

Pope John XXIII Catholic Community

Newsletter for July, 2002

Volume 2, Issue 3

CAPITOL FUND DRIVE -- A HUGE SUCCESS

By Msgr. Frecker



Tallying the pledges

When the Campus Planning Committee presented our Master Plan to our Parish, and then to the Diocese, they were aware of the main problem in financing Phase One construction. Because of the expectation for rapid growth, a rather small community needs to build a rather large building. The solution to this problem required two elements: a) an exceptional fund drive on the part of the present parishioners, and b) a loan from the Diocese that extended the repayment period to allow those who will become parishioners in the future to help finance Phase One. We are thankful to the Diocese for their generosity. The Bishop has approved the Loan, extended the repayment period, and given us the first three years interest free so that during that time every dollar collected goes to reduce the principle. But the generosity of the Diocese in no way diminishes the outstanding generosity of our own parishioners.

The goal of our "Many Gifts - One Spirit" fund drive was set based on the interviews, and surveys which were conducted by the Campus Planning

Committee. In other words, we set the goal at \$800,000.00 to \$1,000,000.00 because that is what you our parishioners said you would give. Never let it be said that I do not trust your word, but I have to admit that I thought that goal to be exceptionally challenging. Many parishes our size were setting goals closer to \$500,000.00 and parishes with goals similar to ours were two thirds larger in number of parishioners.

I was encouraged when the Fundraising Steering Committee was formed, and began to recruit area leaders and home visitors. The amazing generosity of parishioners in volunteering to help boded well for generosity in pledges as well. For our campaign to be successful, we needed an outstanding performance in two key areas: a) percent of participation and b) average gift amount.



The results of this fund drive should be a cause for pride on the part of our Parish. Amazingly, 78% of our parishioners responded with a gift, and in spite of this extremely high participation, the average gift was still \$3,460.

The total pledged was app. \$825,000.00. These results are phenomenal, and are a tribute to the commitment Pope John XXIII parishioners have to their Parish Council.

The only thing left to do (other than the pledge payment, of course) is to say THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU. You never cease to make me proud to be your pastor.

MSGR. A. ANTHONY FRECKER'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

(The following is a letter from Fred and Teresa Frecker)

Dear Parishioners of Pope John XXIII
We would like to thank the parishioners of Pope John XXIII for their generous invitation to Father Tony's 30th anniversary celebration this past May 26th. It was an outstanding event by any measure. The food and hors'douvers were so delicious with one seemingly never able to find the bottom of the bowl - the food just kept coming and coming! Heidi (Father Tony's dog) certainly gave it her vote of approval. What people didn't give her, she stole from the toddlers as they walked around with food in their hands.

What a nice surprise it was to see some of the friends we had made from Father Tony's pervious parish in Chillicothe. We enjoyed renewing these friendships, as we had not seen most of those folks for quite some time. You were most generous to have included them in your celebration. We also enjoyed visiting with some of the Pope John XXIII parishioners we already knew such as our cousin Steve Frecker and his wife Susan, Jackie Christensen, Regina and Deacon Pry.
(Continued, see "Anniversary" page 8)

CONFIRMATION - SEEDS HAVE BEEN PLANTED

By Therese Ritchey

In March of 2002 Deacon Pry, Nancy Congelio, and I had the opportunity to meet with nineteen of the adolescents from our parish and two adults who wished to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. We met every other Saturday for three months discussing the sacrament.

It began as a difficult task. Many of the students didn't understand the sacrament. Many students felt that confirmation was just something they were supposed to do. Some said, "Everyone else in my family has done it. Now it's my turn."

At every meeting, Nancy and I would explain to the group ways that the Holy Spirit works in our lives. We asked the group to look for ways He works in theirs. Deacon Pry had the pleasure of hearing that the Holy Spirit was working among the students. He was informed that one of the youth in our group had extended a courtesy to another in our group during the regular school day. We as adults could see the Spirit working, but could the youth?

As time went on some students began to get more serious about their studies. Others were still just going through the motions. But on the day of our retreat, we started to see some changes in attitudes. We asked the students to invite their sponsors. The sponsor's attendance lead to on of the most productive meetings we had. We opened our day with fun activities such as playing some wonderful games that Nancy had found. We had the most fun playing Bible Pictionary. The students made a banner that was hung at the confirmation ceremony. Then we got down to some more serious work. While the students made the banner, I met with the sponsors. We watched a video about how to discuss this sacrament with the youth. Then we paired the sponsors

with their candidates and sent them on a "sponsor walk." It was during this time that many of the student's attitudes about confirmation changed. Thanks to the exceptional job the sponsors did, many of the students received a closer and more personal look at the importance of this sacrament. In an evaluation of the experience afterward, many students said that the "sponsor walk" was the best part for them.



