

PAX

CHRISTI

Catholic Community

952-941-3150 • www.paxchristi.com • Epiphany of the Lord • January 8, 2012

MY FRIENDS: NEW VERSUS CLASSIC COKE

-Fr. Patrick Kennedy



Many years ago, some people at the Coca-Cola Company decided to change the long-standing, highly successful and probably pretty profitable recipe for Coke. I am not sure what the motivation was, but the change was made and the "new" Coke recipe was inaugurated and highly pushed and touted as the next best Coke around. It flopped and was a huge blunder on the part of the Coke Company. After initial reviews, they dug out the old recipe, began can-

ning it again under its new name, "Classic Coke." Nobody bought the other stuff. It died a slow death, and ultimately they took the name "classic" off the can of the older stuff and threw the new recipe away returning to the tried and true product. Now while this may be a stretch, it seems, at least from my perspective, the new Roman Missal is not getting rave reviews.

As you know, we at Pax Christi went through an enormous catechesis program, not just on the New Roman Missal, but to use its inauguration as an opportunity for this community to deepen our understanding of the Eucharist which as we know is the "summit and source of our lives" as Catholics. Again, I want to commend all of those who painstakingly prepared the videos we watched and pondered for 25 weeks during Lent and throughout the summer and autumn months last year. I believe we took seriously our responsibility as a Catholic Community to inform ourselves and become enlightened about the changes being made in the texts of the Mass but more importantly, to use the time prior to the First Sunday of Advent to think through how integral the Eucharist is to our Catholic life.

We have been using the new Missal for about a month now, and I have been reflecting on how I believe it seems to be appreciated, understood, and accepted by the Community and by those of us who pray out of it each time we offer the Eucharist. I know you are still mixing, "And with your Spirit," with "And also with you," but by and large, I think that the changes in the people's parts aren't so bad. They will become more natural over time. What you may or may not have noticed is the trouble that Frs. Bill, Steve, and I have been having with the changes in our parts.

Over the holidays, I went back and dug out the *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* and re-read the document promulgated by Pope Paul VI on December 4, 1963. I wasn't looking for anything in particular, but I was hoping to be able to understand how this new Roman Missal came to be from the perspective of that document issued so long ago but still very much in effect today. I also wanted to refresh my memory and to try to make sense out of some of the challenges I am having in using this new Missal.

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**Mission Statement:**

Pax Christi Catholic

Community, in company with God, and guided by the Spirit of Vatican II, welcomes all as leaders in faith for service to the world.

Vision Statement:

Pax Christi Catholic Community will be a community guided by a cooperative spirit that supports growth in faith and calls for each member to engage in active and generous service to each other, our community, and the greater world.

Values:

God-Centered, Justice, Inclusive, Hospitality, Lifelong Learning, and Stewardship

Actually, my first thought after reading this Constitution is how timeless it seems. The Second Vatican Council was a milestone in the life of the Church. The documents promulgated are wonderful to read and ponder as the Church proceeds in the 21st Century. In this particular document on the Liturgy written in 1963, the Council Fathers and Pope Paul VI reaffirmed the rich and abiding life that flows from the Eucharist and our participation in it.

It also confirmed the role the Bishops have as “pastors of souls” to ensure that the people that are ordained to lead will always know and grow in a love for the Eucharist which forms and shapes Communities of faith throughout the Universal Church.

The document also reminds and encourages each generation of believers that our inspiration and our hopefulness, our ability to love and serve is directly related to our celebration of this Sacrament, and further, every generation is called to be attentive to the grace received when we come prepared to celebrate together. One of the tremendous gifts of the Council was to allow the Eucharist to be celebrated in the native tongue of Catholics throughout the world. I remember this monumental change did not sit well with my parents’ generation as I was growing up. Latin had been the language of the Mass. Latin created an aura and mystery that people thought was stripped away when Mass started being in English. On top of that, they were asked to start singing, too! For many, it was way over the top. But over time, the beauty of being able to fully participate in the Eucharist took hold and became a life-giving experience for those who came together in worship. And maybe, given enough time, the new translation of the Roman Missal will be the same.

