

Dear Parishioners,

+JMJ

On Thursday, February 19, we had another pastoral council meeting. The following is a brief summary:

-All the money for the Paulding air-conditioning project has been collected, thanks to very generous donors. The Diocese has given the final approval for the replacement of the old system. Demolition should start in the next couple of weeks, with plans to put in the new system the week after Divine Mercy Sunday.

-We reviewed very quickly the marriage preparation process. I am going to try to move the 2-day diocesan sponsored engaged retreat weekend for next year much earlier, so as not to conflict with the farming season. I'm very excited to have this process up and running finally. Marriage is too precious and beautiful to fail to provide a solid immediate preparation for it. I envision adding to the process some couples who become trained in Theology of the Body, who could partner with me in the process by meeting with engaged couples. We'll see how this develops.

-I've been thinking and praying about, and discussing behind-the-scenes our need for a Wednesday night high school youth program that is more extensive. Primarily I'm looking for a person who could give about 6-8 hours a week to making a youth event happen most Wednesday nights of the school year (some summer gatherings as well?). I want somebody who feels called and has some theological training. The Diocese can also help me train somebody. I don't think we can afford a full-time position, nor would there be enough work, considering just the high school. I mentioned to the pastoral council that I heard some people suggest that the DRE position was meant to cover the high school youth. But in fact Theresa Conley's position originally only covered K-8 PSR at Paulding alone. Then the parishes were twinned. It was only when the parishes further were merged that she was asked to run the already-established Church and Family program (which had previously been run by Fr. Fillman, but in light of the merger he had to give up that task). She would not be able to run a Wednesday evening youth program as I have it envisioned, as I think we need, given so much input I've had from people since my arrival. I have a couple ideas for possibly getting a religious brother or sister to drive in and help out. I'm going to research these possibilities. I am still open for input/ideas people have in this area.

-Mari Ivan gave a report on the junior high program. In January they cooked and delivered a meal for shut-ins. There will be another service project the weekend of March 20, traveling to Our Lady of the Road homeless shelter at Notre Dame. It was noted that we should make sure the junior high PSR programs at all campuses are informed. Other meetings are happening, as advertised, with prayer and discussions and fellowship.

-For Divine Mercy Sunday we will have an afternoon event; and we will cancel the 10:30am Mass at Paulding (maintain the 8:30am Antwerp Mass), to encourage people to attend the afternoon Mass. It seems many people in our geographic area are looking for a Divine Mercy event, and we ought to provide it. Fr. Cirata at Edgerton and Hicksville was hoping he could recommend our event to his parishioners. We will sing the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3 PM, followed immediately by the Mass, then by a meal. Confessions will be available 1-2:30 PM, with at least three confessors. St. Faustina's relic will be available for veneration.

-I am looking for a new maintenance coordinator at our Payne campus. I envision a "young retiree" who would be able to take phone calls from me sometimes during the day and coordinate the various maintenance projects at the campus. Any ideas?

-We briefly discussed the annual parish retreat happening next weekend.

-The Guadalupe ceremony last December 12th ended up being a bit of a spring board for Hispanic life in our

parish. Since that time we've had a couple "Hispanic gatherings"– one to prepare a couple for the baptism of their child, another to celebrate that baptism and have fellowship afterwards. Several additional couples and some single men participated in both of these gatherings. You might've noticed that we had a number of Hispanic people attend our Ash Wednesday ceremonies. I talked about perhaps providing a Mass in Spanish once a month on a Sunday afternoon (in addition to our current Masses), to accommodate those people who are much more comfortable with Spanish. It was suggested that we might consider once in a while doing the Paulding 10:30am Mass in Spanish and English – of course providing translations as need be, and necessary explanation. It was said this was done regularly when Fr. Cleo was pastor. I'm going to speak with musicians about what we might be able to do, and when we might have our first bilingual Mass. It was stated this could be a great opportunity for our youth to be exposed to the Spanish language. It certainly would be a gesture of welcome for the Hispanic community. Although it was stated that perhaps we could do it once a month, after wider consultation, I think perhaps we might agree to do it once every other month for starters, to see how it is received, and to make sure people are comfortable with it. I would love to see us do it once in a while in order to bring the Hispanic community into our parish and make them feel a part of it, rather than having them be separate all the time.

-Because the days of grace during Advent went so well, we will do the same for Lent. Rotating campuses Payne – Paulding – Antwerp, we will have 8 AM Mass, followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and confessions lasting up until 8 PM. Please consider signing up for adoration.

-We got a first quote for the repair of Payne's sound system. (Nothing yet for Paulding.) The quote was for \$13,000, basically suggesting we replace everything. I had asked for recording capacity to make mp3 sound files that could be put onto the website as need be, but that is the only extra thing we asked for. I don't think we want to spend that much, so I'm going to ask Sweetwater to make it clearer what would minimally be needed to make the system work. We are also checking with another source. More information to come.

