



**THE EASTER SEASON**

Easter is really one feast that lasts for 50 days. We continue to unpack the meaning of the risen life we share. And we continue to join in sacramental celebrations with members of our parish family.

This weekend, we welcome new members into our family through the Sacrament of Baptism. Over the next few weeks, we will celebrate Confirmation and First Eucharist. It is a



blessing to be a part of these celebrations, and it gives us the opportunity to reflect on how we are living the risen life we share. As we welcome others through the Sacraments of Initiation, may we commit ourselves to live this new life in a deeper way.



Please continue to pray for the newly initiated and all those who will celebrate the sacraments in the Easter Season.

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP**

**Offerings received last week:  
\$23,255.00**

*The disciples in today's Gospel came to know Jesus in the breaking of the bread. When we share what we have with those who are in need, we, too, will discover Jesus in our midst.*



Next week, we will begin CSA 2008. There will be a taped message from the Bishop played at all the Masses. Your gift will help Diocesan ministries reach out to thousands, including training for our future priests, passing on the faith through religious education, providing counsel to the hurt, and reaching out to our youth.

Please prayerfully consider a gift to this year's appeal. We will learn more about CSA and the programs it supports next week.

**MINISTRY TO FAMILIES EXPERIENCEING SEPARATION DUE TO MILITARY SERVICE....**

In response to an inquiry from the Diocesan office which is seeking information on our military families, we are attempting to locate families who have members active in the military. We will be sending a one page information request form that will be shared with the Diocesan office. The Diocese is working to identify and address the needs of these families. Your help is vital in helping them to prayerfully seek where God will take this ministry. To receive a form that will be returned to our parish office, please contact Jeanne at 835-6777 X 254.

**NURSING HOME MASS...**

Please join us for Mass at Stratford Manor this Wednesday, April 9 at 10:00 am. The residents and staff appreciate your gift of prayer and song.

**Readings for Apr. 6—13**

Today:  
Acts 2:14, 22-23; 1 Pt. 1:17-21; Lk. 24:13-35  
Monday:  
Acts 6:8-15; Jn. 6:22-29  
Tuesday:  
Acts 7:51—8:1a; Jn. 6:30-35  
Wednesday  
Acts 8:1b-8; Jn. 6:35-40  
Thursday:  
Acts 8:26-40; Jn. 6:44-51  
Friday:  
Acts 9:1-20; Jn. 6:52-59  
Saturday:  
Acts 9:31-42; Jn. 6:60-69  
Next Sunday:  
Acts 2:14a, 36-41; 1Pt. 2:20b-25; Jn. 10:1-10

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE:** *We invite you to join us in worship*  
NOTE: If there is a funeral, weekday Mass is canceled.

	ASSUMPTION	BLESSED SACRAMENT	SAINT BRIGID
<b>MON, Apr. 7</b>	8:00a Scripture & Communion	_____	6:45a Scripture & Communion
<b>TUE, Apr. 8</b>	8:00a Scripture & Communion	8:30a Mass 6:30p Our Mother of Perpetual Help	6:45a Scripture & Communion 5:30p Mass
<b>WED, Apr. 9</b>	8:00a Scripture & Communion	10:00a Mass at Stratford 7:00p Evening Prayer	6:45a Scripture & Communion 8:30a Mass 6:30p Evening Prayer
<b>THU, Apr. 10</b>	8:00a Scripture & Communion	8:30p Mass w/school	6:45a Scripture & Communion 12:05p Mass
<b>FRI, Apr. 11</b>	8:00a Mass		6:45a Scripture & Communion 8:30a Mass
<b>SAT, Apr. 12</b>	4:30p Mass	8:30a Rosary 5:00p Mass	9:00a Confessions
<b>SUN, Apr. 13</b>	9:30a Mass	8:30a Mass 11:00a Mass	9:00a Mass 11:30a Mass 5:30p Mass

**CHILDREN'S STEWARDSHIP**

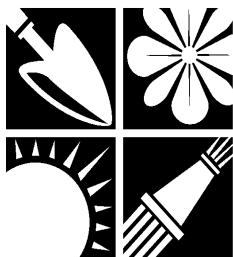
**WHAT I GAVE TO GOD THIS WEEK.**

- I cleaned my room.
- I helped my brother with his baseball skills.
- I helped pick up baseballs at the Hit Zone.
- I helped dad make breakfast.
- I swept out the garage.
- I helped clean up toys.
- I sang to my sister and cheered her up.
- I helped mom clean.
- I helped rake leaves.
- My talent is hockey.
- I fed the rabbit.
- I helped grandma.
- I set the table.
- My talent is soccer.
- I cleaned my room.
- My talent is percussion.