However, there are some things that may not be easily remedied with time. For example, the orations (priest’s prayers) are very cumbersome, and in an effort to infuse lofty words about God into the texts, they are simply run-on sentences that are difficult to pray and impossible to disguise

as anything but run-on sentences. It has been customary that Latin prayers are one sentence long – one sentence with many clauses. The three prayers of the priest, the Collect, Prayer over the Offerings, and Prayer after Communion, make little sense as they are prayed simply because of the way they are written. I find them hard to follow. I am not sure if the people are understanding them, but if the person praying is having difficulty, the people listening must be having difficulties, too.

You may recall that there is now only one English version of the Missal which is being used in every country that speaks English. I think the prayers might sound more natural in Great Britain as an English accent sounds more formal to me and seems to fit the texts better.

The layout of the new Missal, published by a variety of Publishing Companies, is overbearing and not easy to follow. They simply tried to put too much into the book, and because of it, the book is not user friendly, especially in the three different versions I have seen and tried to use. I used the older layout all of my priesthood, but this problem I’m having is not just a matter of getting used to something new. The new book is harder to navigate.

You can read many articles and blogs about the pros and cons of the new words the priests are using. We are not used to the formalized language of Latin documents and prayers. We were used to a translation in which the meaning of the text was conveyed without being slavish to the Latin original. Do I wish that the Catholic Church might follow the example of the Coca-Cola Company and revert to the “Classic” translation we were using? Maybe. But, it took over ten years for the completion of the translation of this new Roman Missal. How long will it be before the critiques are collected, scrutinized, and debated? Will we see improvements, or will we get more used to a new way of praying? Only time will tell.

GRACING LIFE... Thoughts from Pastoral Care

Gracing Life While Pondering the Stars

And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. –Matthew 2:9

*Shepherds and kings, following hopes and stars that take them deep into the night. How far have they come? We should really know for certainly everyone is a shepherd and king. –From the song, *Shepherds and Kings*, Weston Priory*

Star Light, star bright, the first star I see tonight, I wish I may, I wish I might, have the wish I wish tonight. –From a child's nursery rhyme

One of the blessings about living in this part of the country when the winter nights are long and dark is that we have the opportunity to ponder the stars at night, gazing at the formations that have been named by the ancients long before we were born. We can also wonder what the night sky looked like for those shepherds and the magi who knew deep down in their hearts that something special and unusual, something beyond words and human knowledge was happening, and they were compelled to be changed forever by this experience.

May we have the grace in our hearts to recognize the multiplicity of the stars that rise in the nights and in our hearts this time of the year and throughout the new year, with the wisdom to seek what is before us and what is beyond us. May we have the courage to acknowledge the Creator of the Stars, the God who enlightens our path, whose hope is that we awaken and are open to new revelations and transformative epiphanies on our journey in 2012. May we wish upon these stars, whether they be hope, compassion, strength, love, suffering, joy, peace, justice, mercy, or truth, and be led with the promise that we will always be shown the way.

SOCIAL JUSTICE: BECAUSE JESUS SAID SO . . .

Pax Christi Grant Recipient Awarded Federal Funds

More often than not in recent years, the headlines related to poverty and social-justice news have referred to growing needs and shrinking funds.

In stark contrast to that stands the recent announcement that one of Pax Christi's justice-grant recipients, the Northside Achievement Zone (NAZ), has been awarded a five-year, \$28 million federal grant to help north Minneapolis children and their families.

The announcement Dec. 19 by the U.S. Department of Education assures that NAZ organizers and dozens of collaborating schools and organizations have a better chance of success helping disadvantaged children of

every age on initiatives such as preschool education, health care, counseling, employment, and housing.

The core of NAZ's "high-touch" approach is to engage north Minneapolis families and enroll them in NAZ Connect, a shared case management system that focuses on both the families and students. As a result of that process, the families and students are connected to opportunities and resources provided by more than 50 organizations in a 255-block area that's been wounded by poverty, violence, crime, and even a tornado.