-Finally, we looked at the results of the Mass times survey. A counting committee with representatives from each campus tallied the results, but it took a while, being delayed by weather and then by some sickness. So we finally got the results. Out of 711 surveys mailed to homes, 308 were returned. The overwhelming majority (217) of surveys listed option #1 as first choice – keeping the schedule as it is, only moving the 5:30 PM Paulding Mass to 6PM, so that I have time to get there and can hear some confessions beforehand. 58 surveys listed option #2 as first choice and 33 surveys listed option #3. We will start the new Saturday Mass schedule (moving 5:30 PM to 6 PM) the first weekend of May.

So there is a summary of the pastoral council meeting.

On another note, as we begin to take registrations for our next academic year at Divine Mercy School, I want to express how pleased I am with the atmosphere at the school. I believe the children are getting top-notch training academically; but then they are also getting a very fine faith formation from teachers who approach reality from Catholic perspective. I hope that our parishioners are considering seriously the option of our own school for their elementary aged children. Please feel free to approach any of the school teachers or staff, or me, with any questions or concerns about the school.

May the Lord bless the rest of your Lent!

In cordibus Iesu et Mariae,
Fr. Poggemeyer

Divine Mercy Parish Offerings

2014-2015 budget per week = \$ 9,540.00

February 15, 2015 offertory = \$ 8,143.60

February 22, 2015 offertory = \$ 6,607.12

Children total collection –14 envelopes = \$ 19.25

2nd Collection total (Maintenance) = \$ 717.23

Ash Wednesday = \$1,583.00

Electronic Offertory Contribution is an option to consider. For more information Call Dianne at the Parish Office.

Antwerp

Rosary Leader March 8: Crissy Reinhart

Clean Church week of March 1:

Julie Taylor, Missy Geyer, Jeanette Womak

March Visitors to Shut-in: Dennis Recker

March Communion to Shut-ins: Rose Reinhart

March Ushers: George Geyer and Gary Demongeot

Paulding

Church Cleaners March 2 – 15:

Mystical Rose Prayer Group

Sacristan March 1-7: Wendy Lengacher

March Ushers: **5:30PM** ** Phillip Jackson, Alan Free, Larry & Don Gorrell, Luke & Shawn Jackson, Gary Lipp

10:30AM ** Bruce Ivan, Carl Antoine, Brent Floss, Jon Parrett, Zachary Ivan, Jacob Griffith

Payne

Chaplet Leader March 7: Carol Schaefer

March 9 - 14 Church Cleaner: volunteer needed

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sign the sheet in the back of church at Payne and in the Narthex at Paulding to help clean the church. In Paulding you do **NOT** have to clean bathrooms, the basement or Narthex, just the church. For questions regarding the Payne location call Jeanette at 419-263-2655. Sign up for this "clean & shiny" ministry.

WEEKDAY MASS - WEATHER POLICY

For Fr. Poggemeyer's safety and the safety of those who attend daily Mass, it has been decided when a weekday Mass is scheduled in a school district that has delayed or cancelled due to inclement weather, the Mass will be cancelled. For Wednesday Mass and Adoration in Paulding, we **will** have Mass and Adoration when there is a delay, but **not** when Paulding school has cancelled due to extreme weather, such as snow and ice. With foggy or snowy mornings, please don't take unnecessary chances, make wise and safe decisions.

CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB

The next Catholic Book Club meeting will be Friday, March 6 at 10 AM in the Paulding Educational Center. The book we will be reading this month is *The Listener* by Taylor Caldwell. Read the book and come join us for discussion and insights.

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, February 28

Sunday, March 1

9AM Church & Family in Paulding

10:30AM Mass – Liturgy of the Word

12:30PM Retreat Teem meeting in

Paulding Church Basement

Monday, March 2

Items for the bulletin are due by noon on Monday !!!

10AM Divine Mercy Prayer Group in Ant.

Noon Stations of the Cross in Paulding

4PM Totus Tuus Prayer Group in Pldg.

7PM RCIA in Paulding

7PM Medjugorje Prayer Group in Payne

Tuesday, March 3

4:30PM Anima Christi Prayer Gr. In Pldg

Wednesday, March 4

Paulding Day of Grace 8AM – 8PM

Paulding Adoration 8AM – 8PM – Please stop in and spend some time with our Lord in prayer.

