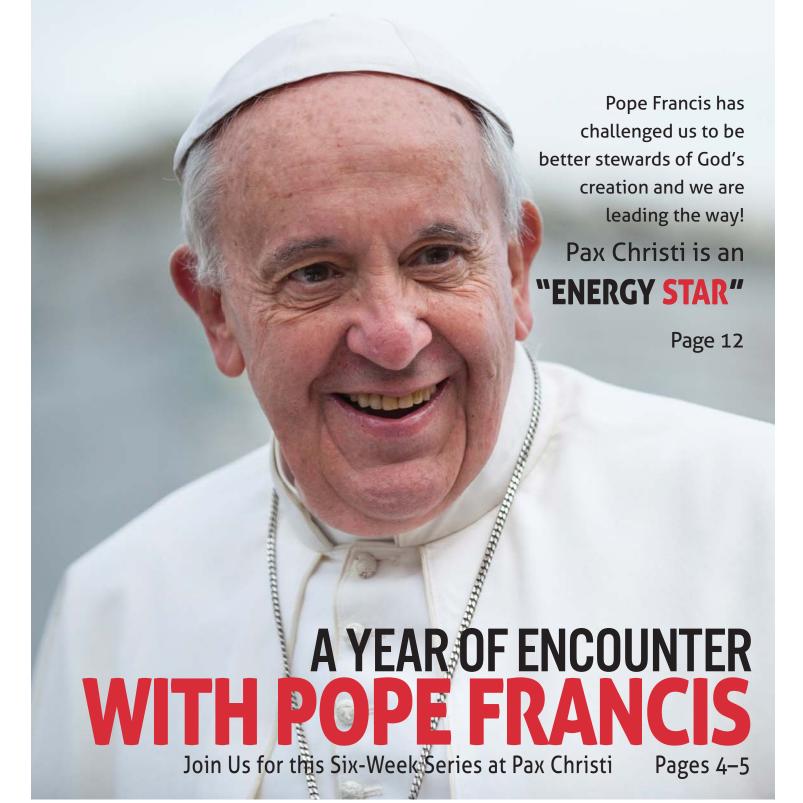
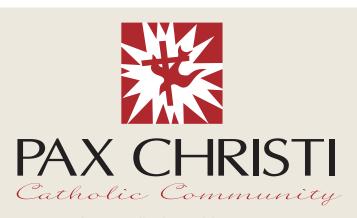
# **PAXCHRISTINEWS**

Monthly Magazine of Pax Christi Catholic Community in Eden Prairie September 2015





12100 Pioneer Trail, Eden Prairie, MN 55347-4208 Phone: 952-941-3150 Website: www.paxchristi.com

#### **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

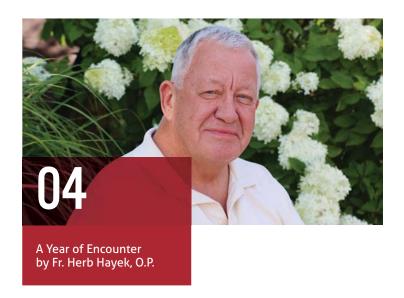
Tuesdays 8:30am with Rosary to follow

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

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation (private)

Saturdays 4:00-4:30pm

The Pax Christi News is printed monthly by the Church of Pax Christi of Eden Prairie. We accept unsolicited manuscripts and photos from parishioners, but reserve the right to edit and publish such material at our discretion. Email submissions, photos, and/or questions to Melissa Nault, Communication Arts Director, mnault@paxchristi.com, or 952-405-7221. All contributions become the property of Pax Christi Catholic Community.



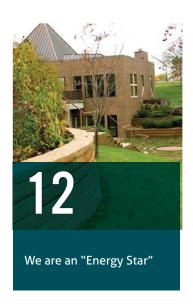


The Face of Mercy: Summary in Plain English

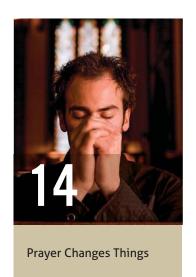




Reflecting on Pope Francis





















# A YEAR OF ENCOUNTER WITH POPE FRANCIS



Fr. Herb Hayek, O.P. Sr. Associate Pastor



**DID YOU SEE** pictures of Pope Francis when he was visiting Ecuador, Bolivia, and Paraguay? They are some of the poorest countries in Latin America. Crowds in the hundreds of thousands and even millions turned out to greet him and hear his words of hope and mercy. These people knew that he understood their struggles and that he stands with them. When I was in Rome last October, the crowds for the papal audience in St. Peter's Square had been the biggest in years. People from all corners of the world want to see, hear, and touch the man who took the name of the Little Poor Man of Assisi: Francis. It is with great anticipation that the American Church and Nation await his visit in September. What will he say? Will we see it as a challenge to grow in our faith? Will the political climate in our country try and spin it in various ways? It is important to remember that Pope Francis is the only international figure today who has never been to the United States! Seems impossible in this age but it is true.

What will our response be here at Pax Christi? We can wait and see what he will say. However, we have lots to reflect and act on that Pope Francis has already said. We have two wonderful encyclicals that have been given to the Church.

One is The Joy of the Gospel which calls the Church back to the basic message of Jesus Christ — to become a Church of the poor, both spiritually and economically, for the poor. His more recent encyclical, Praise To You, addresses the responsibility of Christians to care for our Mother Earth and, in turn, for all those who are victims of political and economic systems that have forgotten that we all are God's children. This encyclical has received mixed reactions often filtered through our presentday political climate.

However, putting all of that aside, we will have an opportunity for an Encounter with Francis. The Pastoral Care and Social Justice Ministries of the parish will be offering a program entitled *Year of Encounter with Pope Francis*. This has been created especially for Catholic parishes, with an ecumenical tone to it. The basic format is for six weekly meetings, each one lasting approximately ninety minutes.

The series focuses on how the effects of exclusion touch our lives and those of others. There are the economic challenges, and the immigration status of so many of our fellow Catholics. Then it deals with involvement with the criminal justice system that has come to the forefront in the headlines in

the newspapers today. This is followed by racism, which has again confronted our nation recently. From there the group will focus on what steps that it feels called to take.

Each gathering is divided into three parts called See, Judge, and Act. This is based on a well-tried model that was developed many years ago. The individuals reflect on Scripture and the words of Pope Francis and use this as criteria for understanding the various issues. There are also other resources available to the participants. From here, participants examine how it affects their lives and those of others and of various communities. Then, the group decides what they can do both as individuals and as a group.

The hope is that this process will start a conversation within the groups that goes out to the entire parish and then to other communities. But this will unfold differently in every parish. Remember that "the Spirit moves where it will." So, this allows each group and parish to respond in what seems most appropriate to them. And, since this program is being tried in parishes all over this country, the results will reflect the various gifts of the diverse communities that are part of this encounter.



We will also have the benefit of beginning this program after having heard from Pope Francis in September when he addresses the Church in this country on the family and other related matters. So, these new words from Pope Francis will also be able to guide us in our encounter with him.

This is also a program that reflects the spirit of Pax Christi from its very beginning. This could also be an opportunity to see new directions, discover new gifts and talents, and welcome new parishioners to the work of the parish.