In a *Star Tribune* article about the grant award, NAZ spokespersons said the funds

will, among other things, allow the organization to hire 34 more family coaches trained to work with parents, boosting the number of educators to 40 from six.

When combined with another federal grant announced just days earlier – this one focusing on child care – the NAZ budget will increase more than fivefold, allowing its staff to reach up to 1,200 families and 3,000 children over the next five years, according to the article.

To learn more about what Pax Christi is doing for Social Justice, contact us at justice@paxchristi.com, or Michael Griffin, 952-405-7230.

5th – 8th Grade Youth UPCOMING EVENTS!

All 5th – 8th graders (and friends!) are invited to participate in several exciting activities that are scheduled over the next few months. **Check out this line-up:**

- **January 14:** Bowling Party
- **February 18:** Snow Tubing
- **March 23:** Friday Night LIVE (with inflatables, laser tag, music, and more!)
- **April 14:** Twins Game

Additional information will be available on the website, in upcoming bulletins, and on bulletin boards at Pax Christi. Check out the Pax Christi Youth Facebook page, too! Register on line, and pay attention to deadlines so you won't miss out on any of the fun.

JANUARY EVENT Bowling Party!

January 14, 1:00–6:00pm

Join us for a service project and bowling party! We will pack lunches for a homeless shelter before heading over to Park Tavern in St. Louis Park for our bowling party. Cost is \$20 and includes transportation, bowling, and shoe rental. You may bring additional money to purchase snacks, if desired. We will also be kicking off our 2012 Operation Christmas Child collection, and we're asking all participants to bring in small toys that children ages 10-14 would enjoy. (These items will be packed at our March event.) Register on line at www.paxchristi.com, or download a flyer and register. The deadline for registrations is January 8.

Questions? Contact Renee Dignan, rdignan@paxchristi.com, 952-405-7212, or Cindy Novak, cnovak@paxchristi.com, 952-405-7214.

Blood Drive at Pax Christi

Monday, January 9, 1:00-7:00pm

Appointments are encouraged. Walk-in donors are welcome as schedule permits.

Questions? Mary Ann Callahan, Pastoral Care, 952-405-7227, or macallahan@paxchristi.com

Mindfulness Meditation

Tuesday, January 10, 7:00–8:30pm, Room 212

Mindfulness meditation is an ancient technique used to calm the mind and increase awareness of God, self, and the world. Join parishioners and practitioners Carolyn and David von Weiss to find out more about mindfulness meditation, its benefits to wellness, and the techniques used to achieve mindfulness and relaxation.

Questions? Jane Schmitz, Dir. of Pastoral Care, 952-405-7238, or jschmitz@paxchristi.com

Pax Christi MLK Community Night

Sunday, January 15, Beginning with 5:00pm Mass

The evening program will feature zAmya Theater Project. zAmya turns “homeless” from a word back into a person or persons – living, breathing, laughing, singing persons who act — yes, act — in entertaining, genre-defying productions that are guaranteed to change your mind, if not your life. There is no charge for the evening, and child care is available.

RSVP: parish office, 952-941-3150, or online, www.paxchristi.com

Ministry of the Separated and Divorced

Mondays, January 16, 23, and 30, 6:30–8:30pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mtka.

The loss of a relationship through separation and divorce poses one of the most difficult transitions a person can face. As people journey through a divorce, they face the stress of emotions, life changes, and developing ways to live a new life. The coalition of Catholic Churches offers a winter speaker series that addresses some of the issues a person meets during this life transition. No registration is necessary, and there is no charge. More information about the speaker series and the *Divorce and Beyond* support group, which begins February 13, can be found at www.paxchristi.com/separateddivorced.

Questions? Contact Jane Schmitz, Director of Pastoral Care, 952-405-7238, or jschmitz@paxchristi.com

The Gospel of Mark Bible Study Presented by Pax CAFÉ

Beginning Thursday, January 19, 6:30–8:30pm in Room 201

Mark's gospel is the primary one we are using during this liturgical year. Come and learn more about this gospel and grow in your faith in Jesus Christ. We will be using the materials from the Little Rock Scripture Series featuring excellent DVD presentations, reading materials, study guides, and small group discussions. The fee for this 10-week series is only \$25 (scholarships available). Register on-line, www.paxchristi.com, or contact Connie Wesley.

