

Fr. Ken's Korner



Greetings and blessings of the week,
I hope that it has been a good one for all of you. Schools are back in session after the February break, as is religious education classes. Once again, we thank everyone who has any part whatsoever in helping our parish religious education program to help our young people learn about their faith and church.



Their role is truly one of evangelization that moves from theory to implementation as they respond to God's invitation to share their faith with our younger generation. This work goes unnoticed by many of our parish but these volunteers are as essential to forming the faith for our young people as is the air that we breathe vital to sustaining life.

We are grateful to Bob Houston who has worked here in the parish as a part time sexton in the church and custodian in the Parish Center. Bob began working in this role shortly after I came here to St. Peter's in January of 2005. He is also active in other capacities and ministries in our parish. He was contacted by the MDC about returning to work for them. Our loss is their gain. Consequently, we find ourselves in need of an individual (or individuals) to fill the position that we now find open. If there is anyone interested in possibly filling this vacancy, please contact Terry at the Parish Center. Please leave your name and telephone number in order that you can be contacted to discuss the terms, possibilities and specifics. This would be a paid position that would be about fifteen hours per week. Bob Houston will be involved in the process since he has a good knowledge of what this position entails.



We are grateful to Aneice Lawrence and Phyllis Folger who have generously donated their time as wedding coordinators. They conducted the wedding rehearsals that take place here at St. Peter's. They are very involved in many capacities here in the parish (homebound ministers, Eucharistic ministers, Women's League, religious education, parish event planning and coordinating, among other activities). All of this is very time demanding, especially when coupled with family responsibilities. As a result, something has to give. We are in need of a person (or persons) who would be willing to serve our parish and our engaged couples by volunteering to serve as a director of wedding rehearsals here at St. Peter's. If you have any questions or interest in this ministry, please call Terry at the Parish Center and leave your name and phone number.



The Parish Pastoral Council met last Sunday night, as did the Parish Golf Tournament Committee on Monday night. Tuesday night, I met with Tom Connelly regarding the stained glass window "shadow box" of St. Peter receiving the keys of the Kingdom from Jesus. You may have notice that one side of the window appears to be brighter than the other. This is

due to some problems with the ballasts, as well as the florescent lighting that is encased within the frame. However, no contingency was made when the piece was constructed to get inside the piece to repair or replace the ballasts that now need to be replaced. Work to correct this situation has been discussed and, provided all goes smoothly, the lighting and ballasts should be in good working order before Easter (which is, hard to believe, a mere three weeks from today!!)

Gloria Bagni, who is very involved in our parish St. Vincent de Paul Society as well as being a Eucharistic Minister (not to mention a crossings guard at the Hedge School), underwent knee replacement surgery on Wednesday. We hope and pray that her recovery goes well. Please pray for Joseph Dillon as well. On a sad note, we ask you to please pray for the repose of John Rooney's sister, Mary Elizabeth Compeau, who died on February nineteenth. May the Lord welcome her into the loving embrace of the light and peace of eternal life promised to God's faithful ones by Jesus Christ. We were informed that Roger and Dolores Fernandes' daughter Robin Fernandes Woods, who presently lives in Aurora, Colorado, will be on the very popular television show, Jeopardy, on Monday, March 3rd. If you know her, or them, be sure to tune in. Tuesday, March 4th, Katie Noyes (who, along with all of her family are involved in many phases of our parish life) celebrates her "Sweet Sixteen" birthday.



This week we celebrate the feast days of men and women of faith who devoted their lives to helping others in life. St. Katherine Drexel's feast day is celebrated on Monday, March 3rd. She died on March 3, 1955 at the age of ninety-seven. A member of the Drexel family of Philadelphia, she was heiress to a substantial fortune that she used for the benefit of others. She founded the Missionary Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. She was responsible for establishing some forty-nine foundations, including Xavier University of New Orleans. This American woman was elevated to the level of sainthood when the late Pope John Paul II canonized her on October 1, 2000. Tuesday, November 4th, is a very important day for the Polish and the Lithuanians. It is the feast day of Saint Casimir. He was a Polish prince who died in 1484. Casimir, patron saint of Poland and Lithuania, was known as the "brother and defender of the poor". Saturday, March 8th, is the feast day of St. John of God. He died in Granada, Spain (a beautiful city that I had the occasion to visit when I was on academic sabbatical at the North American College at the Vatican) in 1550. Prior to his conversion at age forty-two, he had been a shepherd, a soldier, and an entrepreneur. He laid the foundation, in 1537, for the Order of Hospitallers. St. John of God is a patron saint of hospitals, nurses and booksellers. May the Lord's blessings smile kindly upon you and your loved ones in the coming week. Your brother in faith, Fr. Ken.