It is also designed to happen for a limited time, from October 15 to November 19. School will be underway, the lake home will be closed for the winter, and the holidays won't have begun. It will be a time to enjoy the beauty of a Minnesota autumn and reflect on God's many blessings to us.

Additional details about **OUR DOOR IS OPEN FOR ENCOUNTER** can be found in the right column. This will give you more specific information about this opportunity to grow in your faith with other parishioners.

THE YEAR OF ENCOUNTER PROGRAM IS

SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR CATHOLIC

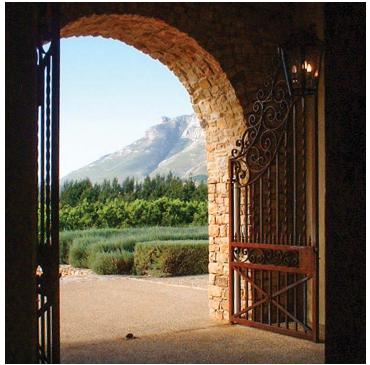
PARISHES IN ORDER TO FOSTER SPIRITUAL

GROWTH IN SUPPORT OF COURAGEOUS PUBLIC

WITNESS AND ACTION, WITH AND ON BEHALF

OF PEOPLE ON THE MARGINS, INSPIRED BY THE

LEADERSHIP OF POPE FRANCIS.



# OUR DOOR IS OPEN FOR ENCOUNTER

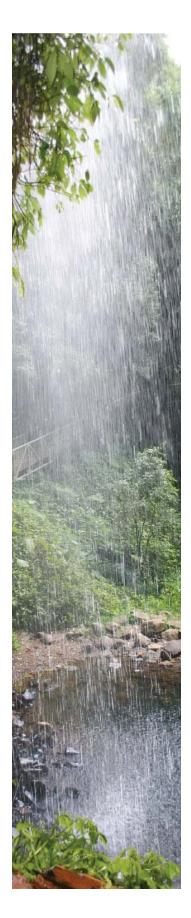
**IN HIS WRITINGS** and pastoral visits, Pope Francis invites us to follow in the footsteps of Jesus: to include or "**ENCOUNTER**" one another, especially those of us that society typically ignores, undervalues, or excludes. The Holy Father then invites us to take the next step: from seeing all people as part of God's family to acting together to bring about a world that respects everyone's dignity. Pope Francis' pastoral style shows us a way; wherever he goes, he spends time with people, talking with them, hugging them, listening to them.

Pax Christi Pastoral Care and Social Justice Ministries are coming together this fall to offer a six-week series, *Year of Encounter with Pope Francis*, which will address issues of poverty, racism, and immigration. Two small groups will journey together for six weeks of reflection and small group sharing. They will create several action steps regarding these topics.

An evening group meets Wednesdays, 6:30–8:30pm, October 14 – November 18. A second morning group meets Thursdays, 9:15–11:15am, October 15 – November 19. Childcare will be provided with RSVP.

Contact Jean Thoresen or Fr. Hayek for more information. Register online, www.paxchristi.com/eventregistration, or call the RSVP line, 952-405-7251. Please state which session (day or evening) you are registering for. We hope you can join us as we open our doors to encounter.

September 2015 xxxxxxx



# MISERICORDIAE VULTUS: THE FACE OF MERCY SUMMARY IN PLAIN ENGLISH

THE PAPAL BULL ANNOUNCING THE EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY FROM FRANCIS, BISHOP OF ROME.

Summary in Plain English, Written by Bill Huebsch and Reprinted with Approval from @PastoralPlanning.com

- 1. In Jesus we see the mercy of the Father. This mercy is rich and everlasting. Jesus is the sacrament of this: the visible, tangible, and audible manifestation of God's endless love, forgiveness, and mercy. When we see Jesus, we see the Father; Jesus thus reveals the mercy of God to us.
- **2.** We should think deeply about mercy because mercy is what leads to a true and deep sense of well-being. When we understand mercy, we understand the Blessed Trinity the community of love which is God.
- **3.** There are times in our lives when we think and pray about mercy more so that we can ourselves become agents of God's love for others.

For this reason, I hereby proclaim a Jubilee of Mercy. The Jubilee will open on December 8, 2015, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. I chose this feast because it holds a unique place in our history. We humans are a sinful lot: selfish, greedy, lustful, and mean. But despite this, God responds to us with love. Mercy me. Mercy is always greater than our sin and, as if to prove it, God called Mary to bear Jesus and he gave Mary freedom from this sinful nature.

On December 8 I will open the Holy Door which will thereby become a Door of Mercy. Anyone

who passes through this door will experience God's mercy.

Soon after this, other doors will be opened, first in the Church of St John Lateran in Rome, then in other basilicas, at local shrines throughout the world, and even in local parish churches, as the bishop directs. This will be a world-wide lubilee

**4.** I chose December 8 as the opening of the Jubilee because it is also the 50th Anniversary of the closing of Vatican II. I want to keep Vatican II alive in the Church because at the Council, our fortress-like walls came tumbling down and a new age of mercy was inaugurated.

Saint John XXIII himself proclaimed this in his opening speech at the Council. "Now the Bride of Christ wishes to use the medicine of mercy rather than taking up arms of severity," he said. The medicine of mercy, indeed. And Blessed Paul VI likewise echoed this sentiment in his closing remarks.

We trust now that the Holy Spirit will guide us as a Church to observe this Jubilee faithfully.

**5.** The Jubilee year will close on November 20, 2016. I can't tell you how much I hope this year will create a Church of mercy, steeped in love and forgiveness, ready to be like Jesus in every way. This is how the world is being saved!

**6.** As we think about mercy we will come to see that it is not merely an abstract idea. Throughout history, God has been "merciful in practice." Mercy is not a mere theology but a way we see and understand God. God is mercy and love.

He has touched real people's lives: securing justice for the oppressed, giving food to the hungry, letting prisoners free, opening the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, loves the just, watches over travelers, supports widows and orphans, and brings the wicked to ruin. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds and lifts up the downtrodden.

This is our agenda for the Jubilee year. God acts toward us like a father or mother who loves their child deeply and profoundly. It is a visceral love, gushing forth. So, too, this year, must our love gush forth to give mercy to the people of the world.

7. In our long religious tradition, we have sung over and over again from Psalm 136. Jesus may have prayed this very psalm before his trial and death. In it, after every verse, we proclaim, "For his mercy endures forever." Other translations say, "For his love never quits." They mean the same. Jesus' selfgiving journey to Calvary was an act of supreme mercy toward us.



**8.** Now let us gaze on Jesus. He embodies God's love for us. The stories he told and the signs he worked were all designed to reveal God's mercy: to the sick, the suffering, the stranger, the rejected, and the sinner: God's mercy endures forever!

What moved Jesus to act with compassion toward all was nothing less than mercy. Jesus looked on all with merciful love. He understood the human heart and he knew how bound up we are by our selfishness and self-centeredness. He knew that we lacked love; but he knew as well that by loving us to the end, he would free us from these demons and set us on the pathway to love others.

Saint Bede the Venerable wrote about how Jesus called Matthew, a public sinner and tax collector. Jesus looked on that man with mercy, according to Bede. He saw beyond the sins to the heart of Matthew. His very look wiped away Matthew's sins.

