

SAINTS ALIVE

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Getting to Know...

Kreig and PJ Hitz

We first met PJ and Kreig in January 2004. At that time they were quite involved with the Catholic Schools. Although they are not as busy with the Schools, they still support fundraisers such as Market Day and Catholic Schools Gala.

They still volunteer at Bingo.

As for their present activities, they both volunteer at Shamrock Vineyard. Kreig is a volunteer at the Palace Theatre as movie projectionist, back stage crew, spot light operator and just about anything they ask him to do. PJ has resumed playing Bridge, a past time she enjoyed before the children became active. She also line dances, does water fitness at the "Y". She still sings in the St. Mary Choir as well as Marion Civic Chorus annual performance of Handel's Messiah. She also finds time to practice yoga and attend a weekly Bible Study (a nondenominational study). Enjoys crafts in any spare time she has.

Daughter Jade moved to California to avoid the winters in Ohio. She has returned to College, earning an Associate Degree in Anthropology, Liberal Arts and Social Science. She is currently attending California State University where she will receive a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology in December.



Son Nikolaus works in Burbank, California at Wooden Nichel Lighting. A company that rents equipment to movie producers to make movies. He would like to expand his career into movie making, either as a gaffer (lighting specialist) on set or a grip behind a camera.

Kreig and PJ still have time to work at a regular job. Kreig at Schrader Computers after retiring from Verizon. PJ still works at the Palace Theatre as a ticket agent. They are really people worth getting to know again.

FROM OUR HERITAGE:

Back in the 1950's and 60's, and probably before that, many priests drove black cars. There may have been some thinking behind this tradition. We are used to seeing our priests in black. No doubt it is symbolic of the dignity of their role as well as an outward indicator of humility. As most would agree: there usually is nothing too flashy about black. At any rate, the tradition of black cars being owned by priests pretty much went away. We had a priest who came here with a light tan car. It was an older model and certainly not something that would catch your eye. It was just an ordinary car. Soon, possibly at the prompting of one of our parishioners who was a GM car dealer, Father traded in his old car and now had a new one, similar in style and size to his previous vehicle and this also was a light tan car. Within a short period of time, the new car seemed to acquire a lot of body damage—dings, dents, scrapes—could have been one accident or parking lot mishap, maybe more than one. Although our recollection of this detail isn't clear, the damage to the new car was repaired. But, Father spent a lot of time in his car—trips to hospitals and nursing homes, meetings for the diocese 50 miles away, trips to churches etc. He accumulated mileage quickly. Within a couple of years, he traded off the tan car, this time he bought a black one. That car piled up the miles also and it was traded in about two years. You guessed it: another black one. As far as we know the black ones never suffered any mishaps. Maybe the priests from 50 years ago were on to something. Nevertheless, we can't expect a good idea to last indefinitely, practical realities do eventually have to be dealt with. One of the priests who was here for many, many years had an early 1940's era Buick sedan—a big grand, imposing vehicle. Yes, it was black. Somehow another diocesan priest acquired that car and that priest also came to be assigned to our parish. Father brought that vintage Buick with him and actually owned a couple of other cars, too. It just so happened that one of the community's well-respected auto mechanics had a garage within a couple of blocks of the church. That old Buick, even though a well kept, collector grade vehicle, spent some significant time at that garage having its various needs tended to.

One of our pastors had tremendous talent in giving sermons. In those days, they were even recorded on audio tape. This gave the shut in the opportunity to get the benefit from a great homily even if their infirmities didn't allow them to get to Mass. At times, people probably would say that Father had a talent for the dramatic. One Sunday, Father's sermon dealt with the inevitability of death and that most of us do not emotionally or spiritually prepare ourselves for death. He concluded his sermon with a little poem that even if you hadn't paid close attention to his earlier comments, this just might stick in your memory for a while: "Remember man who passes by; as you are so once was I; as I am, so you will be; prepare yourself to follow me." By the way, a little bit of searching on the Internet will tell you that this epithet comes from a book, *The History from Headstones*. It reportedly appears, in one variation or another, on several grave stones in various cemeteries in Ireland. Ditties of this type apparently were fairly common in years past.

