



# The Proclaimer

of St. Scholastica



VOLUME 14, ISSUE 2

FALL/WINTER 2010

## Mass & Picnic Clem Campbell

Amidst the many oak trees, Castaldo Park in Woodridge was the setting for our Mass and Parish Picnic on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. The event brought out over 300 parishioners of all age groups. The day began with "Mass in the Park" at 1:30 pm. Our guest celebrant was Father Bob Duda, former associate at St. Scholastica, and the music was provided by our parish's Contemporary Ensemble. It was a beautiful beginning to a wonderful day!

After Mass, everyone relaxed at their picnic tables enjoying lunch and conversation. Hot dogs and chips, along with refreshments, were available, and some brought special "picnic foods" from home. The kids quickly moved to the playground equipment and participated in a variety of games and face painting. Some of the teens and adults began competing in sand volleyball, frisbee golf, and bag games. Whatever the activity, everyone was able to enjoy some live, upbeat music provided by a quartet of our parish musicians.

We appreciate the wonderful support and participation of our parish family. Over 50 volunteers helped make our Mass and picnic a success. A very special "THANK YOU" goes out to our many volunteers, as well as our Worship Commission, Contemporary Ensemble, CCW, Knights of Columbus, and the Parish Staff.

Pictures of the activities, food and fun can be found on page 12. We look forward to next year's Parish Picnic and Mass in the Park. If you would like to be a part of the planning, let Fr. Riva know!

## And the Pastor Said....

### Our Family

### Living & Celebrating the Eucharist Father Gerald Riva, Pastor

St. Scholastica is a fairly large parish. We have around 2800 households registered which comes to close to 10,000 people. These households could be single person dwellings or families of any number. Thank God for our computer which has all registered parishioners on file and we try to keep that up to date with additions and deletions.

It is an awesome task being the pastor and sole priest in charge of this big parish. I thank God for an excellent staff, three great deacons and a lot of lay leaders who assist me.

But what makes a Parishioner? Well, our Parish Council and Administration Commission has worked on this and this is how we define the term.

St. Scholastica encourages all to become active members of our sacramental community. Various facilities and services are available to our active members including parishioner status in our parochial school and programs.

#### ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP is determined as follows:

1. Being properly registered in the parish.
2. Experiencing the joy of the Eucharist in faithful attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days.
3. Support of the Parish via Time, Talent and Treasure including:
  - a. A welcoming and supportive attitude towards all.
  - b. Being active in at least one parish program, ministry or organization.

- c. Regular financial support of the Parish through weekly offering.

It is very clear from this definition that we want our parishioners to be active and involved as much as they can.

First and foremost is Mass attendance. During this "Diocesan Year of the Eucharist," we are taking time to come to a deeper appreciation of the beauty of the Eucharist in all of our lives. We are especially looking to bring back those who are absent from our worship. And I am personally encouraging parents to be there with their children acting as good examples. Let's pack the place with worshipers.

The other major part in the extended definition of an active parishioner is one who practices good stewardship. It would flow naturally from attendance at Mass because we are commissioned at the end of Mass "to go in peace to love and serve the Lord" (and Deacon Roger adds "...and each other"). We do this by wisely and prayerfully using our Time, Talent and Treasure. So as I said at the beginning, we are a vibrant parish because we have so many who have answered the call.

So give yourself a test. Look at the definition and give yourself up to 20 points for 1, 2, 3a, 3b and 3c. Now what is your grade as a parishioner of St. Scholastica.

Peace and All Good Things,

## Contact Us

The Parish Offices are located in the Administration Center  
7800 Janes Avenue  
Phone 630.985.2351  
Fax 630.985.8770

[archabbess@aol.com](mailto:archabbess@aol.com)

Web site: [www.stscholasticaparish.org](http://www.stscholasticaparish.org)

### Office hours are as follows:

Monday through Thursday  
8:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Friday 8:00 AM - 6 PM

Evening Hours are as needed. If no meetings are scheduled, the office will close when the school children have left the building.

**Call to make sure we are in the office.**

### Pastoral Staff

Father Gerald Riva

*Pastor, ext. 126*

Deacon Roger Schmith

*Permanent Deacon, ext. 129*

Deacon Terry Zarembka

*Permanent Deacon, ext. 375*

Deacon Jerry Christensen

*Permanent Deacon, ext. 127*

### Office & Support Staff

Lianda Valentine

*Business Manager, ext. 125*

[LValentine@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:LValentine@stscholasticaparish.org)

Sue Gosewehr

*Administrative Assistant, ext. 124*

[SGosewehr@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:SGosewehr@stscholasticaparish.org)

Rita Ramsey

*Parish Secretary, ext. 122*

[RitaRamsey@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:RitaRamsey@stscholasticaparish.org)

### Religious Education

7720 Janes Avenue 630.985.9255

Chris Hannigan-Wiehn

*Director of Parish Faith Formation, ext. 130*

Elizabeth Rivera, *Secretary, ext. 116*

[religiousformation@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:religiousformation@stscholasticaparish.org)

### Youth Ministry

Jennifer Michalik-Olson

*Director, ext. 138*

[stscholasticaym@aol.com](mailto:stscholasticaym@aol.com)

### Adult Formation

Chris Hannigan-Wiehn

*Director, ext. 130*

[stscholadulsted@aol.com](mailto:stscholadulsted@aol.com)

### School, Grades K-8

7720 Janes Avenue 630.985.2515

School Fax 630.985.2395

Gail Kueper, *Principal*

Alison Gosewehr, *School Secretary*

[agosewehr@stscholasticawoodrige.org](mailto:agosewehr@stscholasticawoodrige.org)

### Office of Worship

7800 Janes Avenue 630.985.2351

Dan and Carrie Marcotte

*Directors of Music, ext. 140*

Carrie Marcotte

*Liturgy Coordinator, ext. 140*

[stscholmusic@aol.com](mailto:stscholmusic@aol.com)

## Finance Committee Report—October, 2010

Steve Ryan

To: St. Scholastica Parishioners:

We are pleased to present the financial results for the 12 months ending June 30, 2010 and 2009:

### REVENUE

Total Revenue is down \$8,976 from last year. The Church experienced a decrease of \$7,329 in Sunday collections and an increase of \$3,538 in Christmas and Easter Collections. Other operating revenue, consisting of interest, stole fees, stipends, stewardship and other revenue decreased \$3,262 and fundraising income decreased \$1,923.

The grade school's revenue also decreased \$1,897, mostly due to the change in accounting for fundraising that resulted in a decrease of \$40,347, while tuition and fee revenue increased \$41,695 and other revenue decreased \$3,245.

Religious Education revenue increased \$695 and our restricted revenue increased \$4,415.

### EXPENSES

Total Operating Expenses Increased \$10,218, or 0.5%. This was due to a decrease in salaries and fringe benefits of \$42,084, an increase in materials and supplies of \$35,239, an increase in insurance of \$4,504, an increase in the Diocesan assessment of \$8,300, and an increase in all other expenses of \$4,259.

Overall expenses related to the

Church increased \$22,239, expenses related to the school increased \$2,265, while expenses related to Religious Education decreased \$14,284.

