

The Good News

Of St. Henry Parish
May 2003

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News, please e-mail
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Publication Deadline is the
10th of every month.

Social Concerns

By Charlotte Berling

This month I want to give you a short history lesson regarding our Social Concerns program and it's early beginnings.

When I first came on the staff of St. Henry Church July 1, 1992, Father Wehage, the pastor at that time, asked me to be in charge of the RCIA Program and Social Concerns. I admit that I had no idea what Social Concerns was all about; and since I did not have any directions or guidelines to follow, I had to feel my way around the process.

Father Wehage asked me to be a liaison between the social agencies and other groups in the parish that fell under Social Concerns. I had to learn a lot about everything that goes on in this parish.

One of the things I found out early on was that Father Deye had made a suggestion to Parish Council that we should sponsor a sister parish in the mountains. I went to the Diocese and they connected us up with Holy Redeemer and we have been a monthly sponsor since that time.

Parish Council had approved a monthly budget for Social Concerns so I was able to get the external charities program started. In other words St. Henry Church believes in putting their money where their mouth is and we have been giving a portion of what we receive ever since that time both inside and out of parish bounds.

We have some designated churches or agencies which we sponsor on a monthly basis and they are: Holy Redeemer in Vanceburg, Our Savior Parish in Covington, Housing Opportunities of Northern KY, The Interfaith Hospitality Network, the Interfaith Airport Chapel, Net Ministries and our own Joe Biedenharn who is teaching in Africa. Also we share with other agencies any money left over in the budget each month. You cannot out-give God and I feel He has blessed us many times over for the charity work that we do.

St. Vincent de Paul, Erlanger-Elsmere United Ministries and United Christian Volunteers all have their own budgets above and beyond our Social Concerns monthly budget. We support these agencies and the good work that they are doing That is why we don't want to become another agency duplicating what is already being done by someone else.

There are a few things I would like to share with you regarding other Social Concerns Programs in the parish. In the first place, you never know what is going to happen and you have to deal with it when it happens. I have had some incredible experiences, because you never know who is coming through the door. Many years ago, I had a woman come in who wanted to give away 2 of her children. I did not know exactly where to start with this issue, but I learned real quick how to proceed. Thank God that never happened again. Once I had a young man come in who had tried to commit suicide. One time I had a request to visit an inmate at the Boone County Jail. You would not believe the red tape I had to go through to be admitted for that visit. I had no fear, because if Jesus were here, He would have done the same thing. Anyway, I know that Angels were watching over me.

(continued pg 2)

Lots of times, I have had requests to help find different things for needy families. That could be anything from a lawn mower to a stove and refrigerator or some furniture item. My heart goes out to these people and I have a sense that God has put me just where he needed me at the moment.

We have an excellent Hospital and Nursing Home Ministry that I was able to start with the help of many people in the parish. For example, either Jack Alexander or I visit all area hospitals when we have someone hospitalized from the parish. **JUST A REMINDER:** please call the office and let us know if someone in your family is in the hospital, because we do not always get a call from the hospital letting us know.

At this time Jack Alexander is covering all the area nursing homes. We have people going to the Villa Springs Care Center on a weekly basis for a Communion Service. We also have people who go to the Baptist Village Care Center to say the Rosary with the Catholic patients. Father Ryan goes there also for a monthly Mass. We have parishioners who go to Florence Park and help out with Mass on a bi-monthly basis.

Dottie Poole takes care of communion to the sick on weekends. Father Ryan and I visit the sick and home-bound on almost every 1st Friday of the month.

If you want a chance to be a part of any of these ministries, please connect up with us and we can certainly find a place for you.

We also send "Caring Community" to all shut-ins and those in nursing homes. They are also sent birthday cards if they are over 65 and we have that information on the computer. 25th and 50th Anniversary cards are mailed out to parishioners if we have that information on the computer as well.

Social Concerns is also in charge of the Sunday A.M. babysitting at the 9:30 Mass. Many years ago, we tried to also have babysitting at the 11:30, but little interest was shown. We appreciate so much the ladies who take care of the babysitting for us at the 9:30 Mass. Just look for the Big Bird Flag by the door which goes into the downstairs of the Community Center.

There are a lot of other activities which we have started in recent years. We revived the Parish Picnic and now have it yearly. We have "Beat the Heat Sunday" where we collect money after all masses to buy fans for the poor, particularly in the inner city. I believe we are now going into the 5th year for this project. Last year we were able to buy 85 fans. That is fantastic.

We also have Back-Pack Sunday. This is the time we collect school supplies for low-income families. First we help those in the parish. We gave some supplies to Joe Biedenharn to take back to Africa with him. Then we gave the rest to local agencies.

Every Christmas, we have our giving trees and we sponsor local agencies as well as Holy Redeemer in Vanceburg. This is a tradition that has been going on for a long time. The first Christmas I was on the staff, I was overwhelmed by the generosity of the parishioners.

About 2 years ago, I wrote a couple of grants and received \$8500 to be used for making small home repairs for low income families, disabled persons or low income Seniors. The work is done by a group of volunteers called HENRY'S HELPERS. These people, both men and women give of their time and talents to help others less fortunate, regardless of race or creed.