I myself am so impressed by Bede's words that I chose them as my episcopal motto: miserando atque eligendo which could be rendered in English, "I forgive you and I choose you."

**9.** Likewise in the parables which Jesus used to instruct us, God is revealed as the Father who never gives up, even on a son who betrayed him. He seeks out the lost sheep. We are that lost sheep ourselves. God has had such mercy on us! God welcomes these lost ones back to himself with happiness; he doesn't scold them and punish them. He's just happy to have them back.

The basis of this is Jesus' teaching on mercy in Matthew 18. This is the story of the servant whose debt was forgiven by his master only to trounce without mercy on someone who owed him far less. The master was infuriated by this. "Should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?" the master asks. (Mt 18:33). Jesus concludes, "So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart" (Mt 18:35).

How dare we now fail to show mercy toward those who need it most? This parable contains a profound teaching for us. Mercy is God's way of treating us; how we treat others determines whether we are children of God or not. Just as God is merciful so we also must be merciful. How dare we take any other approach?

**10.** The Church is a sacrament of Christ to the world and therefore, we must have mercy in our core. Nothing in our preaching or teaching can lack in mercy. Perhaps we have forgotten how to show mercy or live as merciful people. It may be that our focus on justice led us away from mercy as the first impulse.

In the wider world, mercy is also lacking, as we can see in the news each day. The time has now come for us to return to being a Church of mercy. This must be our witness to the world.

**11.** Saint John Paul II offered a great teaching on this as well. "The Church," he said, "lives an authentic life when

she professes and proclaims mercy – the most stupendous attribute of the Creator and of the Redeemer – and when she brings people close to the sources of the Savior's mercy."

Our mercy must extend to all creation, Saint John Paul II teaches. Our task of building and planting the earth, given to us by God in Genesis 2:15, must include attitudes and actions of mercy toward the land as well as its people.

- **12.** We as the Church must imitate Christ. We must be as merciful as he was. Our language and our gestures must transmit mercy so as to touch the hearts of modern men and women again.
- **13.** During the Jubilee we want the words of Luke (6:35) to echo in our own hearts, "Be merciful just as your Father is merciful." In order to do this, we must reclaim the Word of God, quiet prayer in which God speaks to us, and silence. Let us adopt mercy as our lifestyle.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 8.** 



## **SUMMARY IN PLAIN ENGLISH**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7.** 

**14.** In our religious tradition, we have long valued the idea of being on a journey toward the heart of the Lord. We are a "pilgrim Church." This means we must move away from our comfort zones and walk out into a new place. Our pilgrimage to any particular Church building must be a sign of an inner journey to greater mercy.

To succeed at this we must take seriously Jesus' teaching: "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For the measure you give will be the measure you get back" (Luke 6:37-38).

The Lord asks us above all not to judge and not to condemn. This is the beginning of mercy. We judge others harshly, often condemning them or questioning their faithfulness. But why? Only God sees into the depths of our souls.

We must learn to forgive and become instruments of mercy. Our motto, Merciful like the Father, leads us to throw open our hearts and our doors and become compassionate toward others.

**15.** So in this holy year, we will open our hearts to those on the fringe of society. We will heal wounds, not cause them. We will avoid indifference and take the first step toward those most in need of our mercy. Let us open our eyes to see the

wounds of the world, to see those deprived of dignity and recognize their cry for help!

I want everyone to reflect deeply on the spiritual and corporal works of mercy throughout this year. Let us teach them to our children and to each other.

We ourselves will be judged on how merciful we have been toward others. If we have shown mercy to the hungry, the homeless, the prisoner, and the lonely, then judgement will go well for us. As St John of the Cross put it, "as we prepare to leave this life, we will be judged on the basis of love."

**16.** The Gospel of Luke offers another element that will help us live this Jubilee with vigor. Jesus rose to read in his hometown synagogue, according to Luke 4. He read from Isaiah the Prophet, "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and freedom to those in captivity; to proclaim the year of the Lord's

This "year of the Lord's favor" is what we now enter into as our Jubilee. Let us address poverty once and for all. Let us proclaim liberty to those bound up in selfishness. Let us restore sight to those too blind to see human indignity. And let us do this cheerfully!

**17.** Let us make Lent 2016 a special time of allowing God to embrace us with his mercy once again. He never tires of taking us back, like the Father of the prodigal son. Let us make our Lenten fast one which frees the oppressed, tends to the homeless poor, and offers food to the hungry.

Toward this end, I want to see every diocese implement 24 Hours for the Lord, an initiative which draws people to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This sacrament is a vital part of our Jubilee year.

I never tire of calling confessors to be authentic signs of God's love. We become such a sign when we realize first and foremost our own need for forgiveness and mercy. And let us also reach out to those standing outside our walls. Embrace them as the Father did his prodigal son.

- **18.** Also during Lent 2016, I plan to send out what I am calling Missionaries of Mercy. These will be priest confessors empowered to pardon even those sins normally reserved to the Holy See. It is my hope that local dioceses will organize "missions to the people" which will be open to all who seek mercy. We want to invite back all those who desire to live in God's love.
- **19.** May this message of mercy reach everyone, and may no one be indifferent to it. I include especially the men and women taking part in organized crime, those who have made money

their god, and those who participate in corruption, greed, and wrongdoing.

To those people I say, "This is your moment of grace." Return to the Father; he waits to embrace and forgive you. Please accept this invitation to conversion.

**20.** Let me say a word now about the connection between justice and mercy. Justice leads to rule of law in society; it also refers to what each person is rightly due. Indeed the law is important to us but we must be careful not to fall into legalism.

Jesus himself addressed this. To those who objected to his open love for all, he suggested a meditation on mercy. Love triumphs over law in Jesus' teaching. Paul is an example of this. He had spent his life enforcing the law – that is, until he met Jesus. His conversion turned his view of that law upside down.

Likewise for us. When people come to us with "legal" issues with the Church, we often offer them only legal solutions. But a more merciful solution is what we seek to offer instead.

**21.** Offering us mercy instead of judgment is God's way of reaching out to us in the midst of our wrongdoing and selfishness. Such divine mercy helps us look deep within to find our true person there, a person created by a loving God and destined also for love in God.

During the time of the Old Testament prophet, Hosea, the people of Israel were sinful and unfaithful. According to justice, God had every right to destroy and punish them. But

instead, God offered them only his endless mercy. "How can I give you up?" God asked. "...my compassion grows warm and tender."

And this is to our point here. Merely following the rules is not enough; justice must be tempered by mercy. If God acted any other way, he would no longer be God but only a mere human. When we feel the tenderness of God's forgiveness — even when we know how selfish and badly we have behaved — then we grow in love.

Therefore, we allow only the self-giving love that Christ showed for us to be our norm. Beyond that, who are we to judge?

**22.** Let me now speak a little about indulgences because a Jubilee year always involves granting them. Simply put, God indulges us. This Holy Year of Mercy is time during which, by taking certain steps under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, we will come to know firsthand this indulgent God. Not only are our sins forgiven but we are transformed as children of God. We are transformed; and this is what the indulgence of the Holy Year offers us.

So when we visit a shrine, celebrate Reconciliation, tend to the poor, or make peace with someone, we receive an indulgence from God. Likewise, we live within the communion of saints and their holiness leads us to holiness.