Principal payments to our debt increased from \$96,112 in fiscal year 2009 to \$108,466 in fiscal year 2010, or \$12,354, leaving our building loan balance at \$1,658,880. Interest payments on our debt decreased from \$118,837 to \$89,382, or \$29,455. The interest savings is related to both a decreasing debt and the refinancing of the loan to a 5% interest rate. This was done in November of 2009.

The parish subsidy for education, both the School and Religious Education, decreased from \$414,404 in fiscal year 2009 to \$404,388 this past year, or \$10,016, a reduction of 2.4%.

Our parish still has needs. The carpet in the church needs to be replaced, please continue to use the church banks, change counts, to help us save for this project, estimated at a cost of \$60,000. The parking lot was recently resealed and patched at a cost of \$15,000. This is not a permanent solution. To redo the parking lot is estimated at \$150,000, but the repairs should see us through the next year or two.

Finally, thank you for your continued generosity. If you have any questions regarding the financial statements please call the Parish Office and speak with the business manager or Father Riva.

The Administration Commission

## Be A Good Steward!!!

Share your

God-given

gifts!!!



Time



Talent

Treasure



### Your Administration Commission Representatives are:

Fr. Riva & Lianda Valentine (staff representatives); Carla Bickett (School Board Representative); and at-large members Steve Ryan, James Scola, Corrine Ganiec, Gina Picek and Cathy Mehl

The Administration Commission meets on the last Monday of the month

St. Scholastica Financial Statement for Fiscal Year  
Ending June 30, 2009 and June 30, 2010

**Balance Sheet**

	As of June 30 2010	As of June 30 2009
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash	\$ 79,755.28	\$ 85,405.86
Savings	148,280.00	148,280.00
Endowment Fund - School	418,134.89	331,198.78
Inventory - Mana	46,326.20	76,057.10
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>\$ 692,496.37</b>	<b>\$ 640,941.74</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 692,496.37</b>	<b>\$ 640,941.74</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Misc bills	\$ 71,350.73	\$ 77,692.99
Payroll and taxes	(125.00)	-
Special Collections	6,037.82	2,734.79
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 77,263.55</b>	<b>\$ 80,427.78</b>
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>		
Construction Loan	\$ 1,658,880.29	\$ 1,767,346.18
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 1,658,880.29</b>	<b>\$ 1,767,346.18</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 1,736,143.84</b>	<b>\$ 1,847,773.96</b>
<b>Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ (1,043,647.47)</b>	<b>\$ (1,206,832.22)</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 692,496.37</b>	<b>\$ 640,941.74</b>



**Eucharistic  
Adoration and  
Holy Hour**  
Alice Aubele

First Friday Holy Hour begins immediately following the 8:30 am Mass, on the first Friday of the month. The Eucharist is carried in the monstrance to the chapel at the rear of the church and placed on the altar. There, the Eucharist remains until 7 pm when there is benediction. It is then retired to the tabernacle.

It is required that there be AT LEAST TWO PERSONS present during the entire time of exposition. We have been short volunteers to be present for the past several months. A sign-up sheet is posted on the narthex wall, outside the chapel. One hour is the customary time that adorers spend.

Our bishop has declared this year to be "The Year of the Eucharist" in our diocese. How wonderful and pleasing to Our Lord if we could fill the chapel every first Friday of this very special year! Lets see if we can.

**HOW DO YOU USE THE PARISH  
WEB SITE?**

[www.stscholasticaparish.org](http://www.stscholasticaparish.org)

- Read the bulletin online
- Look up staff contact information
- Look up liturgical ministry schedules
- Get help with sacramental planning
- Learn about upcoming Parish events
- Check out the calendar
- Learn about Parish history
- Download Manna forms and learn about other school fundraisers
- Register online



**Worldwide Marriage  
Encounter**

"For today I must stay in your house....". Is Jesus a welcome guest in your home? Let Worldwide Marriage Encounter give you tools to help your home become a better domestic church. Plan to attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on December 3-5, 2010. Contact Jerry and Darlene Houston at 630.577.0778. For more information visit our website at: [www.ejoli.org](http://www.ejoli.org).

**Your Pastoral Council  
Representatives are:**

Fr. Riva (Pastor), Deacon Roger Schmith, Steve Ryan (Administration), John Greene (Worship), Lori Duitsman (Education -School), Kathleen Luczynski (Education-Religious Education), Kevin Smith (at-large—chairperson), Mary Jane Munley (at-large—Vice-chairperson), Walter Shiffer (at-large), Darren DiMaria (at-large), and Marilyn Pickers (at-large)

# DAYBREAK

*Transitional Housing Ministry*

Denese Casserly

St. Scholastica Daybreak Transitional Housing Ministry provides housing for three previously homeless families who are seeking a better life. Daybreak Ministry supports these families by furnishing free housing and utilities for a period of up to two years. Each family is assigned a team of three mentors from Daybreak and a Social Worker from Bridge Communities, who work weekly with each family. The mentors set personal goals, plan a family budget and assist clients to reduce and clear past debts. Our mentors and Social Worker also help counsel each family toward good budgeting, enhanced parenting skills, education, higher self-esteem and guidance to more rewarding employment.

Here is an update on our three Daybreak guest families.

Family "A" entered our program in January, 2009. She is a single mom with two teenage children. She has been a school bus driver for the past several years. Her paychecks vary, making budgeting a challenge. With our help she has been able to pay off all of her debts, including a used car loan with a high interest rate. She also cleaned up her credit history, increased her credit rating and established a savings account. She has learned how to budget and understands how her past spending habits affected her financially. She is preparing to exit our program by researching affordable housing and is very grateful to our Daybreak program for giving her the opportunity to get her life in order.

Family "B" is in transition at this time. Though no longer homeless, the woman is still struggling in a lower paying job. Until her income improves she has to dip into her small savings to pay for some of her living expenses. She has gone for some counseling with a Bridge Counselor. It is our hope her present situation will change in the

near future, our mentors are working with her each week to promote this.

Family "C" is doing well, according to her mentors. She uses resources available to her very well – the library for internet access and the Woodridge Food Pantry for groceries. Her mentors are working with her to improve her credit scores and she has now paid off all past debts. Bridge Communities is helping her to find better employment. She is grateful to be in our program and appreciates the opportunity for her family to achieve a better life.

Our 3 guest families and their mentors continue to be in need and appreciate all the support and prayers from our St. Scholastica parishioners.

Each year, during Lent, we have our annual fundraiser "Adopt a Family For A Day." We ask our parishioners to sign their name on any date in our calendars. The day can be a birthday, anniversary, a special day, etc. Money collected for that date is used to support one of our Daybreak families for one day. This year we collected \$11,000 for Adopt a Family! We thank each of you who selflessly paid for one day. We appreciate your generosity very much. Without your help we would not be able to support our families! God bless you.

Daybreak also participates in "The Sleep Out Saturday Night for the Homeless." Our parish youth group, S.T.O.R.M., will join us again on November 6<sup>th</sup> with their support by sleeping overnight in cardboard boxes in the church parking lot in order to experience homelessness for one night.