We have parishioners who go to Echo in Newport on a monthly basis to serve meals to the homeless. This activity is sponsored by the Faith and Action Committee. Again, if you are interested in being on one of the food teams, call Peggy McKnight at 727-8126.

Luann Kohl, our DRE has a dinner for the senior citizens once a month and brings in delightful speakers.

We have a Bereavement Committee, and they can always use help. If you would like to be a member of this committee call Mary K. Kriege at 342-8109. We have a great need for liturgy planners, and of course there are a lot of other things to be done so we can always find a place for you.

We have a marvelous Resource Room filled with books, tapes, videos and the like. This is one of the terrific ideas that Luann Kohl came up with. What a blessing for our parish. I might add that Jolanda Jaeger keeps the room in tiptop shape.

We also have a list of people who will drive the sick or elderly to the doctor. However, we need a couple days notice.

We also have a prayer line and the information is listed on front of the bulletin. If there is any change, we will let you know.

You will notice that I did not list too many names of the volunteers. This is because I was afraid I would leave someone out. I will always appreciate the generous, loving people of St. Henry Church. May God bless all of you.

On the next two pages are nominees for the Education Commission and the Parish Council. Please join your fellow parishioners at Wehage Hall on May 18 for coffee and donuts as you vote.



Lois Barnett

My name is Lois Barnett. I have been a member of the St. Henry Parish for over 10 years. My husband Glenn and I have been married for 14 years and have two children, Maggie (age 4) and Zachary (age 10). We have lived in the Florence area for over 10 years as well. I am a graduate of St. Henry High School, class of 1981. I attended Northern Kentucky University and work as a Human Resources Manager for Fidelity Investments in Covington, KY. I have over 15 years of Human Resources experience and I serve as a board member for the Northern Kentucky Workforce Investment Board. I would like to become more familiar with the education programs of our parish and school and feel I can make a contribution to the community if allowed the opportunity to serve on the Education Committee.



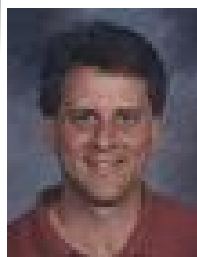
Susan Bier

My name is Susan Bier and I would consider it a privilege to serve on the Parish Education Commission. I have been a member of St. Henry parish for almost 20 years and I am committed to the parish and to continuing the tradition of quality Catholic education at St. Henry. I am currently completing my service as PTO President and have enjoyed serving on the PTO Board for the past three years and I will continue to volunteer time in PTO activities. I also co-chair the Bid-n-Buy booth for the summer festival. I have been married to Jeff for 13 years and we have four children. Rachel, Jessica, and Sarah currently attend St. Henry School and Andrew will enter kindergarten in the fall.



Mary Beth Brungs

My name is Mary Beth Brungs. My husband Mike and I have been members of St. Henry Church for eleven years. We have two daughters who attend St. Henry School, Lindsay and Meredith. I am a graduate of Holy Cross High School and Northern Kentucky University. While a member of St. Henry Church, I have been involved in several programs including Children's Liturgy and the summer festival. I have participated in several school programs such as Everybody Counts, Health and Safety Screening and am currently Santa's Workshop Chairperson. I have been substitute teaching at St. Henry since 2001. I enjoy being active in our church and school and would like to continue as a member of the Education Commission. I believe that I could bring a good combination of experiences to the commission.



Keith Limbach

Hi, my name is Keith Limbach and I am running for a seat on the St. Henry Education Commission as I am interested in building on the successes of the past, and contributing to the school's bright future. My wife Fran and I have three children: Katie at SHDHS, and Kelsey and Jared in the grade school. We have been involved in St. Henry parish and school for over 10 years. I am currently in the RCIA program and will be joining St. Henry officially on Easter weekend.



Amy Zimmerman

I am Amy Zimmerman of Independence, KY. I have been married to Tony for 13 years and we have two children, Anthony, age 6, and Nathan, age 4. Anthony is in the first grade at St. Henry Grade School. We have been members of St. Henry Parish since 2000. I grew up in Northern Kentucky and was a member of St. Joseph Parish in Crescent Springs all my life, prior to joining St. Henry. I am a Real Estate Agent with Re/Max Affiliates and partners with my husband Tony in our family business, AZA Construction. I spent 10 years in the accounting field prior to becoming a real estate agent. One of my primary reasons for deciding to change careers was the flexibility that real estate gives me to spend time with my family and volunteer for various community service projects. Most recently, I have served on the Small Business Development Committee at the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce and the Sales and Marketing Council of the Home Builders Association of Northern Kentucky. I would be honored and love to have the opportunity to serve on the St. Henry Education Commission. It's a challenge where I hope to use my faith along with my business experience for the betterment of the children (and the young at heart) of St. Henry Parish.

Tom Lueke

I have been a member of St. Henry Parish since 1991 along with my wife Tess, son, Mark a sophomore at St. Henry High School and daughter, Megan who will graduate from the 8th grade at the end of this school year. Now in my third year of a three-year term on the commission, I am serving as President of the Commission through the term ending this June.

I would like to be re-elected to the Commission to continue in a role, which helps to oversee not just the scholastic portion of our parish, however, all Parish education programs for every parishioner. It is the goal of the Commission to work with any and all Parish educational programs to enhance them and make them available to all.