Therefore, we approach the Father's mercy with absolute assurance that his mercy extends to our entire lives.



To "gain an indulgence" is to experience this holiness in the Church.

**23.** As we ponder the meaning of mercy this year, we do so as neighbors to Jews and Muslims. Both of these great traditions consider mercy to be one of God's most important attributes. Both are steeped in understanding God as mercy and kindness.

I hope that during this Jubilee we can encounter these and other great religious traditions and dialogue with them.

24. We turn now to Mary, the Mother of Mercy. May she watch over us in this Jubilee year. She witnessed the mercy of her son, Jesus, throughout his life and even at the foot of his cross. In her great hymn, Mary sang in this or similar words: "God's mercy flows in wave after wave on those who are in awe before him..." During this year, let us pray to Mary in the great Salve Regina, known in English as the Hail, Holy Queen.

We pray with those in the communion of saints who made divine mercy their mission. In

particular, we honor St Faustina Kowalska. May she stand with us before God throughout this year.

**25.** With all these thoughts and prayers in mind, I now present this Extraordinary Jubilee Year. Let us allow God to surprise us in this year. He never tires of opening his heart to us. He loves us. We as the Church must become during this year a more credible witness to mercy, professing it, living it, teaching it to others, and above all, offering it to each other.

Let us hold no one at a distance. Let us place no burdens or hurdles before people. May we imitate Christ in extending mercy, and may we become the voice of every man and women as we pray together, "Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old" (Ps 25:6).

This papal bull was promulgated in Rome at St Peter's Basilica on April 11, 2015, the vigil of the 2nd Sunday of Easter, which is also known as Divine Mercy Sunday, in the third year of my pontificate.

+Francis of Rome

## CHARITY GIVES, BUT JUSTICE CHANGES

**EARLY IN THE MORNING** on March 13, 2013, I had just finished reading *Rediscover Catholicism* by Matthew Kelly. The final chapter relates this story about St. Francis of Assisi:

Eight hundred years ago, a young Italian man searching for meaning in his life went into a dilapidated old church and heard the voice of God speak to him: 'Rebuild my Church. As you can see, it is in ruins.'

Francis's first response was to repair and rebuild a number of churches in and around Assisi, but the voice kept calling to him: 'Francis, rebuild my Church. As you can see, it is in ruins.'

Before the end of that very day in March 2013, Jorge Mario Bergoglio was elected as our new Pope. When it was announced that he would be taking the name Francis as his papal name "in honor of St. Francis of Assisi," the words kept echoing in my head, "Francis, rebuild my Church. As you can see, it is in ruins." I could well imagine God speaking those same words to this Francis, too, charging him with the mighty task of rebuilding the spirituality of our modern day Catholic Church.

That is one of life's little coincidences that has seared itself in my memory — one of the ways I feel I personally have heard God's voice.

Every day of his papacy, Pope Francis has been rebuilding our Church, bringing the focus back to the poor, those who have suffered so much because they have so little. He has led by example, showing us how to respect each other, how to actually see the downtrodden, and how to respond to their needs. He has not shied away from highlighting the social injustices of today's societies on multiple continents, in multiple settings, in bold ways.

Many in our community here in Eden Prairie and the surrounding areas have lived comfortably. We have been very blessed. How have we reflected and returned those blessings? Do we even see the need around us? Do we seek to make this a fair and just society for all in our community, in our metropolitan city, in our state, and in our country? Have we been "the change we want to see"? Have we given from our abundance, not just in monetary ways but with our hands and hearts? Have we put aside our busy-ness to spend time with the oppressed and the distressed? Only by "being there" can we begin to understand.

We here at Pax Christi want to bring our mission into distinct focus on how we are answering those questions and how we can provoke new ideas, pique new interest. To that end, during seven various weeks beginning in the fall, the Justice Council is presenting a series of short videos that will be shown at Mass.



## Each video will center around one of the themes of the seven Catholic Social Teachings:

- Life and Dignity of the Human Person;
- Call to Family, Communion, and Participation;
- Rights and Responsibilities;
- Option for the Poor and Vulnerable;
- The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers;
- Solidarity; and
- Care for God's Creation.

The videos will highlight where this social teaching comes into play, looking at it from a global viewpoint as well as showing how Pax Christi is living out this social teaching. These videos will demonstrate some of the many ways the people of Pax are reaching out to those in need, finding ways to change circumstances and empower those who struggle daily against a system that just doesn't see them.

It is not our intent to pat ourselves on the back and say, "Job well done." It is our deep desire that you will learn of the many wonderful things that you can be part of here at Pax Christi; that you will challenge yourself to join with your fellow parishioners in opportunities that you never knew were going on around you; that you will broaden your knowledge about those less fortunate than you and be moved to really do something about it; and that these seven Catholic social teachings will become a part of every decision you make, in your families and in your work.

Pax Christi is also presenting a program this fall entitled *Year of Encounter with Pope Francis*, which dovetails so nicely with these videos. (Look for information about this program on page 5.) Stretch your social justice mindset. **Open Wide the Doors** of your mind and your heart to the ways you can be a part of rebuilding the world we live in. Educate yourself on how you can become an advocate for justice. We can all be a "Francis."

# THE POPE, PLANNING, AND PREPAREDNESS

BEFORE SUNRISE on October 4, 1979, three buses departed from our 100 family parish in southeastern Minnesota to see Pope John Paul II in Des Moines. Members of our CYO (Catholic Youth Organization) group, which included two of my sisters and me, were excited to be part of this pilgrimage. It was amazing to be at a Mass with the pope and see the huge crowd that continued to grow throughout the day to over 300,000. This experience made the greater church seem much closer to me; the pope wasn't just a faraway figure who was head of our "Church", he was a real person who cared enough to come to us. Today, I am overwhelmed to consider the planning that must have taken place before this event.

Many are going back to school, and later this month, Pope Francis will visit the U.S. Each requires preparation. September is National Preparedness Month (ready.gov/september). This year's theme is "Don't Wait. Communicate. Make Your Emergency Plan

Today." We are asked to take action now to plan within our community and our family, as well as for our pets.

FEMA (the Federal Emergency Management Agency) states, "We must have the tools and plans in place to make it on our own, at least for a period of time, no matter where we are when disaster strikes." The basic steps are **GET A KIT**, **MAKE** A PLAN, and STAY INFORMED. Emergency situations could include weather, a house fire, cardiac arrest, or surviving a terrorist attack. International, federal/national, state, (county/city/municipal) organizations such as the Red Cross (redcross.org/prepare), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (bt.cdc.gov/), and Hennepin County (hennepin.us/residents/ emergencies/emergencymanagement) have information, and resources help us prepare so we can respond effectively during an emergency. Questions? Contact Ann Dunagan, Parish Nurse, 952-405-7200, or adunagan@ paxchristi.com.