In December we will hold our Christmas candy fundraiser in the narthex to help support our families! This year we will also be selling delicious Butter Braid! Many of our parishioners, staff and visitors buy the Fannie May candies for stocking stuffers or gifts.

We just enjoyed our fall fundraising

**"May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you."**

*Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

Dinner Dance, "A Blast from the Past", on October 16<sup>th</sup>. It was a nostalgic evening of entertainment featuring music from the '50s to the '80s! Good food, great music, dancing and lots of fun! Jerry Armstrong provided the entertainment and everyone had a great time! Celebrity Dance Studio showed everyone some cool dance steps! Suparossa provided a bountiful dinner. Our past dinner events include: "Fly Me to the Moon", "A Country Western Evening", "Murder in Three Acts", "Hawaiian Luau", "Late Night Catechism" and "Finnegan's Wake."

Our sincere thanks to Father Riva, the parish office staff, S.T.O.R.M. and our generous parishioners for the continuous support you offer to Daybreak each year. We could not exist without your help.

To find out more about Daybreak Ministry, or if you want to join us, call Ed Full at (630) 985-7521.

## Knifty Knitters and Crocheters

Fran Ziolkowski

Our Knitting and Crocheting group meets on the first and third Mondays of the month from 6:30-8:30 pm in the Parish Administration Center. Our projects include the blanket/prayer shawl ministry, hats, mittens, and scarves for children and adults in need in our community and baby blankets and sweater sets for single moms.

If you would like to help, we could use yarn. Donations either from your finished projects or abandoned projects would help us. Monetary donations are also welcome.

Any questions?  
Call Fran  
Ziolkowski at  
630.739.1490.



## St. Scholastica Council of Catholic Women

Joan Ackerman

All women of the parish are members of the St. Scholastica Council of Catholic Women. We extend an invitation to all women to attend our meetings, which are held on the first Tuesday of each month, September through April, ending the year with our May banquet. We encourage you to become involved with CCW. CCW has a busy schedule planned and is looking forward to another active year.

CCW began its 2010-2011 year with a Mass for our September meeting followed by a delicious potluck dinner.

The August Blood Drive was very successful. Thank you to those who gave the gift of life! Watch the bulletin for future Blood Drives.

The CCW Fall Craft Show was held on Saturday, October 9th. Halloween, fall, Christmas and other craft themes filled the gym. Thanks to all – crafters, bakers, volunteers, shoppers, and Boy Scouts who made the event so successful.

### Upcoming events include

The CCW will be holding its annual Christmas potluck and “gift auction” on Tuesday, November 30th. Proceeds from the auction will be used to purchase holiday gifts and food for Christmas Giving Tree families. All women of the parish and their spouses/guests are invited to attend. Those attending are asked to bring an appetizer, side dish or desert and a wrapped gift item (white elephant, knickknack or gag gift) for the auction. **COME JOIN THE FUN AND SHARE HOLIDAY CHEER WHILE HELPING US HELP THOSE IN NEED!!!!**

Last year’s Epiphany Dinner was so successful, we will again begin the New Year with an Epiphany Dinner on Tuesday, January 5, 2011.

“The Woman of the Year” will be announced at our March meeting on Tuesday, March 1st.

St. Scholastica’s “CCW- Sixth Annual Friendship Tea” will be held Sunday, March 13, 2011. A traditional

high tea will be served. Wear your hats and have some fun! More information will be in the bulletins- watch for further details.

The Annual Garage Sale (flea market) of Hidden Treasures is scheduled for March 26, 2011. Clean your closets and earn some extra cash. Don’t forget to shop – you may find that “treasure” you have been looking for. More information will be available in the bulletin.

The Spring Banquet/Installation Dinner will be May 3rd. An evening of friendship, fun and food is planned. Members will also learn the identity of their Secret Prayer Partners.

### Ongoing CCW Services

One of the on going services of the CCW is to provide, upon request, a luncheon following funeral services to help our bereaved parishioners. Parishioners are spared the expense of a restaurant meal or the work of having people at their home. The luncheon is provided free of charge, however donations may be given to help defray expenses in whatever amount the family can afford. For more information, please contact the Parish Office at 630.985.2351 ext. 122. Volunteers are always needed to provide desserts and/or help with set up or clean up. To volunteer to bake, please contact Judy Retterer at 630.964.0669 and to volunteer to help set up or clean up, please call Kathy Nartnick at 630.985.3197.

The Prayer Blankets/Shawl Ministry is another service provided by CCW. Parish and CCW members have made blankets that are available for loved ones, family members or friends who are ill, hospitalized or in a nursing home. They are made for the sick and suffering, with much love and prayer. If you would like a blanket for a family member or friend, you may stop by the office and choose one. Our supply of blankets is getting low. Donations of blankets themselves, as well as material and batting, are requested to help keep the

prayer blankets available for all who ask for them. For more information, please contact the Parish Office at 630.985.2351, ext. 122.

Ladies, we hope to see YOU at one or more of our activities!

## Hospitality Sunday

Bob & Marlene Clark  
Coordinators

This is our eighth year with hospitality Sunday. We enjoy it as much as we did the first year. With the help of our baker’s, kitchen workers, servers, set up and clean up folks, Hospitality Sunday has been a success. Thank you.

For the coming season, volunteers are needed in all areas. If you have time after the 4:30 pm Mass on Saturday, we need people to set up for our Sunday guests. It’s really a lot fun and rewarding. We meet in the gym after Mass. Helpers set up chairs and put cloths and decorations on the tables. The decorations represent our theme of the month.

If you love working in the kitchen, we can use you there to keep it clean and to cut the bakery products. We are constantly serving fresh treats. For those with a warm smile, servers are needed to help with coffee, juice and to keep the serving table filled with our baker’s goodies.

We also work with groups. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade RE students take a month and help with all areas. They do a great job with their teachers. Please consider having your group come out once per year for Hospitality Sunday. If you can, contact us at

[clarkhospsun@sbcglobal.net](mailto:clarkhospsun@sbcglobal.net).

Hospitality Sunday is held the First Sunday of the Month, from October till May, after all the Sunday Masses. If you can help if just once per year, please sign up at Hospitality Sunday. (We do not expect you to volunteer for every Mass, every Sunday). We promise you will enjoy the experience.

## Knights of Columbus

Ed Full



The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal organization of Catholic men dedicated to four principles - Charity, Unity, Fraternalism and Patriotism. The Robert P. Connelly Council was chartered in 1966 and for the past forty-four years we have promoted our Catholic values and served the parishes and communities of St. Scholastica, St. Joan of Arc and Christ the Servant. Christ calls us to be good stewards and through our many good works our council members, the Ladies Auxiliary and our Families have focused our energies on the betterment of our Church, Family, Youth, Community and Council. The council has activities in these five key areas including; Christmas Toys for Tots, Family Christmas Party, Basketball Free Throw contest, Mayslake Retreat, Stations of the Cross, Easter Party, Family Corporate Communion, PGK Golf Outing, Memorial Mass and Dinner, as well as many, many others.

At the recent "State of Illinois Award Ceremony", our Council was recognized with four awards for accomplishments in Community, Church, Youth and Charitable activities for the 2009-2010 fraternal year. We also received recognition for our efforts in supporting Vocations and Newman Centers on College Campuses.