Professionally, I have worked for U.S. Bank for 21 years. I am a Certified Cash Manager and Sales Team Leader in the Bank's Treasury Management Division.

PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

Troy Allen Aldridge

St. Henry Parishioner for 17 years.

Married for 17 years to Wray Jean, who grew up in Elsmere and attended St. Henry School.

Children: Chelsea Rene and Craig Allen in the 7th and 2nd grade respectively.

Why I want your vote for Parish Council: I grew up in Carrollton, KY, and moved to Northern Kentucky in 1982 to attend Northern Kentucky Technical College.



As a child growing up on a farm in Carrollton, the only religion my family taught was to pray for rain so the tobacco crops would grow. I did from time to time visit various churches of different denominations, but was never baptized.

After meeting Wray Jean, I became interested in the Catholic faith. We were married in the Catholic Church (St. Henry's), raising our children Catholic, and attended Mass regularly. In 1998, I decided that I wanted to join the Catholic Church completely, so I completed the RCIA program. On April 3, 1999 I was baptized, and received full communion in the Catholic faith at St. Henry.

Now I would like to take a more active role at St. Henry, and I would like to be considered for the Parish Council.

KEVIN JIMENEZ, P.E.

Kevin, his wife Jenny, and their four children have been members of St. Henry Parish since 1995. Kevin is a senior engineer with a local utility and enjoys playing and watching soccer. Kevin has taught 4th grade CCD at St. Henry Church for 5 years.

DENNIS NOLAN

Dennis has been a St. Henry parishioner for 29 years. He graduated St. Henry High School in 1962, and Thomas More College in 1966. Dennis and his wife Anne (nee Fay) will celebrate their 37th wedding anniversary in June. Dennis volunteers as a Eucharistic Minister and as a festival worker.

Reason for running for Parish Council: I feel a need to give more to the parish and its members than just money.

SENIOR CITIZENS GATHER FOR LUNCH AND FELLOWSHIP

We invite all senior citizens and everybody to our monthly activities.

Our next gathering will be June 6 at 11:30 AM in Wehage Hall. Your friends are invited to join us for this terrific gathering. We hope to have Fr. Greg Bach joining us on this day.

Please bring some canned goods for the needy. We can also use your old medicine containers, but the labels **MUST** be taken off. It seems best to **NOT** get the labels wet. They come off easier if they are dry. These will be used to dispense medicines that come in bulk for some poor people.

PARISH RESOURCE ROOM OFFERS MANY EXCEPTIONAL RESOURCES

If you have not visited our Parish Resource Room located in the Parish Office Building you have really missed an excellent resource! We have many videos for you to borrow. You don't even have to pay a fee for these videos.

Our Parish Resource Room has many children's videos on the sacraments and saints. We also have family friendly videos, adult reflection videos which would be ideal for the Easter Season!

There are also many free materials. Don't delay, stop in today!

FIRST FRIDAY CLUB!

The St. Henry Parish First Friday Club is involved in creating beautiful center pieces and decorations for parish shut-ins and area nursing homes. During our April gathering we made some beautiful reminders of God's sacrifice in offering Jesus on the cross.

Jack Alexander, who visits parish shut-ins and area nursing homes expressed his gratitude for the generosity of the First Friday Club for thinking of others.

At our next gathering on May 2nd. We will be creating spring time favors!

Anyone interested in joining us on the first Friday of each month 1 – 3 PM call Luann at 342-2553.

LEGION OF MARY PRAYING AND ACTIVE MEMBERS NEEDED!

The Legion of Mary is a world wide organization of Catholics, who offer their services under the banner of Mary.

Active members attend a weekly meeting that last about an hour, prays daily including the Legion prayers, and devotes two hours each week to apostolic work.

Praying members promise to pray the rosary and pray for the success of the Legion's work. To be a praying member, call Luann at 342-2553.

Presently St. Henry Parish has two Legion groups. One group meets Monday morning at 8:45 and the other group meets at 7:30 PM.

ST. HENRY SUMMER VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AUGUST 4 – 8 10:00 am – NOON

SUPER COOL UNDERSEA BIBLE ADVENTURE: DIVE INTO BIBLE ADVENTURES!

WILD WEDNESDAYS!

A TIME FOR ALL CHILDREN
TO LEARN ABOUT THE GOSPEL, DO ACTIVITIES,
PRAY AND WORSHIP WITH
ST. HENRY'S YOUTH BAND!
JOIN US ON THE FIRST AND THIRD
WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH FROM 2:30 –
3:30 PM
IN WEHAGE HALL.

May 7: John 10:11 – 18
Jesus is the Good Shepherd!

May 21: John 15: 9 -17
As the Father Loves Me, I Love You!

Call 342-2553 with questions!

Confirmation will be celebrated on May 9 at 7 PM at St. Henry. All are welcome to join our young people as they receive this sacrament of initiation.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

As the school year comes to an end, so does our Children's Liturgy of the Word ministry! This ministry is possible through the generosity of 68 volunteers who either lead or assist with this program.

This ministry offers students ages 5 – 11 an opportunity to hear the Sunday Gospel on their level, with a discussion and explanation. Leaders receive the readings and discussion tips a head of time, so they can prepare a good lesson for the students, who are divided into 2 groups; younger children and older ones.