Those people who are now in their 60's or older may remember that at one time we had a man who lived in the basement of the school. It was customary for him to come over to the church and ring our church bells. This was long before the bells could be activated by the touch of a button or worked off a timer. This task meant exerting some considerable strength on a stout rope coming out of the ceiling in the choir loft. Those bells were heavy and pulling that rope took both hands and some muscle. A serious tug on that rope got the bells ringing and one quickly learned the rhythm of pulling the rope to keep them ringing. Legend has it that our bell ringer's name was Tony. One morning Tony dutifully rang the bells at the appointed time—possibly 6 a.m. and then departed the church. Unfortunately, it would appear that the exertion was all too much for this older man. Tony literally dropped dead in front of the church.

-Bill Your

El Día de los Muertos

What in the world is the Day of the Dead, el Día de los Muertos?, you may be wondering. While the Catholic Church celebrates All Saints Day on November 1 and All Souls Day on November 2, Hispanics also celebrate the Day of the Dead. This sounds like a rather gruesome celebration, but it is an acceptance of death as a natural process and a way to remember deceased loved ones.

The native Aztecs who lived in the area now known as Mexico believed that to die was to become fully alive, thus death was not to be feared, but celebrated. This was the origin of this celebration. When the Spaniards landed in this area, they began spreading the Catholic faith, while at the same time trying to eradicate all traces of the native religion which was being practiced. This ritual celebration, which celebrated the continuance of life after death, proved to be so popular among the native people that the Spaniards were unable to end it. In order to give the celebration a Christian emphasis, the Day of the Dead celebration was moved from the month of August to November 1 and 2, the dates it continues to be celebrated.

Today the Day of the Dead continues to be celebrated in Mexico, other Latin American countries, and in the United States, wherever there are Hispanics residing. The Day of the Dead is one of Mexico's most important national holidays and continues to grow in popularity in this country. November 1 is traditionally for the children who have died, los Inocentes, while November 2 is in honor of deceased adults, los muertos.

The celebrations for El Día de los Muertos vary by region, but there are some common customs. One of these customs involves creating an altar to welcome the spirit of a loved one home. This includes scented candles to guide the returning spirit home. Other items the altar should include are those that reflect the interest of the deceased person, a picture of the person, flowers, such as marigolds, and special foods, such as fruits, tamales, and Pan de Muerto, a special type of bread, which can contain a miniature skeleton.

Another custom is the visiting and decorating of the graves of loved ones with flowers and candles. They may take gifts and sit next to the grave, eating special foods as they remember their loved ones. They will certainly include prayer for their deceased loved one as part of their ritual celebration, so that they may be received into Heaven. The rosary is typically prayed for one who has died, beginning with the day after the loved one has been laid to rest and continuing for nine nights. This prayer on the Day of the Dead is a continuation of the prayers already prayed for the loved one.

This year if you should happen to hear about the Day of the Dead, remember that is a celebration in remembrance of a person's life and hope in the life to come.

- Chantelle Blackburn

Oct. 11, 2012 – Nov. 24, 2013

“Be praised, My Lord, through Sister Water; she is very useful, and humble, and precious, and pure.” *St. Francis of Assisi* “For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.” *Habakkuk 2:14*



Water cleanses and purifies, it's life sustaining and fun – for swimming, water skiing, boating, fishing... Water is a very precious gift from our loving Heavenly Father. Water and the “Year of Faith” – what's the connection? First, let's appreciate this wondrous gift of God and the Gospel call of Jesus to follow Him. Jesus preached and taught, He invited and challenged. He doesn't “water down” the Gospel call on our lives! Can you imagine Jesus knocking at your door today? How will you respond to His Presence? Will you invite Him in and show hospitality? How will your conversation sound – welcoming or apologetic?