Finally, the big day arrived! Bishop Griffith visited our parish on May 12, 2002 to confirm our first confirmation class at Pope John XXIII. Nancy and I watched with tears in our eyes. We knew that even if the candidates did not fully understand what was going on, we had done our best to sow the seeds of the Holy Spirit, knowing one-day, they would bloom!



However, our work is not yet done. It is up to you and to me to continue to cultivate the harvest. We all need to be examples of the Holy Spirit. We need to let others see Him working through us. When the newly confirmed see these examples, the seeds that have been planted in them will grow.

Those confirmed on May 12, 2002 were, Keith Breeckner, Caitlin Breiteneicher, Jennifer Daniel, Justin

Fessler, Gary Hoffman, David Horn, Evan Kahrig, Megan Klise, Nicole Klise, Kristen Lang, Crissa Moriconi, Lisa Morton, Adrienne Persichetti, Jason Raine, Mark Ranalli, Zach Roberts, Ben Santo, David Sicilian, Abbey Spurlock, Patty Stevens, and Nikki White.



A Pope John Moment

When the death of Pope John XXIII was announced on the radio, the love of people for Pope John was revealed when a delicatessen man on Sixth Avenue in New York City ran from his place of business with tears streaming down his face shouting for all to hear, "We have lost our Pope; now what shall we do?" He was Jewish.

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BUILDING PLANNING COMMITTEE

By Sharon Myers

“Once upon a time, between the two villages of Canal Winchester and Lithopolis, Ohio there came to be built a parish community to house the people of God. Land was provided to form the campus and buildings were built to support and serve the people in their mission. God called people from far and wide with knowledge and insight needed to build this community and they came willing, miraculously, in response to their vocational calling. The parish grew quickly and flourished in its service to the communities by which it was surrounded. And the community accomplished wonderful things.”

Above is a fictional excerpt from a prophesized story, similar to one that will inevitably be written about our parish community, Pope John XXIII Parish. As much as this story has resemblance to a fairy tale, we have been blessed with the knowledge that this ‘story’ is in fact, what we are actually living and witnessing to today.

What has continued to amaze me about our parish is how the people have come. There is nothing that I believe more strongly than that our parish family has been called together by God. The people have continued to come, blessed with gifts for all of our community’s needs. I cannot recall anytime in my life where I have witnessed a community so deeply and richly blessed in gifts from God and I am grateful beyond what I could possibly express in a brief article.

These blessing could not be any more clear to me than the people that have been provided to our parish for service to the Campus Planning Committee and the Building Planning Committee (BPC). The parish continues to receive current updates on the activities of the BPC in the weekly mass bulletins. In the bulletins, the names of BPC

members are named. The names, however, do not begin to illuminate the true nature of the gifts the committee possesses in order to serve our community. I would like to share some information on the committee members so that all of you feel as grateful and confident in the service this committee will provide to our parish in the task of planning and building the first phase of our Campus Plan.

> **Monsignor A. Anthony Frecker** is the spiritual and liturgical leader for our parish and for the building planning committee. Monsignor has been called by God to serve His people and we are most grateful for him. His leadership, excitement, commitment, dedication, love, and patience have been invaluable to the work of the building planning committee as well as the campus planning committee.

> **Sharon Myers** is an Ohio Registered Architect and Certified Plans Examiner for the State of Ohio. She has over 15 years of experience as an architect and has over 7 years of experience working for the state’s building department that regulates construction throughout the state where there is no local Certified Building Department. In her duties as a Plans Examiner for the state, she is responsible for reviewing construction documents for compliance with the Ohio Building Code and all of the referenced design and industry standards. Sharon has accepted the position of chairperson for the BPC.

> **Drew Sanderell** is a civil engineering designer and technician. He has extensive experience in land topography analysis and design and site utilities design. Drew is the Co-chairperson of the BPC and is the

co-chairperson of the site/utility subcommittee.

> **Bob Diebel** and **Pat Davis** are the representatives from the Diocese of Columbus and are Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of Buildings, respectively. Bob has served the Diocese for 10 years and has many years of experience in the construction industry. Pat is new to the Diocesan office; however, he has been involved in St. Brendan’s Parish building committee as a parishioner and has 25 years of experience in the construction industry.

