

Saint Mary

ON THE HILL
CATHOLIC CHURCH



IN THIS ISSUE

Mass Schedule

Sunday, 7:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m.,
12:15 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Monday, 7:00 a.m. and 9:15 a.m.

Tuesday, 7:00 a.m. and 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, 7:00 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.

Thursday, 7:00 a.m. and 9:15 a.m.

Friday, 7:00 a.m. and 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, 9:15 a.m.,
5:00 p.m. (Sunday Vigil)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, 3:45-4:45 p.m.
and by appointment

Perpetual Adoration Chapel

Chapel is located at the corner of
Monte Sano and Bellevue.

News and Notes from Fr. Jerry

Implementing the New Roman Missal

Dear Parishioners,

The sins of my youth have come back to haunt me. As a young priest, I did not have great compassion for those who did not like the changes in the liturgy after the Second Vatican Council. Now as we move towards a new translation of the Mass that will be implemented this coming Advent, I find that at this point in my life I am not a very big fan of change. God and the Vatican have a wonderful sense of humor.

I've been so uneasy about the coming changes that last September while on vacation, I made a little pilgrimage to the grave of Virgil Michel in Colle-ville, Minn. Dom Virgil Michel was a Benedictine monk, and even though he died in 1938 – long before the Second Vatican Council – he is considered the Father of the Modern Liturgical Movement. He believed that all the baptized needed to take full and active participation in the liturgy, because together we form the Body of Christ. He taught that the Eucharistic table is the place where parishioners are drawn to participate in the sacrament of Christ, and the place from where they are sent forth to care for the poor and the needy. At his grave, I simply prayed that something positive would emerge from the coming changes.



Some will probably be delighted by the more high-toned language of the new Missal. Others may have questions and be suspicious about change for change's sake, "Are we undoing the liturgical reform of the Second Vatican Council?" "The new language hints at Roman lawyering, why?" "How will the changes bring people back to the Church?" "Is there any spiritual advantage?" "Do we have to do this?" and, in the vernacular, "If it ain't broke, why fix it?" Most of us, especially if we have negative feelings about the changes, hopefully will bring the virtue of obedience to them.

Almost every prayer in the Mass – those spoken by the priest and those spoken by the people – has been retranslated from the Latin to English. Some prayers now recited by memory will need to be relearned, and the familiar language of many prayers recited by the priest will change. In preparing the new translation, the translators were asked to make the English texts conform more closely to the Latin originals, and they were also asked to retain traditional theological vocabulary that communicates important concepts of the Faith. The language that the faithful will hear and pray is more formal

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For Love of the Game

Kinga Kiss-Johnson

For college basketball fans, nothing beats the springtime “March Madness” tournament. The uber-competitive and fast-paced games can cause even the most passive basketball fan to get off the couch and head to the nearest court for a quick game of hoops.

For St. Mary’s parishioner Kinga Kiss-Johnson, basketball has been a passion since childhood. The native Romanian began playing when she was just 6 years old, proving talented enough to join the Romanian National Team at 12. Throughout her teenage years, Kinga studied at various athletic institutions in Romania before joining the Hungarian Basketball Club at 18, consequently winning a European Championship and the Division One League Championship title. By all accounts, Kinga was a star, and her abilities on the court caught the attention of American college recruiters.

“I was approached to go to the United States to study as an international student in college,” she says. “I got an athletic scholarship for Jefferson College in Hillsboro, Mont., which was a junior college where I was Academic All-American and Athletic All-American for two years.”

That same year, Kinga was recruited to play at the Division One level for Southwest Missouri State University. Playing with the Lady Bears, Kinga and her teammates won the Missouri Valley championship two years in a row, even making it to the NCAA Division One Final Four as a “Cinderella” team.

While basketball is an enormous part of Kinga’s life, it did not consume her. Despite the sport’s big presence in her heart, she did find room for love, and married her college sweetheart, Bill Johnson, in 2001. The couple celebrates their 10-year anniversary this summer, and Kinga says they hope to renew their vows.



