

† Servant Leader †

HOLY FAMILY SOCIAL MINISTRY SUMMIT MEETING

Last Sunday, March 18th, Holy Family Parish held a summit meeting on Social Service Ministry in the community. The event was facilitated by Beth White, Diocesan Associate Director for Social Service Ministry, and attended by representatives of existing parish ministries and organizations who are involved in the many forms of social service currently offered as well as parishioners interested in finding out more and in offering their ideas and their support to this central mission of the church.

The wonderful people of our parish family have always been generous with their time, their skills and their resources throughout the history of the parish in serving the less fortunate. The goal of this summit was to explore a unified effort to harvest the greatest impact, largely focused on the results of the Diocesan Synod – specifically Synod Pastoral Initiative 7 which addresses social service and social justice ministry.

Synod Initiative 7 presents a four-fold mission for social ministry, beginning with the parish:

- Encourage the development in every parish of an integrated model of social ministry, which makes known and accessible the principles and values of Catholic Social Teaching and assist parishioners to act on these principles in four specific, complementary areas: charity and outreach/direct service; legislative advocacy; global solidarity; community organizing and development.
- Promote vigorously the defense and protection of human life, at every stage of its existence, from conception to its natural end in death, as the fundamental and basic human right, founded in the natural law, and thus accessible to the mind of every human being by the unaided light of reason, while being itself the indispensable foundation of every other natural and human right.
- Ensure an ongoing commitment to the advancement of the social mission of the church as a constitutive mandate of the gospel and fundamental to our Catholic faith: to serve "the least of these;" to "hunger and thirst for justice;" to be a "peacemaker;" to protect human life; to promote human dignity; to defend those who are poor; and to seek the common good.
- Promote culturally sensitive pastoral programs and processes at every level of diocesan life.

The Initiative language also includes eight objectives for implementation of this vital parish mission. Within the next week, the full text of Synod Pastoral Initiative 7 will be included along with a full report on last week's summit meeting in a new Social Ministry section of our parish website. The link will be available on the home page (www.holyfamilych.org) later this week and will be published in next week's bulletin.

The Synod Initiative points to a document published by the

US Bishops in 1994 titled "Communities of Salt and Light – Reflections on the Social Mission of the Parish." This document was discussed extensively at the parish summit meeting and will serve as an integral part of the foundation for the continued efforts of Holy Family. Below are adapted excerpts of the document's discussion of **Integration** – the foremost topic of the summit meeting and the goal of our continued efforts.

The Social Mission of the Parish: A Framework of Integration

In responding to the Scriptures and the principles of Catholic social teaching, parishes are not called to an extra or added dimension of our faith, but to a central demand of Catholic life and evangelization....we believe the Church's social mission is an essential measure of every parish community, and it needs more attention and support within our parishes.

A framework of integration might include the following elements.

Anchoring Social Ministry: Prayer and Worship

The most important setting for the Church's social teaching is not in a food pantry or in a legislative committee room, but in prayer and worship, especially gathered around the altar for the Eucharist. It is in the liturgy that we find the fundamental direction, motivation, and strength for social ministry. In serving those in need, we serve the Lord. In seeking justice and peace, we witness to the reign of God in our midst. In prayer, we find the reasons, the strength, and the call to follow Jesus in the ways of charity, justice, and peace.

Sharing the Message: Preaching and Education

We are called to share our social teaching more effectively in our parishes than we have. Our social doctrine is an integral part of our faith; we need to pass it on clearly, creatively, and consistently. It is a remarkable spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral resource that has been too little known or appreciated even in our own community. Week after week, day after day, the lectionary calls the community to reflect on the scriptural message of justice and peace. Our social doctrine must also be an essential part of the curriculum and life of our schools, religious education programs, sacramental preparation, and Christian initiation activities.

Supporting "Salt of the Earth": Family, Work, Citizenship

Our parishes are clearly called to help people live their faith in the world, helping them to understand and act on the social dimensions of the gospel in their everyday lives. In short, our parishes need to encourage, support, and sustain lay people in living their faith in the family, neighborhood, marketplace, and public arena. It is lay women and men, placing their gifts at the service of others (cf. 1 Pt 4:10), who will be God's primary

(continued inside back cover)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord:
Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
Tue: Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30
Wed: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42
Thu: Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59
Fri: Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42
Sat: Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56
Sun: Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
Lk 19:28-40; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Lk 22:14-23:56



Questions of the Week:

For Adults: Who among your family and friends do you need to ask forgiveness from so that you can experience true freedom?
For Teens: What is one thing you will do during Lent to become more open to God in your life?
For Children: When have you had to say you're sorry this week?

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon: Genny Giles +; Kathleen Harkness -Int. Kathryn Hollier & Family -Int.
Tue: Ernie & Elisa Bulhoes -Int. (70th Anniversary) Kathryn Hollier & Family -Int.
Wed: Peter Popjevalo +; Vance McCausland -Int. Kathryn Hollier & Family -Int.
Thu: Genny Giles +; Kathryn Hollier & Family -Int.
Fri: Vance McCausland -Int.; Sister Wilma Coulombe +; Kathryn Hollier & Family -Int.
Sat: 8:30 am Mass Kathryn Hollier & Family -Int. Holy Souls +
Sun: 7:30 am Mass Pro Populo
9:00 am Mass Chuck Brown +
10:30 am Mass Encarnacion Avalos +
6:00 pm Mass Kathryn Hollier & Family -Int

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Mr. & Mrs. Ernie & Elisa Bulhoes celebrate their **70th Wedding Anniversary** this week - March 27th.

PRAYER CORNER

Please remember in your prayers:
Peter Alvarez, Marcel Arnal, Mary Avila, Pam Bardwil, Cody Bartley, Teresa Bennett Smith, Charles Black, John Boyle, Shirley Bryant, Abraham Conant, Christina Cowan, Darren Crose, James Crutcher, Julie Desrochers, Maria Dixon, John Dooney, Andrew Flores, Jennifer Ford, Olivia Garcia, Genny Giles, Bob Gokey, Evelyn Gonsalves, Winfred Gonsalves, Robert Gonzaga, Max Guerra, Charlene Gutierrez, Kathleen Hansen, Allison Herring, Michele Hock, Glean & Kathryn Hollier, Betty Kava, Bill Keenan, Randy Kennedy, Kimberly Kolodzie, Ian Larmore, Jey Lemes, Karen Lewis, Nancy Lopez, Nancy & Marty Lucas, Laura Maciej, Maria Mamauog, Maria Martinez, Earl Mattingly, Luke McCord, McElvy Family, June McMaught, Jenine Michilena, