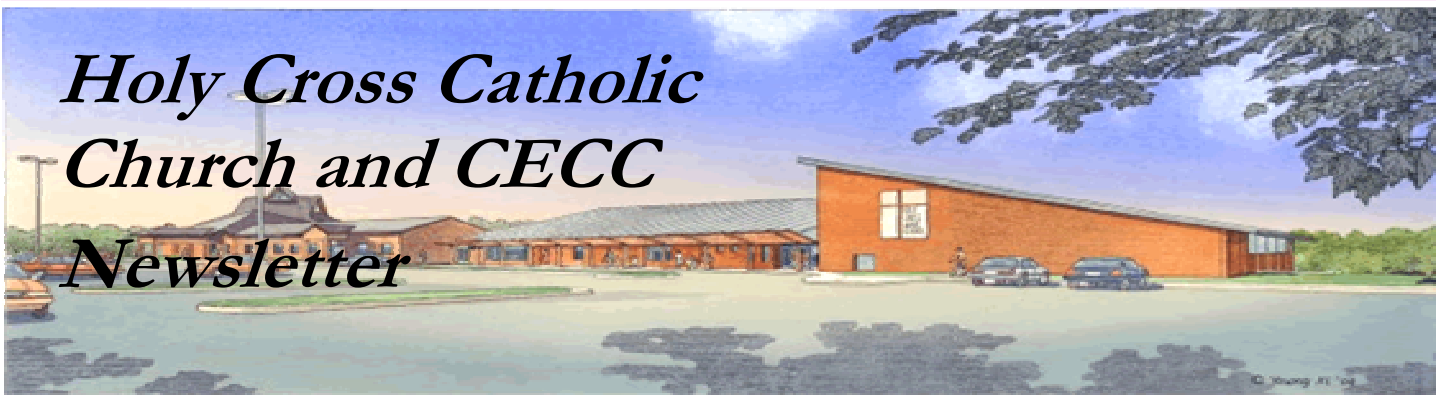


Holy Cross Catholic Church and CECC Newsletter



PSA

Bishop Breaks Ground



Holy Cross Catholic Church was blessed with the presence of Most Reverend Thomas Doran, Bishop of Rockford at the groundbreaking ceremony on July 8, 2007. Our Pastor, Father Dan Deutsch joined the Bishop in digging the

first ceremonious shovelful of dirt. Hundreds of parishioners and guests were treated to a visual display of the planned Catholic Education and Community Center (CECC). Painted lines and stakes marked the various rooms and placards outlined the specifics of the building.

Orange drink, popcorn and cookies treated attendees as they strolled the grounds visualizing the new building and socialized in Donovan Hall. Randall 15 Theater, Batavia-McDonald's and parishioners generously donated the refreshments.

Volunteer opportunities still exist for those looking to share their talents, meet fellow parishioners and contribute to this special project.

Those interested in volunteering can find additional information at:

www.holycross-batavia.org/cecc, or

Call: 630-879-4750 Ext 308, or

Email: cecc@holycross-batavia.org

Principally Speaking...

Dear Holy Cross Family:

It seems like just yesterday that my sister-in-law, Tricia, called me regarding a unique opportunity she had read about in The Observer. Holy Cross was searching for a principal of a brand new Catholic school. When I told my husband, Jeff, he pulled out The Observer from his enormous pile of magazines and newspapers. As I read it through, I thought to myself, "I can do that!"

Before I knew it, I was in a diffi-

cult dilemma of choosing between offers from two different schools. I will never forget the moment I realized that it was God's plan for me to accept the position at Holy Cross. I'm just beginning the next square of the "quilt" the Lord is making for me and it's been exciting already.

As the new school year approaches, I do find myself with a tear in my eye, as this is the first time in ten years that I'm not getting a classroom ready for 30 new smiling

faces. But, I'm looking forward to meeting all of you in the coming year and being a part of the Holy Cross Community.

Many Blessings to You,

Melissa Crisci

(Principal Crisci will use this column in the quarterly newsletter to update you on the developments as she works to ready the school for the 08-09 school year.)

Steering Us Along the Way



Favorite verse
For God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. — John 3:16



Father Dan Deutsch leads the the Christmas tree at home in St. Charles, Illinois and is one of six children. Faith is important to his family as is togetherness as they try to see each other each week. His favorite childhood memory is decorating

Steering with his family. As for holidays, Thanksgiving tops his list because it is simply spending time with family. Father Dan's special saint is St. Gregory the Great because "he saved the Church, by God's grace, during a time of great upheaval. He used all his gifts for the great glory of God." Caesar is the book he is read-

ing which ties into his interest in history. Father Dan is most looking forward to the winter retreat with the church teens, Mass, and, of course, the construction of the CECC in the coming year. Father Dan has been instrumental in leading the way to build the first Catholic School in Batavia. His passionate commitment to this endeavor has ignited the fire of

his parish to join and support him in this effort.

(Each edition of the newsletter will introduce the reader to members of the Steering Committee that have been instrumental in leading us through this blessed project.)