**SEEKING VOLUNTEERS.....**

The Landscape Team is seeking volunteers to help with pruning, cultivating, and cleaning flower beds around the Church. There are opportunities for all ages—no experience is necessary. We plan to meet on Saturday, April 12 (alternate date is April 19). Please contact Carol Picard for more information or to sign up—835-6777 X 229 or carolp@blessed-midland.org.



**LADIES OF BLESSED SACRAMENT.....**

The Ladies of Blessed Sacrament will be meeting April 7 at 7:00 pm. Gary Jones, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity will speak about the organization. Come and join us.

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION FOR ADULTS**

Blessed Sacrament Parish in Midland MI, a Vatican II parish of 1800 households, invites applicants for the position of Associate Director of Faith Formation for Adults. Responsibilities include: Adult Formation programming, the Rite of Initiation for adults and children and parish library. Understanding of Vatican II and commitment to a collaborative approach to ministry is necessary. MA in Religious Education or Theology preferred. At least five years of parish experience required. Send inquires to Blessed Sacrament Parish, 3109 Swede Rd., Midland, MI 48640 Attention: Janet Martyn or e-mail janetm@blessed-midland.org by April 15, 2008

**DISCERNMENT OF THE SPIRITS WORKSHOP....**

Fr. Timothy Gallagher, OMV, will offer this workshop at the Center for Ministry in Saginaw. The dates are April 18 from 7:00-9:00 pm, and April 19 and 20 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Cost is \$75 which includes lunch. Call the Center for Ministry to register, 797-6607.

**ECHOES OF FAITH CERTIFICATION.....**

In February, we have five Catechists that finished "Prayer and Spirituality". They will be receiving a certificate from the Diocese. They found the class delightful, educational and fun. We will be starting up another group to do, "I Believe, We Believe", in April. The group will begin April 15, 8:00—9:30 am. If you wish to join this group, call the Faith Formation office and register or email Janet Martyn at janetm@blessed-midland.org.

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**KNIGHTLY NEWS**



The next Blessed Sacrament blood drive, hosted by the Knights of Columbus, is April 12, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm in the parish hall. Appointments can be arranged by calling Dave Rupp at 839-9682. Drop-in donors are also welcome. Please consider giving the "gift of life". On April 21, the Knights of Columbus at Assumption will be hosting a drive in memory of Jim Maier. The drive will be held at Assumptions' Parish Hall from 2:00—7:00 pm. Soup, chili, juice and cookies will be served. Please call Paul J. Card at 513-3851 to make an appointment to donate.

**GRIEF RECOVERY.....**

The three Catholic Parishes of Midland have scheduled their Grief Recovery Process to begin Thursday, April 10 at 7:00—9:00 pm through May 22. The process is to help those who are experiencing grief through the death of a loved one. St. Brigid of Kildare is hosting this series. The sessions will be in the Rainbow Room of the Parish Office. The first session is an introduction to the process and will be about an hour, but the other six sessions will be from 7:00—9:00 pm. A trained facilitator will lead all the sessions, but there will be much opportunity for reflection and sharing by the participants. The program is free. The Catholic Diocese of Saginaw developed this Process, but it is non-denominational within a Christian framework. All are welcome who have experienced a loss more than three months ago. If you have questions or wish to register, please call St. Brigid of Kildare, 835-7121.

**BREAKFAST CLUB.....**

It's friendly, lively and interesting. Join us at the Breakfast Club. If you want a change from eating alone at breakfast, please join us on April 13 at the Holiday Inn. For more information and to RSVP, call Jackie Frieders, 631-4928

**LEARNING ABOUT ISALM WITH DR. MARWAN Wafa....**

Dr. Marwan Wafa, Dean of SVSU School of Business and Management and a displaced Palestinian Muslim who was raised in Kuwait, will be coming to Blessed Sacrament to share his faith with us. Dr. Wafa is a bridge-builder seeking dialogue with people where he lives. He was one of two presenters at the Town Hall meeting on the Israeli/Palestinian Conflict last October. That event was co-sponsored by the Midland Interfaith Council on Peace and Justice. Dr. Wafa is articulate, compassionate and passionate. You will benefit from his wisdom. He will be with us April 12 from 7:00—9:00 pm in the school gymnasium.