If you'd like to get involved with this ministry please give Luann a call at 342-2553. Volunteers, generally minister 5 times a year.

ST. HENRY PARISH CCD CLASSES HAVE PRAISE AND WORSHIP TIME WITH YOUTH BAND!

On six occasions this year members of the Youth Band joined our CCD Program for time of praise and worship! Matt Jackson led the songs with members of a band he is involved with for our parish. The children loved this time of song and praise! Among their favorite songs were: Awesome God, Pharaoh - Pharaoh, and Mercy is Falling.

We send a huge thank you to Matt Jackson and his band!

TERRIFIC TUESDAYS OFFER STUDENTS A TIME OF REFLECTION ON THE SAINTS AND BIBLE STORIES.

CLASSES ARE HELD ON SE- LECTED TUESDAYS DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS!

Time: is 10 AM - Noon

Where: Wehage Hall

When: June 17

June 24

July 1

July 8

July 22

July 29

Good Stewards

By Pat Pope

Once again St. Henry Church is blessed with a vibrant, spirit-filled group of people participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A.). Fourteen men and women are preparing to enter the Roman Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil on April 19. They have been meeting weekly after the 9:30 Mass on Sunday exploring the demands of being a disciple of Jesus and learning about the rights and responsibilities of being Catholic.

Once again St. Henry Church is blessed with a generous, faithful group of parishioners who have taken on the responsibility of accompanying these catechumens and candidates in a very personal way. They, too, have been sacrificing their Sunday mornings to enrich the formation of these future Catholics.

When I think of stewardship and the idea of sharing one's gifts of time, talent and treasure, sponsors come to mind. Their time, of course, is what they give on Sundays, days of reflection, and other times of communication with the person they are sponsoring. Their talent is their ability to befriend and mentor. Their treasure is their faith.

Thank you:

Cathy Cahill	Pat Cahill
Ashley Calk	Sheri Calk
Charles Calk	Marietta Echlin
Crystal Fedders	Charles Fedders
Kevin Kahmann	Katie Limbach
Fran Limbach	Bob Pritchett
Cindy Rich	Melissa Schlake
Michelle Robbins	Mark Weber
Margaret Wood	

The parish owes you its gratitude.

Another group related to R.C.I.A. is currently meeting twice a month. This period of R.C.I.A. is called Inquiry. At present there is a need for sponsors for one woman and two men. For more information call me at 342-8080.

CARE GIVING: AN EXERCISE IN STEWARDSHIP

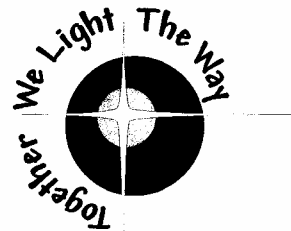
By Jack Alexander

Every Friday at 10 AM, 15 to 18 people gather in the chapel at Villa Spring Care Center. They are in wheelchairs, walkers, and recliners. It may be crowded, but the people make the most of it. They eagerly await the time that they will receive our Lord in the Eucharist. After the Communion service, we recite the rosary. Some are attentive, some are not, but everyone senses that they are members of the Body of Christ and celebrate it with their brothers and sisters. They share their gifts. One lady plays the piano, and the others help us to watch over those in need.

There are approximately 40 Catholics in this home. After the service, communion is taken to those in their rooms who were unable to come to the chapel. Also, there is visiting and follow-up on patient's conditions. This is the time we give them any crafts that are made by the children of St. Henry. This ministry exists because someone at St. Henry found the need and enlisted the help of other parishioners to bring this service to reality. Being stewards is letting these brothers and sisters know that they may be apart from their parishes, but they are an important part of the Body of Christ.

On Sundays, a group of parishioners from St. Henry take communion to the 30 residents at the Baptist Village. Some members lead them in saying the rosary and bring them a bulletin or the Good News. This helps them to feel like they are still part of St. Henry. The people who do this service for the nursing home residents are true stewards to God and to their brothers and sisters.

If you feel a call to this ministry and would like to serve God's people in nursing homes, please call me (Jack Alexander) at 342-2540.



The St. Henry Long-Range Planning Committee has been hard at work. Please look for special announcements and information coming this month regarding our new parish mission statement!

Father Deye's Garden

Thanks to everyone who donated to the project, especially the family of Mr. Joseph Verst. We have completed 2/3 of our goal, which helped beautify the grounds for Easter. We hope to finish the project next Spring.



Great Events Happening at St. Henry Parish

1. *Stewardship, stewardship, stewardship!*

Long range planning!

2. *Liturgies* that involve many folks:

greeters, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, Children's Liturgy of the Word Ministers, servers, choir!

3. *Adult Opportunities for Enrichment:*

- + Days of Reflection, prayer groups, scripture study and lunch,
- + promotion and group seating for Answer the Call, (Annual Catholic Men's Conference) and Embraced by Love(Annual Catholic Women's Conference), + participation and promotion in the annual Marydale Retreats,
- + pre baptism class,
- + RCIA,
- + Catholic Update Discussion,
- + Just Faith and Faith in Action Activities,
- + Tour of our cathedral,
- + sacramental preparation gatherings,
- + education about and promotion of Familia and Elizabeth Ministry,
- + Legion of Mary,
- + monthly thematic opportunities, (Bread for the World, Life Issues, Sr. Janet on a History of Hate, Scripture topics, Benefits of Meditation....),
- +Parenting Topics,
- +and last but not least our fabulous Resource Room!