Noon Ecumenical Lenten Luncheon at

Paulding Presbyterian Church

7:30PM Stations of the Cross in Antwerp

8PM Benediction in Paulding

PSR Schedule

4PM Gr. K - 5 in Paulding

6:30PM Gr. K – 5 in Antwerp

7PM Gr. 6 – 8 in Paulding

7PM Gr. 7-8 in Payne

7:45PM Gr. 6-8 in Antwerp

High School – Church & Family

7PM Gr. 9-12 in Antwerp

Thursday, March 5

6PM Mystical Rose Prayer Gr. In Pldg.

Friday, March 6

Dianne is out of the office

Annual Parish Retreat begins

10AM Book Club in Paulding

11AM-1PM and 4-7PM Paulding K of C

Fish Fry at the Hall on US 127S

1PM Stations of the Cross in Payne

Saturday, March 7

Annual Parish Retreat continues today

!!!!!! 8AM Low Latin Mass in Payne !!!!!!!

5:30PM Mass in Paulding followed by

Blood Pressures in the Narthex

Sunday, March 8

9AM Children's Choir in Paulding

9AM Church & Family in Paulding

10:30AM Mass – Liturgy of the Word

Blood Pressures after Mass

2PM Movie Day in Antwerp Center

SCHOOL NEWS

Lenten confessions for grades 2- 6 will be Thursday, March 5th. The school will host Stations of the Cross each Friday at 1PM in the church during Lent. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Divine Mercy School is taking registrations for the 2015-2016 school year. An incoming kindergarten student must be 5 years of age on or before August 1, 2015. Come for a school visit or give us a call at 419-263-2114 for more information.

SAVE THE DATE FOR "TEA WITH THEE"

Sunday, May 3rd after the 10:30AM Mass the F.I.A.T. Committee is hosting a ladies "Tea With Thee" in the church basement. Each table will be decorated with a different theme by anyone who wishes to join the fun. Ask your family, prayer group or friends to come up with a clever theme for a table, then call Laura Priest (419-587-3858) for info or to volunteer to share your time & talent for our tea.

CRAFT SHOW - - - BAKE SALE - - - LUNCHEON

Divine Mercy Parish of Paulding County is sponsoring their Spring Craft Show on Saturday, April 4 from 9AM-2PM at the Antwerp Center. The ladies make their specialties for our bake sale and home-made noodles!!! We have added a raffle this year which includes a quilt made by ladies of the parish and 5 other gift items totaling \$600. Lunch includes homemade soups, sandwiches and pies. For more information call Virginia Kunesch at 419-258-0065 or Rita Brinkman at 419-258-6361.

MESSAGE FROM THE JR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP

The Junior High Youth Group will be collecting non-perishable food, gently used clothing and monetary donations until Wednesday, March 18, 2015. The students will be traveling to Our Lady of the Road homeless shelter in South Bend, IN for their next service project to cook and serve the homeless in need on March 20 & 21. There are boxes at each location for depositing your donations. Monetary donations can be placed in the offertory basket in an envelope marked "Jr. High Youth Service Project". Please make checks out to Divine Mercy. We thank you in advance for your continued support of our youth and their service projects. Following is a request written by our youth group members:

Hello Fellow Parishioners,

We are again starting our fundraising project for our service trip to Our Lady of the Road in South Bend, IN. We humbly impose upon you a request: Please help us to collect clothes, non-perishable food and money for our trip. Thank you for your time and consideration.

The Junior High Youth Group

FAB 50s

The next Fab 50s gathering will be held on Thursday, March 12. Rosary will be recited at 11AM, Mass will be at 11:30AM, followed by a catered meal by Puckerbrush of Payne. Menu includes assorted sandwiches, German Potato Soup, Toss Salad, drinks and dessert. Cost is only \$7.50. Reservations for lunch are to be called to the Parish Office (419-399-2576) by noon, Monday, March 9th.

MYSTERIUM CHRISTI SESSION

Father Poggemeyer is presenting a diocesan Mystery Christi program on *Morality*, Saturday, May 2, 9AM-2:30PM at the Educational Center in Paulding. Please join us as we learn about the foundational Truths of the Catholic Faith. The program is free to anyone who wishes to attend, so mark your calendar for this upcoming educational program.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

**** Bishop Thomas posts survey questions** – In preparation for the upcoming Ordinary Synod of Bishops in Rome this October, the Pope would like wide consultation on the questions in the survey in order to put together an initial working agenda for this Synod, whose topic will be "The Vocation & Mission of the Family". Please consider going online (www.toledodiocese.org) to fill out the questionnaire. Thank You.

**** Serenity Retreat for Men in Recovery** – Our Lady of Consolation Retreat House in Carey on April 17-19. For more information call 419-396-7970

College Live-In for young men who are high school juniors, seniors or college students, interested in knowing about seminary life, March 12 – 14, 2015. You'll tour the campus, have discussions, meals and prayers with seminarians, attend classes and time for recreation. NO charge. Call Msgr. Charles Singler, 419-244-6711 or Fr. John Rozembajgier at the Pontifical College Josephinum at 614-985-2244.