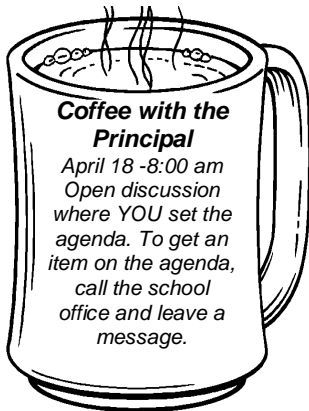
**MEN'S THEOLOGY EVENING: APRIL 16**

The Catholic Men's Fellowship will sponsor "Theology for Rivetheads" with Dr. Ed Hogan, Diocesan theologian and director of deacon formation. The evening's event begins at 6:30 pm at the Center for Ministry, Saginaw. The event includes Mass and a short seminar. For more information, log onto www.thecatholicmen.net or call 989-797-2255.

**MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT**

April 11 is the date..... 7:00—9:00 pm is the time! We'll gather in the Parish Center for an evening guaranteed to enrich your relationship with one another. Our focus is "Your Time Starved Marriage—How to Stay Connected at the Speed of Life". The evening will consist of good food, great input, one-on-one time for the two of you and some time for prayer. Please come! Call the Parish Office, 835-6777X237 to register so that we have enough food and handouts. Deadline for registration is April 9.

**SCHOOL NEWS**



**Coffee with the Principal**

April 18 -8:00 am  
Open discussion where YOU set the agenda. To get an item on the agenda, call the school office and leave a message.

**WELCOME BACK FROM SPRING BREAK  
School will resume on April 7**



**HEALTH FAIR.....**

Ann Quinn is organizing a health fair for the morning of April 11. Less than two hours of your time will help to provide the children with some valuable information in an enjoyable way. If you are interested in helping please contact her at 837-5517.

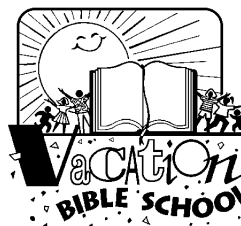
**BUSSES.....** Blessed Sacrament will be in session on April 16 and 28, when MPS is not attending school. We will not have busses running on these two days.

**CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION**



*"Plant the seeds of Faith"*

Faith Formation Registration is May 3 & 4 this year after all the masses. Please join us.... Activities and balloons will be available for the kids. Coffee and donuts will be available too. This event is set for new and returning families with students age 4 through grade 12. Sign up for "Fire Up Your Faith" and for Vacation Bible School.



The dates for this year's Catholic Vacation Bible School is June 16-20. All three Midland Catholic parishes are joining together to make this a great adventure for children ages Kindergarten through 5th Grade. The event will be held at St. Brigid's and helpers are needed from adults to youth. Even if you can't make those days, we can use help in preparation. For more information

contact Julie Davis at 835-6777X232 or [julied@blessd-midland.org](mailto:julied@blessd-midland.org).

**JESUS EXPERIENCE DAY for Confirmation / First Eucharist**

Saturday, April 19 (9:00 am—12:00 noon)

*If you would like to help with JED, please call Julie.*

Saturday, April 26: Practice 10:00 am

Sunday, April 27: Confirmation / First Eucharist 2:00 pm

**HIGH SCHOOL OPPORTUNITY.....**

Mark your calendars for a refreshing weekend! Forms are in the mail to high school youth inviting them to a weekend of fun. For the past seven months, the Youth to Youth Retreat Team (a group of 10-12th graders), have been preparing a fun, spirit-filled weekend just for you. All high school students in grades 9-12 are invited to attend. The Youth to Youth Retreat will be held at Camp Rotary in Clare on the weekend of April 26-27. The cost is \$50. Flyers and permission slips are available in the Faith Formation Office. If you have any questions or are interested in attending, please call Mary Clarke at 835-6777 ext. 234.