Bill Johnson and Kinga Kiss-Johnson pose for a picture in Germany

Kinga also has a heart for families separated by war and international conflict. Moved after witnessing families endure the pain of being torn apart by the war in Afghanistan, she decided to enlist in the United States military and join the fight against terrorism.

“I have seen all the mothers and fathers deploying in back-to-back tours, and I told my husband that I would like to join the military to make a difference,” she says.

In 2006, Kinga joined the Army and served one tour in Afghanistan with the 173rd BSB Support Unit out of Germany. During her time abroad, she was injured and consequently moved to Germany to recover and rehabilitate. Kinga and Bill eventually

wound up in Augusta via Fort Gordon, where Kinga recently retired from active duty due to her injuries.

While in Augusta, the couple stumbled upon St. Mary’s, and instantly fell in love with our faith community.

“We wanted to find a home church, and we found St. Mary’s – with great people; it gives me the feeling of being at home in Romania, in my small beautiful church where I was baptized and had my First Communion and my Confirmation,” she says.

Not long after joining the parish, Kinga noticed an ad in the weekly bulletin voicing a need for volunteer youth basketball coaches. Despite her injuries, she jumped at the chance to work with the youth and teach them the game she loved so well. This past season, she coached the boys’ 11 and under team.

Kinga and Bill also volunteered to help build the recent Habitat for Humanity house, which St. Mary’s sponsored.

“My husband and I, in our free time, love to give back to the community,” she says.

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What Can You Buy for \$25?

What is it that motivates a person to give back to the community? For some, it's seeing a person in need, begging on a street corner. Others find a compulsion to give after discovering a need within the community. Or maybe it's a combination of circumstances and experiences that lead people to place others before themselves.

For St. Mary School student Olivia Goodman, the desire to give stemmed from the example of her family and friends, as well as an idea she got from a new television program.

"After watching *Secret Millionaire*, a new show about helping people, I realized that I needed to do more," shares the fourth-grade student "But I also realized that I didn't need to wait, that I could do it right away!"

Olivia's first step toward putting her new plan into action came after she received a birthday check of \$25 from her aunt. Olivia knew just how she was going to spend the gift.

"I couldn't think of anything I *needed*, I could only think of things that I *wanted*," she says. "I really wanted to use the money for something more meaningful than something that I just wanted."

Without wasting a minute, Olivia decided to use the money in a way that would bless someone in need. She had witnessed her neighbor, Mrs. Mayo, volunteering at her own church and giving to the poor, which inspired Olivia to do the same.

At the same time, St. Mary's School was preparing for its monthly food drive. Olivia seized the opportunity and wrote a letter to her classmates entitled, "What Can You Buy for \$25?" The letter explained what a difference \$25 can mean to someone in need, as well as what could be purchased with just \$25.

"This amount of money doesn't seem like a lot to most of us, but to those in need it makes a real difference," she says.

Olivia and her "Mee-maw," Connie Emmette, then headed to the grocery store, purchasing 80 non-perishable items to donate to the food drive. The list included pasta, rice, tuna, sauces and more.

Total cost: \$24.19.

"If we all could give just a little bit, we can make an even bigger difference," Olivia says. "People will know that they are cared for, and when they get themselves together, they might even want to try and help others out."

Olivia is already saving her money for the next school food drive, where she hopes to be able to again bless others with a little gift of her love.



Kinga Kiss-Johnson *continued from page 2*

Today, Kinga uses a wheelchair from time to time; however, she continues to play basketball. She is a member of the Augusta Bulldogs wheelchair basketball team.

"I enjoy playing [wheelchair] basketball, and I started to play because of my occupational therapist, who suggested it would help me recover from my injuries," she says.

Kinga dreams of one day making it to the national wheelchair basketball team, and of competing in the Paralympics in 2012, which will be hosted in London.

In the meantime, let's hope she continues to work with the youth of our parish, teaching them the meaning of perseverance, service and love for God.

Summer Plans for Our Mid



School's out for summer! These words bring joy to the heart of any student, but while summer vacation means a break from classes, homework and reports, it doesn't mean taking a break from our Faith. In fact, for our middle school and high school youth, this summer provides plenty of opportunities for spiritual growth and development.