Questions? Contact Connie Wesley, 952-405-7217, or cwesley@paxchristi.com

Marriage Booster Retreat

Saturday, January 21, 9:30am–4:45pm

Join other married couples for a retreat sponsored by Pax Christi Faith Formation and Pastoral Care Ministries and facilitated by Family Fest Ministries. The day incorporates humor and fun in the presentations, and couples leave at the end of the day with a renewed sense of love and hope in their relationship. Cost is \$75 per couple (scholarships available) if registered by January 9 or \$100 per couple after January 10. Register online NOW at www.paxchristi.com.

Questions? Michael Griffin, 952-405-7230, or Jane Schmitz, 952-405-7238, or jschmitz@paxchristi.com

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR 5A

Saturday, January 7

Blood Drive Sign-Up Weekend

- 9:00am Overeaters Anonymous
- 4:00pm Private Reconciliation
- 5:00pm MASS - FR. MURTAUGH**

Sunday, January 8

Homelessness Opening Exhibit Blood Drive Sign-Up Weekend

- 9:00am MASS - FR. MURTAUGH**
- 9:00am Good Shepherd I
- 9:00am Sunday School
- 10:45am Good Shepherd I
- 11:00am MASS - FR. KENNEDY**
- 3:30pm Teen Choir
- 5:00pm MASS - FR. KENNEDY**
- 6:00pm Sunday Evening Meal
- 6:30pm Good Shepherd II
- 6:30pm Classroom Program
- 6:30pm Sr. High Faith Formation

Monday, January 9

Blood Drive 1:00-7:00pm

- 8:30am MASS**
- 5:00pm Tai Chi
- 5:30pm Silent Prayer and Meditation
- 6:00pm VIRTUS Training
- 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 370
- 7:00pm Venturing Crew 370
- 7:00pm Environmental Challenge Mtg.

Tuesday, January 10

- 8:30am MASS**
- 9:00am Rosary Group
- 9:30am Women w/Spirit Bible Study
- 6:00pm 50+ Basketball
- 6:00pm Justice Grants Board Mtg.
- 7:00pm Mindful Meditation
- 7:00pm Baptism Prep Session

Wednesday, January 11

- 11:00am Tai Chi
- 4:45pm Good Shepherd I, II
- 4:45pm Classroom Program
- 4:45pm Middle School Faith Formation
- 6:00pm MASS**
- 6:30pm RCIA Session
- 6:45pm Wednesdays @ Pax CAFÉ
- 6:45pm Classroom Program
- 6:45pm Middle School Faith Formation
- 7:00pm Art Committee Mtg.

Thursday, January 12

- 6:45am MASS**
- 6:00pm Pax Christi Basketball
- 6:30pm Instrumentalists Rehearsal
- 7:00pm Alanon
- 7:00pm Alateen
- 7:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous
- 7:00pm FIT Mtg.
- 7:30pm Prepare Team Leadership Mtg.
- 7:30pm Singers Rehearsal

Friday, January 13

- 8:30am MASS**

Saturday, January 14

New Member Sign-Up Weekend

- 9:00am Overeaters Anonymous
- 9:00am Emmaus Group
- 4:00pm Private Reconciliation
- 5:00pm MASS - FR. KENNEDY**

5B



HOMELESSNESS EXHIBIT AT PAX CHRISTI

An oral history project of homelessness in Minnesota, January 7 – February 12 in Martin Luther King, Jr., Room 247. The exhibit Opening is Sunday, January 8, 10:00am – 1:00pm.

As we wind down 2012 and reflect on the good things this holiday season has given us, consider those who ask for our attention and understanding of their most basic needs.

Pax Christi, in collaboration with St. Stephen's Human Services, invites you to join us for the opening of this powerful audio/photo exhibition created from hundreds of conversations with individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Minnesota. Through striking portraits and first person audio, **Homeless is My Address, Not My Name** will undoubtedly alter your perceptions of homelessness.