Over the past forty-four years, the council has donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to various charitable causes in our immediate communities. The most recent Intellectually Challenged Tootsie Roll Drive raised over \$10,000.00, which will go directly to those in need in our communities. All this came about in a very challenging economic climate and could not be done without the ongoing support from the Parishes and Communities that we serve!

Please take the opportunity to learn more about this outstanding Catholic Men's Fraternal Organization by contacting Paul Susa at 630.369.2254 or Darren DiMaria at 630.956.1236 or visit [www.kofc5918.org](http://www.kofc5918.org).



## St. Vincent de Paul Conference

Cathy Armstrong

"It is only for your love alone that the poor will forgive you the bread you give to them."  
- St. Vincent de Paul

The past year has been a challenging one for our conference. We lost several members and saw an increase in need and a decrease in assistance. We welcomed Judy Bernard as our new Secretary in September and are currently looking for a Spiritual Director and several more volunteers. No special knowledge or talent is needed to be a volunteer. All that is needed is a desire to live the Gospel message of Jesus by serving the poor.

We welcome all who are interested to attend one of our monthly meetings on the third Monday of each month. When we visit clients, it is done by going out "two by two." Those whom we visit call the Parish Office first, seeking help with rent, utilities or furniture. Without enough volunteers to do home visits, we will not be able to continue helping those who call the church looking for help.

Besides home visits, other volunteers deliver usable furniture to clients within our parish boundaries. One parishioner has generously donated the use of his truck for the past five years. Many of the people we deliver furniture to have nothing, maybe a card table and an air mattress. Some sleep on the floor. One furniture volunteer remarked that "it was all worthwhile," because the people receiving the furniture are always so grateful and happy.

Since there have been some instances of bed-bug infestation attributed to donated mattresses and

fabric furniture, our conference is not accepting or delivering these items. We will continue this practice until our Council indicates there is no longer a problem. We are still accepting other furniture donations... like kitchen tables and chairs, desks, and dressers. If you have any useable furniture please call the Parish Office at 630.985.2351 ext. 3 and leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as we can. To arrange a pick up by the SVdP store for clothing, household goods and very sellable furniture, call the store at 630.231.4658. On October 30th and 31st we had a clothing drive. If you missed it and want to donate clothing items, there are deposit receptacles in the upper southeast corner of the parking lot.

The good news for our conference is that we can continue to help the needy of our area because the parishioners of St. Scholastica continue to generously support our conference. We are very grateful and appreciate this financial assistance from both the parish and other groups like the Council of Catholic Women. The majority of our financial assistance comes from the donation of the total amount collected at the Thanksgiving Mass.

Since May, the financial support of the parish has allowed us to give 53 families \$17,672.97, mostly for rent, ComEd, Nicor and water bills.

Thank you for all the support.

## Scheduling Meetings and Activities...

As a very active parish, scheduling meetings and activities on the parish calendar is often challenging and the calendar itself is always changing. **Schedule all meetings and activities with the parish office or the space will not be available.** Activities and meetings are put on the parish calendar and published on the Parish web site: [www.stscholasticaparish.org](http://www.stscholasticaparish.org). For your convenience, a "Request for Facility Usage" form can be found on the Calendar Page of the Parish Web Site. Sue will be happy to help you with your scheduling 9 am to 3:30 pm Tuesday through Thursday at 630-985-2351 x124.

## Boy Scout Troop 512 News

Ruth Dunkman



Scouts setting up shelter at summer camp

The Boy Scouts of Troop 512 enjoyed their week of summer camp at Ransburg Scout Reservation in Bloomington, Indiana. In addition to earning merit badges—such as; first aid, canoeing, rifle shooting and lifesaving—the boys enjoyed camping, swimming and just having fun together in the outdoors.

The Scouts meet weekly to work on their outdoors skills and they go on camping trips about once a month. They also regularly serve the community through service projects. For example, the Scouts recently helped the ladies of the CCW (Council of Catholic Women) set up and tear down the tables for their fall craft show.

All boys aged 11 to 17 are invited to join the Boy Scouts. Boys and parents are welcome to stop in and visit at one of our weekly meetings that are held Tuesdays at 7:30 pm at St. Scholastica. For more information contact Scoutmaster Joe Hodges at 630.985.4773 or [jhodges512@yahoo.com](mailto:jhodges512@yahoo.com).

## Knights of Columbus Ladies' Auxiliary

Tara Smith

The Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary has been continuing its hard work for the last several months. In addition to working bingo that supports the communities and three parishes we serve, the Ladies have helped the Knights with activities such as; the annual Easter Egg Hunt and the Tootsie Roll Drive that benefit intellectually disabled children. We have also been busy with our own endeavors, such as

## West Suburban Community Pantry

Jo Jackson

Just as there are always people in need, St. Scholastica parishioners have proven they are always willing to help. The West Suburban Community Pantry works hard as the conduit between you and the recipients in DuPage County. Food is the primary need served – and a tremendous amount is provided. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010, the Pantry distributed an amazing 1,214,189 pounds!

While food is #1, the Pantry is also instrumental in improving the health and safety of its clients to ultimately help them toward self-sufficiency. The Pantry assists with insurance registration for uninsured children, provides car seats for those attending a child safety program, and sponsors ESL and GED classes. A new GED class will start in January. If you know anyone wanting to pursue a GED, please refer him/her to the Pantry.

Another benefit provided to Pantry clients, who are Woodridge residents, is a birthday kit for children 2-12 years old. These kits, which contain the basic supplies for a party of six, are assembled at the Pantry, and volunteers are needed. Please call the Pantry (630.512.9921) if you can assist in pulling these kits together and help make a child's birthday a special event.

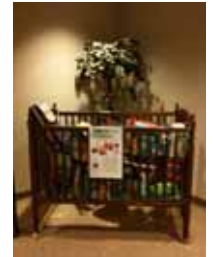
St. Scholastica's parishioners are a

vital contributor to the Pantry's good work. "The School Supplies Drive", in August, enabled 462 children to be better equipped on the first day of class. As

you can see from the picture, generous parishioners filled the crib during September's diaper drive, and the school added many more diapers, as the classes battled to win a pizza lunch. We are also always grateful for your support of the Thanksgiving and Christmas basket programs, which will no doubt be wildly successful again this year. And your weekly deposits of food in the gym show your ongoing kindness.

One final note: The Pantry's major fundraiser – the Cabaret Dinner and Auction – will take place on April 29, 2011, a FRIDAY evening. Please plan to attend this highly motivating and enjoyable evening.

Thank you for your kindness and please continue to watch the bulletin for opportunities to help our neighbors in need. Call the Outreach Office 630-985-2351 x380 if you have any questions or to inquire about volunteer opportunities.



Knights of Columbus  
Auxiliary Officers  
for 2010 to 2011

helping host hospitality at St. Scholastica and Christ the Servant and our annual collection to support the troops stationed overseas.

