



I am writing again from Medjugorje and it is still December 31, 2003. Just about an hour ago, our little group of 24 pilgrims had the honor of listening to one of the visionaries, Jakov. He is the youngest of the visionaries. He was only ten years old when the Blessed Mother began to appear to him and five others. He saw the Blessed Mother every day from June 25, 1981 to September 18, 1998. Now he sees her only on Christmas Day each year.

To look at this young man, no one would suspect that he has been given such a great privilege. He is now married and has three children and continues to live in Medjugorje.

Jakov talked to us through an interpreter. He talks in a very simple, yet very devout and faith-filled way. He told us the great grace that God has given all of us by sending His Mother to us to remind us of His great love for us. Mary comes to us because she wants all of us to be saved. She wants us to listen to the words of Her Son.

He said that when he sees the Blessed Mother, he sees her just like an ordinary person. She wears a gray dress and a white veil. She has blue eyes and black hair. She speaks to them gently and lovingly, as would any mother who cares deeply for her children. Her words are spoken to remind us of how very much Jesus loves us and how He wants all of us to follow Him. He also spoke of how easy it is to do all that the Blessed Mother asks of us; to pray the rosary each day, go to Mass every Sunday or even more often, read the bible, fast on bread and water every Wednesday and Friday, and go to monthly confession.

He also spoke of how important it is to consecrate ourselves to Mary. Consecrating ourselves to Mary means that we strive to follow Mary's example. As she was so completely faithful to God, so we can do the same. We are baptized into Jesus Christ and so, we have the power and grace to follow Him completely if we choose to do so just as Mary did.

After Jakov spoke to our little group, he did not linger to speak or chat or have his picture taken. After praying the Hail Mary with us, he left the room immediately. Many people would have liked to take his picture and that of the other visionaries or have their picture taken with them, but that is not what they are about. They know that they were chosen by God, and our Blessed Mother, to carry a message to the world, not a new message, but one that we have all heard many times with our ears, but not so much with our hearts.

This message bears repeating just like the words of our mothers here on earth. How many of us do what our mothers or fathers tells us the very first time they ask or remember their words to us after hearing them just one time? So our Blessed Mother comes to some of her children, so that they may remind the rest of us just how much she loves us and what we must do to follow Jesus to the eternal life of heaven where we will be happy with Him and with our blessed Mother forever.

Some of you may have read in the newspaper the minutes from the Planning Commission of the city of Wadsworth and about some future plans for our parish. Let me clarify the situation before the rumors abound. The only reason we were going before the Planning Commissions was to get permission to tear down the two houses we own on Humbolt Ave. and to make some more parking for the office and the school. The other plans that were mentioned are just projects we MAY undertake in the future.

No plans will be made without the consultation of the Parish Council and the people of the parish. It was made very clear to us in our parish meeting of May 2000 that we need more parking and more room for meetings. It was also suggested, at this time, that we might want to look into expanding our parish facilities.

The Parish Council, Finance Council, Executive Council, and Buildings and Grounds Council will meet together tomorrow evening to discuss the future of our parish facilities and how we will then obtain the input from the parishioners concerning any future plans.

As we all know, these things take time and planning so we all need to be patient with it so we can best serve our parish needs today and for the future.

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Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, January 17, St. Anthony
 5:00 p.m. Erica Olis [Betty Brier]

Sunday, January 18, Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
 8:00 a.m. Tony Segal [Alfred & Martha Smith]
 9:30 a.m. Intentions of Bertha Ratta [Al & Elaine Daigle]
 11:30 a.m. For Our Parish

Monday, January 19
 8:00 a.m. Harold Knarzer [Schaefer Family]

Tuesday, January 20, St. Fabian; St. Sebastian
 8:00 a.m. Alma McDonald [Alice Serfass]

Wednesday, January 21, St. Agnes
 8:00 a.m. Communion Service
 7:00 p.m. In Reparation for the Sin of Abortion