> **Larry Felts** is an Ohio Registered Land Surveyor and works for Ahlers, Moe, and Associates located in Canal Winchester. Larry is the co-chairperson of the site/utility subcommittee and is responsible coordinating the zoning issues for our construction.

> **Joe Gantner** has experience working in the construction industry for over 40 years. Joe is a construction manager with Hanlin Ranaldi, Inc., a construction firm based in Columbus.

> **Regina Hrytzik** is the Administrative Assistant for our parish. She has 42 years experience in office administration including four years diocesan/church administration work. Regina is the primary communications contact and liaison for the BPC and all of the entities to which the committee interacts.

> **Bernie Lang** is the owner operator of Basil Lumber Company of Baltimore, Ohio. His family has been owners of this company and involved in construction for the last 120 years. Bernie has extensive experience with the construction industry in planning, material

provisions, and the construction process. Bernie is the liaison for the Administration Commission.

- > **Steve Lukezich** is a Metallurgical Engineer with Mead Westvaco. One of Steve's primary responsibilities is to coordinate construction projects and contracts for the company.
- > **Joe McAndrews** is a kitchen equipment designer and has worked in the kitchen equipment supply business. Joe currently works for Wasserstrom, Inc., a leading kitchen design and equipment supply company for both commercial and custom residential kitchens.
- > **Laura Miller** is a member of our parish and has experience in the study of religious spaces. She also has extensive experience in acoustical design and music composition.
- > **Helmut Naunheimer** is a private consultant for the BPC and the building fundraising committees. Helmut has over 30 years of experience in development, planning, and building projects.
- > **Mark Ranalli** is an engineering technician with Stilson Engineering, a civil design, and engineering firm in Columbus. Mark has accepted the position as chair of the technology sub-committee.
- > **Peig Shakelford** is a corporate attorney for an industrial construction company located in the Pataskala area. Peig is the designated liaison for the BPC with the parish council and serves as President of our Parish Council.

After reading over the brief summaries of the committee members, I'm sure that you are all as amazed by the diverse talents and skills of the committee, as I am that we have been given these people by God. The level of vocational calling is not limited to these specifically mentioned BPC members. There are many sub-committees and other parish committees the support the BPC in

their tasks and planning. When looking at the overall task of planning our campus and the needs of our parish, each family has been responsible for the direction to which *the BPC now leads us in. The parish surveys that were completed, now over one year ago, established the direction for the growth our community and it is at this truest and most basic level that God has called us all.*

PARISH REPORTER INTERVIEWS

STEVE ORGAN



Steve Talking with Msgr. at a Parish Commissions Meeting

Hi Steve. So glad we could meet today for our interview. I am the parish's anonymous reporter.

Steve: You're not anonymous now. (We both laugh.)

We want to know more about you, as a member of parish council. We can ease into the interview with general questions, or, we can start off with gusto and go with a 'stir the pot' question. Your choice.

Steve: Let's start with one of those.

Great. Do you have a 'Walter Mitty' fantasy?

Steve: You mean, if I could do whatever I wanted and did not have to concern myself with earning a living—what would I want to do?

(I nod yes.)

Steve: I like high adventure and travel. I'd strap on a backpack and disappear into the jungle for weeks or months. *(I am stunned by his answer; nevertheless, Steve continues, unfazed.)* I'd canoe the Amazon, climb Mt. Everest, go to North and South poles, trek through South America, and explore Iceland.

With just a backpack? (I'm still speechless.)

Steve: Yes. I don't want to be at the Marriott.

(At a loss for words, I blurt out the first thing that comes to mind—my own fear.) Steve, suppose you were in the Amazon rain forest, trekking through the wild brush and overgrown vegetation, and you come—face to face—with an unknown primitive pygmy cannibal tribe. What would you do?

Steve: I don't know. That would be the highest adventure, wouldn't it? I'd find it absolutely interesting, and hope I didn't look like supper. (Here we both chuckle.) But wouldn't trying to communicate with a primitive tribe be the real experience?

(I nod yes. What else could a 'scaredy-cat' do?) Would this be a time you would not want to be alone on this 'high adventure'?

Steve: Not necessarily. I would do it alone. But it is nice having friends at camp to share the day's adventure.

*Is there any place you would **not** want to go?*

Steve: Paris. (Here, Steve laughs, **knowing** this is a surprise answer.) I know everybody wants to go to Paris, and maybe I would really like Paris, but.... Oh, I know a place I would **not** want to go—I just thought of it—it's Nebraska. I've been there too often and I thought I would never get through the state. All I saw was cows, flies, and 8 hours of driving. To give you an idea of how we felt about Nebraska: when we crossed into Iowa, we celebrated.