## REFLECTIONS ON POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL LAUDATO SI' AND HOW IT IMPACTS US

Care for creation is something close to his heart. He believes there are significant ecological problems that need to be addressed. There are not only problems in the natural environment but also in the human sphere, particularly among the poor. Francis also brings a perspective from the Third World/ Latin America, which is different from ours. He sees how our capitalistic system fails to care for all people and often exploits those already poor. So, this is not just scientific and economic thought, but theological. This provides the moral and religious foundations for what he says from a scientific perspective. The Laudato Si' (Praise to you my Lord) is different than other encyclicals because it is addressed to all people on the planet instead of bishops and other selected groups. Instead of just Catholic doctrine, it contains elements of Catholic teaching, but the summary is based on scientific studies rather than theological documents. Pope Francis invites people of the world to dialogue on environmentalism. He would like to enter into dialogue with all people with our common home. More information on the encyclical will be discussed in future issues. Writtern by members of the Pax Christi Environmental Ministry.

## PAX CHRISTI IS AN "ENERGY STAR"

**NOT LONG AGO,** we reached the point where we became Energy Star qualified. Several years ago the US Department of Energy created a special class of Energy Star rating just for churches.

The process involves tracking and verifying use of both electricity and natural gas sources. Once you reach a certain rating, you can apply for an Energy Star plaque for your building. You may have seen these on many buildings throughout the Twin Cities. There is a cost for the assessment, and we are not likely to spend that money just for the plaque.

However, while you will not see the symbol on our building, it is good to know we have achieved the goal of reducing our impact on the environment through continuous improvement of our systems.

#### Here are a few examples of how we achieved this status:

HVAC Automation systems have been in place for about five years. Controlling which rooms get heating and cooling at certain times saves us a tremendous amount of energy. We match the requirements of environment to the usage of each room as closely as possible to eliminate wasted energy.

HVAC equipment upgrades have been installed as old equipment fails or reaches end-of-life cycles. Newer equipment is designed and built to higher energy saving standards and easily saves us energy and maintenance costs to offset part of the replacement costs.

Parking lot light conservation tactics were added as a component of the automation system for HVAC controls. We do not run these lights all night. Rather, we depend upon the LED lighting adjacent to the building to provide security at night.



Dimmer-system improvements were installed in the worship space that allow us to run the lighting systems slightly below full output. This saves energy and does not compromise the lighting quality.

LED sidewalk lighting bollards were used at the main entrance to replace old and inefficient sodium pressure lighting and, additionally, create a softer look for the new gardens.

Worship space lighting changes to LED replacements save us approximately 95% of the energy used for the former high intensity halogen bulbs. This was made possible through an Xcel Energy custom rebate program.

Replacement of CFL lighting in 212 locations throughout the building also resulted in a savings of over 37,000 kilowatts per year. Again, this was made feasible through the same Xcel Energy rebate program.

#### Future projects that will extend our savings even further:

LED parking lot lighting is being considered now. Rebate programs change each year, and we will implement the lighting changes when they make good economic sense.

Fluorescent tube retrofit to LED panels are currently rather expensive, but prices are falling as the new technology becomes more widely manufactured and distributed. Again, this will be implemented as the economics improve.

LED emergency exit fixtures and emergency lighting will be installed as old equipment fails or as rebate programs provide additional incentive.

Additional HVAC automation improvements are always being monitored. Our current system relies on software that is about 10 years old. New software is always coming to market, and we will implement upgrades as older systems become obsolete or new systems prove their saving capabilities.

One side benefit of all these changes is lower maintenance costs. Reduced wear on HVAC systems and long life for LED systems save us the cost of frequent repairs and replacement. This is a substantial saving of time and contactor costs.

Pope Francis has challenged us to be better stewards of God's creation. Here at Pax Christi, we are leading the way as an example of a community of faith that takes this challenge very seriously. Thanks to Staff, Leadership, and the support of your donations to the Crossroads Fund, we will continue to live out Pope Francis' directives and initiatives to conserve and care for the gifts of our Creator.

Written by Ken Reineccius, Director of Operations.



# STEWARDS IN ALL THAT WE DO, HERE, THERE, AND EVERYWHERE

WHAT was the first job you held? One of my first jobs was serving as a library page at the public library. This job was reserved for 14-and 15-year-old students only, as the head librarian felt that was the age where the employee got the most out of the job and the employeer got the most out of the employee. This concept more than likely wouldn't fly in today's world, but that's the way it was, and a great part-time job it was. I learned a lot at the first job: how to maneuver through the Dewey Decimal System, how to use the library to research and find information, and how to handle customers. First jobs teach us a lot of things, but one of the most important aspects of a first iob is to teach us that maxim of treating others how we would like to be treated. Most of us may have forgotten the unpleasant aspects of our first jobs, but rarely do we forget the negative comments, or worse, that came from our boss, coworkers, or customers. I remember the anxious students attempting to get the proper research quotes, waiting for us pages to find the magazine from the basement

stacks, and the gratitude of some when we found that piece of information that would make their paper worthwhile. I also remember the irritation of others when we couldn't find the information they needed, or they felt we didn't respond fast enough. My job taught me the importance of doing my job to the best of my ability, no matter what other pages were doing or, in some cases, not doing. By concentrating on doing the job right, I was rewarded with being able to provide better customer service and received fewer complaints. I learned the importance of the maxim that a job well done was worth doing.

September calls us back to school and back from vacation. September is the time we get back to the business and busyness of our lives. Soon, the family calendar is filled and, in many cases over-filled, with meetings, gatherings, activities, and more. One way to honor Pope Francis's visit to the United States may be to spend time forming a stewardship response to his challenge: How will you put Christ at the center

of everything you do? How is God calling you to be the person you were created to be at home, at work, at school, and "in the places of everyday life?"

We all wear many hats in our daily lives. We can be a parent, sibling, child, employee, or neighbor. We can be a boss, student, worker bee, organizer, or dreamer. Where does our faith fit in the hats that we wear? It's easy to be a Christian inside the church when you are surrounded by a couple hundred worshippers. It may be more of a challenge to live up to one's faith when you are standing at the office water cooler, gathered in front of your friend's locker, or trying to make a move on the highway during rush hour. We have many opportunities to answer God's call each and every day. Sometimes it will be easier than others, but the challenge Pope Francis gives is to keep trying to do the best we can with what we have been given, in all the places we find ourselves. Written by Mary Kennedy, Director of Stewardship and Development.

WE CANNOT BE
CHRISTIANS PARTTIME. IF CHRIST IS AT
THE CENTER OF OUR
LIVES, HE IS PRESENT
IN ALL THAT WE DO.

-POPE FRANCIS, 8/19/13
@PONTIFEX (TWITTER)

EVERYONE IS

CALLED, EVERYONE

IS SENT OUT . . . THE

CALL OF GOD CAN

REACH US ON THE

ASSEMBLY LINE AND

IN THE OFFICE, IN THE

SUPERMARKET AND

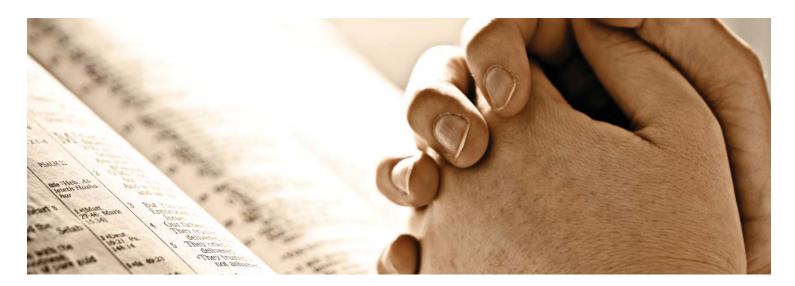
IN THE STAIRWELL,

I.E., IN THE PLACES OF

EVERYDAY LIFE.

