

# Holy Infant's *Words and Works*

Vol. 6, No. 1 Winter 2010



*Words and Works is a quarterly publication of Holy Infant Parish, informing parishioners of events and activities of interest to the parish, with a further goal of fostering unity within the Church and drawing all together into a closer warmer Church family.*

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## SCOUTS TO RECEIVE CATHOLIC AWARDS

By Ron Colletti

With Tracey J. McHugh

*Ron Colletti has something to smile about. His troop of boy scouts are changing lives and making a difference for many in need. Congratulations to this troop and all of our scouts at Holy Infant who continue to inspire others and make the world a better place.*

There are 18 Boy Scouts from Holy Infant Troop 627 currently working on Catholic awards. Nine junior high scouts are working on their Ad Altare Dei (*To the Altar of God*) which is a spiritual journey through our Seven Sacraments. The other nine are high school scouts working on Pope Pius XII, another spiritual journey helping scouts to seek and understand

As part of their requirements they have participated in Catholic Encounter Weekend (some of the older scouts worked as staff), a retreat campout last September which included talks, Adoration, Reconciliation and Mass. Some went to Catholic Adventure Week during this past summer which in-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Boy Scouts enjoy meal together on recent night out.**

cluded Mass with our new Archbishop. These events have been put on by the St Louis Committee on Catholic Scouting which gives out the third highest number of Catholic awards in the country. Some scouts have also gone to Kenrick-Glennon Seminary for KG days and the Day of Recollection. Most of them are altar servers. Most of the high schoolers regularly participate in our HI Youth Group. Service projects have included putting together a Thanksgiving meal for a family in need.

They have really gone the extra mile, working much harder than their workbook requirements and deepening their relationships with Jesus Christ. All meetings have included discussions of Scripture and prayerful meditations. They are discovering that we can live our Catholic Faith in the real world.

The scouts will receive their awards on Scout Sunday, February 7, 2010 at the Cathedral Basilica after a recognition ceremony at 8:30 Mass at Holy Infant.

## ENTHUSIASM AND FAITH HELPS TO SERVE THY NEIGHBOR

**By Pam Miller**

A historic Gothic church stands in splendor at the center of a South St. Louis neighborhood. The parish of St. Wenceslaus, established in 1925, is home to parishioners who seek to be a stabilizing and strengthening factor in their community. They strive to be a source of service and help to their neighbors. Parishioners have found many ways to provide help to their neighbor, but one way in particular is through the ongoing parish food pantry.

In 1990, Holy Infant established a relationship with St. Wenceslaus as our sister parish. Eager to support the efforts of this South St. Louis parish, Holy Infant's Father Ken Brown, Mary Pancella, Deacon Ken Clemens and Les Lexow discussed ways they might offer support.

Together, the parishes decided that time and energy would be well spent working to preserve and sustain the existing food pantry located on their church premises. During May of this same year, Holy Infant initiated the Meal-a-Month program. It was at this time that the bright yellow Meal-a-Month bags first became available and parishioners were invited to fill bags with non-perishable food items that would be transported to the food pantry.

In 1995, Holy Infant parishioners, Jerry and Elmer Williams, were asked to oversee this program. The Williamses, along with help from so many Holy Infant parishioners, have taken a facility without many conveniences, to a facility that now has lights, electric, gas, hot water, freezers and refrigeration, all donated by Holy infant parishioners.

According to Pancella, "In the early years a small group of volunteers would hand carry bags of food to families in their homes. Today, however, families come to the food pantry

to request food items."

Elmer Williams said, "When an individual or family comes to St. Wenceslaus in need of food, they are interviewed to see what the need is. It is necessary that we verify that the individual or family lives within the boundaries of the parish, has proof of residency, income, and can show children's birth certificates. Once all of



PHOTO BY DON DINKELKAMP

**ELMER & JERRY WILLIAMS – LEADERS/OPERATORS OF HOLY INFANT SISTER PARISH FOOD PANTRY.**

this has been established the client is then asked what food they would like or would not like to have." According to Jerry Williams, "Clients can request special types of food. If we have it they get it. No one is ever turned away." Elmer and Jerry stated that approximately 75 – 100 people are served each month.

"We have seen an increase in need due to economic times."

According to Pancella, "Other than St. Vincent De Paul Society, it is believed that St. Wenceslaus Meal-a-Month program is perhaps the longest standing outreach program at Holy Infant today."