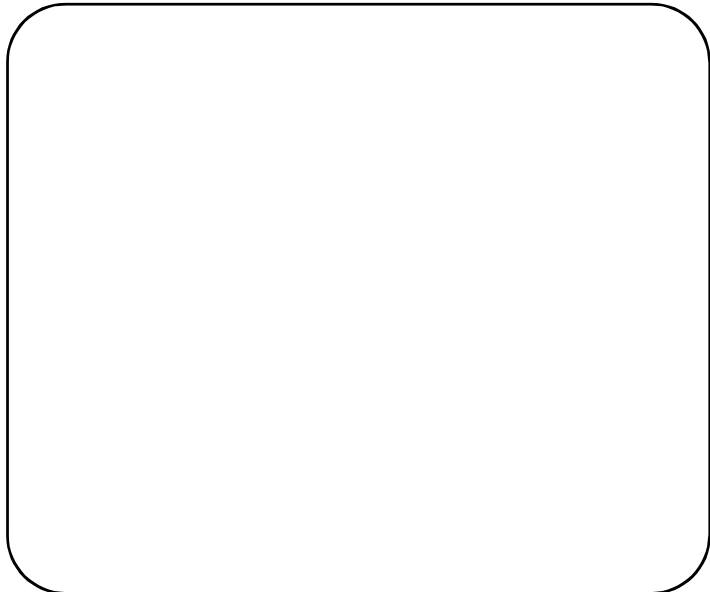
Thursday, January 22, St. Vincent
 8:00 a.m. Communion Service
 9:30 a.m. In Reparation for the Sin of Abortion

Friday, January 23
 8:00 a.m. Charles & Josephine Mazzola [Jim & Cas Isaac]

Saturday, January 24, St. Francis de Sales
 8:00 a.m. Communion Service
 5:00 p.m. Frank Carrino [Carrino Families]

Sunday, January 25, Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
 8:00 a.m. For Our Parish
 9:30 a.m. George George [Bernadette Tetzl]
 11:30 a.m. Anna Maggio [Josephine Vahary]

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS the family and friends of *Ann Bergdorf, Eleanor Bozzelli*, mother of Jennifer Messina, *Clara Dzik*, grandmother of Darlene O'Sullivan, and *William Connor Sr.*, father of Bill, all who died recently. May our Lord grant Ann, Eleanor, Clara, and William eternal rest.



WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REPORT -- JANUARY 11

[5% of our collection was given to the St. Vincent de Paul Society].

Offertory.....	\$14,411.50
Support Our School	\$357.00
Debt Reduction.....	\$432.00
Christmas.....	\$380.00
Religious Retirement	\$75.00
Stewardship	\$10.00
New Year's Day	\$20.00

Number of envelopes used:..... 408
 MANY THANKS for your generous offerings.

Last month, St. Vincent de Paul Society gave assistance to 19 families, totaling \$1,678.11, which included rent, utilities, medical, and miscellaneous. There is an increasing need of funds to assist those with limited or no resources. Thank you for your generosity.



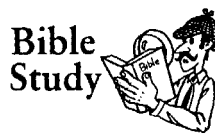
ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEKEND are in loving memory of Laverne Sobie, from her husband, Len.

A MASS TIME CHANGE NEXT WEEK-This Wednesday's

evening Mass will be at **7:00 p.m.**, instead of 5:30 p.m., January 21, This will be a special Mass in reparation for the sin of abortion, in conjunction with the anniversary of Roe vs. Wade. There will also be special recognition of this anniversary at the 9:30 a.m. Mass on Thursday, January 22. *Please plan on attending!*



BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY-Grow holier; grow fatter in the



New Year! A lunchtime bible study will begin in the Andes Room on January 30, at 12:00 noon. Bring your sack lunch [high calorie or low] to study the gospel of John for fifty minutes each Friday. This is a sixteen-week series

that will deepen our understanding of the gospel of the beloved disciple. Call the Parish Office to put in your name and for more information.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION-Thank you to all who have responded to filling the needed times in our chapel. We are still in need of adorers for the following times:

- Thursday-1:00 a.m.
- Friday-1:00 p.m. AND 11:00 p.m.
- Sunday-4:00 a.m.

