of the Gospel*, reminds us of this call and invitation. So what does this look like in 'real life'? We will consider what joy is and the difference it makes in our own lives and in the lives of the people around us.

Fee for this event is covered for those who are Boomers and Beyond members. Those who are not members may enjoy this special event for a fee of \$15 per person with reservation and payment in advance.

Pre-registration is required for both members and non-members by Tuesday, May 2. Register at www.paxchristi.com/eventregistration or by calling the RSVP line at 952-405-7251.

#### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17.**

#### FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

FRIDAY, APRIL 7, BEGINNING WITH Mass at 8:30am

#### **BURGUNDAY BAG FOOD COLLECTION**

Palm Sunday Weekend, April 8/9

The weekend of April 8/9, parishioners are invited to bring their "Burgundy Bags" (or any bag or box of food we bring to share!) to Mass. Instead of placing your donation in the collection bins at the church entrances, please bring the bags/boxes INTO the church and keep them with you; then, as part of the Presentation of the Gifts, you will be guided to bring your "offerings" of food forward and place them in front of the altar. Volunteers will be present to assist young and old, singles or families. All are welcome!

#### APRIL MINISTRY SHOWCASE: FAITH FORMATION

Weekend of April 8/9 in the Dorothy Day Social Hall

Additional details on back cover.

#### **AMAZING MARRIAGE 101**

#### Wednesday, April 9, 6:30–8:00pm, Church Sanctuary, No Fee/RSVP

Amazing Marriage 101 has been experienced by over 500 couples. Their most common reaction is to leave feeling affirmed and hopeful about their relationship. Research confirms that children take a toll on marital satisfaction. It's a tough time for family balance and often our marriages can end up on the back burner. What does it take to create an amazing marriage? Check out this positive, entertaining look at what makes marriage tick. This will help you figure out what's normal and what you can aim for in a marriage+kids.

#### CAREGIVER SPIRITUAL SUPPORT

THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH: APRIL 20, 1:00-2:30pm

#### A NOTE ABOUT EVENTS AT PAX CHRISTI

Due to the large volume of events we offer at Pax Christi, we have to keep our announcements brief. Please visit us online at www.paxchristi. com for additional information and details. If an event indicates RSVP, you may register/signup online at www.paxchrisi.com/eventregistration. Questions? Contact the parish office, 952-941-3150.



#### SPRING CLEAN UP — HELP NEEDED

Saturday, April 22, 8:00am-2:00pm RSVP

Join us for a one-day Spring Clean-Up on EARTH DAY, April 22. Help clean up, clear out, and prune exterior plantings and areas surrounding the building. If you can lend a hand and would like to volunteer, please contact Ken Reineccius, Director of Operations, kreineccius@paxchristi.com.

#### HELPING YOUR PET WHEN THEY ARE SICK AND DYING

Tuesday, April 25, 6:30–8:30pm, Room 212; No Fee RSVP

In this workshop you will learn how to set up your house for hospice, how to take care of yourself and your beloved FURamily member, when is it the right time to say goodbye,; and how to ask for help from friends and family when you're grieving the loss of your best friend and family member. Please RSVP so that we have the correct amount of materials and can guarantee your space. Sponsored by Faith Formation Ministries.

#### **HELPING YOUR PET IN CRISIS**

Saturday, April 29, 10:00am-12:00pm, Room 212; No Fee RSVP

Three pillars to get your animals through cancer, PTSD (from previous trauma and abuse) and other unexpected disasters. In this workshop you will learn the most effective noninvasive techniques to combat cancer, how to get your companions to overcome past abuse or trauma so that they can feel safe and comfortable, techniques to communicate with your companions so that you can help them when they are scared or in pain, how to prepare for disasters where you and your pet/s may be separated, and how to evacuate safely. Please RSVP so that we have the correct amount of materials and can guarantee your space. Sponsored by Faith Formation Ministries.

#### **MAKE PLANS NOW**

#### **BOOMERS AND BEYOND ANNUAL RETREAT**

Monday, May 8, Beginning with Mass at 8:30am at Pax Christi RSVP

Complete details on page 17.

#### MEMOIR WRITING WITH JIM KOEPKE

Wednesday, May 10, 6:30-8:30pm, Room 212, No Fee RSVP

Please note corrected date. Come and learn how to write the "Times of Your Life." Local author Jim Koepke will discuss why write memoirs, how to record ones life history, and specifics about how to structure and organize memoir writing. Bring paper and a pen. There will be time for questions following the presentation.

#### INTRODUCTION TO SOULCOLLAGE®

#### Wednesday, May 17, 6:30-8:30pm, Room 212; \$5 for materials RSVP

Please note corrected date. You will learn about the SoulCollage® process, make cards, and learn ways to use your cards for counsel and inspiration with this fun and insightful style of journaling. This workshop will reveal the power of images and how they reflect your inner wisdom. Honor the unique aspects of your personality with each card you make and discover how your cards can help you tap your intuitive knowledge and fuel your spirituality. No artistic or SoulCollage® experience necessary. Facilitated by Lynn Schelitzche, MA, Faith Formation Director and SoulCollage® facilitator. Material fee will be collected at the door.