4. *Seasonal Educational Opportunities:* Monthly Saint Celebrations, Advent Series, Couple's Dinner and Dance, Lenten Seder with the Jewish Community, Bread for the World, Insights Retreat, Lenten Series, National Issues Forums, Vocations, All Saints Celebration, Annual Ministry Fair, Advent Fair, Lenten Fair.

5. *Activities for Senior Citizens:* monthly luncheons with guests speakers like Fr. Ryan, Deacon Jerry Franzen, Fr. Hartman, Sr, Justina, Linneman, Fr. Greg, our parish missionary: Joe Biedenharn, Bread for the World Presentation.... Likewise we do 2 or 3 trips each year with the senior citizens to different places like the St. John's in Carrollton, Cathedral in Bardstown, Abbey of Gethsemani, Augusta, KY, different area shrines including Maria Stein.

6. *Parish Family Opportunities:*

- +All Saints Celebration,
- +Mardi Gras,
- + October Fest,
- +Annual Picnic,
- + "Wrapping Party,"
- +Pot Luck and Reconciliation,
- +Los Posadas Celebration,
- +Talent Show.

7. *Cool Things for Kids!*

- ** Children's Liturgy of the Word (K- 6)
- ** CCD and pre-school classes (Celebrate!)
 - ** Wild Wednesdays!
 - ** First Friday Club
- **Vacation Bible School
 - **RCIC
- ** Sacrament Preparation
 - ** Terrific Tuesdays
 - **YOUth Knights

8. Needs/hopes/dreams! % Preteen activities
% more participation

9. **STRENGTHS:** Pastor support, quality staff, committed committees, space, active parishioners, dedicated and generous volunteers, variety, outreach, willingness to try something new and

10. **DIFFERENT!**

ST. HENRY PARISH FESTIVAL BID-N-BUY BOOTH

The St. Henry Parish Festival will be held June 13, 14 and 15. *We need your help* to gather auction items for the **Bid-N-Buy Booth**. This booth offers different items for silent auction each of the three nights of the festival. We need a wide variety of donated items and services, including baby items, gift certificates, lawn care, cleaning services, sports and theater tickets, golf packages, memberships and hand crafted items. *Cash donations can also be used to purchase auction items.* All contributions are tax deductible, and the names of contributors will be posted throughout the festival. If you or your company can donate cash, merchandise or services for auction, please contact *Pam Porco at 331-9204 or Susan Bier at 282-1823* as soon as possible.

Good Job, Food Team !

By Jenny Connelly

Thanks to all who contributed and served the April 13th meal at Henry Hosea House. Volunteers Kim Enzweiler and Fran Robinson baked hams and served dinner to over 75 people. Working behind the scenes were Lorraine Von Hagel, Beth Thompson and Esther Lageman, who baked cupcakes and apple pies. Many of our young parishioners got in on the action. They include Sean Robinson, Mitchell and Madison Enzweiler, Hillary and Alex Connelly, Ashley Cathers, Lindsey Wilhoit, Mark and Megan Lueke and Jessica La-Corte. Great job guys! This is a great way to fulfill service hours. A special thanks also goes to Bob and Marti Bradner for washing dishes and to Eileen Wilhoit and Susan Cathers for serving on the food line.

Remke's market in Crescent Springs was very generous. We received over five bags of bakery items to distribute to the needy in Newport.

Anyone interested in joining the food team is welcome. St. Henry Parish is committed to preparing and serving at the Henry Hosea House the second Sunday of every month. We need servers, people who can cook or those who might want to donate. For more information please call Joyce at 525-2987 or Peggy at 727-8126.

EASTER VIGIL

By Charlotte Berling

On this most holy night, the following people were received into the Catholic Church through Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist: Billy Ray Clemons, Meghan Maxedon, Gabrielle Maxedon, Douglas Rich, Wyatt Robbins, and Charles Wamsley.

Laura Etherington, Jasmine Vance and Jonathan Vance were baptized and they also received First Eucharist. (Infant) William Tyler Wehrle was received into God's family through baptism.

The following candidates were received into full communion with the Catholic Church through the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation and First Eucharist: Ian Addington, Michael Beeghly, Kenneth Bodner, Linda Christy, Jennifer Davis, Michelle Frommeyer, Eric Kraus, and Keith Limbach.

Please pray for these new Catholics as they continue on their faith journey.