World Meeting of Families, 2015, in Philadelphia - Join Bishop Daniel E. Thomas as he leads the Diocese of Toledo on a Pilgrimage to the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia in September 2015! This year's theme is "*Love Is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive*" emphasizing the impact of the love and life of families in our society. For news, and to learn more about the pilgrimage led by Bishop Daniel, contact Monica Martinez at mmartinez@toledodiocese.org or 419-244-6711 ext. 715 or sign-up for updates at toledodiocese.org/page/marriage-and-family. If you are interested in helping Divine Mercy Parish plan a trip to this inspirational event, please call the parish office at 419-399-2576.

"Joy-Filled Marriage" Engaged Couples Workshop. If you are engaged to be married, this workshop fulfills the "marriage class" component, which is part of the requirements for marriage in the Catholic Church. Divine Mercy will host a workshop on April 25 & 26, 2015. To register or for information contact Monica Martinez at 419-244-6711, email mmartinez@toledodiocese.org or visit www.jfmdtoledo.eventbrite.com.

Weekly Schedule of Services

February 28 – March 8, 2015
St. Maximilian Kolbe Deanery

“The Pastor’s Daily Scripture Inspirations
on Twitter: @frdivinemeracy”

SATURDAY, February 28

4PM Mass in Payne—Glen Schmidt & Margaret Rau
5:30PM Mass in Paulding – Alice Lisk and
Jim Jackson

SUNDAY, March 1 – *Second Sunday of Lent*

8:30AM Mass in Antwerp – For the Parish
50AM Mass in Paulding – Helen Betz and
Stefan & Barbara Diettrich

MONDAY, March 2

No Services Today

TUESDAY, March 3 – *St. Katharine Drexel*

8AM Mass in Antwerp – Maurice Brady

WEDNESDAY, March 4 – *St. Casimir*

8AM – 8PM Day of Grace in Paulding

8AM – 8PM Adoration in Paulding

8AM Mass in Payne— Alice Lisk

THURSDAY, March 5

8AM Mass in Payne – Mary Godoy

FRIDAY, March 6

9AM Mass in Payne – Frank Wetli

SATURDAY, March 7 – *St. Perpetua & Felicity*

4PM Mass in Payne – Glen Schmidt and
Charles & Margaret Gordon
5:30PM Mass in Paulding – Alan Whirret and
Father G. Allan Fillman

SUNDAY, March 8 – *Third Sunday of Lent*

8:30AM Mass in Antwerp – Mary Laukhuf and
Richard & Mildred Wannemacher
50AM Mass in Paulding – For the Parish

DONUTS & DRINKS

Coffee, juice and donuts are available after 8:30AM Mass at the Antwerp campus on Sundays. This is a free-will offering. Donuts and Drinks are provided by Payne K of C. All proceeds will be donated to the food pantry in Antwerp. Please join us!

THANK YOU

This bulletin is furnished to the Parish without charge. The advertisements that appear completely defray all publishing costs with which the church would otherwise be burdened. Please patronize these sponsors as a thank you for their kind generosity.

Follow Bishop Thomas on Facebook at Bishop Daniel E. Thomas, on Twitter@BishopDEThomas and on Instagram at BishopDEThomas. The Diocese is on Facebook at Diocese of Toledo, on Twitter @DioceseToledo and Instagram at DioceseToledo.

BIBLE STUDY - - - “ACTS OF THE APOSTLES”

The Little Flower Study Club will be studying and hosting a bible study, “*Acts of the Apostles*”, beginning on Thursday, April 16, 2015. This Bible Study will be held at the Educational Center in Paulding at 7PM on the third Thursday of each month through December. Any member of the parish is invited to attend. If you are interested in this study group, please contact Eleanor Brune (419-399-2325) by March 15th, as study materials need to be ordered. Come and join us as we deepen our knowledge and strengthen our faith.

Saints on the Eucharist

“My Jesus! What a lovable contrivance this holy Sacrament was – that You would hide under the appearance of bread to make Yourself loved and to be available for a visit by anyone who desires You!”

St. Alphonsus Ligouri

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND LATIN MASS

Stations of the Cross during Lent are offered at each of Divine Mercy campuses.

Noon on Mondays in Paulding

7:30PM on Wednesdays in Antwerp

1PM on Fridays in Payne

A Low Latin Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, March 7 at 8AM at the Payne location.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to call for emergency cancellations. Antwerp has a prayer-line. Payne and Paulding are in need of volunteers. Call Rose Ann Glass at 419-263-2095 to volunteer. Leave a message, name and phone number