Last spring, to celebrate this long standing relationship, Pancella, along with the Holy Infant Choir, PSR children, Deacon Ken and several Holy Infant parishioners, traveled to St. Wenceslaus to bring food for the pantry. During this visit they participated

in the celebration of Mass where the Holy Infant choir sang. Afterward, all enjoyed lunch with one another to celebrate their relationship as sister parishes.

This husband and wife team not only finds fulfillment in their work but they enjoy working together. You will find Jerry overseeing the back room while Elmer interviews and supervises the activities at the front entrance. The Williamses point out, "There are just so many who help St. Wenceslaus during the year; the 8th grade class who organizes the shelter, the PSR and day school children who donate food during the spring months, the Holy Infant Seniors who collect food and personal items each month at their Senior meetings and all parishioners who bring food before the Lord's altar each year at the annual Thanksgiving Mass in November."

Elmer and Jerry have never hesitated to ask for help. "Volunteers are always welcomed. Ways that you can help include filling the bright yellow Meal-a-Month bags available after all Masses the first weekend of the month and returning the filled bag to the lower vestibule near the gymnasium the second weekend of the month after all Masses. You can also help by transporting the food collected to the food pantry, purchasing gift certificates from The Knights of Columbus, or by leaving a monetary donation in the Sunday collection basket marked for St. Wenceslaus."

Twenty years later, the food pantry program continues with the same enthusiasm and faith as it began with in 1990. This program continues to function as a vital and necessary support to so many families living within the parish boundaries of St. Wenceslaus.

To volunteer or help contact Elmer or Jerry Williams, (636) 391-0894.

## MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS

**By Jennifer Brinker**

Even though Kathleen Ferrari's three-year-old son is new to the preschool scene, he already has several friends he had made before starting school in the fall.

And that's all in credit to a group that mom and son belong to at Holy Infant – MOPS, otherwise known as Mothers of Preschoolers.

"This is such a great ministry and helps moms and their children," said Ferrari, who helps coordinate the parish organization with fellow moms Mary Jo Beason, Catie Tyler and Cyndi Keegan.

MOPS at Holy Infant is part of MOPS International, a Colorado-based nonprofit organization that, according to its mission statement, helps "encourage, equip and develop every mother of preschoolers to realize her potential as a woman, mother and leader in the name of Jesus Christ."

Ferrari explained that MOPS is open to mothers and their children who range in age from infancy to Kindergarten. Holy Infant has two groups – one that meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month and another on the second and fourth Wednes-

days. There currently are about 50 members between the two groups.

Children, known as "Moppets," who attend with their mothers, receive childcare in a separate area of the parish while mothers take part in activities such as book studies and listening to speakers. Speaker topics can include eating healthy, preparing children for Kindergarten, estate planning and preparing for the teen years. The group also participates in service activities and volunteer opportunities at the parish. Moms and their children often meet outside of the group for activities, too.

"This is a great way for moms to get to know each other," said Ferrari, especially those who find it difficult to become involved in the parish during the years between infancy and when their children start school. "And it's also a good way for women to share their faith with one another."

Registration for fall will begin in April, said Ferrari. The group meets from September through May. For more information, call Kathleen Ferrari at (636) 386-4499 or Mary Jo Beason at (636) 227-4942.

## "DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR?" CATHOLIC AUDIO EVANGELIZING

BY BOB PHILLIPS WITH PAM MILLER

At Christmas Masses this year, all families received a gift CD. It tells the rather profound conversion story of Father John Corapi, Catholic Speaker. The CD is courtesy of generous anonymous donors, and coordinated by the Evangelization Ministry. If you liked it and ask, "What's next," continue reading. You'll hear that Catholic audio is a great way to learn and share the faith!

Since 2006, Tom Arnold has stocked the kiosk in the vestibule featuring CDs from **Catholic Lighthouse Media**. "For just \$3, you can bring home (or give away) inspiring and educational CDs about our faith," Tom says. "When you hear former-Protestant pastors like Scott Hahn, Tim Staples, Steve Wood and Marcus Grodi became Catholic *reluctantly, because of its truth*, it makes you want to dig deeper." Tom tries to keep the kiosk filled with the right CDs, picking titles that are both thought-provoking and relevant to young and old. Other online CD sources include: saintjoe.com; catholic.com; stjosephradio.com; and catholicity.com. With these and the Lighthouse kiosk/website, there is tremendous selection of affordable Catholic CDs.

As with CDs, Catholic radio can make use of drive-time for a higher good. Among many others from the parish, Fred Vilbig is involved with the local radio stations **WRYT(1080AM)/KHOJ(1460AM)** and reports: "The station was really excited to participate in the CD

giveaway. We were also excited that Fr. Corapi's conversion story was the title. We regularly broadcast Fr. Corapi's talks on faith, and his life story is a good place to start. Hopefully Fr. Corapi's story has piqued people's interest in learning more about their faith. We invite all parishioners to tune into **WRYT/KHOJ** for entertaining and informative programming (including interactive call-in shows) that helps us all to grow in our faith." Programming ranges from faith to family to apologetics to conversion stories to prayerful meditations. Check the schedule at [www.covenantnet.net](http://www.covenantnet.net). Matt & Missy Dazey also support **WRYT/KHOJ**: "Catholic radio is a great source for apologetics. It defends what we believe in and helps to give us a deeper understanding of our faith. Plus it's a good break from mainstream radio."

### Message from Monsignor Dempsey, Pastor

"We invite you to listen to the (gift CD's) compelling message of hope, renewal, and of God's infinite mercy. We hope that it lifts your spirits, leading you to renew and deepen your faith in the coming year. You may know someone that could really benefit from hearing this CD. If so, please pass it along! As Father Corapi's (somewhat PG rated) experiences remind us, life can really be a struggle.

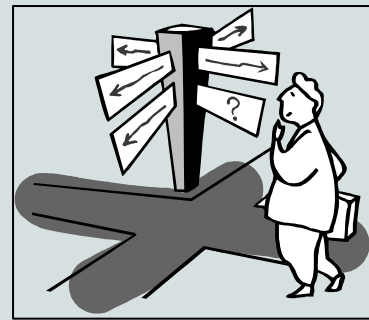


See Do You Hear, Page 5



# WHAT PATHS WILL YOU TAKE THIS LENT?

By Kathie Hanneke



By the time you receive this Newsletter, Ash Wednesday, February 17 will be right around the corner. Do you struggle with finding activities that will make Lent more meaningful for you?

The Adult Faith Formation Committee has several events planned that will provide stepping-stones to draw us closer to God this Lent. Look over these events and prayerfully decide which path (s) you will take.

## "Cry of the Hidden Heart" 15 week Bible Study

**Starting January 12** "The Cry of the Hidden Heart; Finding Real Love in Your Marriage" is an exciting new 15 week women's Bible study, starting January 12. Women will meet on Monday evenings, 7:30-9:00 in Rosario Hall. The goal of this

Bible study is to give women the vision of God's plan for marriage as outlined in Scripture. Practical tips needed for working on the marriage relationship will be provided. Linda Hoeffy, (636) 386-0138 and Lisa Zickel, (636) 391-8378, will be the facilitators of the Bible study. Contact them for more information or to register.

**February 13** Maria Rodgers O'Rourke returns for a special Saturday morning reflection for women. Watch the bulletin for more details. Sponsored by Mothers Of Preschoolers (MOPS.)

## "Prepare Your Heart and be A Great Mom"

**February 28** On Sunday evening, February 28 at 7 p.m., St. Cecilia's Young Adults group will present a moving re-enactment of the Stations of the Cross in Church. The re-enactment will be based on various themes of social justice. Watch the bulletin for more details.

## "Living Stations of the Cross"

**February 21 - 27** The Week of Guided Prayer is an individually directed retreat. Monday through Friday of that week, each participant will pray privately for at least 30 minutes and meet with his/her spiritual director/prayer guide for 30 minutes each day. The spiritual director/prayer guide helps the retreatant to learn new ways to pray and experience spiritual direction. This type of retreat helps participants to become more aware of God's presence in everyday life and to find time for daily prayer.

## "Week of Guided Prayer"

## "Parish Mission"

**March 8 - 10** Fr. Joseph F. Classen is associate pastor at St. Margaret Mary Alacoque and an accomplished writer of several widely read books. He brings to the Parish Mission an exciting blend of his passion for the Catholic Church and his passion for the outdoors. Stayed tuned for more

**April 2** The 8th graders of Holy Infant School will perform the moving story of Christ's Passion on Good Friday, at 1:30 p.m. in Church. The Stations of the Cross will follow after a period of quiet reflection.

## "Good Friday 8th grade Passion Play"

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE 4TH ANNUAL PARISH RUMMAGE RAMPAGE.

*This year the rummage sale will be held on June 19 & 20. Our core chairman is in place and is now looking for willing workers. Four hours of volunteer work allows you to shop pre-sale and working will allow you to see what you want. Call Joanne Lewis for more information (636) 458-8720. We'd love to meet you.*





## School Book Fair - Quite A Success

By JoAnn Dinkelkamp



PHOTO BY DON DINKELKAMP

### Students shopping at the Book Fair.

The Holy Infant School Library held a book fair in November that proved to be successful for the students, teachers, faculty and our library. Ms. Peg Doege, Librarian, said the benefits to Holy Infant are achieved through the efforts of all of these groups. Scholastic Publishers provided 7,000 books valued at \$30,000 for pre-school, students and adults. The sales totaled \$14,000 of which Ms. Doege has options of cash or to keep some books for her library. There were some 200 parents involved as volunteers in the Book Fair starting with decorations planned by Donna Culver, Paula Jung, Mary Hernandez and Sarah Kretschmer. These were inviting to the students and customers (parents and grandparents) who could purchase books for their children, or by checking the "Wish List" from the teachers, they could provide books for the classroom library. It stands to reason that with some 200 volunteers, someone would have to take responsibility for them and this was Karen Brewer. They, along with the teachers and Ms. Doege, send their

thanks and gratitude to all who visited and contributed to the success of the 2009 Book Fair.



PHOTO BY DON DINKELKAMP

**Confirmation Commitment Ceremony.** One hundred seventy five 8<sup>th</sup> graders took part in our parish Confirmation Commitment Ceremony. This ceremony is in preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation that will take place on May 3 at Holy Infant.



The season of Christmas can get very busy, especially for our priests, deacons and religious. Look for *Faith questions with Deacon Jim Powers* to return with our next issue.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

*This is the first year for the Holy Infant Victorian Carolers to welcome parishioners to Midnight Mass.*

### Do You Hear, from Page 3

But the Christmas message ultimately is that of hope... hope in the Lord, HOPE... in our Savior, born this Christmas Day. As you listen, we also suggest you reflect on your own "evangelization stories." Think about how, and when, and by whom, God has brought the gospel message to your life, and how He is using you, or asking you, to bring it to others in this troubled world. We hope you begin your New Year with newfound Christmas joy, renewed to love and serve the Lord." If your family didn't receive a CD gift on Christmas please call Bob Phillips at (636) 386-7473.

# FALL AND WINTER FUN !! THERE IS ALWAYS

Photos by Don

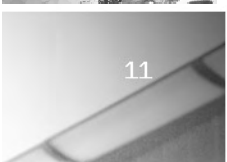
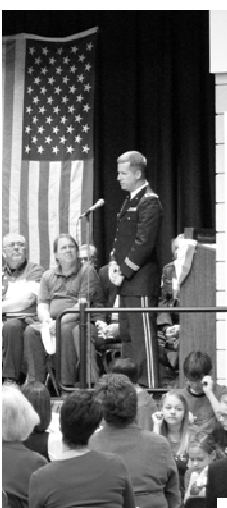
1. The Live Nativity.
2. Veteran's Day celebration.
3. Third grade exhibiting their Saints for All Saints Day.
4. Holy Infant Trunk or Treat.
5. Thanksgiving Day Food Drive.
6. Women's Club Christmas Party, "Rob Your Neighbor" gifts.
7. Advent Tea—Checking out the tea pots and goodies.
8. Book Fair Browser. (See story on page 5 of this issue.)
9. Color Guard for the Veteran's Day celebration.
10. Volunteers assist Words and Works in preparation of newsletter for mailing.
11. Holy Infant Seniors Christmas party, 2009. Joan Daues as Janette MacDonald.
12. K of C Family Night Bingo.
13. Holy Infant Seniors Christmas Party. A salute to Seniors by Seniors.





# AYS SOMETHING TO DO AT HOLY INFANT !!

n Dinkelkamp





# Evangelization: Open Wide the Doors to Christ

By Brian Fallon With Pam Miller

*We welcome Holy Infant parishioner Brian Fallon as he tells his story through the voice of evangelization. Brian is a Seminarian at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary in St. Louis. He will be ordained a priest in 2012. As you know, this seminary has prepared many priests that currently serve and will serve in our St. Louis Archdiocese. We pray that many more men will share Brian's path. In between studies, exams and all of the activities that keep Brian very busy, he recently stopped for a moment to share his voice on evangelization with us. We invite you to read Brian's story as it is just awesome!! Enjoy as we share his words with you ...*

## Where did you first learn about evangelization?

Pure and simple, the first place I learned about the faith was in my home. My parents never sat my sister and me down at the kitchen table for talks about evangelization but instead they taught us about the Gospel through their example and their love for us. This doesn't mean that my sister and I didn't get demerits or have messy rooms. We did. We also experienced arguments, cancer, and unemployment in our family. But in spite of these hardships, my parents kept teaching us about evangelization through their faith, hope, and love for us and for one another.

## How has Holy Infant helped you in your faith development?

Words cannot even begin to express how Holy Infant has had an impact in my life. My family and I have been members of Holy Infant for 16 years. During this time I have come to not only learn about my faith but experience it in action. It all began October 1993, my first year at school when a classmate made an art project with me. Although this is when my parish and school faith began to develop, it only continued and continues up to this present day. I have seen Holy Infant present in the hearts of

my priests, deacons, principal, teachers, and youth ministers, parents of friends, peers and youth whom I have been privileged to serve.

## How are you practicing evangelization now?

I try my best to practice spreading the Gospel at my parish assignment when I make communion calls, while serving as a Core member for Holy



Infant's youth ministry or when I'm involved in groups of young adults. Most often, I'm beginning to realize, evangelization is hardest when I'm tired or cranky. This is when I feel like hanging an "Out for Lunch" sign over my face and going about my day thinking only of myself. Sadly, I think we're all tempted to do this at times, but I know I really wouldn't be living the faith which I love so much.

## How have you discerned your vocation to the priesthood?

Slowly! I first thought about being a priest in sixth grade when I saw Fr. Joe Kempf roller blading through the halls of school. His joy and love of the Church made me think and eventually pray about what God wanted me to do for Him. Many other priests that have served at Holy Infant have inspired me too. Fr. Mike Boehm's

invitation to attend the summer camps at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, Fr. Vatterott's frenetic and compassionate love of people, preaching, and the priesthood, Monsignor Dempsey's sage counsel, Fr. Bannes's wit and spiritual direction, and Fr. Ebert's dedicated service and funny winter hat. These priests have each taught me something about the priesthood of Jesus Christ. To borrow a quote from Fr. Joe Welschmeyer, they've responded to God's call, "warts and all." **What challenges have you faced in your faith and discernment?**

I think the greatest challenge I have faced is perseverance. As we all know, it's hard to get up in the morning and go about our daily routines. We've also faced it in our spiritual development too. When I allow cynical thoughts to creep in I find myself saying things like, "You're 23. You could be doing this for 60 years or more!" But, in spite of frustrations in prayer, schoolwork, or even doubts if I'll be able to be a holy priest, I think of all the faithful people that have gone before me, all the priests who have gone to their eternal rest, and all those who I will be able to bring closer to Jesus, as His instrument. These thoughts help me to 'keep truckin'.' It's then that I think excitedly, "You're 23. You could be doing this for 60 years or more!"

## Are there any other thoughts that you would like to share?

I think we can all be easily scared by the sound of the word, "evangelization." The truth is anyone can do it. Pray to the Holy Spirit for guidance as to how you can proclaim the Word. You'll be amazed at how many opportunities you'll have, even in the simplest of ways!

Know of my prayers for all of you! Please keep me in yours as I inch towards ordination in 2012!

## GRATEFUL TO BE APPOINTED A DEACON AT HOLY INFANT PARISH, MY HOME PARISH

By Bill Krull

With JoAnn Dinkelkamp

I was ordained a Deacon in May 2005. My ministry at Holy Infant consisted of the following: Numerous daily readings at Mass, both before and after Ordination. After Ordination, I was able to read the Gospel readings on Solemnities while assisting at Mass. Being a Deacon provided opportunities for service at Holy Infant. On Tuesday evenings, I lead the Perpetual Help Devotions and held Benediction. Regular hospital calls each week and leading Nursing Home Communion services two or three times a month, as

well as administering the Sacrament of Baptism every other month, were services I looked forward to. Also I was, and am, chaplain of the Legion of Mary. We meet each Friday morning in the Holy Infant room.

Some other services that I have done as Deacon are: being a chaplain at Lambert Airport as part of their airport ministry. I have assisted the Missionaries of Charity with their after school activities and then provided transportation for the children to their homes. At St. Peter and Paul Homeless Shelter, I lead their Bible Study at night, usually on a weekly basis.

Other activities were monthly staff meetings, continuing education classes, PSR classes, etc., etc., etc. I have loved doing all these things, and can honestly say that I did not like any one thing better than another.

Deacons are Ordained for the Word, Sacrament, and Service with an emphasis on Service. If a man has a calling for the Diaconate or Priesthood, he should answer the call. I believe it will be the love of his life. It is a privilege to be blessed with the Sacrament of Holy Orders.

Monsignor Dempsey stated, "Bill Krull entered

the permanent deacon program in 2001 and was ordained deacon in 2005. He served as a permanent deacon at Holy Infant from that time until the present. Bill did outstanding work visiting hospitals and nursing homes. He has an outstanding devotion to the Blessed Mother and led Perpetual Help devotions and the Legion of Mary for years. He served as deacon at the 5:30 Saturday evening Mass. Bill has served the Archdiocese and Holy Infant well. While we know that he certainly deserves retirement, we all hate to see him leave the active ministry of deacon."

## HOLY INFANT'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

by Tracey J. McHugh

If you are looking for a group to join that is very involved in the Church, look no further than the Knights of Columbus. The Knights contribute to many of the Church's events, including the **BBQ's, Adult Bingo and Horse Racing**. They also support charities such as **St. Vincent De Paul, Vitae Foundation** and the **MR Drive** for the mentally challenged. **Holy Infant School** is another recipient of the Knights' support from scholarships which students receive when entering a Catholic High School.

More recently, the Knights have earned the distinction of **Star Council** for the 2008-2009 fraternal years. It is one of the organization's top awards that recognizes overall excellence in the areas of membership, fraternal insurance program and sponsorship of service-oriented activities. "Receiving the Star Council Award is quite an honor for us. We're extremely proud of this accomplishment", said Tom Wardenburg, Grand Knight of the Holy Infant Council 10794.

Here are a few upcoming events that are open to every-

one:

**January 23, 2010 - Adult Bingo** in the Upper Cafeteria. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

**January 24, 2010 - Knights of Columbus OPEN HOUSE.** Watch the AFC and NFC **playoff games** on the BIG screen TV in the lower cafeteria beginning at 1:00 p.m. Catholic men 18 and over are invited to attend.

**May 1, 2010 - Adult Bingo** in the Upper Cafeteria. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

**May 15, 2010 - Knights BBQ** in the Upper Cafeteria from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Also, for all of the chefs out there, check out the Knights' **Cookbook** for \$20 with over **500 recipes**. See the representative at the script table in the Church Lobby after Mass or contact Tom Wardenburg at (636) 391-0794.

You can always find the Knights' events and their scheduled times in the weekly Church Bulletin. Interested in becoming a Knight? Contact Tom Wardenburg, Grand Knight at (636) 391-0794 or [rmw1947@cs.com](mailto:rmw1947@cs.com).

# AN ELEMENTAL INSIGHT INTO PARISH COUNCIL

By Kathie Hanneke

Key words jump out when you read the Mission Statement of the Parish Council in the Holy Infant Guide Book & Directory: to assist the pastor; to be a representative voice of the parishioners; to serve as leaders in the parish community, and to implement the decisions made by the Parish Council. These words imply that those involved are people who are dedicated to Holy Infant and who believe in doing rather than just talking.

The Parish Council is made up of all three resident priests, Sister Rosario, Principal of the day school, Patricia Foley, Director of Religious Education, and nine lay members of the parish. The Council assists the pastor by serving as a consultative body and helps execute the directives that result from the collaboration of staff, clergy and laypeople on the Council. This collaboration is essential to the vitality of the parish and allows an open, orderly exchange of ideas between the pastor and the representatives of the parish.