**SAY Y.E.S....** Youth Encounter Service will take place June 15-20 for high school students. You can do something important this summer. Join other area Catholic high school youth to learn about and fight poverty and reach out to the poor of Saginaw. There will be time to help repair homes and become involved in direct outreach through various organizations. Evening get-togethers will offer fun, learning and new friends. Y.E.S. is sponsored by the Diocese of Saginaw. For more information call Mary Clarke 835-6777 ext. 234.

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**SCRAPBOOK CROP.....** Here is an opportunity to spend a day with others, be creative, share ideas, learn new techniques and have some great conversations. Plan on attending the Scrapbook CROP Day, sponsored by the Youth Outreach Team, on Saturday, April 26, from 9:00 am—6:00 pm. Meals and snacks are included. There will be professionals to assist you. Reserve your space now. The cost is \$25.00 before April 18 (\$5.00 more after). For more details, please call Sue Rausch at 832-9594.

**FIFTH GRADERS..**

Youth Ministry would like to spend some time with you to introduce you to the wonderful world of youth ministry. We will be gathering at the ice arena on Sunday, April 13th for skating, pizza and fun. You don't need to know how to skate; if you don't want to get on the ice you are still more than welcome to come and hang out with us. It will be a great opportunity to meet new people that you may even be attending middle school with next year! Friends are welcome and will need a permission form. Forms are available in the Faith Formation Office. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Mary Clarke.



- April 12 Bowling Party for 6-12 Grades
- April 13 Welcome to Youth Ministry—5th Grade Ice Skating/ Pizza Party
- April 26-27 Youth to Youth Retreat (gr. 9-12)
- May 3-4 Faith Formation Registration Weekend
- June 8 Graduation Liturgy at the 8:30 am Mass
- June 12 Cedar Point Grades 6-12
- June 15-20 Youth Encounter Service Week, Saginaw
- June 22-28 Youth Outreach Mission to Hammond, IN

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

### INVITATION FROM THE WOMEN OF ASSUMPTION.....

An evening of learning and dancing is planned on April 9 as a representative from "Tall in the Saddle" explains their organization. Afterwards, they'll roll back the carpet for line dancing with Betsy Evans. The event begins at 7:00 pm. You are most welcome to attend. The Assumption Women's group is also planning a bus trip to the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village on May 1. Friends and neighbors are welcome. For more information, call Anne at 835-8716. The ladies also remind you to mark your calendar for their May 7th Tea from 11:00 am—2:00 pm.

**CELEBRATING 25 YEARS....**The Midland County Emergency Food Pantry Network (EFPN) is celebrating its 25th anniversary. EFPN was established in 1983 as a cooperative effort among area churches and other organizations to provide a means of supplying food to people in Midland County who have emergency needs and are living near or below the Federal poverty level income guidelines. Over the years EFPN has grown in the number of pantries and programs. Blessed Sacrament was one of the original supporters of the Network. EFPN would like to thank the staff and members of Blessed Sacrament Parish for 25 years of support. You not only have provided food, personal need supplies, and money, but also birthday kits, cereal and decorated bags for the Thanksgiving program, volunteers for the regular pantries, and financial support and volunteers for the Mobile Food Pantries. Together we have made a difference.



#### Today:

8:00a Christian Initiation  
9:30a Coffee/Donuts

#### Monday: School Resumes

12:00p Lay Ministry  
6:30p Bell Choir  
7:00p Ladies of Blessed Sacrament  
7:00p Eucharistic Ministry Training  
8:00p Men's Basketball

#### Tuesday:

5:30p Youth2Youth  
7:00p Worship/  
Environment Team  
7:00p Bible Study

#### Tuesday Cont'd

7:00p Youth2Youth Adults  
7:00p Adult Formation Committee

#### Wednesday:

9:30a Scripture Study  
6:00p Youth Grief Support  
7:00p Administration Commission  
8:00p Men's Basketball

#### Thursday:

1:30p Spiritual Direction  
6:30p Faith & Fellowship  
7:00p Social Awareness Committee  
7:00p Angels Blessings  
7:00p S.P.R.E.D.

#### Friday:

7:30a School Health Fair  
7:00p Marriage Enrichment

#### Saturday:

9:00a Blood Drive  
7:00p Dr. Wafa's Presentation

#### Next Sunday:

9:30a Christian Initiation  
9:40a Faith Formation