Want to Meet... the Man in Charge of the Hard Hats

Jason Laub, of Pepper Construction, is the Project Manager for the CECC building. Jason has been working in the construction industry since 1992. A recent project that he has overseen is Marklund at Mill Creek, just west of Holy Cross. Jason resides in Elburn with his wife, two sons, (ages five and seven) and a one year old daughter. Jason earned a Bachelor of Science in Construc-



tion Management from Western Illinois University. Pepper Construction is proud to be one of just three Chicago land companies awarded the 2005 Torch Award for Marketplace Ethics by The Better Business Bureau of Chicago, and the only general contractor ever to receive the honor. The award recognizes companies that have demonstrated "an ongoing commitment to upholding the trust and respect of their customers, em-

ployees, suppliers, industry peers and the communities in which they do business." The company's founder, Stanley F. Pepper, believed in doing things with honesty and fairness. His son, Richard S. Pepper, carried on that tradition when he took the reins of the company in 1957, and his grandson, David Pepper continues the tradition today. Pepper has worked on various projects in the Chicagoland

area; The Adler Planetarium, The Lincoln Park Zoo,, The Shedd Aquarium, Willow Creek Church, Ikea, Northwestern University, The Western Hotel Lakeshore and The Hard Rock Hotel are just a few of their extensive list, Pepper Construction also has corporate offices in Indiana, Texas and Ohio.

For more information about Pepper Construction and its multifaceted design projects please visit www.pepperconstruction.com.

The Wait is Over



The second step has begun. Beautiful black dirt is piled high

surrounded by a chain link fence, and accented by huge orange-yellow construction vehicles. Generally, you would not consider that to be a beautiful sight but to those who have waited so patiently, the wait is finally over. The first step in this project was all on paper. With the assistance of

our architect, PSA Dewberry, Holy Cross had to obtain approval from three separate City of Batavia governmental entities. The Building Commission, the Community Development Committee and the City Council all reviewed and approved the plans for the CECC project. The permits have been issued and the

work has begun! The progress on the building should be impressive and brisk as long as the weather cooperates. Watch this space for updates on the progress as the building process continues. Pray for good weather!

Name the newsletter

Do you have a great idea about what to call this newsletter? Drop your suggestions in the yellow box located in the narthex.



Focus on the Faithful

Holy Cross has many dedicated people that work to keep our church and its ministries running. This column will center on these special people.

William (Bud) Jacobson has been the business manager at Holy Cross for the past ten years. He has been married to Mary for 26 years



and they have two college aged sons. Bud loves photography, hiking, and computer applications. In the summer he looks forward to visiting his best friend in Cincinnati and eating ribs at the Montgomery Inn. In the winter, Bud loves winter photography and tobogganing. East China Inn and Tribella's are Buds favorite local restaurants. When asked if he had a special saint, Bud named two holy people, Saint Francis of Assisi and Mother Theresa of Calcutta because "they lived the gospel simply and put it into action." Even though he never missed one of his sons' baseball games as they have grown, he is not much of a

sports "watcher" but confesses to being a Cubs and Packers fan.

Chris Bashaw has been the *face and voice* of Holy Cross as the Parish Secretary for the past seven years but has been a member of our church for the past 33 years. She is married and has two sons and a three year old granddaughter. Chris' special saint is Saint Anthony, because "I am always misplacing things." She loves reading and gardening in her spare time. In the coming year she is most looking forward to "getting through the building process of the CECC."

John McLear has been a parishioner for the past 18 years and the director of Music at Holy Cross for the past four years. He is married to Dianna and they have a ten month old daughter. His favorite childhood



memory is going to see the Cubs play. Christmas is John's favorite holiday because of the music at Holy Cross and other area churches. Saint Gregory the Great is John's special saint. In spare time between family and music, John enjoys gardening. He is presently reading Strong Fathers, Strong Daughters by Meg Meeker. He is looking forward to his brother's wedding this October.

Laura Malewig of Sugar Grove has been our Sunday School Coordinator for the past 13 years. She has been a parishioner of Holy Cross for approximately 14 years. Laura is married and has two teenage sons. Christmas is Laura's favorite holiday. Laura has many interests; she enjoys biking, exercising, sewing, furniture refinishing, and gardening. In the coming year, Laura is most looking forward to the opening of the school.

Karen McQuillan of Geneva



has been our Early Teen Religious Education Minister for the past three years. This is Karen's first year as a parishioner at Holy Cross. She has been married to Bob for 27 years and they have three children. The youngest attends Illinois State University. Karen has a special devotion to the Blessed Mother "because she shows me how to love Jesus as she does." Karen's favorite Bible verse is Proverbs 3:5-6.