The Oral History of Homelessness Project (the source of the exhibit stories) documents homelessness in Minnesota through first-person narratives and portrait photography. Interviews and portraits of individuals and families experiencing homelessness provide us with stories of the daily lives, challenges, and successes in overcoming the most extreme form of poverty in this socioeconomic era.

The homelessness of any person or family is both a human tragedy and a community failure, resulting in the loss of human potential and precious public and private dollars. We, individually and collectively, can move forward to address this failure even in these tough economic times by investing in proven, cost-effective strategies. We are a community of Minnesotans who have developed and are implementing strategies that promote individual and community success and provide a sound return on public and private investments. Learn more at www.headinghomeminnesota.org.

This exhibit is presented as a collaboration between the Pax Christi Catholic Community Justice Grants Board (working towards ending homelessness and alleviating poverty) and the Pax Christi Arts Committee (working to provide the community with art that fosters introspection and action).

The exhibit is free and open to the public. Please check www.paxchristi.com for additional information.

BULLETIN NOTE: Presiders and Masses in BOLD. "This Week's Calendar" is correct as of bulletin publication date. Additional information can be found on www.paxchristi.com.

PRAYER CORNER: Please pray for these loved ones

Martha, Carmen, Scott, Rick, Sue, Patty, Randi, Patty, Marge, Gene, Bill, Mary Jo, Sandy, Kari, DeAnna, Bruce, Diane, Jeff, John, Jim, Marlin, and Ed. Pax Christi offers, as a community, the gift of prayer. If you would like to have your name listed in this Prayer Corner during a time of need, contact Pastoral Care, 952-941-3150.

Boomers and Beyond Potluck Supper

Saturday, January 21, 6:00–8:00pm in the Dorothy Day Social Space

The Boomers and Beyond Potluck Supper will be held on Saturday, January 21, following the 5:00pm Mass. The room will be opened before Mass for members and non-members to bring in their dish to share. Come and enjoy this evening and make new friends. Please RSVP.

RSVP: Contact Connie Wesley, 952-405-7217, or cwesley@paxchristi.com

Families with Special Needs Support Group

Saturday, January 21, 6:30–8:30pm

The program for the evening will feature a segment from "Laughing Your Way to a Better Marriage," a humorous, thought-provoking video with discussion. Child care provided and there is no charge. All families with special needs are welcome.

RSVP: Sean and Rocio Rayas de Bezdicek, chiob37@hotmail.com or parish office, 952-941-3150

Spiritual Reading Group

Saturday, January 28, 9:00–10:30am

You are invited to be enriched and refreshed by joining a spiritual reading group. The first group will meet on Saturday, January 28. Come prepared to reflect on and discuss the spiritual journal *Weavings*. Contact Jane Schmitz at the Parish Office to pick up a copy of *Weavings* to read prior to the reading groups. Space is limited, so register early.

Questions? Jane Schmitz, Dir. of Pastoral Care, 952-405-7238, or jschmitz@paxchristi.com

7th and 8th Grade Youth - Feed My Starving Children

Saturday, January 28, 1:30pm–8:00pm; Meet at Pax Christi in the Garden Level Youth Room

We will bus to the Chanhassen location where we will package meals to be sent to starving people around the world. After packing food for an hour and a half, we'll come back to Pax Christi for an evening of FILM, FOOD, & FAITH. There is no cost for this activity, but space is limited, so sign up soon. You can register online at www.paxchristi.com. We will also need adults to help chaperone. Contact Cindy so we can get the proper background check forms filled out prior to this event.

Questions? Cindy Novak, Sr. High Youth Minister, 952-405-7214, or cnovak@paxchristi.com

7th and 8th Grade Youth - Winter Retreat

Weekend of February 4-5

Here's your chance to have fun, get refreshed, and grow a lot deeper in your faith, at the Koinonia Retreat Center near Annandale, MN. We'll leave Saturday at 7:30am and spend two days enjoying God's presence and each other. We will have activities to explore our Catholic faith, free time (which includes sauna and broomball!), great food and snacks, fantastic music, lots of laughs, and a few surprises. Cost for the weekend is \$55. Register online or contact Cindy Novak by January 25. This is a weekend you'll never forget!