- POPE FRANCIS, 1/30/14
TO THE BISHOPS OF THE
EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE OF
AUSTRIA ON THEIR
AD LIMINA VISIT

4 September 2015 xxxxx



# PRAYER CHANGES THINGS

**"THE FUNCTION OF PRAYER** is not to influence God, but rather to change the nature of the one who prays."

It's taken me a long time to fully understand this quote from Danish philosopher Soren Kierkegaard. I think many of us grow up thinking if we just pray long enough, hard enough, or in just the right way, we will convince God to do what we want in our timing. As a little girl, prayer seemed almost magical to me.

One day, bouncing home in my classical Catholic school plaid jumper, I complained to my mom that I didn't know how to say a rosary. Imagine my surprise when I arrived at class the next day to have Sister announce that that day's assignment was cancelled so we could all learn the rosary. This was long before instant messaging of email or texting, so I was in awe. It was as if God overheard my conversation, and Sister was now compelled to teach me.

As my understanding of prayer has deepened, I've learned that it doesn't work so efficiently. I no longer spend hours asking, pleading, and even bargaining with God to get the answer I want or to fix things my way. Rather, I let God know my hope, and then I ask for the grace to see the answer. I've learned to let our Creator God be, quite frankly, creative.

During a difficult time in my life with a health condition which was made even more challenging due to a surgery complication, I spent several months in a hospital bed. I pleaded to God for relief from pain and an understanding of why this was happening to me while circles of family and friends were shuffling my children to preschool, cleaning my home, and preparing my meals. It was only after I began my healing, both inside and out, that I began to understand that

these people were the answer to my prayers. It was many years after that I discovered that this experience gave me an empathy and understanding to others in pain that I never could have understood if I hadn't gone through this difficult time.

I've come to understand that prayer is about opening our heart to grace. It's putting on glasses of faith to say, "Lord, I need your help," and then looking to see the surprising ways God transforms the pain/sorrow/struggle. Yes, prayer changes things but usually on the inside.

During some of my hardest days, when I had difficulty even finding the words to pray, I relied on my rosary. The repetitive prayer to Mary comforted me, and now, in retrospect I realized, it was my own mother who answered my prayer that day by telling Sister of my desire to learn this prayer. As I got physically and spiritually stronger, I began reading inspirational classics that comforted me, until finally I could return to the conversational prayer with God that I found sustains me.

Prayer is one of the cornerstones of Pastoral Care. We have many opportunities for prayer whether you are the requestor or recipient. Next month, I plan to continue this theme of prayer with both stories from some of our pray-ers and specifics on how to request prayer in your time of need.

This month, I ask you to consider sharing your prayer story with someone. How has prayer changed things in your life? Did you ever pray for something very specific and later discover that you received a different and surprising answer? What forms of prayer do you use in your most difficult times and in your times of celebration?

Written by Jean Thoresen, Director of Pastoral Care

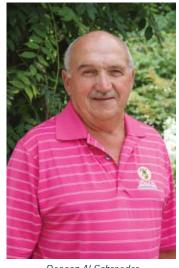
# THE DEACONS AT PAX CHRISTI

Moving confidently to the ambo, he began vividly proclaiming the Gospel of St. Mark, telling the story of Jesus gathering with his apostles after being with the crowds, teaching them many things. And he spoke with the joy and conviction as if he had been in the crowd only the day before. Then moving to the front of the altar, he introduced himself. "My name is Charles Bobertz, and I am your new deacon." It was obvious to all at the July 14 and 15 Masses that he was happy to be here.

Deacon Charles Bobertz, PhD, is a professor of theology at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota. He has been a biblical scholar for 30 years and is particularly well known for his writings about St. Mark.

After teaching theology for many years, he began to think that he might have more to offer. This feeling grew, but he had doubts. He prayed to God to help make a decision. At the end of a long prayer, he concluded he should not become a deacon, and he knew God would understand. His answer was, "No." But, by the time he had left the church, the answer had become "Yes." He pursued two more years of formal study and was ordained in 1997. His first diaconate position was at Holy Spirit Church in St. Cloud, and in 2003, he moved to Chanhassen.

When official diaconate transfer procedures to the archdiocese of St. Paul came into place this year, he immediately applied for a diaconate position and Fr. Bill immediately applied for



Deacon Al Schroeder 17 Years at Pax Christi

him. This was not an accident. Fr. Bill, Charles, Fr. Patrick Kennedy, and Deacon Al had known each other before. It was perfect.

Charles's first homily at Pax Christi was straightforward. He told us his basic beliefs about God, Christ, the Eucharist, and the Church. His remarks had to be brief to fit in a homily, but they revealed his depth of scholarship and thought, and may have encompassed more than many of us have considered. His thoughts follow:

God is the Creator of heaven and earth, but with that comes evil, destruction, and death. And God is the constant force fighting back evil—always there, creating love, hope, and goodness. The struggle never stops, but good always wins. We saw this in South Carolina in the forgiveness by the relatives of the slain victims.

Christ is not dead. He is here, alive and with us, in those



Deacon Terry Beer 4 Years at Pax Christi

you minister to, those for whom you have compassion, and within at all times and in all places. Look for Christ to the right, the left. Look for Christ everywhere and always.

The Church is not a sect. WE are Church all of us—the good, the sinners, the broken people yearning to serve others, bringing justice, reconciliation, and peace to the world. We are here to love the people of God and none are to be excluded.

Deacons Al and Terry, like Charles, had their calling to the diaconate when they felt they could do more. When Deacon Al was a schoolboy and then again after he was married, he was advised to seriously consider becoming a deacon when his children were older, which he did. He went through the full arduous training program and became ordained in 1998, after which he began serving at Pax



Deacon Charles Bobertz At Pax Christi Since June

Christi as he does to this day.

Deacon Terry studied theology with the Franciscan Order for seven years after college and began to believe he could do more. This was his calling. He pursued two additional years of training, and he was ordained in 1998. He served as a deacon in Illinois, and then moved to Minnesota where he has served as a deacon for the last ten years. He is the Director of Faith Formation at Mary, Mother of the Church in Burnsville. This is a full-time staff position, and he oversees all activities that involve religious education and parishioners receiving the sacraments. At Pax Christi, he assists in weddings and baptisms, delivers some homilies, and engages in some special teaching situations.

We are a blessed community to have these deacons at Pax Christi!