Iowa?? (Both of us laughing now.) Celebrate making it to Iowa? Isn't it very agricultural too?

Steve: I hope I haven't offended anybody—there may be some Nebraskans here who may take offense. But we would be driving through Nebraska and we would see these dark clouds, about 15 feet ahead of us. They seemed out of place and

we were sure they were not rain clouds. We tried to figure out what they were, and, as we approached the clouds, we discovered they were huge swarms of flies. So many flies we had to pull over and clean the windshield—just to see to drive.

Well, now I know why you celebrated Iowa. I think, Steve, you really have the ‘wanderlust.’ Have you read about the expedition to Mt. Everest a few years ago that ended tragically?

Steve: Yes, I have. The book is, *In Thin Air* by Krakow. It’s a great book. Have you read it?

No, although I have seen documentaries on the expedition, as well as interviews with the survivors. I was impressed with them—they each spoke profoundly and sparingly.

Steve: The physician, he was from Texas, is my hero. He was meant to survive.

Doesn’t it astonish you how pivotal a cell phone can become in a time of crisis?

Steve: Yes. Definitely. I never go on any adventure without my cell phone. I remember the time when my daughter, who was about 22 at the time, was with me in the wilderness in Wyoming, and we were camped above 10,000 feet, well above the tree line. I got deathly ill in the middle of the night, about 1:00 or 2:00 am, and I was out of the tent, lying on the grass, in excruciating pain. I was a little scared. She ministered to me all night and about 5:30 am, she got me situated and as comfortable as I could get (which wasn’t), and told me she was going for help. We were 20 miles from the car—where the cell phone was.

Oh! That’s a predicament! How was she able to make her way?

Steve: She had a compass and topographical maps, and my daughter is strong mentally and physically. She made the 20-mile trip in 5 hours, an unheard of accomplishment, alternating between running and jogging. When she got to the car, she used the cell phone to call the local

sheriff and explain my situation. When the rescue helicopter pilot asked my daughter for distinguishing landmarks to find my location, she opened up her topographical map, and literally, pinpointed my exact location. The next thing I remember is hearing the ‘whirr’ of the copter blades as it flew over me and landed. So, my daughter, always the light of my life and best friend, is also my hero.

Whew!! That’s some story. So, Steve, was it appendicitis?

Steve: No, although I thought so too. It was kidney.

What a remarkable young woman! Tell me more about her.

Steve: Her name is Sonya and her husband is Ted Slater, a resident at Thomas Jefferson Hospital in Philadelphia, PA. He is training to be an ER doctor—now **that’s** high adventure!

Agreed! What kind of work does Sonya do?

Steve: She’s working on her doctorate in psychology and busy writing her dissertation.

How does she hope to use her PhD?

Steve: She is interested in the criminal justice system, evaluating the mental states of prisoners, although her dissertation is not directly related to this.

How proud you must be of her, and your son-in-law. Deservedly so. Do they have children?

Steve: Not yet, and I am getting impatient.

Do you have any other children?

Steve: A son, Nick, who is 27 and lives in San Diego. We call him ‘Nick’ but actually his name is “Nicheren”.

Very unusual name. How did he get that?

Steve: I don’t really know. Nick is adopted. He is predominantly Native American Indian, a Paiute, with some Black and Mexican. “Nicheren” was his name from birth.

Is there a story about how you adopted?

Steve: Yes. We were young and idealistic and thought we should not have any more biological children when there were so many children available for adoption who needed a home. And we had Sonya.

Not many Indian babies in Ohio for adoption. How did you meet Nick?

Steve: We were at a family reunion, and my aunt and uncle, who were foster parents, were there with Nick. He was about 6 years old, dressed in cowboy boots, and wandering around, just looking, with a nerf football in hand. So, I started talking to him, complimenting his cowboy boots, and we began tossing the football. I thought he was adorable, with his big generous grin. On the way home, I thought how much I would love to have a son like him. Several months later, I was visiting my grandfather, and my aunt and uncle were there, with Nick. I had told them how we were considering adoption, and how we would love to adopt Nick. Coincidentally, he was available for adoption, they told me, and they put me in touch with his social worker in Delaware, OH. It was just meant to be

So, how is Nick doing?