Chad Frommeyer, husband of Michelle Frommeyer also received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

**Parish Festival June 13, 14, 15 call the Parish office @
727-2035 to volunteer your time and talent. Help us make
this the best festival ever.**

Baptisms

The Good News May 2003

No Baptisms during Lent

New Parishioners

Ken and Kim Gardner of Elsmere, two children Chance and Emory

Brian and Laurel Baker of Erlanger, one child Isabella

Jamie and Cynthia Cobb of Erlanger, two children Dustin and Hunter

Alexander and Maryetta Hycza of Florence

Michael and Adrienne Regan of Burlington, one child Avery

Gary and Katie Meyer of Ludlow, one child Carmen

Luis and Lori Alcantara of Erlanger, two children Elena and Marco

Ms Jacklyn Clark of Elsmere

Jerry and Ann Miller of Erlanger

Funerals

Robert W. Hilgefert husband of Lorraine ; father of Patti, Joe, and Jim; brother of Marcella Holbrook, Marion Marqua, and Harry Hilgefert was buried on March 29, 2003

Alice Louise Linnemann mother of Laurie, Hank, Mark, Guy and Alan Linnemann was buried on April 5, 2003.

Weddings

No Weddings

BOOKWORM CORNER

By Jack Alexander

At St. Henry, there is a marvelous treasure for you to find. It is the resource room located in the old grade school building, just down the hall from the gymnasium. You can take a retreat with St. Mark, John the Evangelist, Mother Theresa and Damien, or Mary Magdalene and St. Augustine. These books are written by such people as Raymond Brown, Stephen Doyle, Sidney Callahan, and Joan Guntzelman -- all leaders in spirituality. Maybe you want to know more about the people in the Church. There are biographies on St. Teresa of Avila, Pere Lamy, Anne Catherine Emmerich, Pope Paul IV, and Padre Pio. On the shelves, you will find a wide array of books on many other people of the Faith.

Are you looking for a good novel? In the resource room there are mysteries -- Kienzle's Death Wears a Red Hat, Mind Over Murder, and Assault with Intent. Other authors represented are Erich Segal, John Irving, Jesse Stewart, and many more.

Do you have questions about the Church? To find the answers, you may consult numerous works on Vatican II, the sacraments, liturgy, and other church teachings on subjects, such as the Bible, the rosary, and the Saints. Also available for you to check out are videos and cassettes on every facet of our religion imaginable. If you search our resources and find you still have questions, there is a Guide Book to the Resource Room at the Catholic Center on Donaldson Road, which is available to use.

Family life is the theme of numerous books. Also, Catholic social teaching, aids for teachers of Catechism, and books for daily reflection are there for you free of charge. The Resource Room operates much like a library. Generally, you check an item out, and return it in 7-14 days.

In order for us to be better stewards, we will need to be better informed about possible ways that we may be overlooking in our search, to serve our God and each other. The Stewardship Committee is now finding other sources to add to our collection.

News from St. Henry District High School

By: Kelli Kleisinger

April 25 was the Day of Recollection/Day of Service. The Day of Recollection is an annual event here at St. Henry's where seniors put on a "mini-retreat" for the sophomores and juniors put on a "mini-retreat" for freshmen. This is a day where new friends are made and experiences are shared. Some topics covered are healthy choices, God, family, and friends. They gather in small groups to discuss these. Those juniors and seniors who do not lead one of these small groups instead participate in the Day of Service and are able to go to local organizations where they can do service for their community.

Thanks to all who came to support the "Sound of Music" by Rodgers and Hammerstein— it was greatly appreciated. Great job to all of the cast!

The new members of the National Honor Society celebrated their induction on March 18. Congratulations to the following: juniors Tricia Boelscher, Adam Cahill, Molly Goodwin, Jill Holtman, Kelli Kleisinger, Jennifer Knight, Rachel Lageman, Jacob Roberts, Tyler Sanders, and sophomores Molly Brauer (a St. Henry parishioner), and Amanda Kennedy.

SHDHS Volleyball-Summer workouts will be conducted on Mon., Wed., & Fri. mornings from 9-11 beginning June 2. It is not mandatory, but highly recommended with the focus on physical conditioning, jump training and weight lifting. This is a great way to team build, reduce injuries and get in shape for the upcoming season. Call Maureen Kaiser with any questions at 647-0728.

SHDHS Girls Soccer Camp-The camp will be held on June 16-19 from 5-8 p.m. at the high school. It is open to students entering grades 3-8 and cost \$55.00. Registration forms can be picked up in the high school office. If you have any questions, please contact Mike Apgar at 283-5042.

Boy Scouts of America Recognition Dinner

The Boy Scouts of the Daniel Boone District, held its Recognition Dinner on March 13, 2003 at Receptions in Erlanger, Ky.

The District recognized the following leaders and volunteers of both Pack #726 and Troop #726, which are sponsored by the St. Henry Holy Name Society, for their hard work and dedication to the youth and to our church and community.

Den Leader awards from Pack 726 went to: Tammy Oakes-Booth, Pat Connley, and Dan Zumdick.

Volunteer Awards went to: Troy Aldridge, Pat Cahill, Mary Jo Cleves, Rob Yotsey from Pack and Troop 726 and Tim Weber of Troop 717.

Veteran's Award for at least five years of service went to: Tracy Kidwell (5 years), Ed Von Eye, (15 years), Pat Cahill (20 years), Dave Eifert (20 years), Jim Eifert (35 years), Doug Eifert (40 years), and Bob Tholemeier (55 years).

Congratulations to all of the leaders from St. Henry's for giving your time to help the children to become good leaders in the future.

A LITTLE QUIZ ABOUT YOUR PARISH!