In the Acts of the Apostles, we learn that God has opened the door of faith for the early church. **“They called the church together and reported what God had done with them and how he had opened the door of faith... (Acts 14:27)** God opens the door of faith for each one us and invites us to cross the threshold into a deeper relationship with Him. This Year of Faith is an opportunity: to turn towards Jesus Christ more faithfully; to encounter Him more deeply in the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist; and to rediscover the “Faith of our Fathers” and of our Holy Catholic Church. It is a glorious time of renewal, a time to take stock. Let's be straightforward and honest, and ask God to give us the strength to change what we need to change so we can hold fast to Him. Maybe it's as simple and as difficult as seeking silence! *Step 1* - Stop the “noise streamings”: shut off the radio, television, iPod, cell phone and other technology gadgets. Then examine your life in the light of the Gospels, the light of Faith. Surely we have all fallen short... *Step 2* - hold fast to the mercy of God. *Step 3* - do something about all the “stuff” that fills your daily schedule and takes time that might be “time for God.” In this Year of Faith, a time for new beginnings, you might resolve to deepen the faith you hold dear; or to re-learn the Faith if you have let it slip into the background of your busy “run, run - do it all” life-style. **Look inward** (for self-examining), **look forward** towards our heavenly homeland (for the “right ordering” of this life), and **look upward** (to God's Truth for guidance – in the Bible and in the teachings of the Church Fathers and our Catholic faith). God and our relationship with Him is first; then our families; then our duties and responsibilities; then our recreation and relaxation. This year of Faith is about the water of our baptism “in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” To be plunged into the water at Baptism represents the person dying, being buried and resurrecting with Christ as a '*new creature*.' (C.C.C. # 1214) '*The washing of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit*' results in a new birth of water and the Spirit... so we can enter the Kingdom of God. [Jn. 3:5] (C.C.C. # 1215) Those who are ...baptized are enlightened by Jesus who is the Light of the world [Jn. 1:9]; [we] Christians have the potential of becoming '*children of light*'. [1 Thess. 5:5; Heb. 10:32; Eph. 5:8] (C.C.C. # 1216, 1228). ... if we open our hearts and minds to the Truth of God in the Gospels, and to the “deposit of Faith” which the Catholic Church holds.

There are two kinds of people: those who do a lot of “things” and those who do more good. The people who get a lot done, pray little and last. And the people who do more good, pray more and first. **Let's resolve to pray more and first!!!**

A reflection from your Franciscan Sisters - Joan & Bonnie

Suggestion: Google “Year of Faith” and read Pope Benedict's apostolic letter **Porta Fidei** (Door of Faith)



Feast of All Saints — Thursday, November 1, 2012 – ALL SAINTS (Holy Day of Obligation)

Mass times: *9:00 a.m. (All School Mass) (*please note time change)
12:05 p.m.
7:00 p.m.



Friday, November 2, 2012 – ALL SOULS' DAY

Annual Memorial Mass – 7:00 p.m.

All St. Mary Parishioners are cordially invited to attend especially the family and friends of those who have died within the past year. We include a special entrance procession, and a litany of remembrance to commemorate those who have died since Nov. 1, 2011, and up through Oct. 31, 2012.



Sunday, November 4, 2012 – Cemetery Sunday – 2:00 p.m.

Whenever we recite the Apostles' Creed, we profess our belief in the communion of saints. What are we saying? We are saying that we really believe that we are united in Christ with all our sisters and brothers here on earth and all those who have died. This unity of faith and charity is achieved especially through our participation in the Eucharist.

On Sunday, November 4th at 2:00 p.m., I invite you to join me at our parish cemetery as we are given the opportunity to celebrate this truth of our faith. We will pray the rosary together and then you will have the opportunity to visit the grave(s) of your loved ones. Fr. Dwayne



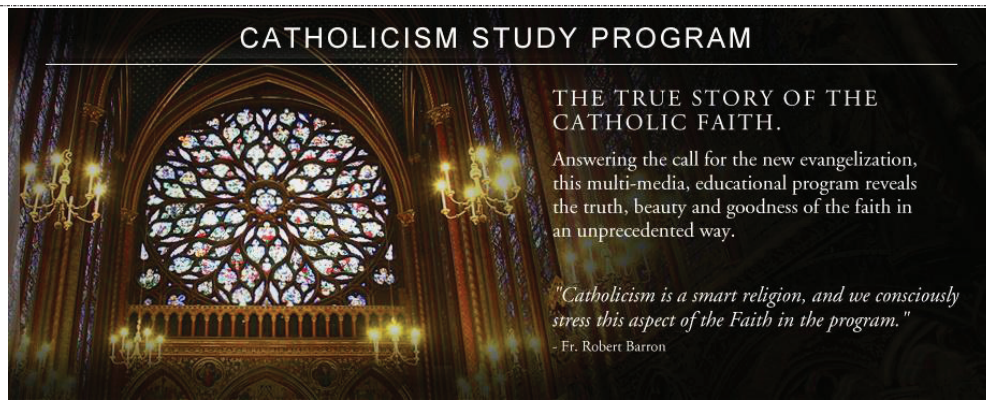
Reception and Anointing of the Sick at Mass