Questions? Cindy Novak, Sr. High Youth Minister, 952-405-7214, or cnovak@paxchristi.com

Cana Dinner

Saturday, February 18, 2012

Join us for the annual Pax Christi Cana Dinner celebrating marriage. This year you can purchase tickets online at www.paxchristi.com or contact Connie Wesley. This year's entertainment features Father Tim Power, Dale O'Brien, and Karen Fogarty singing and musing about love and marriage.

Questions? Contact Connie Wesley, 952-405-7217, or cwesley@paxchristi.com



LOVING THE BODY YOU LIVE IN WITH PAT SAMPLES

Wednesday, January 18, 9:30–11:30am

Your body is the library of your stories. In our time together, you will learn to recognize and draw from your body's emotional and spiritual brilliance through mindful attention and creative movement. As you make friends with your body, you'll find wisdom, healing, and freedom. Pat Samples has spent the past 17 years supporting positive personal transformation for older adults, family caregivers, and others wanting to generate more vibrancy, creativity, and peace of mind in their lives.

Moms ROCK welcomes all moms, moms-to-be, and anyone else interested in joining us. Gatherings normally include brunch and relaxing social time followed by uninterrupted time to focus on the day's guest speaker. Whether you can come to one or all of the gatherings, you are certain to leave with a feeling that you are part of something wonderful!

Gatherings are held twice a month, Wednesdays, in the Mahatma Gandhi Room, #212, 9:30–11:30am. There is a \$7 fee per gathering. Childcare is included with advanced registration. Complete details are available on the Pax Christi website, www.paxchristi.com/momsrock.

Questions? Mary Kennedy,
Dir. of Stewardship, 952-405-7220,
or mkennedy@paxchristi.com

Thank You

I want to thank the members and staff of Pax Christi for all of the many wonderful kindnesses that have been given to me these past weeks. Thanks for the words of encouragement, cards, and gifts. Words cannot express how wonderful my "send-off" to retirement has been. I want to thank all who worked so hard to host the events that took place with my Sunday morning reception and the wonderful reception dinner that took place on Leadership evening. I have told many people that Pax Christi really does value Lay Leadership, as I doubt that any lay person who works in the Church has had a better send-off. I greatly appreciate the hospitality and thoughtfulness of this community. I am very thankful that I will remain as a member here. Blessings. –Sue Kelley

Travel to the Holy Land and Istanbul with Fr. Bill November 7-16, 2012

Magi Travel is offering a 9-day journey to the Holy Land. It is being hosted by Fr. Bill Murtaugh. Highlights include time in Nazareth, Galilee, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and a Holy Hour in the Garden of Gethsemane. An optional extension to Istanbul, November 16–19, is available. Brochures are available in the parish office or on the bulletin board at Entrance #3. You may also contact Magi Travel, 952-949-0065, or info@magitravelinc.com, for complete details of this Holy Land experience.

Greeters Needed at Sunday 5:00pm Mass!

Are you a friendly person? Do you like greeting people? Please consider joining the Pax Christi Greeter Ministry. We are especially in need of greeters at the 5:00pm Sunday Mass. Please contact Kim Albrecht, Liturgy Coordinator, kalbrecht@paxchristi.com, or 952-405-7229, if you are interested. Thank you!

CityKid Java NOW at Pax Christi!

Buying coffee isn't usually a ministry, but when your morning cup of Joe is CityKid Java, you're fueling the future of inner city kids.

CityKid Java, our new coffee vendor, is a coffee company that was created in partnership with Urban Ventures. All profits go to help fund their youth programs which teach kids important life skills and emphasize education. Kids also have the opportunity to learn job skills by working at the CityKid Java and by volunteering for CityKid Java.

Next time you're looking for a great cup of coffee, enjoy CityKid Java now served at Pax Christi; it's good coffee for a good cause.