Liturgical Roles*

MASS SERVERS SCHEDULE

Week of January 19

- 8:00 a.m. - **Monday - Wednesday**
 - Maria Adams, Virginia Gegick
 - Stephanie Gilbert, Steven Sponsler
- 7:00 p.m. - **Wednesday ONLY**
 - David Smith, Jr., Dianna Stafford
 - Alyssa Johnson, Joe Kaminski
- 8:00 a.m. - **Thursday - Saturday**
 - Joseph Goddard, Sam Goddard
 - Alex Pero, Eddie Uhl

Saturday, January 24

- 5:00 p.m. - Samuel Illig, Samantha Gearhart
 - Caleb Busson, Joseph Dean

Sunday, January 25

- 8:00 a.m. - Jack Bott, Joey Easton
 - Sean Leahy, Ricky Ruedlinger
- 9:30 a.m. - Paul Stuhldreher, Laurysa Rieger
 - Carlton Rodrigo, Matthew Rohrbach
- 11:30 a.m. - Michael Reynolds, Reid Seifert
 - Alex Serfass, Frankie Simon

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 24

- 5:00 p.m. - Chuck & Vera McEvoy, Todd Zeiger
 - David King, Debbie Mlazovsky

Sunday, January 25

- 8:00 a.m. - Phil Gerace, Bill Walchli
 - Mel & Ruth Wagner, Ken Hampton
- 9:30 a.m. - Joanne Gahan, Josh Watson, Joe McNeill
 - Chuck & Janet Parsons
- 11:30 a.m. - Madonna DiPietro, Matt & Tammy Seifert
 - Mark Walters, Betty Ruppel

- Cup Ministers** - Oscar & Judy Mifsud, Don Drouhard
 - Bobbe Evans, Jan Finneran, Beth Sobnosky

- Altercare** - Hunt/Jeglic
Liberty Residence - Smiths
Magnolia - Whalen/Kilker
Sterling Oaks - Lionetti/Seifert

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 24

- 5:00 p.m. - Caesar & Lynda Carrino

Sunday, January 25

- 8:00 a.m. - Fritz Kungl, Lee Nichols
 9:30 a.m. - Rita Strickler, Michael Gahan
 11:30 a.m. - Lane Edwards, Alice Henry



CANCELLED! THE PARISH ICE SKATING FOR FEBRUARY 7 has been cancelled.

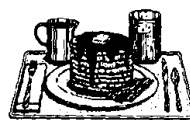


SACRED HEART SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE-As Catholic



parents, one of the most important decisions in your life is that of choosing the education for your children that will help them to grow into mature, Christian adults capable of contributing positively to an ever-changing world. Sacred Heart School is a K-8 elementary Catholic school where students learn and grow spiritually, socially, morally, physically, and academically. In an attempt to truly meet each child's needs, we offer both full-day and half-day kindergarten and many enrichment and intervention opportunities. If you are interested in learning more about Sacred Heart School, we encourage you to call (330-334-6272) the school or come to one of our Open Houses. On January 25, we will hold an Open House for grades 1-8 from 12:30 -2:00 p.m. On February 1, we will hold an Open House for prospective kindergarten students from 12:30—1:30 p.m. Please call the school and make a reservation if your are planning to attend the prospective Kindergarten Open House.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL BREAKFAST FOR PARISH-



IONERS! All parishioners are invited to breakfast served by the school children, Thursday, January 29, at 8:30 a.m., in the school cafeteria. Please join us for Mass at 9:30! **RSVP to the school office, 334-6272.**

MARRIED??? THEN COME CELEBRATE WITH US!!!

World Wide Marriage Encounter is hosting a World Marriage Day celebration/Mass at St. John's Cathedral at 2:00 p.m., February 8. A social hour/reception will be held immediately afterward

THANK YOU FROM THE RED CROSS to Fr. Joe, Mrs. Arnone, and Michelle Slavens, the Blood Mobile Chairperson, for the outstanding blood drive recently-the goal was surpassed and 68 pints of blood was collected! A special thank you to all our generous donors!

2003 ANNUAL PARISH CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

will only be sent out to the parishioners filling out the form below. Return the completed form in the collection basket. Statements will be mailed by the end of January.