Christ has called us to be his stewards—to follow in his footsteps and care for one another. Ladies, if you are Christian and 18 or over, and are looking for a way to answer

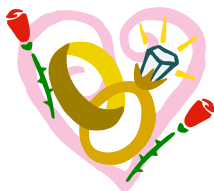
Jesus' calling, please consider joining us. You need not be Catholic or married to a Knight to join. Bring a friend to share in what will

hopefully turn into a meaningful and fun experience. We meet at St. Scholastica at 7 pm on the second Wednesday of each month. Simply come to a meeting, or contact Tara Smith ([tsmith1019@aol.com](mailto:tsmith1019@aol.com), or 630.541.5558) for more information.

## Marriage Enrichment

Bob & Marlene Clark

Looking for time to spend with one another and an opportunity to meet more interesting married couples at St. Scholastic? Look



to Marriage Enrichment. Marriage Enrichment is time we spend as a community with each other, sharing fun and ideas. There are three date nights scheduled this year. The first was a couple's dinner on September 18th. It provided time to just sit and relax and have fun. On January 22nd, 2011, and back by popular demand, will be game night. On this night we work as a group and play games. Last year we played the game "Apples To Apples", ate pizza and got to know what it is like to have a good laugh. The evening started with each couple playing a game by themselves. Then they found out how much more fun it was to share the games as a group. If you would like to join us, mark your calendar and bring in a game that we can play as a group. April 9th will be our third date night. At this time we are open for ideas and we want to know what you would like to do. So if you are interested in having fun and meeting new couples, just e-mail us at [rlcark3846@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rlcark3846@sbcglobal.net) or call Marlene or Bob Clark 630.910.1993.

### Members of your Worship Commission include:

Dennis Baker, Judy Devitt, Judy Full, John Greene, Joann Jackson, Michael Jaeger, Carrie Marcotte, Joe Marks, Josephine Peterson, Georgianne Riehle, Alexander Soriano, Vicki Tuch, Deacon Terry Zarembka

The Worship Commission meets the third Tuesday of the month at 7 pm

## Altar Servers

Angelina Kesterson

The primary role of the altar server is to assist the priest in the celebration of the liturgy during Mass. This is done through specific actions and by setting an example to the congregation by active participation in the liturgy.

New servers are required to attend training in order to serve Mass. The training sessions are offered to grades 4 through 8 and are held in the spring and again in the fall. Altar servers, at St. Scholastica Parish, are trained by Deacon Terry Zarembka.

St. Scholastica is truly blessed to have approximately 40 trained altar servers. We are even more blessed since many of our servers continue on in this ministry well into high school.

If you are interested in joining the Altar Server Ministry to serve God and your parish community, please contact Marianne Carcerano at 630.985.1482 or Angelina Kesterson at 630.985.6068.

**AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE,  
WE WILL SERVE THE LORD!**



**Prayer Partners**  
Rita Ramsey

Are you planning to be hospitalized for some minor or major surgery? Is someone you know currently in need of prayer or remembrance? Is there a family member or neighbor homebound? Do you need prayers for yourself for any reason?

Please call Rita in the parish office at 630.985.2351, ext. 122 to request prayers. Be prepared to leave your name and phone number as the requestor. I like to follow up and check on those being prayed for. I am in the process of updating our list, so please contact me to let me know that you would like your loved one or yourself to remain on the list.



## Art & Environment Committee

John Green & Vicki Tuch

St. Scholastica Parish has truly embraced the practice of stewardship! A very rewarding way to share of one's time, talent, and treasure is helping to transform the "look" of our church throughout the liturgical year. It takes many hands to decorate our worship space for each season as well as individual liturgical celebrations.

Members of our committee work together to brainstorm ideas, design and sew banners, arrange flowers, make arrangements as well as hang lights, wreaths and banners. Our list of tasks goes on and on.

We have a lot of fun working side by side with an earnest desire to make our worship space look great all year round!

If you would like to help, we welcome you! Please leave your name in the Parish Office and we will contact you. You won't regret the experience!





## Music Ministry

Carrie & Dan Marcotte

Happy fall! All of our music ensembles are in full swing. If you still wish to join, all of our groups have ongoing enrollment. Please contact me, Carrie Marcotte, at [stscholmusic@aol.com](mailto:stscholmusic@aol.com) or 630.985.2351, ext. 140 if you or your child would like to join the Music Ministry.

Our ensembles are:

**Adult Choir:** High school age to adult (Sings at the 10 am Mass on Sundays)

**Instrumental Ensemble:** High school age to adult (Plays at the 10 am Mass every week except the Sundays of Lent)

**Contemporary Ensemble:** High school age to adult (Sings at the Noon Mass on Sundays)

**Hand bell Choir:** High school age to adult (Plays once a month at the 8 am Mass) Ability to read music a must!!!

**Resurrection Choir:** Open to anyone available mornings (Most funerals are at 10 am) Choir meets ½ hour before the funeral time

**Rain Down Teen Choir:** Grades 9-12 (Plays/sings once a month at Sunday evening liturgies and 6 times throughout the year at Sunday morning Masses)

**Junior Chorus:** Grades 5-8 (Sings once a month at 4:30 Mass) Sings for Thanksgiving, Christmas concert, Christmas Eve, and Catholic Education Week Mass

**Singing Cherubs:** Grades 2-4 (Sing once a month at 4:30 Mass in Sept. and Oct.) Sing for Thanksgiving, Christmas concert, Christmas Eve, and Catholic Education Week Mass

**\*\*PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING DATES\*\***

\* Sunday, November 21, 6 pm-  
*Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service*  
*off-site*

\* Monday, November 22, 7:30 pm -  
*Saint Cecilia Sing at St. Raymond*  
*Cathedral in Joliet.*

\* Thursday, November 24, 9 am  
*Thanksgiving Mass*

## Worship and Liturgy at St. Scholastica

Carrie Marcotte

Our parish Worship Commission met early this year to help plan and prepare for our Mass in the park at the parish picnic. We had beautiful weather and a wonderful Mass said by Father Bob Duda. I would like to extend my thanks to the MANY volunteers who helped to make the event such a success.

In June, we trained many new liturgical ministers and are excited to have them share their time and talent with our parish community. Though our new minister training sessions are done for the year, we are still able to train new ministers by appointment. If you would like to learn more about joining a liturgical ministry, please contact me, Carrie Marcotte at [stscholmusic@aol.com](mailto:stscholmusic@aol.com) or 630.985.2351 ext. 140, and I will be happy to get you started.

Finally, as you may have read in the newspaper, we are receiving a new English translation of the Missal, which was recently approved by Rome. This new translation will go into effect the First Sunday of Advent 2011, so we have an *entire year* to prepare for it. Father Riva, Chris Hannigan-Wiehn, and I are working together to make the transition as easy as possible for our parishioners.

I will see you all at church!