Written by Sam Cleveland, Pax Christi parishioner

## 2015 APOSTOLIC JOURNEY OF POPE FRANCIS TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 - WASHINGTON, DC

Arrival from Cuba at Joint Base Andrews

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 - WASHINGTON, DC

Welcome ceremony and meeting with President Obama at the White House Midday Prayer with the Bishops of the United States, St. Matthew's Cathedral

Mass of Canonization of Junipero Serra, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 - WASHINGTON, DC, NEW YORK CITY

Address to Joint Session of the United States Congress Visit to St. Patrick in the City and Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington Evening Prayer (Vespers) at St. Patrick's Cathedral

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 - NEW YORK CITY

Visit to the United Nations and Address to the
United Nations General Assembly
Multi-religious service at 9/11 Memorial and Museum,
World Trade Center
Visit to Our Lady Queen of Angels School, East Harlem
Mass at Madison Square Garden

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 - NEW YORK CITY, PHILADELPHIA

Mass at Cathedral Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul, Philadelphia Visit to Independence Mall Visit to the Festival of Families Benjamin Franklin Parkway

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 - PHILADELPHIA

Meeting with bishops at St. Martin's Chapel, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary Visit to Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility Mass for the conclusion of the World Meeting of Families, Benjamin Franklin Parkway Visit with organizers, volunteers and benefactors of the World Meeting of Families, Atlantic Aviation Departure for Rome

#### Complete details can be found at www.usccb.org.





# HOW CAN YOU KEEP FROM SINGING? OR PLAYING?

Do you sing in the shower or in the car? Do you play the clarinet, sax, flute, guitar? There's a spot for you. The schedule for weekly rehearsals is listed below. No auditions. Just show up in the Marian Anderson Room, #213, at the appointed day and time. Bring along a friend or a family member. We have much to celebrate as we move into another year of grace.

#### **Adult Music Ministry**

Thursdays beginning September 10 6:30pm – Instrumentalists 7:30pm – Singers

**Youth Choir –** Grades 7 – 12 Sundays, 3:30pm

**Children's Choir –** Grades 2 – 6 Sundays beginning September 20, 10:00am

**Handbell Choir** Tuesdays, 7:00pm

#### **CHILDREN WHO LOVE TO SING:**

Children's Choir begins again on Sunday, September 20, at 10:00am in the Thomas Merton Chapel. Children in grades two through six are welcome to join. It's a time to sing, meet new friends, and make a difference in your Church community. Throughout the school year, we sing once a month at Sunday Masses, rotating the times we sing so different members of Pax Christi get to hear us and benefit from our music ministry. You can register online at <a href="https://www.paxchristi.com/eventregistration">www.paxchristi.com/eventregistration</a>, or pick up a registration flier at the receptionist desk by door three. Questions? Contact Lonne Murphy, Childrens Choir Director, 952-405-7247, or lmurphy@paxchristi.com.

#### **CALLING MUSICIANS:**

As our high school instrumentalists move on to college or the workplace, they leave a hole in our music ministry as well as other areas of our parish life. Our ensembles are always open to additional musicians, high school age and above (strings, flute, clarinet, guitar as well as singers.) You can choose which of our weekend services best suits your personal or family schedule. The time commitment varies by instrument, ability, and availability.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT DONNA KASBOHM, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP, DKASBOHM@PAXCHRISTI.COM.



JOIN YOUR FELLOW PARISHIONERS WHO WILL BE SHARING THEIR ARTISTIC GIFTS IN THE

# 8TH ANNUAL PAX CHRISTI PARISHIONERS' ART EXHIBIT

**DECEMBER 6TH - 20TH, 2015** 

This year's exhibit, presented by the Pax Christi Art Committee, may be viewed from Sunday, December 6 until 12:00pm on Sunday, December 20, in the Pacem in Terris Gallery, in the Martin Luther King, Jr., Room (room 247) near door #3.

Current Pax Christi parishioners — amateur, hobbyist, or professional — from ages 16 years or older have the opportunity to show their fine art and fine craft, which may include works in sculpture, pottery, fiber and photography, with the exclusion of film and/or video.

Did you know that Pax Christi's permanent art collection includes several pieces created by members of the Pax community? You may see an addition to the Pax permanent collection from this exhibit.

Please plan to join us for the opening reception on Sunday, December 6, 10:00am–1:00pm. View the artwork, talk with the featured artists and enjoy complimentary refreshments. The exhibit is also open for viewing during normal building hours except during reserved room use. (Check reserved room hours with the church office.)

Visit often and bring your friends. You may even be motivated to enter and share your artistic talents! **ARTISTS NEEDED:** Guidelines and application procedures for this year's 2015 Parishioners' Art Exhibit is available at www.paxchristi.com/artexhibit in August 2015.



#### MONDAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT PAX CHRISTI

Duties may include vacuuming sanctuary carpet, dusting pews, and cleaning altar and Reservation Chapel areas. You can pick and choose what you like to do. Volunteer Mondays, 1–2 hours between the hours of 6:00am–12:00pm. If interested, please contact Al Haider, 952-405-7232, or ahaider@paxchristi.com.

## **PARISHIONER NEWS**

#### **JULY BAPTISMS**

Kieran Michael Sabin	7/5/2015
Aubrey Evelyn Moon	7/12/2015
Simon David Farmer	7/19/2015
Noah Akiles Carrillo	7/26/2015
Ethan Ronan Mascarenhas	7/26/2015
Theodore Lukas Oldenburg	7/26/2015
Dani Michelle Rau	7/29/2015

#### **JULY WEDDINGS**

Janelle Becker & Jordan Maag 7/11/2015 Baonhi Phung & Henry Dam 7/25/2015

#### **JULY FUNERAL**

Allison Boisvert 7/8/2015

#### **JULY NEW MEMBERS**

Matthew and Jen Entwistle Matthew Hill and Amy Schlomann Michael and Ellen Sinkey Mrs. Anne Werner-Dempsey

### **SEPTEMBER**

#### FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

FRIDAY, September 4, Beginning with Mass at 8:30am

Join other parishioners for Mass followed by coffee and rolls in the Chief Joseph room. If you wish, stay for card or board games following the social. Sponsored by Boomers and Beyond. All are welcome.

#### **BOOMERS AND BEYOND OPENING SESSION**

Monday, September 14, 8:30-11:00am RSVP

Join us for Mass followed by brunch and a presentation by parishioner Patricia Baumer. Pope Francis has announced an "Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy" year beginning December 8. Patricia will be presenting Open Wide the Door: The Qualities of Mercy. The event fee is included in the Boomers and Beyond annual membership dues. The fee for nonmembers will be \$15.00. Please RSVP by September 7. Register online for the event AND the Annual Boomers and Beyond Membership.

#### **BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY WITH FR HERB**

Beginning Week of September 14 RSVP

Fr. Herb will lead a scripture study based on the readings for the coming week. Two sessions will be offered each week, Mondays, 6:30-7:30pm, and Wednesdays, 12:00-1:00pm. The fee of \$10 is to cover printed materials for the series. Register online or contact Fr. Herb, 952-405-7219.

#### **WOMEN WITH SPIRIT BIBLE STUDY**

Beginning Tuesday, September 22-March 22, 9:30am RSVP

Women of all ages and all faiths are invited for wonderful discoveries in Old Testament scriptures. This year's series is *From Moses to Monarchy*. We have twenty weekly talks by professional instructors followed by small group discussions with volunteer facilitators. Tuition is \$100 which covers teachers, books, three retreats, and childcare. Complete details/register online at www.paxchristi.com/wws.

# 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/event registration. Questions? Contact the parish office, 952-941-3150.

#### THEOLOGY DAY AT PAX CHRISTI

God's Gifts Within Us — What Are We Doing With Them?