Steve: Good. He’s getting there. He and his fiancée have a 4-year-old daughter, Shaynissa.

Is his fiancée, your daughter in law, Indian too?

Steve: No. Puerto Rican.

How interesting. You know, Steve, as an aside, I have always been drawn to the Latino and Hispanic cultures; I enjoy being with them and around them.

Steve: I know what you mean. We had two Brazilian exchange students and they were passionate people-- affectionate, huggers, and so open--they embrace life.

Sounds just like our parish. So, how did you get to John XXIII?

(“Steve Organ” continued on page 6.)

Steve: I attended St. Mary's for 16 years. When we heard about the new parish, I went to the town hall meeting and that was it! Next thing, I was on the Parish Activities Committee and then, the *next thing*, I was the chairperson for our first parish picnic.

Now, that's more our idea of an adventure!

Steve: (Steve smiles agreeably and then continues.) I have, at the present time, an unsettled personal situation that causes me to be distracted and unfocused. No end in sight, although I keep reminding myself it will someday be better. When I'm away from our parish for a while (I'm now living in Mt. Vernon), I think maybe my involvement in the parish is not so important. Then when I come down here, say for Mass, I miss not being here. I get encouraging pep talks from commission members and also from council. Then, I say to myself, 'I like it here, and here is where I want to be'. That's just what I was thinking driving here today. Gosh, some of my fellow parishioners I have known for 30 years.

Thirty Years--that's some history! How has it been to be on Parish Council?

Steve: Rewarding and fulfilling. Unfortunately, with the changes in my personal life, I have not participated as fully as I hoped. But, to be a part of something—with the level of enthusiasm and inclusiveness in our parish—was an eye opener for me. Being involved in the parish, well, it's more than going to Mass, and that's not saying anything less about going to Mass, because we know how central Mass is. But being a part of parish life--when the parish is evolving, developing its personality, its character, so to speak--is exciting and rewarding.

You make the point about parish involvement very well. What about something brief on your work?

Steve: I'm with IBM, in Finance and Business operations. (*I nod to encourage more dialogue.*)

I've had many job changes in my 29 years with IBM: from emergency

parts for computers when computers were mostly mechanical in the 70's to being area Finance Advocate (that's IBM's term) over several states and being responsible for a \$300 million budget.

Impressive! Sounds important too. Do I sense more talents here for John XXIII parish?

Steve: (Smiling.) I think I would find that enjoyable.

How would you finish this sentence: "Something people may not know about me is...."

Steve: I'm not sure I can answer that. Ok. I am shy. When I was a young man, I was painfully shy. And now, with the state of my personal life, I am even more cautious. For instance, attending the mid-winter party, I am not the type to walk up to a group and introduce myself.

*I understand. (A little pause.) Ready for another 'stir the pot' question? (He nods 'yes'.) And to lead into it, Steve, I need to set it in context. Whenever I hear a person say something to this effect, "I may not know much, but **one** thing I know for sure is....", I listen. I'm always interested in that kernel of certitude. So, Steve, within that context, can you tell me **one** thing you know for sure?*

Steve: (Without hesitating or pausing.) One thing I know for sure is this: no matter how much I get derailed, go off into the ditch, or how much I may try to sabotage God's working within me, no matter what, I know for sure God never gives up on me.

What a mighty truth! Were you raised traditional catholic?

Steve: No. Growing up my parents would go to church at Christmas and maybe Easter. Attending church wasn't important, and we didn't have a definite church, although we may have attended Methodist more often.

So, how did you get catholic?

Steve: When I was 30, I started going to church, primarily for the children. When I was 35, I said to myself, 'the Catholic Church fits'. I had a sense of

guilt—I'm not sure 'guilt' is the right word—about not being in the church. Something was missing, this I knew. But I also had this sense of being unworthy.

How extraordinary to be aware that 'something was missing'. What a great grace!

Steve: I think that's right. But we all have an encounter with Jesus sometime in our life.

How do you mean 'an encounter'?

Steve: I remember my encounter so clearly. It was Easter Vigil and I was going to be baptized that evening. It happened as I got into my car--I was going out to bike before the evening service--I had this awareness, you know, a revelation that just overcame me. (Steve pauses.) It was as if Jesus were saying to me "you are doing the right thing." No voices--but it was as clear as could be. (Another pause.) What I 'got' from that revelation was that God liked me as much as anybody else. (Again, Steve hesitates, and his voice trails off.) I don't think I can say it just right

That is remarkable, Steve. And your way of saying it is just right.