# Holiday Schedule

## November

27—Vigil, 1st Sunday of Advent, 4:30 pm Mass

28—1st Sunday of Advent, 8 am, 10 am, & 12 noon Masses

## December

2—Parish Penance Service, 7 pm

3—1st Friday Holy Hour, 7:30 pm

4—Vigil, 2nd Sunday of Advent, 4:30 pm Mass

5—2nd Sunday of Advent, 8 am, 10 am, & 12 noon Masses

7—Vigil, Immaculate Conception, 7 pm Mass

8—Immaculate Conception, 6:30 am, 8:30 am, & 7 pm Masses

11—Vigil, 3rd Sunday of Advent, 4:30 pm Mass

12—3rd Sunday of Advent, 8 am, 10 am, & 12 noon Masses

12—Parish Christmas Concert, 7 pm

16—Simbang Gabi Mass, 7 pm

18—Vigil of the 4th Sunday of Advent, 4:30 pm Mass

19—4th Sunday of Advent, 8 am, 10 am, & 12 noon Masses

24—Vigil, Christmas, 4 pm Masses in the Church & Gym, 6 pm Mass, 9 pm Caroling, 10 pm Mass

25—The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas), 8 am, 10 am, & 12 noon Masses

25—**NO** 4:30 pm Mass

26—The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, 8 am, 10 am, & 12 noon Masses

## January

1—The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, 9 am Mass

1—**NO** 4:30 pm Mass

2—Epiphany, 8 am, 10 am, & 12 noon Masses

## Welcoming the Roman Missal Third Edition

**Date:** February 22, 2011

**Time:** 7 – 9 pm

**Facilitator:** Fr. Gabriel Baltes,  
OSB

**Location:** St. Scholastica Parish

**Cost:** Free will offering.

The Roman Missal is the liturgical book that contains the texts and rubrics for the celebration of the Mass in the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church. The Roman Missal is currently undergoing revisions. This presentation will provide us with an outline of the changes that are going to be made with the Missal and also the reasons for the changes in the language. The changes in the language will affect the wording that the celebrant uses at Mass and also the congregation's responses. Those individuals who like to be considered "informed" Catholics would certainly enjoy this presentation.

Fr. Gabriel entered St. Procopius Abbey in 1982, where he was given the religious name by which he is now known.

After his seminary studies, which included a Master of Arts degree in Liturgical Theology, he was ordained to the priesthood in 1991. Following ordination, he lived in the monastic community and taught religious studies at Benedictine University, where he also served in campus ministry. He worked for the Office of Worship in the Diocese of Superior Wisconsin. Fr. Gabriel was installed as pastor of St. Joan of Arc in October of 2008.



## They Are Watching You Chris Hannigan-Wiehn

Our RCIA candidates and catechumens are watching you. You may or may not realize it, but you are being observed. Those who are involved in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults are learning about the Church and you are the Church. They watch you pray in church, they watch how you speak with and about one another, they listen to God's Word at Mass and watch how God's Word comes alive in this parish setting. RCIA is a process designed for those Catholics who need to finish their sacraments of initiation or those non-Catholics who would like to be part of our Church through Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation. The RCIA participants have already spent two months learning many wonderful things about conversion, Jesus, the bible, and sacraments.

They participate in the Rite of Acceptance the first Sunday of Advent. This is a beautiful ritual, which through a sign of the cross made on their foreheads by the Mass celebrant and reception of a cross medallion, serve as wonderful reminders of their spiritual journey with Christ.

If you are a member of an organization here at St. Scholastica, please encourage your organization to show its support to these RCIA candidates and catechumens by sending cards or notes with words of support and prayer. Send the cards to the Faith Formation Director, Chris Hannigan-Wiehn, and she will share your messages with the group.

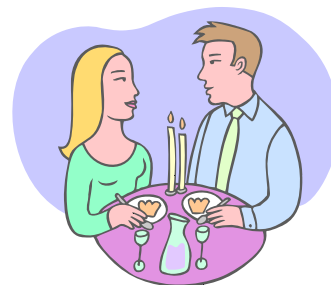
**Parish Faith Formation**  
Chris Hannigan-Wiehn  
Director of Faith Formation  
630.985.9255x130  
[stscholadulsted@aol.com](mailto:stscholadulsted@aol.com)

## TABLE FOR TWO

**Saturday, February 12, 2011**

**6:00 pm Mass with Renewal of Vows in the Parish Activity Center**

**Followed by Candle Light Dinner for Two**



Treat your "significant other" to a romantic evening with a Valentine's Day theme. This evening for married couples will begin with Mass at 6 pm, with Fr. Riva presiding.

The Mass will include renewal of vows and will be followed by a meal served at a candlelit table set for just the two of you, catered by Clara's Restaurant. Dinner includes Bruschetta di Roma and Pesto Bruscheta, House Salad, Sliced Breast of Chicken over Pasta with Alfredo Sauce, and dessert. Feel free to bring a bottle of wine for the two of you to share. Whether you've been married one year or sixty, plan to join us for this special celebration of your love and your lives.

This has been a very popular event. Space is limited, so avoid disappointment and make your reservation early with the Faith Formation Office by sending your check to the parish office. The cost of the evening is \$40 per couple.

## Catholics Returning Home

Chris Hannigan-  
Wiehn



Welcome  
Home Catholics

Dates and times  
will be set up by  
appointment with  
Parish Faith Formation Director.

Millions of Catholics worldwide have stopped practicing their faith for various reasons. Some drift away during adolescence while searching for their own identity. Sadly, some have been hurt by people within the Church. Others find their lifestyles at odds with Church teaching. Many think they're not welcome and some even believe that they are excommunicated. Though these non-practicing Catholics have separated themselves from their Catholic faith community, the reality is that they are always welcome to return.

For most returning Catholics, it's simply a matter of returning to the sacraments, especially reconciliation. Nobody is beyond the mercy of God; therefore, no matter what your situation is, the Lord can help you through it. For many who are considering the possibility of returning to the Catholic Church, they may wish to speak to a lay minister or seek spiritual direction. The program design that we are using at St. Scholastica Parish, was created by Sally L. Mews, who at one time was also a returning Catholic. We will use this program but it will be adapted to the specific needs of each participant.

*For more information,  
call Chris Hannigan-Wiehn  
At 630.985.9255 X 130 or  
[stscholadulter@aol.com](mailto:stscholadulter@aol.com).*

**LEAVE A LEGACY—  
ADD ST. SCHOLASTICA PARISH  
TO YOUR WILL  
CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE  
FOR MORE INFORMATION**

## Parish Faith Formation

Providing our Parish Family  
opportunities for education in our  
Catholic Faith to all ages, from  
birth to rebirth in eternal life.

### Men's Morning of Reflection and Breakfast

(Fathers, bring your 15+ year old  
sons)

Saturday, January 15, 2011  
9-11 AM

TOPIC: *Male Spirituality . . .  
Staying Alive to Our Faith  
in the Real World*

PLACE: St. Scholastica Parish  
Center

SPEAKER: Bill Johnson



**Bill Johnson** is the Director of  
Campus Ministry at Marmion  
Academy in Aurora, as well as a  
consultant and guest speaker for  
youth and young adult groups  
around Chicago, Wisconsin, and  
Indiana.

**Donation: \$10**

**Reservations are necessary**

[stscholadulter@aol.com](mailto:stscholadulter@aol.com)

**OR 630.985.2351**



## Small Christian Communities

Chris Hannigan-Wiehn

Many parishioners have been part  
of Small Christian Communities as a  
way of ongoing adult faith formation.