#### Tuesday, September 22, 6:00-9:00pm

The Scriptures tell us that God has placed particular talents and abilities in every one of us and that we are expected to do something with them. So how well do we recognize, develop, and use these gifts at every stage of our lives? Stewardship is not simply about caring for the land or contributing to our parish collections. It is especially about living this biblical call to use God's gifts within us and helping to build a world that more closely reflects the love and mercy, the justice and peace of God. Join other travelers on the faith journey as this topic is explored with Bernie Evans, Ph.D., Associate Professor in Theology at St. John's School of Theology and Seminary. A light dinner will be served from 6:00–6:30pm, and the presentation will begin at 6:30pm.

#### MOMS ROCK: WELCOME BRUNCH

Wednesday, September 23, 9:30-11:30am RSVP

Join us for a yummy brunch as we preview a year of fun Moms ROCK activities, relax, and enjoy each other's company! During all September and October gatherings, we will be collecting new hats and mittens for babies, kids, teens, and especially adults. Additional information online and on back cover.

#### Speaker Series for the 2015–2016 Year:

#### September 23

Welcome Brunch

#### October 7

Dr. Steve Kahn: Parenting Today with an Eye on Tomorrow

#### October 10, 6:00pm

John Buri: How to Be Married and Stay Engaged

#### October 21

Peter Bierer: Passing on a Living Faith Cont'd: Practices and Rituals for Family Spirituality

#### November 4

Patty Craane: Essential Oils to Boost Your Immune System

#### November 18

Chad Hayenga: Discipline That Connects with Your Child's Heart

#### December 9

CityKid Java: Coffee for the Community

#### January 6

Vicki Franzen: Mindful Speech

#### January 20

Melissa Oprish: Healthy Eating Made Simple

#### February 3

Dr. Bob Zajac: A Talk With the Doc: Holistic pediatric Care 101 – starting a health and wellness journey

#### February 17

Jan Lehman: Drowning in Paperwork? Take Back Control!

#### March 2

Father Bill: A Conversation with the Pastor and Birthday Bags

#### March 16

Cory Whitmer: The Mustard Seed

#### April 13

Emily Kaster: Go Green with a Daily Clean

#### April 27

Christy Leonard: You Don't have to be Skinny to be Fit!

#### May 11

Farewell Brunch/PROP Shop

### **MAKE PLANS NOW**

#### ST. FRANCIS BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Saturday, October 3, 9:00am, St. Francis Shrine

Calling all llamas, lizards, guinea pigs, cockatoos, and, of course, dogs and cats. It's once again time for the Annual Blessing of the Animals to celebrate St. Francis Day at Pax Christi. Bring your favorite furry, feathered, or scaled friend, on a leash or in a carrier, to the St. Francis Shrine, or Nazareth Hall if we experience inclement weather.

We'll have a short prayer service, bless each pet individually, snap a photo of Fido with Father McMichael, and then feel free to enjoy a walk around the pond and treat yourself to some coffee and pastries. There will be pet friendly treats on hand too! Visit our pet resource displays to learn about Pax Christi's new Pax's Pets Ministry and other animal resources available in the community.

#### **CHAIR YOGA**

Mondays, 2:30-3:30pm, October 5, 12, 19, 26, Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23 RSVP

Chair yoga is a lovely blend of standing and seated stretches for participants who want to do yoga but need something gentle. Focus is on range of motion for the joints, gentle stretches, standing postures and breathing, and relaxation. Instructor Denise Bunch has been teaching yoga for 13 years. The fee is \$20 per person for the eight classes. Register online by September 18.

#### MOMS ROCK PRESENTS: COUPLES NIGHT OUT

How To Be Married and Stay Engaged with John Buri

Saturday, October 10, 6:00–8:30pm (following the 5:00pm Mass) \$20/couple preregistered, \$30/couple at the door RSVP

John Buri will help you discover ways to strengthen and deepen your marriage. Additional information online and on back cover.

#### YEAR OF ENCOUNTER WITH POPE FRANCIS

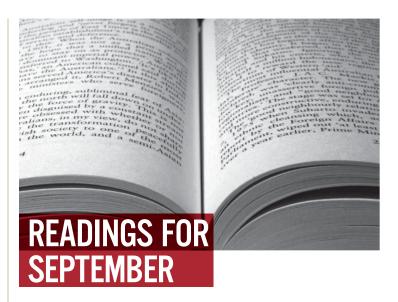
Beginning Wednesday, October 14, 6:30–8:30pm OR
Beginning Thursday, October 15, 9:15–11:15am RSVP

This six-week series addresses issues of poverty, racism, and immigration. Additional information on page 5.

#### NATIONAL CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE (NCYC)

November 19-21, 2015, Indianapolis, IN, Fee of \$700 (est.) RSVP

The Sr. High Ministry will be joining over 20,000 Catholic teenagers for the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) at the Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, IN, and we want you to join us! This incredible weekend is filled with stellar music, inspirational speakers, amazing experiences of prayer and worship, and much more!



#### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2015**

Sunday: Is 35:4-7a/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37

Monday: Col 1:24--2:3/Lk 6:6-11

Tuesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Wednesday: Col 3:1-11/Lk 6:20-26 Thursday: Col 3:12-17/Lk 6:27-38 Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Lk 6:39-42 Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17/Lk 6:43-49

#### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2015

Sunday: ls 50:5-9a/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35 Monday: Nm 21:4b-9/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17 Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Lk 7:31-35 Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16/Lk 7:36-50 Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Lk 8:1-3 Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Lk 8:4-15

#### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2015

Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Jas 3:16--4:3/Mk 9:30-37

Monday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Mt 9:9-13 Tuesday: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20/Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9/Lk 9:1-6
Thursday: Hg 1:1-8/Lk 9:7-9
Friday: Hg 2:1-9/Lk 9:18-22

Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Lk 9:43b-45

#### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2015**

Sunday: Nm 11:25-29/Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Monday: Zec 8:1-8/Lk 9:46-50

Tuesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12ab/Jn 1:47-51

Wednesday: Neh 2:1-8/Lk 9:57-62

Thursday: Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12/Lk 10:1-12 Friday: Bar 1:15-22/Mt 18:1-5, 10 Saturday: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29/Lk 10:17-24

SEPTEMBER  See pages 18-19 for details or visit us online at www.paxchristi.com.							
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
1	2	BAPTISM PREP SESSION	4	5	FIRST FRIDAY SOCIAL	7	
8	LABOR DAY 9 PARISH OFFICES CLOSED BUILDING CLOSED FOLLOWING 9AM MASS	10	11	12 MUSIC MINISTRY BEGINS	13	14 VIRTUS TRAINING 9AM	
CATECHIST TRAINING 6:30PM	BOOMERS OPENING SESSION BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY BEGINS	LEADERSHIP MEETINGS	BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY BEGINS VIRTUS TRAINING 6PM	CHILDRENS LITURGY OF THE WORD LEADER TRAINING 6:30PM	20	21	
CHILDREN'S CHOIR BEGINS  FAITH FORMATION KICK-OFF	23	WOMEN WITH SPIRIT BIBLE STUDY BEGINS THEOLOGY DAY AT PAX CHRISTI	MOMS ROCK WELCOME BRUNCH FAITH FORMATION	26	27	28	
29	30						
FAITH FORMATION			FAITH FORMATION	VIRTUS TRAINING 6PM		VIRTUS TRAINING 9AM	



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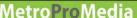
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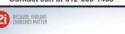
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