Patricia Roatch is the Children's Religious Education Minister at Holy Cross. Her family includes three grown sons. Knitting, crocheting, gardening, reading and traveling are of special interest to her. Spending time with her grandmother and aunt is her treasured childhood mem-

(Continued on page 4)

VBS 2007

We did it! Approximately 150 adult and teen volunteers and 280 children (ages 4-12) attended Holy Cross Vacation Bible School 2007. Fr. Dan used his real life mountain climbing experiences to show the kids how they could get closer to God by receiving the Seven Sacraments of the Catholic Church! They had to

be "Quiet on the Mountain" to hear God's Word and to hear the scenarios presented each morning. The climbers experienced dramatic presentations about Blessed Pier Giorgio, Pope John Paul II, Saint Padre Pio and Our Blessed Mother. Music, games (including a giant inflatable mountain), crafts, and snacks were also part of the

week's activities. At the end of the week, the guides, climbers, and their parents attended a Party at the Peak to celebrate the conclusion of VBS. The children performed songs (some included sign language), which they had learned only a few days earlier. We were also treated to a video compilation of the week's activities and, of

course, snow cones! For the past two years, Holy Cross VBS has been blessed with the ideas and hard work of several volunteers who have created a more Catholic Vacation Bible School for our children. We'd like to thank our 2007 core group of volunteers for a job well done.



Focus on the Faithful (continued from page 3)

ory. In the summer she loves driving around in her convertible and in the winter she likes playing in the snow. The book she is currently reading is Odd Thomas by Dean Koontz. Patricia's special saint is Saint Josemaria Escriva whose mission was the "search for holiness through the sanctification of ordinary work in the midst of the world."

Patrick Haviland of Sugar Grove is our High School Youth Minister and is entering his 13th year in that position. He is married to



Jennifer and they have three sons. Since he was born on March 17, his favorite saint is Saint Patrick. His favorite Bible verse is Jeremiah 29: 11-13. One of his treasured childhood

memories is golfing with his dad and that activity is still something he enjoys today. In the winter, he enjoys a good book by the fire or sledding and skiing. He is currently reading Rediscovering Catholicism by Matthew Kelly. In the coming year, Pat and his wife are most looking forward to purchasing her grandmother's home. Pat is anxious to implement changes to the teen program through prayer and listening to the feedback of the teens, their families, volunteers and Father Dan.

Christine Pesel of Batavia is our Youth Music Coordinator, Director of the Youth Bell Choirs and Youth Vocal Choirs. She also coordinates the Music for the Holy Cross Religious Education Program. Christine has



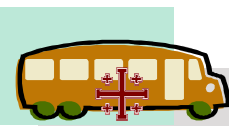
been involved in church music ministry for 35 years, 24 of those years were directing youth choirs. She has been a parishioner at Holy Cross for seven years and she has been involved with the Youth Music Program for almost as long. Christine enjoys attending Mass at various times as this allows her to experience the music at the different masses. Christine is most looking forward to expanding the Youth Music Program to include both a vocal choir (Cantate Deo) and a bell choir (Abbellimenti) for grades seven and up.

Melissa Anne Crisci is the newly hired school principal at Holy Cross and has been in the education field for ten years. She is married to Jeff and they attend Holy Angels Church in Aurora where Jeff has



been a member since first grade. Her favorite saint is Saint Therese "the little flower" because of a simple message: "that it is not great deeds that matter in life, but great love." Her favorite Bible verse is Luke 6:27-28. Family is at the center of Melissa's favorite things. She fondly remembers childhood vacations spent with extended family in a cabin in Wisconsin and spending time with her nieces and nephews at the pool in the summer. Her wintertime challenge will be to teach her Siberian Husky to pull her Boxer on a sled! She is currently reading What Great Principals do Differently by Todd Whitaker. Melissa is most looking forward to her new career at Holy Cross and is excited to get to know the parishioners.

(Do you know someone who helps keep our church and its ministries running. Let us know about them, cecc@holycross-batavia.org and we will feature them in future newsletters.)



Developmental Drives

While the completion of the CECC building may be a year away, the newly formed Development Team (DT) has been busy planning activities to get a head start on financially supporting and promoting the new facility. As part of a larger effort to increase fellowship opportunities for parishioners and reach out to the community of Batavia, the DT is in the process of formalizing an annual calendar of events.

Some of the projects being considered include:

†**Holiday Greens Sale: October, November & December**

†**Gala: April**

†**Softball Tournament: May**

†**Crosstown Music Festival: September**

With several other activities being considered, the DT has many diverse opportunities for volunteers to utilize a variety of skills. The DT offers a "family

friendly" volunteer experience. With many husband and wife teams desiring to participate in this group, the DT meetings have evolved to accommodate children. In addition to meeting its objectives to support the CECC, the DT strives to be a personal enrichment group where parishioners can use their God-given talents, meet new people and most importantly have fun!

If you're looking for an opportunity to be creative, form friend-

ships, make a difference and laugh a lot, please consider volunteering your time and talents. The DT needs you to make its endeavors on behalf of the CECC a success.

Contact Joe Dant at 761-1397, or jdant10@comcast.net, or

[Elizabeth Carlson at](mailto:ElizabethCarlson@comcast.net)

482-3474, or

becarlson94@comcast.net

for more information.