Vacation Bible School, June 13-17

Do you like to work with children? Are you in need of service hours? Then Youth Director Michael Lammers suggests volunteering during Vacation Bible School. He explains that the program needs plenty of volunteers – from middle school to high school students – and volunteering is a wonderful way to earn those service hours needed for Confirmation. *(Turn to the back cover to learn more.)*

Eucharistic Congress, June 24-25

Sponsored by the Archdiocese of Atlanta, the first Eucharistic Congress was held in 1995 on the feast of

Corpus Christi for the purpose of encouraging and promoting Eucharistic Adoration. Every year since, the event has grown bigger and, today, tens of thousands gather at the Georgia International Convention Center to take part in a weekend of music, inspirational talks, and a special Eucharistic procession.

While Michael explains that, while St. Mary's will not be sponsoring an official group, there are many families who attend the congress on their own, and it is something he is trying to promote.

"If you've never been, I encourage you to go," he says. "It's a powerful experience."

Steubenville South Youth Conference, June 24-26

Always the highlight of the summer, the Steubenville South Youth Conference provides an opportunity for our high school youth to gather with other Catholic teens from around the country for a weekend of worship, praise, inspirational talks, and spiritual growth.

"Originally we were going to attend the conference in Steubenville, Ohio," Michael explains. "But with 75

Middle and High School Youth



students from our parish registered, they couldn't handle our large numbers, and so we're going back to Alexandria, La., which is where we went last year."

And the fact that the change was due to such a large response is great news to Michael. Last year, the 24 students who attended the conference returned excited about their Faith, and Michael says this year promises to be even better.

The theme for the conference is "Rooted," based on Colossians 2:6-7, which says: "As therefore you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so live in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving." This theme will be woven throughout the course of the weekend as students attend Mass, participate in Eucharistic Adoration, listen to keynote speakers, and accept the challenge to explore their Catholic Faith.

Ministry Leadership Training for Youth, June 21-22

This two-day training course for high school students will feature Tony Bellizzi, whom Michael de-

scribes as a "retreat master." Held at Aquinas High School June 21-22, the retreat promises to inspire, energize, and empower our youth to be leaders in their Faith. Some of the topics to be covered include peer ministry, evangelization, group facilitation, leading retreats, and prayer.

For further information
on any of these events,
please check the church
bulletin or contact Michael
Lammers at 706-394-6447 or
mmlammers@knology.net.

The Word, Well Spoken



“God opens peoples’ eyes to new things, and I like to think that we have a place in that.”

-Jessica Brudjar, lector



Words, spelled-out or spoken – whether whispered, declared, or exclaimed – can carry a lot of weight. It’s easy to take words for granted, but imagine life without them. Reality gives cause for words, but words explain and, in turn, define that reality. The Church has acknowledged the great value of words from its beginning. After all, Jesus Himself is the Word among us.

The spoken word allows for the speaker to help shape what is said. He or she allows for the listener to encounter the words with particular emphasis, and to consider the meaning they carry. This role is important, especially when proclaiming the Word of God.

“A lector is an instrument of God’s grace; [he or she is] chosen to proclaim the Word for the community,” says Vicki Barnett, active lector and former lector coordinator of 10 years. “Being a lector is one of the most important ministries of the Church because you are proclaiming the Word of God. You’re touching so many people, and if you do it well, they’re getting the message.”

St. Mary’s currently has 73 lectors who serve the parish. These ministers may choose during which Mass they want to consistently serve. A lector schedule is composed every three months, with each lector assigned to read once or twice per quarter.

“When we became members of St. Mary’s and got our stewardship packet, ‘lectorship’ jumped out to us,” says Jessica Brudjar, a lector of six months. “My husband and I both signed up because we were looking for a place to serve, and we knew that with a child on the way and both of us being in the military, our time would be con-

strained. It’s a place for both of us to serve without stretching ourselves beyond our time and abilities.”

While serving as a lector may be less of a time commitment than other ministries, it is just as essential as other time-intensive ministries. Proclaiming the Scriptures at Mass is a worthy service for those with a gift for speaking.