By Luann Kohl

1. Who is our parish Deacon? _____
2. How many Legion of Mary groups do we have at St. Henry? _____
3. Who is the priest who writes weekly in the bulletin? _____
4. What is this weekly article about? _____
5. Deacon Jerry and Jack Alexander offer a once a month discussion on what?
6. What club for children, meets monthly and creates gifts for parish shut-ins and nursing home residents? _____
7. What is the Youth activity that occurs each summer? _____
8. When and where does the Youth Group meet? _____
9. What ministry is offered on Sunday for children to learn about the Sunday readings on their level? _____
10. About how many Eucharistic ministers are needed each weekend? _____
11. What does RCIA stand for? _____
12. Name one adult faith program offered since August 2002.
13. What happens on Thursdays at noon in Wehage Hall? _____
14. What is the name of the program where school students come, hear the Sunday Gospel, have activities to reinforce this, and have praise and worship with the Youth Band? _____
15. What religion programs are offered on Sunday mornings? _____
16. How many potlucks are held each year? _____
17. Name 2 family sponsored events offered annually. _____
18. What activity is offered for young adults? Where? _____
19. Name a speaker offered this year for a senior citizen luncheon. _____
20. What sacrament preparation programs do we offer at St. Henry? _____

NOT YOUR PARENT'S SPRING BREAK

By Mary Biedenharn

Today there is a growing phenomenon sweeping across college campuses all over the United States - ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK. Many students from private and public colleges are choosing to spend their free time participating in service opportunities in inner cities around our country and in poor countries such as El Salvador or the Republic of Haiti.

What inspires and prepares students to involve themselves in these opportunities of service and to respond to Christ's call of ministering to the poor? The answer is HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUPS AND SERVICE CLUBS.

My daughter is a Freshman at the University of Dayton in Dayton, Ohio. When the subject of spring break came up in a discussion we were having about scheduling vacation time together, she informed me that she was joining seven other U.D. students who were planning to spend their spring break working with the poor in the inner city of New Jersey. Their service would consist of painting and repairing apartments for the elderly and tutoring students at an elementary school near the apartment complex. She had already attended the first two organizational meetings and invested one hundred dollars toward expenses for accommodations and transportation. The group was borrowing one of the university's vans and staying in a large dormitory at a seminary near the city.

I was surprised but not shocked at her decision. She related to me that her experience with the St. Henry Youth Group Work Camp was what led her to her decision. She said that she was so changed by her work with Steve and Angie Poat, her adult supervisors, and other high school students during their week of service in Appalachia, that she could not pass a similar opportunity when it was offered to her at U.D. She said that she also felt compelled to do service during spring break because of other fulfilling experiences she had with her service club at St. Henry High School.

I want to urge all parents of high school students to encourage your sons and daughters to get involved in religious youth activities in their parishes and schools so that they too will discover the rewards of reaching out to help those in need.

Mary, Our Mother, We Honor You

By Judy S. Pieper

Because Mary said, "yes" to God and became the mother of Jesus, the Catholic Church has given her a place of high honor and esteem. She was obedient to the will of God, and watched the painful suffering and death of her son, yet she contained the grace and power needed to carry on His mission with the apostles after Pentecost. A woman of great faith, strength and love, Mary's life as a wife, mother and missionary in the early church is an inspiration to all women to go out and spread the gospel of Jesus Christ through their lives. As the first disciple of Jesus, her humble service has much to show all of us in how to be a good witness to our faith and obtain the grace we all need to be saints in heaven.

Mary has three Holy Days of Obligation with the Immaculate Conception, the Solemnity of Mary and the Assumption celebrated throughout the year. She is the patroness of the United States, and all the Americas. She has many titles and is revered as an intercessor for us to Christ her son. May has been the traditional month to celebrate her love for us as mother of our church, so St. Henry parish will honor Mary with a traditional **May Crowning on Monday May 5, at 7:00 p.m.** in the church. After the procession and crowning, a statue of the Blessed Virgin will be placed on a "May Altar" in the church vestibule. Throughout the month of May, parishioners are invited to place their favorite fragrant blossoms in the vases surrounding the statue. It would also be fitting to offer a prayer or petition of thanksgiving or help, especially in these troubled times, to honor Mary for her intercessory prayers on our behalf.

Please join together with your fellow parishioners to participate in a prayerful honoring of our Blessed Mother. First Communicants and newly initiated members of the church are especially invited to wear their special attire. The intercessions of Mary are most important to our Church and to us during these times of unrest, so make your best effort to join in this celebration.



PRINCIPAL CONCERN



Throughout the season of Lent the children took part in a penny collection to help support educational missions in Africa of the Sisters of Notre Dame and the Sisters of Divine Providence. The goal for the drive was \$2,000.00. We thought that was a pretty lofty goal for grade school children. They in fact collected \$2,100.00.

This will be a very busy month for students and teachers, alike. May Crowning will take place Friday, May 2, after 8:00 Mass. The Cincinnati Tall Stacks Planning Committee will be at school on May 8 to videotape and televise The Belle of St. Henry as the background for the kickoff of Tall Stacks. Fine Arts Week will be celebrated May 18-23. Our chorus will have its spring concert at 3:00 PM on May 18 and we will be having our annual Guitar and Keyboard Concert and Art Show May 21. Crusader Olympic Day is May 23. Eighth grade culminating exercises are May 28. The month and year will come to an end on May 30 with Mass at 10:00. What a month!