#### **VACATION BIBLE CAMP WEEK - REGISTER ONLINE NOW!**

Week of July 24–28, 9:00am–12:00pm, Ages 3 years – 6тн grade RSVP

What Would Jesus DO? Our theme for this year's Bible Camp allows our campers and volunteers to explore fun and outreach as we spread the love of Jesus throughout our world. This year we will be sharing our craft creations with local care centers, YouthLink, PROP, and the CAP agency. Our campers and hundreds of volunteers will experience the joy of Christmas in July, the first miracle performed by Jesus, the calming of the stressful "seas" in our lives, and the first "happy meal." We welcome ages three to 100 to participate. Register your children and grandchildren, and then volunteer and grow in your own faith as your children grow in theirs.



#### **JUST5DAYS: JR HIGH MISSION TRIP**

June 19–23; Appleton, WI; \$400 (Register with \$50 deposit) RSVP

Join your Pax Christi friends for a hands-on Catholic youth mission trip! JUST5DAYS is a week-long mission experience of hands-on service, faith learning, prayer, community building, and summer fun. We will head to Appleton, Wisconsin June 19-23 for a fantastic week full of FAITH. This year's theme — *Saints Among Us! Young World Changers* — focuses on the example of the saints and their service to others. This summer, youth will discover how Pope Francis challenges everyone to the vocation of becoming like the saints. During JUST5DAYS, youth engage in direct, hands-on work that meets real needs of people in the local community. The cost is \$400.00 for the week. Lodging, meals, transportation, and a t-shirt are included. Questions? Contact Andrea Ward at award@paxchristi.com for more

#### 2017 SUMMER SERVICE AND JUSTICE TRIP

information. Registration is now open at paxchristi.com!

June 25–July 1, Detroit, MI; \$500 (Register with \$50 deposit) RSVP

Teens in grades 9–12, you are invited to join the 2017 Summer Service and Justice Trip (AKA Mission Trip) to Detroit, MI. Work in Detroit's inner city service with agencies and organizations that are making a difference in the lives of thousands of people in need, meet other Catholic teens from across the country, and be inspired to live a life of justice and service! Each summer Pax Christi sends a group of teens and adults to Young Neighbors in Action, and each summer they return energized and changed for the better! Do something BIG this summer and join the group to serve in Detroit! Questions? Contact Jessie Johnson, Pax Christi's Sr. High Youth Formation Minister, jjohnson@paxchristi.com. Registration is now open at paxchristi.com!



### **APRIL**

See pages 16-19 for details or visit us online at www.paxchristi.com.

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
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						EASTER BASKET DRIVE	
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2	3	4	5	6	/	NEW MEMBER SIGNUP WEEKEND	
		LEADERSHIP INFORMATION NIGHT		SPIRITUALITY & MENTAL WELLNESS GROUP	FIRST FRIDAY SOCIAL	MINISTRY SHOWCASE	
EASTER BASKET DRIVE		BAPTISM PREP CLASS	GLORY OF PARADISE	THEOLOGY DAY	STATIONS OF THE CROSS	BURGUNDAY BAG COLLECTION	
NEW MEMBER SIGNUP WEEKEND 9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
MINISTRY SHOWCASE BURGUNDAY BAG				HOLY THURSDAY	GOOD FRIDAY	EASTER FOOD BLESSING HOLY SATURDAY	
COLLECTION FAITH FORMATION				HOLI HIGHODAI	LIVING STATIONS	TIOLI OMONDA	
AMAZING MARRIAGE 101							
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 FIRST EUCHARIST	
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		LEADERSHIP MEETINGS	FAITH FORMATION	CAREGIVER SUPPORT GRP.		SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY	
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#### **PASTOR**

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#### **ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

Fr. Marc Paveglio 952-405-7219

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### MINISTRY SHOWCASE WEEKEND

#### April 8/9 following all Masses

How are You Called to Serve? Your gifts can be put to great use at Pax Christi Catholic Community participate in our Monthly Showcase. program year of 2016–2017 we are changing it a bit, and in lieu of one large Ministry Fair showing all the 110 ministries available for participation by members of Pax Christi, we will be focusing on a different program area each month. By highlighting a single program area, we can focus on telling the story of Pax Christi and what we do from the perspective of the individual ministry areas.

# PAX CHRISTI'S MINISTRY SHOWCASE APRIL'S MINISTRY SHOWCASE IS FAITH FORMATION.

The Faith Formation Council visions, guides, and supports us in our many ministries. They include: growing faith through programs for preschool through adult, Sacraments of Baptism, Marriage, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, Confirmation, Children's Liturgy of the Word during Sunday Masses, RCIA program for those completing or on a journey toward becoming Catholic, Vacation Bible Camp, Youth Ministry programs, mission trips, and more! Come to our ministry tables April 8 and 9 to see who we are, what we do to create fabulous programs, and how you can be a part of keeping Pax Christi a model of engaging faith formation.