ENVELOPE NUMBER MUST BE INCLUDED, PLEASE!

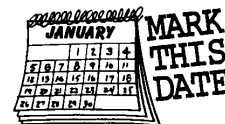
NAME.....

ENVELOPE NUMBER.....

(please print)

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

- Youth Group will be next Sunday night at 7:30 p.m., in the Upper Room. The topic is "God in the Mess of Life" starring Brian and Angela Madigan. Bring a friend-see you there!
- Super Bowl Chili Sales will be after all Masses on Super Bowl Weekend, January 31-February 1. Please sign up at the meeting to help cook and sell chili. Onion choppers needed!
- Faith Opportunities-SEARCH Weekends, the Stuebenville Youth Conference, and the Notre Dame Vocation Initiative sign-ups are now going on. See the youth bulletin board at the east entrance for more details.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

- 10:25 a.m. - High School PSR
- 11:30 a.m. - Confirmation Session #4, church & McMahon Hall

MONDAY, JANUARY 19

- 3:30 p.m. - **NO** Jr. Presidium, Andes Room
- 7:00 p.m. - Parish Council, Conry Room & McMahon Hall

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

- 6:30 p.m. - NFP, Conry Room
- 7:00 p.m. - Boy Scouts, McMahon Hall
- 7:00 p.m. - Building & Grounds Meeting, Andes Room

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

- 10:00 a.m. - Bible Study Group, Andes Room
- 3:15 p.m. - Youth Choir, church
- 3:30 p.m. - Brownies, Conry Room
- 6:30 p.m. - Young Adult Choir, church
- 7:00 p.m. - PreCana Meeting, Conry & Andes Room
- 7:00 p.m. - Jr. High PSR, school
- 7:00 p.m. - RCIA, McMahon Hall

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

- 7:30 p.m. - Adult Choir, church
- 7:30 p.m. - Catholics Returning Home, Andes Room

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

- 9:15 a.m. - Elementary PSR, school
- 11:00 a.m. - Confessions until Noon, church
- 3:30 p.m. - Confessions until 4:30 p.m., church
- 6:00 p.m. - Medugorje Meeting, McMahon Hall

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

- 10:25 a.m. - **NO** High School PSR
- 7:30 p.m. - Youth Group Meeting, Upper Room

NEEDED-Excellent working condition electric typewriter; please call the Parish Office, 336-3049.

A FREE THROW CONTEST, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, will take place on January 18, at 1:00 p.m., at the Steiner Youth Center. All boys and girls, ages 10-14 are eligible. Entry forms are available at Steiners. Call 336-4487.

CONGRATULATIONS to Amanda Presz for achieving the high academic distinction of making the Dean's List at Wright State University!

AN EDUCATIONAL SERIES FOR CAREGIVERS will be held through the Medina County Office for Older Adults. Please call 330-723-9615, for questions or further information.

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A Faith Filled Future! Next week is Catholic Schools Week. This is a very special time for all of us to reflect on the importance of Catholic Education. We are very proud of the fine school that we have here at Sacred Heart.

Our principal, faculty, and staff are very committed people who truly follow the example of Jesus as they strive to share the Catholic Faith with our young people. Please keep our faculty, staff, students, and parents in your prayers in a special way next week.

There will be a variety of events at our school next week so that we can promote the fine school we have. We will begin with the 11:30 Mass next Sunday to kick off our celebration of Catholic Schools Week.

January 22 is the 31st anniversary of the Supreme Court decision to legalize abortion on demand. After 31 years, over 40,000,000 lives have been lost to this holocaust. Many people will be going to Washington, D.C. this week for a *March for Life*; please pray that all our voices may be heard that this great evil may finally be ended in our country.

Our Bishops have declared January 22 to be a day of prayer and penance for the sin of abortion. **The Wednesday evening Mass, which will be at 7:00 PM instead of 5:30, and the Thursday morning Mass at 9:30, will be Masses of reparation.** Please make every effort to attend one of these Masses as we ask God's forgiveness on our nation.