Government Week



Mayor Bradford congratulates Mitch Hoxby for an excellent letter he wrote for the City of Elsmere's Government Week contest.

Eighth Grade Play



On March 28-30 the eighth grade class performed "The Truth about Cinderella" to sell out audiences of relatives and friends. Everyone in attendance gave the students rave reviews. It was an excellent production enjoyed by all (even the 8th graders).



"The Great Egg Drop"



To test the force of gravity the 6th grade science students made special containers with eggs inside then dropped them from the church bell tower.

International Day



The 6th grade presented research projects they did about various countries at the April PTO meeting.

PTO NEWS

Finally! Spring has arrived!! I hope everyone has been able to enjoy this wonderful weather, and yes, 60 degrees does seem wonderful. Although the winter seemed long and cold, the PTO never let up on making each fundraiser a success. Many people ask me, "where does all the money go?". I would like to answer this once again. At the beginning of the school year Mr. Gessner presented the PTO with a list of items needed for the school and students totaling \$30,200. It included:

- \$1,500.00 for Fine Arts
- 700.00 for Library purchases
- 15,000.00 for Science textbooks
- 10,000.00 for Technology
- 3,000.00 for Teacher stipend

Because of the hard work of many volunteers, we have met our monetary obligation to the school. Along with this, the PTO provides and pays for many other miscellaneous events throughout the year. These include dinner for the teachers on parent/teacher conference nights, gifts for the secretary, principal and teachers at appreciation times, receptions for Kindergarten and 8th Grade Graduations, lunch for faculty and staff during teacher appreciation week, New Parents Dinner and much, much more. I hope this gives everyone a clear picture of where the money goes. We believe all of these things help make our school that much better.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 16 at 7:00pm in the school cafeteria. We will celebrate International Day and hold the election of the PTO officers for the 2003/2004 school year.

Hope to see you there!
Susan Bier

Bread for the World Offering of Letters *Update*

Thanks to all of you!!! The Bread for the World Offering of Letters totaled over 470 letters, an unbelievable increase over last year. All segments of our Parish population (adults, CCD and Youth Group) increased their totals.

Not only did the numbers increase, but there was increased interest in the issues involved with this year's campaign. People like the idea of not just giving a handout, but funding programs that give people the means to feed themselves.

Thank you all for keeping world hunger issues always in mind and thank you for keeping up the effort to contact our country's decision makers.

If you missed the "letter-writing Sunday" and would still like to send a letter to Washington in support of "full funding" for the Millennium Challenge Account, pick up a sample letter and more information in the main hall of the parish offices. Write and send your letter on your own...the sooner, the better.

Thanks to everyone who has taken part in the campaign and may God be with us all as we fulfill our Christian obligation to deal with hunger in the world.

Recent Developments: (Last updated: April 14, 2003; check www.bread.org for more recent information)

The Federal Budget includes full funding for international affairs programs. Following passage of the 2004 Senate budget resolution, including Senator Richard Lugar's (R-IN) successful amendment to restore \$1.115 billion in funding to the international affairs account, a House/Senate conference committee began working to reconcile the two versions of the legislation.

The House bill originally called for \$657 million in cuts to international affairs, but Bread for the World activists, especially those in the conferees' home districts and states, quickly sprang into action. They contacted members of Congress and urged them to fully fund the international affairs budget, which includes the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA).

The hard work paid off! *On April 11, 2003, the final budget restored earlier cuts and set a dollar limit of \$28.5 billion on the international affairs portion of the budget. That dollar limit becomes a strong guideline for congressional appropriators as they decide how much money goes to various programs in the fiscal year 2004 budget. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House International Relations Committee are both scheduled to mark up its MCA legislation in late April or early May.*



MAY 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 8th Grade Retreat Bingo 6:45	2 First Friday Club 1-3pm	3
4 First Communion 11:30am	5 Festival Meeting 7pm Legion of Mary 8:45am and 7:30pm	6 Confirmation Practice 7pm; Pre-Baptism Class 7:30pm	7 Altar Society 2pm Holy Name Society 8pm; Youth Knights 7pm	8 Catholic Update 8:40am; Prime Time Seniors 2pm; Bingo 6:45pm	9 8th Grade Confirmation 7pm	10
11 Mother's Day	12 Legion of Mary 8:45am and 7:30pm	13	14 Stewardship Meeting 7:30pm	15 TriCity Seniors 2pm Education Commission Mtg 7:30pm; Bingo 6:45pm	16 Bldg & Maint. Mtg 4pm	17
18 VOTE for Parish Council & Educ. Commission & Beat the Heat Sunday at all Masses; Spring Concert, Grade School 2pm	19 Legion of Mary 8:45am and 7:30pm	20	21	22 Bingo 6:45pm Parish Council 7:30pm	23	24
25	26 Legion of Mary 8:45am and 7:30pm; Liturgy Committee Mtg 7:30pm	27	28 8th Grade Graduation 9am Mass; Youth Knights 7pm	29 Bingo 6:45pm	30 Grade School Last Day 10am Mass (no 8am Mass)	31 Ratification of Parish Mission Stmt at all weekend Masses