“Every gift we are given; we are charged to return that,” says Vicki. “That’s part of the stewardship of time, talent, and treasure. There are some people who don’t have a lot of money, so they can share time and talent. My talent is speaking, so I give my talent to God and the time that it takes for me to do that.”

Both Vicki and Jessica admit to being nervous about reading at first, but training helped prepare them. New lectors are encouraged to attend a training session when they sign up, as well as stay up-to-date on changes to the liturgy whenever necessary.

“It’s extremely important that they speak clearly and that the community hears what they are saying, because they may be the only instrument proclaiming God’s Word to the listener that week,” says Vicki.

Jessica echoes Vicki’s sentiments.

“Both my husband and I like it because you get to be the mouthpiece for the congregation,” she says. “For some people, this is their chance to get fed. God opens people’s eyes to new things, and I like to think that we have a place in that.”

For more information about lectors, or how you can serve in this way, contact Kyle McArdle, lector coordinator, at 706-922-3703 or kyle@catholicsteward.com

Roman Missal *continued from front cover*

and somewhat more complex than the language of ordinary conversation. It conveys rich theological concepts and retains biblical language and images.

There are many ways in which you can prepare for the changes in the Mass:

- The teachings of Dom Virgil would ask us to make a conscious effort to participate more fully in the Mass each Sunday and holy day.

- Take advantage of the catechetical sessions offered by our parish or deanery. I'd ask you to mark Oct. 19 on your calendar, when Jerry Galipeau, a nationally-renowned expert on liturgical spirituality, will give a talk to our parish on the new Missal.

- Visit the Roman Missal Web site (www.usccb.org/romanmissal) to study the new texts and to learn more about the changes.

- Read the new texts of the people's parts at Mass. Begin to study them so that you will be able to pray them well when the new Roman Missal is implemented.

- Pray for a renewal of love for the liturgy in our parish and in the Church.

Times of change are always a challenge. But from this challenge can come a deeper appreciation of who we are as the Body of Christ, gathering to celebrate the Paschal Mystery of the Lord. And right before these changes take place in late November, I intend to take another pilgrimage to ease the stress of change. Over the years, I have taken many pilgrimages in the company of good friends. I have always found them to be both good fun and at the same time filled with blessings. A pilgrimage is "a symbol of the great journey of human life towards God." This time, we will be "traveling" with Mary at the great Marian Shrines of Portugal, France and Spain. Some very fun folks have already signed up. I'd love to have you join us.

God bless you,



Fr. Jerry

St. Mary on the Hill Catholic Church presents...

Pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes with Barcelona
Nov. 7-15, 2011
9 Days, 14 Meals:
7 Breakfasts, 1 lunch & 6 Dinners

Per Person Rates:
Double \$2,529;
Single \$2,829; Triple \$2,499

Included in Price:
Hotel Transfers,
Round Trip Air from Bush Field
Brochures and reservation forms available in the Narthex.

Deposit of \$250 per person due upon reservation. Reservations made after the seat reduction date of June 8, 2011 are based upon availability.

Final payment due by Sept. 8, 2011

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Augusta, GA 30904
Phone 706-733-6627
www.stmaryonthehill.org

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*In Memory of Joyce Maloney, Jewel Keske, and
Dorothy Fourt*
Claudette Boskovich

Vacation Bible School 2011



Do you ever wonder what it was like during Jesus' time on Earth? Find the answer to this question and more by participating in "Hometown Nazareth: *Where Jesus Was a Kid.*"

"Hometown Nazareth," this summer's Vacation Bible School program, takes place June 13-17, from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at St. Mary's School. The program is open to all children in preschool through rising sixth-graders.

Step back in time and discover what Nazareth was like more than 2,000 years ago. Participants will be grouped into "tribes," where they will visit various centers such as "Hometown Huddle," "Mary's House," and "Marketplace Shops." Each activity will teach students more about what life was like during Jesus' life on Earth.

Registration for "Hometown Nazareth" begins this month; refer to the weekly bulletin or contact Joan Purucker (706-733-6627) for more information. The cost to attend is \$10 per student.

The Vacation Bible School staff is in need of volunteer helpers. Students in the seventh and eighth grades, as well as those in high school and beyond, are encouraged to give of their time and talents toward this wonderful program.