

SACRED HEART BEAT NEWSLETTER

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REFLECTIONS: PRAYER BEFORE A 20 DOLLAR BILL

Lord, see this bill! It frightens me. You know its secrets, you know its history. How heavy it is the weight of the human toil which makes its worth. It is heavy, heavy, Lord. It fills me with awe. It frightens me.

O Lord, I offer you this bill with its joyous mysteries, its sorrowful mysteries. I thank you for all the life and joy it has given. I ask your forgiveness for the harm it has done. But above all, Lord, I offer it to you as a symbol of all the labors of men, indestructible money, which tomorrow will be changed into your eternal life. (Michel Quoist, in PRAYERS)

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

DAV VAN DRIVERS PROVIDE VITAL SERVICE TO VETS

For several years, the Massena chapter of the Disabled American Veterans has relied on an intrepid crew of volunteers to provide a mostly elderly corps of local vets a service vital to their health...transportation to the Syracuse VA Hospital.

Hundreds, who have earned the right to government funded medical care by virtue of their military service, are treated yearly at the Veteran's Clinic at Massena Memorial Hospital. Unfortunately, many patients require a higher level of care than can be provided locally. It's for them that transportation to the VA Hospital is so vital. The all-volunteer crew of drivers, which now numbers over two dozen, and their willingness to provide the free service, makes all the difference in the world to those who need it.

Volunteer driver and Sacred Heart parishioner Andy Spanburgh says each two-person crew averages about one trip per month. Every Tuesday and Thursday the 12-passenger DAV van picks up its first passengers about 4:45 AM at McDonald's Restaurant. "We usually pick up a few other passengers along the way as we pass through the other towns on the way to Syracuse," says Andy. "You run into a lot of nice people." He says he was approached by Roger Bennett, coordinator of the volunteers, to get involved following his retirement. "I'm a vet myself and I'm able to help. I just thought it was something



John Paul Dumas and Andy Spanburgh

I could do to give back," notes Spanburgh.

Parishioner John Paul Dumas, a volunteer driver for the last two years, says rolling out of bed at 4:00 AM in the morning is a small price to pay to help men and women in need. "I find driving the DAV van very rewarding," says John. "You are taking people to the Veteran's Hospital who would not get treatment otherwise. They're very appreciative."

Local DAV 171 provided the initiative and earliest funding for the vehicle says Merrill Bell of the veterans group. Syracuse's Veterans Hospital took over the ownership of the van and provided for its insurance and upkeep. The local group of veterans has full use of it, according to Bell.

Anyone interested in volunteering to drive the DAV van is asked to contact Roger Bennett at 764-1441.

ON THE BEAT

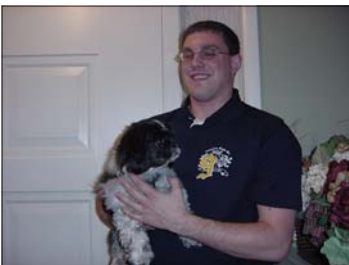
Giving Birth to the Future Church

“This is the best attendance I have seen in the last five years of being a catechist,” says Scott a 7th grade religion teacher in our Faith Formation Program. Lectionary-based, this year’s program has been in place in more and more parishes throughout the country. It brings together read, discuss and digest the Sunday Mass readings. Scott added, “This program allows students to develop more scripturally, but at the same time relate the happenings of the Bible to current events that they are facing in their everyday life.”

“I have been waiting for a program like this,” says Kathy Mason. “It has information, spiritual experiences and activities built into each class and holds the youths’ attention.”

The faith formation program wants to bring together family and parish members as well as children. So we present our 7th thru Confirmation catechists with the years of teaching religion, their work and family.

7th GRADE



Scott Sharp: 6 years / Education Major SUNY Potsdam / Parents Gregory & Ann / Brothers Matthew & Austin.

Julie LaShomb: 10 yrs / Work - Main St. Florist Husband Roger / Sons Derek working in Ogdensburg & Adam, Paul Smith College student.



Kathy Mason: 20 yrs. / Nurse at MMH / Son Eric in US Army & Daughter Danielle, MCS student.



Clare Mauch: 5 yrs. / MCS psychologist / Husband George / Daughters: Margaret & Elizabeth.

Robert Cunningham: 1st yr. / works at General Motors / Wife: Melanie / Sons: Eric, Robert Daughters Jessica & Amber.



Kathy Bradish: 25 yrs. / MCS Food Service / Husband Steve / Sons Eric in Ithaca & Nick, sophomore at MCS / Daughter Sarah Un. Of Buffalo student.