Steve: My baptism that Easter Vigil was incredibly special. I will never forget it. Overwhelming! (Steve becomes quiet.) I feel something special for our candidates as they leave for RCIA. I am always happy for them. I love seeing them, week in and week out, faithfully attending.

(A stillness settles between us, and for a few moments, neither one speaks.) *Many thanks, Steve, for your candid and open interview. We have a memorable snapshot of your journey to us.*

Steve: You're welcome. Hope I didn't take too much of your time. (*I nod 'no'.*) Now, about your anonymity. Where do I sign? What? No confidentiality agreement?

Steve and the reporter laugh, and with that light comment, conclude the interview.

**PARISH RETREAT - MONSIGNOR
MAKES MEDITERRANEAN MISSION
REMARK MEMORABLE**

By Terry Moore

Thirty-nine members of Pope John XXIII parish community met the four-crew staff at the Retreat House of St. Teresa Shrine on East Broad Street the first weekend in June. It reminded me of a cruise, a religious cruise with our patron saint as our theme.



Skipper & Cruise Director

The Monsignor, our Skipper, was in rare form and made all of his passengers feel quite welcome. Our Cruise Director, Regina, was the hostess with the mostest and handled everyone's needs admirably. On board was a beautiful chapel complete with stain glass, tabernacle, pews, and yes – kneelers. The dining area and food, like most cruises, was wonderful. Some were even given a galley tour. Displayed on the Promenade deck was a marvelous art show all three days. The Sky Deck had a walking path, Stations of the Cross, a beautiful waterfall, and ample seating to enjoy God's wonders of nature and a place to look within ourselves to see where we are on our faith journey.

Our seminars dealt with the life of Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli - as a child and his humble beginnings, as a diplomat for 28 years in the Balkans and France, as Patriarch Archbishop of Venice and finally, his Vatican stay as Pope John XXIII.

We learned where his love of family came from and how that led him to be the "People's Pope," his concern

for the workingman, and how to negotiate with a fair and equal outcome.

From his life, we learned how to gain wisdom, love, peace, humility, and eternal life. Also how God's grace truly made his mind and heart turn him into the remarkable Shepard Pope John became.

There are a lot of marvelous things that only those who attend can appreciate, so mark your calendars for December 13, 14 & 15, 2002 for the next boarding.

YOU WON'T REGRET IT!



Monsignor Giving a Presentation



Quiet Reflection



Small Group Faith Sharing



Prayer Service



Worshiping at Mass



Having Meals Together



Strengthening Friendships



Making New Friends

We are the CHURCH



**POPE JOHN XXIII CATHOLIC
COMMUNITY CELEBRATES FIRST
COMMUNION**

By Sheryl Gerkin

“As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ.”

I Corinthians 12:12

The body of the church was blessed and grew by 14 new members on Sunday, May 19, 2002. Pope John XXIII parish, under the direction of Monsignor Frecker and Deacon Pry, received those new members as they celebrated their First Communion.

Seated along both sides of the aisle and holding white carnations, the faces of the communicants were truly an expression of Christ's love, as they and their families took part in all aspects of the mass. Dressed in the traditional white dresses with veils, or in their finest suits, shirts, and ties; the communicants processed during the entrance hymn and brought up the gifts of wine, bread, and tithe.

Those who received the Blessed Sacrament were: Michale Carolyn

Adams, Nicholas Joseph Bartlett, Orlando Antonio Basanta, Andrew Edward Beiter, Cassandra Anne Beiter, Amanda Sue Browning, Gunnar Drumm, Zachary Drumm, Hayley Lynn Gross, Jordan Cherise Henslee, Joseph Robert Humphrey, Zachary Kenneth Luft, Charles William Lawrence Miller, Joseph Leo Rumora, Dominic Andrew Sicilian, and Brooke Elizabeth Spelman.

After the mass, Mrs. Laura Miller gave each First Communicant an embroidered white cloth, personalized with their names and the date of their First Communion. Celebrations with family and friends continued after Mass in various locations.

(“Anniversary” continued from Page 1.)

It was also a most pleasant afternoon for Father Tony's mother and eldest brother. Because of their age and limited mobility, they do not get out often and it was so nice for them to have something to look forward to and then attend. But the nicest thing of all was the hospitality

shown by the people of the parish. Most came up, introduced

themselves to us, and made us feel welcome. Thank you so much for that. We are very proud of Father Tony and its obvious that you love him as we do. Thanks again for including us in your celebration.

Sincerely,

Fred and Teresa Frecker