Tuesday, November 6, 2012 –

Anointing of the Sick at 6:30 p.m. Mass

During the course of the year the parish will have a special mass for those who desire to receive the Anointing of the Sick during Mass. Some may ask who this Mass is for and who may be anointed.

The Sacrament of Anointing is appropriate for those whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or advanced age. This includes persons who are seriously ill whether at home, in hospitals, or in nursing homes, as well as seriously sick children who are old enough to experience benefit from the Sacrament. If you are seriously ill in body, mind or spirit, you may be anointed. The church does caution that it is not like Ash Wednesday where everyone comes up because they want it. The only requirement for this sacrament is the awareness of serious illness or danger of death. Fr. Dwayne



“CATHOLICISM” series by Fr. Robert Barron
continues on

Thursdays, November 8th & 15th
9:30-11:00 am in Commons or 7:00-8:30 pm in Moira Hall

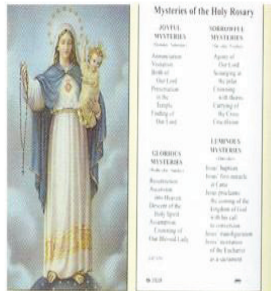
Nov. 8 – The Ineffable Mystery of God:

“That than which nothing greater can be thought” (St. Anselm)

Nov. 15 – Our Tainted Nature’s Solitary Boast: Mary, the Mother of God



“Little Blue Book” for the 2012 Advent/Christmas Season: Daily six-minute reflections on the Sunday Gospels of Year C. Members of St. Mary Spiritual Enrichment Commission will be selling these booklets after all Masses the weekend of November 17/18 and if necessary November 24/25. Cost is still only \$1.00!



THE JOY OF HOLY CARDS!!

Glenna Celestino, Religious Education

When I was a child attending Catholic School one of my fondest memories was when we would receive holy cards. If we did great on a spelling test or math assignment, we received a holy card. For perfect attendance or showing proper respect when a visitor was in the school, we received a holy card. When the pastor would come to the playground or to the classroom he would hand out holy cards to the

students who were present. All these years, I have kept these holy cards safely tucked away in the prayer book I received for my First Holy Communion.

Beginning the first Sunday of November holy cards will be available for the children of St. Mary. The children will pick up the “card of the week” when they come to Mass on the weekend. The holy cards will be found in a basket located on the long table at the left of the Baptismal Font.

Holy cards teach us about saints and traditions of the Church such as the Rosary and Stations of the Cross. We hope that the children of St. Mary will be inspired with their collecting as they pick up a new card each Sunday when they come to mass.

Sheet protectors to hold the cards will be distributed at PSR and St. Mary Grade School. We thank the Knights of Columbus for their generous donation to fund this project.

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Beth Orthmeyer- 389-9946
Bill Your- 360-2142*

SAINTS ALIVE

*The deadline for article submission to the Saints Alive is the tenth of each month.
Items submitted after that date cannot be guaranteed a spot in the newsletter.*

BAPTISMS:

October 7, 2012:
Faith Christine Velliquette, daughter
of Eric and Kris (Kovach) Velliquette.

WEDDINGS:

October 6, 2012:
Alex Sayre and Allison Mitchell

NEWCOMERS:

Tim and Lisa Via, and daughter,
Willow, age 10

Christina Nye and son, Gavin, age 7
and daughter, Brittany, age 17.

Joel & Elizabeth Leslie and daughters,
Ellen, age 19 and Lauren, age 7.