

**Dear Parishioners,**

This weekend celebrates the first weekend in our month of September. After a weekend break to celebrate a Mass for the election of a new bishop, we return to ordinary time and celebrate the 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. Since I worked with the deaf for many years, our gospel for this weekend has special meaning to me. In that gospel Jesus meets a man who was deaf. It's quite logical that being deaf, he was unable to hear the language spoken and so was either mute or, as the gospel states, "having a speech impediment." What Jesus does next is to "put his finger into the man's ears and spitting, touched his tongue; then He looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, 'Ephphatha!'—that is 'Be opened.' And immediately the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment removed and he spoke freely." That word "Ephphatha" became the word the deaf used to reflect their faith life and the Church's ministry to them. But it was my experience after working with the deaf that I realized that there were many more hearing people who were deaf to God's word, than the deaf themselves. It's like a husband or wife who are deaf to each other, tuning themselves out to the needs of one another. If it works with human beings, it works also with our God. So in the spirit of our gospel for today, let our celebration proclaim "Ephphatha!"—that is be opened to God's Word and God's Will in our lives.

Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, is Labor Day and a national holiday. As is the custom of this parish, we will have only one Mass on that day, namely at 9:00 a.m. Ever since God created this world and humankind became apart of that creation, we have been challenged by our God to be stewards of this creation. In other words, we are obligated and responsible for this world and the things that dwell therein. We work and we labor as the responsible stewards. This is the day that we acknowledge the gift of labor and thank God for the ability to labor in His vineyard by our care of it. May God continue to bless all of our labors as we try our best to make this world a better place for all.

As far as stewardship is concerned, next Friday and Saturday the various leadership groups of our parish will be meeting for a type of "stewardship retreat." The Catholic Stewardship Consultants is the group that currently does our monthly newsletter as well as helping us become a stewardship parish. Anyone interested in the parish who would like to come to this retreat experience, please call the parish center and let us know. The Friday retreat day will begin with dinner at 6:30 p.m. I ask all of our parish family to remember us in your prayers as we embark

on a special journey hopefully becoming a stewardship parish of the future.

On a personal note, I want to let you know that my family has called in Hospice for my dad. On August 17<sup>th</sup>, dad had a very successful knee replacement. His old knee, as the doctor informed him, was "blown" and he was in tremendous pain trying to walk. He decided to opt for the knee surgery since his previous one was so successful just two years ago. Well, the surgery went well and he was recuperating quite well. Then his system went "haywire." He ended up having a tube down into his stomach. He survived that only then to have a massive heart attack. Now his kidneys have shut down and he will die of renal failure, unless his heart gives out before that. I asked my dad where he wanted to die and he said here in Effingham. I think it's because this parish family has made him feel so at home with you. You have opened yourself up and have been a parish of hospitality. For that, I am extremely grateful. As I told you before, you are a very special parish family to me—and now to my dad. Thanks for caring, thanks for loving, and thank you for your prayers. By the time that you read this, I pray that God has answered my dad's prayers, and our prayers, and has taken him home.

Next Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, St. Anthony Church will be sponsoring a Pre-Cana for all those who are engaged and planning marriage. Please pray for our team who will be sharing their marriage experiences with these engaged couples. Also, our RCIA process will begin on Thursday, September 10, at 7:00 p.m. in the parish center. It is not too late to sign up. Please call Sr. Alicia at the parish office if you are interested or know someone interested in learning more about the Catholic faith.

**ON THE LIGHTER SIDE:** Mark took his beat-up pickup to his insurance agent for a pre-insurance inspection. The teenage receptionist was sent to look over the truck. Armed with a checklist and a few simple questions, she breezed through the chore. She ended by asking, "What are the age and the make of the vehicle?" Mark replied, "It's a 65 Ford." Apologetic about its desperate condition, he added, "It's an old fossil." Inside the office, the receptionist entered the data into her computer and frowned. "Is there a problem," asked Mark. "Mr. Evans, our computers have a lot of automotive date," she explained, "but it's never heard of a Ford Fossil."