Susan Plante: 3 yrs. / Salmon River Elementary librarian / Husband William / Daughter Roquel, Russell Sage freshman ; Son Marc a sophomore at Salmon River.



Sally Cash: 17 in programs / Family worker for Headstart Program / Calls her St. Mary’s Church community her family.

HARD WORK & MANY STUDY HOURS PAY OFF



Marlene Dewey: 22 yrs / housewife and full time volunteer / Husband Walter / Daughters Christina LaShomb who is her mother's substitute teacher & Kim.

10th CONFIRMATION

Eric Pomainville: 2 yrs. / MCS math teacher / Parents: Francine & Roger / Eric is in the process of purchasing a new home for himself.



Tom Proulx, Linda Proulx, Jean Ginder, and Julie Whalen at their Commissioning Ceremony now "officially" serve Sacred Heart Parish



Cindy Page: 2 yrs. / Operating Room nurse at MMH / Husband: Henry / Daughter Brandy an orthodontist student at Un. Of Delaware / Son: Matthew, MCS 10th grader.

Pictured here are our most recent Sacred Heart Lay Ministers commissioned October 1, 2005 at St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg.

This year's graduates actually have already been involved in parish workings. So-why take the courses which involve many classes (with night travel to program centers), lots of reading, writing papers and spending some weekends tied down to workshops or retreats? Answer: To learn more about their faith. This was a universal answer from the participants.

Paul McCarthy: 11 yrs. / Triple A Lumber Co. / Wife: Annalee / Daughter: Erin / Son: Colin



Linda Proulx says it provided her with a better background as she represents the Church in her various church and community activities.

Jean Ginder says, "I developed a better understanding of the role the Vatican Council II plays in today's Church. Additionally, I have a broader understanding of the role of the laity, us, in the Church.

OUR APOLOGIES

Have you missed us? Hopefully we are back on track after some computer and other challenges put us off schedule. We also thank you for any support you have given us in the past. If you have any suggestions for making the newsletter better, please, let us know.

Julie Whalen appreciated the contact with others in the program who came from other parishes throughout the Diocese. New insights were gained, as well as new friendships and contacts.

Patty Ryan put in a nutshell the denominator describing all the participants, "Faith-filled, Service-oriented."

Writing reflections on the material taught and keeping up with the reading provided the most challenges they said. However, the deeper look into their faith, theology, traditions and the integration of that information into their everyday life made the effort and discipline worthwhile.



Patty Ryan serves both Sacred Heart and our sister parish St. Lawrence in the worship ministry.

Sacred Heart Parish has sent 11 of its members to the Diocesan Formation For Ministry Program. Elaine and Stanley Dillabough were the first to enter the program in 1995. After a move outside Massena, they have returned and now serve in St. Mary's Parish. In 2001 Madeline (Madi) Ashley, James Kennedy, Kathy Mason and Rita Treers were commissioned for ministry in Christian Formation, Youth and Outreach/Visitor ministries.

The 2-year program has six 8-week courses covering Scripture, Church (Ecclesiology), Christology, Sacraments, Moral Theology (Ethics), and Social Justice. The candidates take part in 8 workshops and field experiences dealing with 9 different parish ministries. With this background the candidate can make a better commitment to the Pastor for service in the Parish. Each person in the program commits to at least 2 years for service in the parish sponsoring him/her.

LADIES, PLEASE READ!

THE MOMS GROUP (The Ministry of Mothers Sharing)

Might be good for your mental, physical, and spiritual health!

1) Ladies night out

2ND THURSDAY EACH MONTH - 7 PM
SACRED HEART RECTORY MEETING ROOM
OR OTHER ANNOUNCED PLACES.

Pool Parties / Children's CPR Courses
Lenten Soup & Bread Suppers / Special Speakers
on Special Topics of Interest to You

2) Play Group with babies & pre-schoolers.

2ND & 4TH TUESDAY EACH MONTH
10 AM TO NOON
SACRED HEART RECTORY PLAYROOM

3) In Planning State — 2nd Ministry of Mothers Sharing Workshop

8 weeks: 7 meetings ending with a dinner

Building an awareness of the inner sacred self & New ways to inspire, encourage, and affirm each other through all stages of life.



Tots having pizza during Play Group

Contributors:

Paul Haggett, Sr. Juliana Fitzpatrick, Julie Whalen, Pamela Ouimet, Mary Emily Lauzon, Ken Bellor