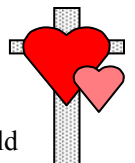
*Dimensions of Small Christian  
Communities*

- Faith Sharing
- Prayer
- Learning
- Mission

We presently have several existing  
SCC groups that are open to new  
members. One meets in the Parish  
Administrative Center on Thursday  
mornings. Another meets Thursday  
evenings at the home of a parish  
couple. There is also a group of men  
who will be open to additional male  
members.

For information on how to join a  
SCC contact the Faith Formation  
Office at 630-985-2351 ext. 130 or  
[stscholadulter@aol.com](mailto:stscholadulter@aol.com)

## Little Hearts of St. Scholastica



Who: Children 0-3 years old  
with parents or  
caregivers.

What: Catholics who want to share  
their faith with young children  
through songs, prayers and  
bible stories.

Where: Parish Center

When: 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month  
at 12:15 – 1 pm, September  
through June

Why: Why not . . . it is free.

Please contact Kristin Klis at  
[kmdedpath@yahoo.com](mailto:kmdedpath@yahoo.com) or  
630.567.7797 for more information.

# Parish Picnic, September 19, 2010



## S.T.O.R.M Youth Group

Jennifer Michalik-Olson  
Director of Youth Ministry  
630.985.2351x138  
[stscholasticaym@aol.com](mailto:stscholasticaym@aol.com)

S.T.O.R.M. Youth Ministry is in full swing again this year. S.T.O.R.M. stands for St. Scholastica Teens, One Radical Ministry, and we are a welcoming organization that tries to bring teens closer to Jesus and to each other. All high school youth of our parish are invited to join us at any time and friends from outside the parish are welcome as well. Our meetings are on Sunday evenings from 6:30 - 8:30 pm at the parish complex. The first Sunday of each month we have an evening Mass with a visiting priest. On the other Sundays, we have small group meetings during which we discuss a variety of subjects. We also have many special events. All dates and times are listed in the bulletin each week. If anyone would like more information they can contact Jennifer Michalik-Olson, Director of Youth Ministry, at 630.985.2351 ext. 138 or e-mail her at [stscholasticaym@aol.com](mailto:stscholasticaym@aol.com).

### Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 14: Evening Liturgy with Father Bob Duda at 6:30 pm followed by Small Groups.

Sunday, November 21: 12 pm Teen Mass.

Sunday, November 21: Small Groups at 6:30 pm.

Sunday, November 28: Teen Reconciliation Service at 6:30 pm.

Sunday, December 5: Evening Liturgy & Meeting at 6:30 pm.

Sunday, December 12: A Christmas Party that will begin at 5:30 pm followed by the Christmas Concert at 7 pm, where our Teen Choir will perform.

We will be hosting a Chicago Street Ministry Experience on Sunday, December 19, 2010. We bring bag lunches to the homeless and then we go shopping to Water Tower Place and State Street. Everyone interested in attending must call Jennifer ahead of time so we can make sure that we have enough chaperones and everyone must have a permission slip. Check the bulletin for details.

Sunday, January 2: Evening Liturgy with Father Matt Nathan at 6:30 pm followed by Small Groups.

Saturday, January 8: 4:30 pm Teen Mass.

Sunday, January 23: Small Groups – Bring a Friend Night.

Sunday, January 30: Small Groups at 6:30 pm.

Sunday, February 6: 10:00 am Teen Mass.

Sunday, February 13: Small Groups at 6:30 pm.

February 18-20: Winter Retreat at Five Pines in Michigan.

## Fall Activities Have Begun

- We had a great turnout for the first S.T.O.R.M. meeting of the year on Sunday, September 19th. Seventy-nine kids met together for fun, games, and prayer and they ate a 70 foot banana split. The following week we began our small group meetings where freshmen discuss Relationships, sophomores - morality, and Junior/Seniors new topics each week.
- We have instituted a points system. Teens get points for each meeting and activity they attend and for bringing friends to meetings. The teens with the most points at the end of the year will get to attend summer activities such as YLC and Great America for free.
- We also have activities for Jr. High kids as well, and on Sunday, October 10th we had a Haunted Hayride and Bonfire for both Jr. High and High School participants. Eighty-six teens from our parish went to Sonny Acres in West Chicago and we went for a Haunted Hayride and went through the haunted barn. We also made s'mores around a bonfire.
- On the weekend of October 16-17, 2010 we had our Fall Retreat at Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center in Oregon, IL. Our theme was: "Jesus Calls Us" and we had 36 participants. Six of our teen leaders gave witness talks and we had small group discussions about pro-life issues. We had a beautiful weekend, and it turned out to be a wonderful retreat because the participants were all very open about their beliefs and accepting of each other. We were able to do a variety of activities including games, a talent show, and a Mass. Our second retreat of the year will be on the weekend of February 12-14, 2011 and it will be back at Five Pines Retreat Center in Michigan. The theme is "Tell Me A Story: Parables". This will be our seventh time going to this facility and if there is snow the participants will have the opportunity to go tubing and cross country skiing. We will have the site to ourselves. The retreat's gives participants a chance to get to know each other better and allows the teens time to develop their relationships with God, friends, and themselves.
- On Sunday, October 24th we had our first Teen Mass at 10:00 am. The teens participated in the Liturgical Ministries including Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Greeters, Ushers, the Presentation of the Gifts, and the Teen Choir. We will have more Teen Masses throughout the year, so please watch your bulletin. If anyone is interested in participating in the Teen Choir, or other Liturgical Ministries, please contact Jennifer Michalik-Olson.
- On November 6-7, STORM participated in the Homeless Sleepout. This is a fundraiser for Bridge Communities and Daybreak of St. Scholastica.

### NEED HELP?

STORM Youth Ministry is continuing a fundraiser to raise money for our Youth Ministry Mission Trips this summer. Participants are available to do odd jobs for a donation to our trips. This could include landscaping work, mowing the lawn, or painting. It could be a one time work project or ongoing. If you can give us at least one week notice that would be appreciated, or if it is ongoing, try to set it up ahead of time. All donations are then made payable to the St. Scholastica STORM Youth Ministry. Contact Jennifer to schedule your project.

## St. Scholastica School - A Wonderful Environment

Sister Afra Mgwama, OSB

I am Sister Afra Mgwama, OSB, a member of "The African Benedictine Nuns" of St. Gertrude Imiliwaha (Tanzania). On God's willing, six years ago, I was chosen to come to study at Benedictine University in Lisle, under the host of the "Benedictine Sisters of Sacred Heart Monastery" the founders of "St. Scholastica Elementary School." On May 17, 2009, I was awarded a Bachelor's Degree in Education (Elementary). In 2009, Benedictine University awarded me a full scholarship for a Master's Degree in Education in the field of "Administration and Leadership". Due to this degree I was required to get experiences from school administrators, which happened to be St. Scholastica Elementary School in Woodridge.