**Rev. Leo J. Enlow**

**Mass Intentions**

**Monday, September 7, 9:00 a.m. Labor Day Mass**

Helen & Ray Niemerg, Margaret Byrnes Woods, Todd William Koester, Helen R. Dust, Dick Behl

**Tuesday, September 8, 6:30 and 8:30 a.m. Mass:** Leonard Niebrugge, Jack Kabbes & family, John Niemann family, Don Kabbes, Kelly Brown, Herman Kroeger

**Wednesday, September 9, 6:30 and 8:30 a.m. Mass:** Gerry Bishop, Helen Gower, Leroy Soltwedel Anniversary

**Thursday, September 10, 6:30 and 8:30 a.m. Mass:** Ron Schmidt, Ray, Carlene, Bob & Joe Wente, Russ & Mary Uptmor, Mary Hoene

**Friday, September 11, 6:30 and 8:30 a.m. Mass; 2:00 p.m. Mass at Lakeland:** Adolph Kaufman, LeRoy Borries family, Vivian Jansen Anniversary, Edward & Dolores Hartke, Jack Hightower, Otis & Donna Rincker family

**Saturday, September 12, 6:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Mass:** Mary Catherine Richards Anniversary, Leigh Kinkelaar Anniversary, Ben & Lena Unkraut, Robert Jones

**Sunday, September 13, 7:30, 9:15 and 11:00 a.m. Mass:** Becky Hawickhorst, Norman Rentfrow Anniversary, Louis & Florence Goldstein, Stella Worman Anniversary, Andrew & Terry Lee Niebrugge, Leonard Einhorn & family, Jason Flach, Parishioners of St. Anthony



We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of Lucille Kaufman, Linda Koester and Florence Bushur. May God and our prayers console them at this time and may they rest in peace.



**Bereavement Support Group**

St. Anthony Parish Center  
7pm Tuesday evenings  
Next support group meets 9/8

*let us pray that health will soon be restored to the sick and convalescing . . . .*

Rick Ashley  
Mary Baker  
Catherine Beckler  
Jim Bloemer  
Jim Brady  
Lisa Crosson  
Art Dasenbrock  
Doris Dasenbrock  
Alexis Didier  
Phyllis Jean DuFrene  
Leo Enlow, Sr.  
Maureen Funneman  
Joan Gardewine Ashley  
Kris Jansen  
Michael Kay

Lisa Kingery  
Carolyn Koerner  
Amy Koester  
Linda Koester  
Terry Kraft  
Sue Kronerwitter  
Michelle Kuhl  
Paul Lange  
Minnie Luchtefeld  
Donna Martin  
Lori Mathews  
Agnes Meyer  
Jolly Michels  
Mildred Nash  
Tony Osthoff

Diane Rallo  
Delores Richter  
Steve Sehy  
Ron Shoffstall  
Rosemary Soltwedel  
Jodi Sparks  
Eric Stein  
Tom Stillwell  
Lester Stoner  
Lee Thomas  
Rebekah Volk  
Sr. Cordula Wekenborg  
Craig Welch  
Joyce Westjohn  
Mark Worman



**Coffee & Donuts Fellowship**

**Sunday ~ September 6**

Come to the parish center after the 9:15 a.m. Mass and spend some time visiting.

Don't forget to bring the children  
You can pick up your pictorial directory if you have not done so.

**Fr. Daren's Mailing Address**

If you wish to write Father Daren, effective September 12th, his new address will be:

The Rev. Daren J. Zehnle  
Sacred Heart Church  
721 North Springfield Street  
Virden, Illinois 62690

**Pray for Vocations**

**PSR—Parish School of Religion**

**Begins ~ Wednesday, September 9  
6:30 p.m. ~ St. Anthony Grade School**

All St. Anthony public grade and high school students are urged to attend PSR. If anyone did not receive a form and requires one, come to class Wednesday night.