Calling all Scouts Past and Present

A Scout has a "Duty to God." This year help show that spirit by celebrating Scout Sunday. Whether you are currently active or an alumni, a youth, or adult volunteer, we would love to see you in uniform. No matter what unit you are in, all Scouts and Scouters are welcome to join Troop 370 at the 9:00am Mass on February 5, 2012. A reception will follow. If you would like to participate directly in the service, contact parishioner Jay Biedny, 651-266-2257, for more information.

Blessed Trinity Kindergarten Tutors

Blessed Trinity School, 7540 Penn Ave S, Richfield, needs tutors to work with two kindergartners who are ESL students. They need one person to read rhyming books to both students for 1/2 hour in the mornings. Students do not know their alphabet or letter sounds. It can be one tutor for 2 or 3 times per week or a different tutor for each day. If interested contact parishioner Ed Ogrin, eogrin@comcast.net, 952-934-3639.

Get Your Team Ready for Trivia Night at the Knights of Columbus

January 27, 7:00pm

There is no need to be "Good at Trivia." Do you like having FUN with friends while supporting a worthy cause (Nativity of Mary School)? Then this is the event for you. Adults 18+ can sign up in teams of 4 to 6. Singles welcome; we will assign you to a team. Registration is \$20 per person until 5:00pm, Friday, January 20. After that, it is \$25. Team check-in is 6:00–7:00pm. Competition begins at 7:00pm and ends at 10:00pm. First, second, and third place teams are awarded medals as proof of all the worthless information they know! There are 100 questions in categories of 10 each including such topics as History, Literature, and Science. Judging is done after each category, and scores are projected on a screen so each team can see how they fared. Sound like fun? Join us on Friday, January 27, at the KC Hall, 1114 American Boulevard, Bloomington. There will be some surprises, too!

Creche Display at St. Peter's Church, Richfield

All are invited to view more than 200 unique and artfully crafted crèches from around the world, including Africa, Latin America, Mexico, and Europe! Father Jerry Dvorak, pastor at St. Peter's Church, continues his Christmas tradition of sharing his personal collection of crèches for the enjoyment of all and to help remind us of the "reason for the season." The exhibit is located in the lower level of St. Peter's Church through January 29. Visit Monday-Friday from 8:30am to 8:00pm, December 27–29 from 7:00pm to 8:00pm, and after all Masses on weekends, including Christmas & New Year's. Groups can call 612-866-5089 to arrange a guided tour. St. Peter's is located at 6730 Nicollet Avenue South in Richfield.

ON OUR JOURNEY OF STEWARDSHIP:

WHAT DIRECTION HAS THE STEWARDSHIP OF YOUR GIFTS TAKEN?

And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

—Matthew 2:9-11

I have a directionally-challenged daughter. One time she and her then-boyfriend left one family Christmas celebration in Sioux City, Iowa, headed for another in Davenport, Iowa. Theoretically, this would be a six hour drive pretty much straight across the state from west to east. For some reason, in her position as navigator, she decided to direct their journey through Worthington, Minnesota. Yes, that would be to the north. She easily added hours to their meandering journey through our stately sister to the south. In December. On snow-covered country roads. Did I mention that her cell phone didn't work in the nether regions of Iowa? Once she emerged in relative safety (in other words, safely ensconced with her boyfriend's relatives and far from the reach of her own anxious and exasperated mom), I questioned her about her map reading abilities. She proffered that she would have done better if she had turned the map every time they turned so it was always facing the correct direction. Needless to say we gave her a GPS device when she decided to move to Phoenix. Thank God for modern technology.

Thankfully the Wise Men in this weekend's readings were not so directionally-challenged. They had a huge star to follow to keep them on their route to pay homage to the newborn King. Along with their entourage, the Wise Men brought gifts of Frankincense, Gold, and Myrrh. The precious spices and oil, along with the gold, signified their gifts to Jesus as priest, prophet, and King to the entire world.