Being at St. Scholastica Elementary School I have been learning many things from the principal (Mrs. Gail Kueper), faculty, staff and students. St. Scholastica has a theme "We are a Eucharistic Family". I found that the entire school practices and appreciates the importance of being a Eucharistic family. Each one in the school respects and values the presence of Jesus in individual personalities, as we Catholics believe that when we receive Holy Communion we know that we are receiving Jesus. This is how the community of St. Scholastica Elementary School practices. I realize that not only the school practices the importance of community but it is also a great place to grow academically and spiritually. I also learned how the parish members work together with the school. For example, the entire parish staff works with the school all the time. I found that even pastor (Father Gerald Riva) is very active.

My experiences at St. Scholastica Elementary School has really given me confidence in myself and prepared me for my career in education (getting ready to be a principal a few years from now). St. Scholastica is a

wonderful school. It offers a strong academic program and the principal, teachers and staff are excellent. The principal cares about each student learning, and she is very involved in the students academically and making it a great place for students to learn and appreciate education. St. Scholastica School makes every effort to prepare students for their future academic endeavors and life experiences. Students are not just learning academically but also are being prepared to becoming good citizens. Students are being taught the importance of having a good moral character and good manners so that they can become mature, be respectful, be intellectually curious, and be of service to others.

Teachers at St. Scholastica School are there to help students learn, and they work very hard to ensure that each student learns and achieves that goal. I found that all teachers, who are teaching at St. Scholastica find that their teaching is not for money but it is their vocation. I observe the way they teach, and one can sense that they really teach from their heart and they care providing outstanding academic lessons. They provide an excellent academic curriculum that teaches the whole student; spiritually, emotionally, socially and physically. Again, observing teachers in their classroom, I found that each teacher acknowledges students' unique talents, gifts, needs, and recognizes and appreciates each student's, achievements. They encourage the students to complement each other as a community.

The school is wonderful, and the teachers contribute to the success of all students. Due to a small school with no more than 300 students, students are really getting an outstanding education with a comfortable environment provided by their teachers and principal. The students are safe, and the staff is caring.

Beside teachers being devoted to their students, children are also

## *We Are a Eucharistic Family*

involved in a variety of activities. Last year's 7th graders participated in the Science Fair and the students knew their topics as they presented their materials. I found that students enjoyed their presentation and I believe that is because of the excellent teachers who prepared them to do so.

Moreover, students at St. Scholastica are not only learning from an academic curriculum, they are also being prepared for their future career, like how they can run their business. For example, students had a Walk-A-Thon for raising money for their school's advancement in technology, which was really successful. The walking took place at the school environment and the whole school, even kindergarten, participated. This event ended with the students "smothering" the Principal's head with ice-cream. It was a fun day for everyone.

St. Scholastica School and students are really blessed. Besides students' efforts on raising money for their technology, I had an opportunity to attend an Auction Luncheon, which was a new experience for me. I was able to see how parents are involved in raising money for their children. It was so interesting to see how for each grade, parents prepared their own table with special themes. More interesting was that men had their own table, which was very simple, but they seemed to be enjoying the day. Additionally, I was able to attend the parents' club; here I found that parents are major contributors to the success of the school.

At St. Scholastica School, the teachers are committed professionals, and they are working hard to make sure their pupils are learning and growing spiritually and academically each day. The administration is friendly and cooperative. The principal, Mrs. Gail Kueper, is an excellent leader. I am glad that she is my supervisor for my internship. The students understand why they are at

*(Continued on page 15)*

(Continued from page 14)

school. They respect their teachers and each other. I can see each one of them understanding the importance of education. Parents are involved in many areas to keep the school strong. The school environment is friendly, welcoming, and the students like to be there. I would like to congratulate St. Scholastica School for being faithful in practicing their theme. "We are a Eucharistic Family". Principal, faculty, staff, students all live as one family.

**WE ARE A  
EUCHARISTIC  
FAMILY**

## Parents' Club Update

Carla Denison-Bickett

The St. Scholastica Parents Club has two main goals – 1) To provide financial and physical support for the academic, spiritual, cultural, and athletic programs as well as support the school teachers and staff; and 2) To sponsor social programs to create and build the spirit of community among parent, students, staff, and clergy.

### The following are highlights of the accomplishments over the last six months:

The Parent's Club raised over \$19,000 for St. Scholastica School during the 2009-10 school year.

- Technology Walk-a-thon – On May 5, 2010, the Parent's Club sponsored a Walk-a-thon for Technology. The students of St. Scholastica worked hard to find sponsors for them to walk to improve the technology program. This event raised over \$6,000 for new technology resources including five new computers and completely updated software for the computer lab
- The Parent's Club also purchased desks for three classrooms, as well as provided sponsorship for academic contests and other student events.

### Events/fundraisers:

- Bunco—The first Bunco of the year was held on Friday, October 15 at 6 pm in the Parish Activity Center. The cost was \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door and included drinks and appetizers. If you missed it, whether you are a seasoned player or trying for the first time, come and join us for more fun nights to help raise funds for the school in the spring.
- Twilight Golf – This year's Twilight Golf was held on Saturday, October 16 at Boughton Ridge Golf Course. There was nine holes of golf followed by a Texas Holdem Tournament.
- Vendor Sale – Get your Christmas shopping started with a visit to the St. Scholastica Parent's Club Vendor sale during the weekend of November 13-14 after all Masses.

- Shopping 4 Students @ the Promenade in Bolingbrook – Our school is 1 of 20 schools participating in a program to win a portion of \$10,000 in Promenade Gift Cards for the school and we need your assistance. Anytime you shop at the Promenade stores (any store, restaurant, cart purchase or the new movie theater), St. Scholastica School can earn points toward our goal. All you need to do is take the receipt(s) to Guest Services to be logged or send to school. You can also put them in the box in the Narthex. If you wish to drop off your receipts, we can get them logged. Most stores in the Promenade will give you a duplicate receipt, upon request. This runs from 10/1/09 – 4/30/10. We appreciate any support!

As always, we greatly appreciate all the support the parish gives the school and look forward to seeing you at events!



Don't forget Market Day! Order forms will be stuffed into bulletins monthly. Mark your calendars now with these Saturday pick-up dates:

November 20, 2010  
December 18, 2010  
January 22, 2011  
February 19, 2011  
March 19, 2011

Market Day pick-up takes place in the Activity Center from 8:30-9:30 am. This is an easy way to support the school!!!

**Manna is available after all the Masses throughout the year!!! Now is the time to stock up for your holiday gift giving!**



**ST. SCHOLASTICA SCHOOL**  
**WE ARE A EUCHARISTIC FAMILY**

- Emphasis on Catholic Values
- Participation in weekly Liturgies
- Quality academic program
- Advanced computer technology
- Life-long learning skills
- Family Oriented atmosphere
- Art, Music and P.E.
- Athletic and band programs

Open enrollment for most grades. Please inquire.

Rev. Gerald Riva, Pastor  
Mrs. Gail Kueper, Principal

7720 Janes Avenue, Woodridge, IL  
(630) 985-2515 (ext) 100

[www.stscholasticawoodridge.org](http://www.stscholasticawoodridge.org)



Save the Date

February 17, 2011

St. Scholastica Parish's  
Annual Evening of Entertainment  
**Rock the Night Away**  
A Tribute to Rock n' Roll  
at the Tivoli Theater in  
Downers Grove

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