**PARENTS of 7th Grade Public School Students** we have a **2-year Confirmation program** in the PSR. If your child will be a candidate for Confirmation in the 8th grade, 2010-11, be sure he/she is attending religion classes this year as well as next year.



**RCIA**

RCIA classes are open to all those who wish to inquire into the Catholic faith. Classes at St. Anthony Parish begin in September, and registration for this year's program is in progress. If you, or someone you know, would like more information about RCIA or would like to register to begin this process please call Sister Alicia at the parish office, 217-347-7129.

**Parish Office Closed**

The Parish Offices will be closed on Monday, September 7 for Labor Day.



### ***Why Catholic?.....The Profession of Faith***

Next weekend, September 12/13, at all of the parish Masses, members of our parish will be encouraged to sign up for the *Why Catholic?* renewal program set to begin October 5-November 9, 2009. Last year over 250 parishioners studied The Sacraments.

The fall session this year centers on the Profession of Faith .....What We Believe.

For those past participants who will continue their faith formation with their small groups this fall, we say, "Welcome Back!" If your small community leader has not contacted you, please contact them or the parish office and kindly inform us of your intention of continuing so we can order an adequate number of supplies.

For those wanting to join us this fall, "Welcome", and please fill out one of the sign up sheets enclosed with the bulletin this weekend. Return the completed form to the parish office or in the collection basket next weekend.

*Why Catholic?* explores the important truths of our faith, as they are presented in the Catechism of the Catholic Church and in the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults. It is a parish-based process of adult faith formation, through small Christian communities. It invites us to explore how our faith affects the way we see ourselves and our purpose in life, both as individuals and as a community.

*Why Catholic?* helps nourish faith and enhance our Catholic identity. It is founded on encouraging us to *live* the reasons *why* we are Catholic, and so lead us to a faith that is lived more deeply and meaningfully to God, and to others. It combines the best of faith-learning, faith sharing, and faith living.

Please consider responding to this renewal opportunity as part of your lifelong faith development journey. If you have further questions regarding *Why Catholic?*, please contact the parish office or Deacon Joe at 868-5736.

### **Photo's Needed**

Do you have photos (digital or traditional) that illustrate the beauty of our church or pictures of our students or parishioners that capture the spirit of St. Anthony? Photos could be featured on our website or in a St. Anthony publication. For more information or to submit photos, email Eric/Nicole Zeller or Brad/Carrie Koenig at Fundraising@stanthony.com by Sept. 21 or call 342-9207.

### **Children's Liturgy~September 13**

We are happy to announce that the parish will start a Children's Liturgy program on Sunday, September 13. The children will enter Mass with their parents and then leave right before the readings. They will be accompanied by the teachers and helpers into the parish center for their own lesson. They will return to Mass at the presentation of the gifts. This curriculum will be the same as what the Kindergarten and 1st graders use and will be offered during 9:15 Mass at a cost of \$10. *Coordinators, teachers and helpers are needed to ensure the success of this program!* This will fulfill the Sunday Mass requirement. To register your child and to volunteer your talents, please contact Nancy Bushur at 217-342-4479 or nbushur@hotmail.com.

### **From the Choir Loft**

**Adult Choir**, September 9, 7 p.m. in the parish center

**Men's Choir**, September 10, 7:30 p.m. parish center

**Intermediate Choir**, September 11, 3 p.m. Chorus room at Grade School

**Clavinova Club**, September 8, contact Barb Konrad for times, 240-6156

### **CCW Reminder**

The Council of Catholic Women will be meeting for a **salad supper/meeting on Tuesday, September 8 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Parish Center. Bring your favorite salad or dessert (meat will be supplied by the officers) and share in the fun and fellowship.

*HINT: Are you smarter than a fifth grader?*

### **our\_future@work update**

.... well, it appears that our new grade school project is coming to a close with only a few items to complete ... the building has been officially "turned over" to the parish except for a few minor items ... this past week the "punch list" was addressed and completed ... the playground equipment will be reinstalled in late September / early October by a group of volunteers ... the elevator installation is complete but waiting on state inspection ... this will be the last update for our\_future@work ... thanks for your support and attention ...