The current Council, which meets on the first Thursday of the month from September to June, will continue to focus on implementation of the Parish Strategic Plan and its five core principles, specifically focusing on the Evangelization principle. The Council wants to find ways to bring back parishioners who have strayed from the Church, who are not attending Mass on a regular basis, or who are not involved in parish activities.

To implement the Strategic Plan, five steering committees were created for each core principle of the Plan: Spiritual Growth, Outreach, Education, Stewardship and Evangelization. Each steering committee is composed of lay people from the

parish who are not on the Council. Each committee is assigned a liaison from the Parish Council. These liaisons are non-officers of the Council and attend each meeting of their respective steering committee which meets 4-6 times per year. They then report their committee's progress to the Parish Council at each monthly meeting.

A typical meeting which lasts one and a half to two hours is opened with a prayer and the minutes of the previous meeting are read. After all approve the minutes, Sr. Rosario gives an update on the day school and Monsignor Dempsey reports on the status of the parish. The remainder of the meeting consists of reports from the steering committee liaisons, new and current council business and possibly a presentation from various parish committees or ministries.

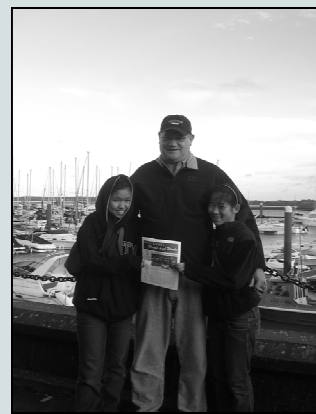
Lay members of the Parish Council serve a three-year term. Each April, there are requests posted in the bulletin for nominations. One can nominate himself/herself. All nominees are contacted to determine eligibility: must be over 21 years of age and a registered member of Holy Infant for at least one year. Those eligible for election to the Council are invited to an "Evening of Discernment" in May. The Sunday after this meeting, Monsignor will pick two names out of a hat containing the names of those wanting to serve. He then picks a third member on his own. Therefore, of the nine lay members, six are picked at random from the nominees and Monsignor chooses three. So the progression would be: as three members are completing their third year of service, three more would be beginning their terms. There are nine lay members at all times to properly represent the

people of the parish.

Karen Dunne, a Parish Council member and mother of children in the parish day school, feels it is important to have parents on the Council representing the needs of the children. She stated it is important to have all age groups represented on the Council, but it is hard to get the younger parents involved in this vital ministry.

If you are eligible and interested to be on the Parish Council, please submit your name when the appeals for nominations are made next April. The parish needs people willing to invest their time and talents to assist the pastor by representing fellow parishioners on the Parish Council. If you have any questions regarding this important ministry, call Steve Nicholson, Council President, at (636) 405-0795.

## WORDS AND WORKS GOES TO IRELAND



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY PAMELA MILLER

*Words and Works* in Malahide, Ireland, home of Sister Rosario! The James Miller Family on a recent trip to Ireland. Samantha and Christina stand with their dad before the Irish Sea holding a recent edition of the newsletter.





## Regular Mass Schedule

### Sunday Obligation

Saturday: 4 p.m. and 5:30  
p.m.

Sunday: 7 a.m., 8:30 a.m.,  
10:15 a.m. and noon

### Weekday Masses

Monday-Friday: 6 a.m. and  
8 a.m.; Saturday 8 a.m.

### Holy Day Masses

Please check the bulletin or  
call the rectory to check  
times for Holy Day  
Masses.

### Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

24 hours, 7 days a week.  
Enter the chapel through  
the main lobby.

## Holy Infant Church

627 Dennison Drive, Ballwin MO 63021-4898

Rectory: (636) 227-7440 FAX (636) 227-4548

Website: [www.holyinfantballwin.org](http://www.holyinfantballwin.org)

### Pastoral Staff

Msgr. Thomas J. Dempsey . . . . . Pastor

Father Mark S. Ebert . . . . . Senior Associate Pastor

Father Timothy L. Bannes . . . . . Associate Pastor

Deacon Kenneth Clemens . . . . . Permanent Deacon

### Rectory Office Hours

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Closed for lunch from noon -1 p.m.

### Ministry to the Homebound

Please call the rectory if you are ill at home or in the hospital or  
nursing facility and would like Communion brought to you. Volunteers  
also are available to help in other ways.

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Ballwin, MO 63021-4898