In your own journey of faith through your life, what direction has the stewardship of your gifts taken? Have you meandered through life sharing here and there when you felt the pressure to, or have you committed to following a specific plan to give of your time, your talents, your treasure in thankful gratitude for all the ways God has blessed you? Some may have started the journey with the best of intentions and then took a wrong turn when "life's challenges" put up a roadblock. The Christian disciple is asked to continue to find ways to show gratitude by giving back always and in as many ways as possible in the journey of stewardship as a way of life. Following the example of the Wise Men, how can you share your gifts in generous thanksgiving to God?

Stewardship is a way of life. If you have questions on how best to share your time, talents, and treasure, feel free to contact our Director of Stewardship, Mary Kennedy, mkennedy@paxchristi.com, or 952-405-7220.



Resolve to Get ENGAGED: Respond to the 2012 Annual Renewal

As you clear the Christmas decorations, bric-a-brac, and cards off your counters and put them away for another year, please make a resolution to uncover the Annual Stewardship Renewal Form that you may have placed in the "I'll get to this later pile," for "later" has arrived. We appreciate the generous response from so many households and would really like to start our New Year off by receiving a 2012 pledge intention from every one of our households. Additional time/talent and treasure forms are available for download at www.paxchristi.com/annualrenewal.

	This Year Actual	This Year Budget	Variance from Budget	Last Year Actual	Variance from Last Year
Week #25 Contributions	113,859	103,000	10,859		
YTD through Week #25	1,244,542	1,209,000	35,542	*1,309,395	(64,853)
11-12 Contributions Goal – \$2,600,000					

*Contains one extra Sunday.

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E-mail: pax@paxchristi.com Website: www.paxchristi.com

Office Hours

Monday–Thursday ~ 8:00am – 5:00pm
Friday ~ 8:00am – Noon
Saturday ~ 8:00am – 12:30pm

Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses *Nursery available at all weekend Masses.
Interpreter for hearing impaired at 11:00am.*
Saturday ~ 5:00pm
Sunday ~ 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm

Weekday Masses

Mondays ~ 8:30am
Tuesdays ~ 8:30am with Rosary to follow
Wednesdays ~ 6:00pm
Thursdays ~ 6:45am
Fridays ~ 8:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Private)

Saturdays ~ 4:00–4:30pm

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Fr. Patrick Kennedy	Mike Lindseth	
Vicki Klima, Parish Director	Mary Frances Messer	
Shari Steffen, Chair	Carrie Chevalier Mosher	
Eric Anderson	Jim O'Laughlin	Joan Waterstreet
Greg Halvorson	Steven Olinger	Mark Weber
Tom Keane	Jim Sankovitz	

Parish Trustees Sue Fier, Bruce Koehn

Finance Council Jim Sankovitz, Chairperson

Staff Contacts - 952-405-7xxx

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Sr. Associate Pastor	Fr. Bill Murtaugh	x245
Deacon	Al Schroeder	x205
Parish Director	Vicki Klima	x211
Director of Faith Formation	Michael Griffin	x230
Director of Operations	Ken Reineccius	x250
Director of Pastoral Care	Jane Schmitz	x238
Director of Stewardship	Mary Kennedy	x220
Director of Worship and Music	Donna Kasbohm	x240
Accountant	Anne Swenson	x202
Administrative Support	Sue Schroer	x209
Administrative Support	Connie Wesley	x217
Bulletin, Website, Creative Services	Melissa Nault	x221
Building Services Coordinator	Al Haider	x232
Building Services	Terry Lee	x233
Building Services	Todd Nelson	x233
Children's Choir	Molly Shields	x243
Faith Formation	Reneé Dignan	x212
Faith Formation	Carol Osterhus	x213
Middle School Youth, Sr. High Youth	Cindy Novak	x214
Nursery Supv., Hospitality Coordinator	Kate Gartin	x242
Pastoral Care	Mary Ann Callahan	x227
Receptionist	Cindy Soeldner	x219
Special Needs	Michael Griffin	x230
Teen Choir	Angie O'Brien	x243
Wedding/Liturgical Coordinator	Kim Albrecht	x229

CHRIS KUHLMAN
Attorney-At-Law
612-349-2747

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