### **Give Help rather than advice!**

**Sign Up To Receive St. Anthony Email Updates at [www.stanthony.com](http://www.stanthony.com)  
You can now receive email updates regarding parish, school and alumni events**



September 6, 2009

### USE OF GRADE SCHOOL PARKING LOT

The grade school parking lot will be available for use beginning Tuesday, September 8.

In the morning buses will drop-off students in the parking lot, entering the parking lot from the northwest end, off of Third Street.

In the afternoon families with last names beginning with the letters A-K will pick-up their children in the circle drive in front of school; entering from the northeast entrance, exiting the southeast exit. Families with last names beginning with the letters L-Z will use the grade school parking lot, entering from the northeast corner and exiting the northwest corner.

We ask for everyone's patience when entering and exiting the circle drive and the parking lot. Expect there to be congestion at the intersections. There are crossing guards at the corners of Virginia & Second Street, and Second Street & St. Louis Avenue, please respect these students as they help protect those students that walk from school.

Thank you for your cooperation with these processes.

### TERRA NOVA TESTING

Students in grades 3-8 will be taking their Terra Nova tests the week of September 14-17. It is most important that the students get a good breakfast and adequate rest. We ask parents to explain to the students the importance of doing their best since the results are a reflection of them and the school.

### RECYCLING @ SAGS

Throughout the school year we are/will be collecting the following items for recycling:

- Plastic bags (i.e. Wal Mart, K-Mart, IGA, etc.)
- Used ink & toner cartridges
- Used cell phones
- Aluminum cans (at specified times throughout the year)
- Telephone books (Fall of the year)

Thank you for your help in keeping our environment green and supporting St. Anthony Grade School. All of our cleaning supplies are now green, too.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

9/7/09	Labor Day - No School
9/14-18/09	Terra Nova Testing, Gr. 3-8
9/18/09	Mid-Term
9/20/09	Catechetical Sunday
	Knights of Columbus Family Picnic
9/21/09	School Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
9/23/09	School Pictures, Gr. K-3
9/24/09	School Pictures, Gr. 4-8
10/3/09	Fall Fest @ SAHS, 4:30 p.m.
10/7/09	Sacraments Meeting, Gr. 2, 6:30 p.m.
10/12/09	No School - <i>Columbus Day</i>
10/16/09	End of First Quarter
10/22/09	Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4:30-8:30
10/23/09	Parent/Teacher Conferences, 9-12:30
11/11/09	No School - <i>Veterans Day</i>
11/20/09	Mid-Term
11/25/09	2:00 Dismissal
11/26/09	No School - <i>Thanksgiving Day</i>
11/27/09	No School
12/6/09	First Reconciliation, Gr. 2, 1:30 p.m.
12/8/09	All School Mass - <i>Immaculate Conception</i>
12/21/09	Christmas Music Concert, 7:00 p.m.
12/22/09	End of Second Quarter, All School Mass
12/23/09 -1/4/09	<i>CHRISTMAS BREAK</i>
1/5/10	School Resumes

### NEW FACES / NAMES

We welcome our new Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Holly Funne-man to our school. Holly is married to Justin, has two children and resides in the Dieterich area.

In addition we'd like to welcome our new and returning stu-dents

- Grade K - All 26 of them
- Grade 1 - All 34 of them
- Grade 3 - Luke Ludwig
- Grade 4 - Kyle Willenborg
- Grade 6 - Abeer Kohli, Taylor Sears
- Grade 7 - Brianne McDaniel, Alec Niebrugge, Derek Rios
- Grade 8 - Alex Hoelscher

We look forward to sharing this year with them.

### GRATITUDE

As our construction comes to an end and we are fully able to enjoy the beautiful building, the technology, the furni-ture, and the landscaping we wish to express our gratitude to all our donors, but especially the anonymous donors. May God bless all of you. May everything we do mirror this les-son of generosity.

A Dedication Ceremony is being planned for some time this fall. Date and details will be announced when finalized.

**OUR WEEKLY OFFERINGS**

Annual collection budgeted goal for year ended 6/30/10	\$ 1,924,000
Actual collections through 08/30/09 (9 weeks-\$24,711 average)	( 222,391)
Balance required to reach goal (43 weeks)	\$ 1,701,609
Average weekly goal for remaining 43 weeks	\$ 39,572
Actual weekly offerings received for 08/30/09	\$ 28,262

***Capital Debt Retirement and  
SAHS Maintenance Fund***

Pledges to date (107.5%)	<u>\$913,564</u>
Amount received (97.6%)	<u>\$891,851</u>

. . . Thanks for participating with Fr. Daren's luncheon last Sunday. Still a little time before his departure initiation, next Saturday. We wish him well and spiritual guidance as Pastor of St. Patrick in Gerard & St. Rita in Kincaid. We also extend our heartfelt thanks for his high school involvement and other activities at St. Anthony, during these, his first four years as a Priest. We are sure the Dr. Pepper supply in the office will go down, but he still plans to edit the monthly newsletters. God Speed, Fr. Daren!

**Calendar of Events**

- Sun,** 10:15a, Coffee/Donuts, Pc
- Mon,** Office & Schools Closed
- Tue,** 6:30p, CCW Salad Supper, pc lg  
7p, Bereavement Support Group, pc sm
- Wed,** 6:30p, PSR, grade school  
7p, Adult Choir, pc
- Thurs,** 7p, RCIA, pc lg  
7:30p, Mens Choir, Church
- Sun,** 9:15 Children's Liturgy

**SCRIP is Here!!!**

*What is SCRIP?* SCRIP basically is substitute money or gift card. You can use the cards for your groceries, gas, gift buying and eating out.

With just a little planning on your part, you can help St. Anthony Schools. For example, you can order a \$100 Wal-Mart gift card from SCRIP at face value, Wal-Mart gives 2% back to St. Anthony Schools. There are a wide variety of national retailer and restaurant gift cards available through SCRIP, as well as several local retailers and restaurants. Every participating business offers a different discount.

Beginning in September on the first and third weekends after 4:30 Mass on Saturdays and after 9:15 Mass on Sundays cards may be ordered in the parish center.

Some of the local businesses participating are: Arby's, Bath & Body Works, Dominos Pizza, iTunes, Joe's Pizza & Pasta, Kohls, Little Caesar's, Long John Silvers, Marathon, Martins IGA, Maurices, Menards, Niemerg's, Pizza Man, Prime Sole, The Rosebud Theatre, Splash & Dash Car Wash, Subway, TGI Fridays, Walgreens, Wendy's Witt' Smokehouse & Deli, Starbucks, Steak N Shake.

*For more information contact Michelle Kinkelaar, 217-868-9219 or Dawn Grubb, 217-343-2806.*

**NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY**

"St. Anthony Grade and High Schools admit students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. These schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of their educational policies, admission policies, scholarships, and loan programs, and athletic and school administered programs."

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**Celebrating 50 years of Marriage or Longer**

Come to a special celebration at St. Agnes Parish in Springfield on September 27 starting at 1:00 p.m. with a musical program, Holy Mass with renewal of wedding vows will start at 2:00 p.m., with a reception afterward. If you or your loved ones have been married 50 years or longer and would like to receive an invitation and/or a special certificate, please call the Office for Marriage and Family Life at 217-698-8500 ext. 132, or email [mбутski@dio.org](mailto:mбутski@dio.org). Check the Catholic Times for a registration form to mail in!

**How many times have you  
Thanked someone this month?**

3rd Annual M.D.A. Golf Tournament  
September 26 @ Fore-Way Golf Course  
Registration 9:30 a.m. Tee-Off 10:00 a.m.  
Four-Man Scramble ~ \$50 per Golfer  
Call Kate for more information, 821-0976.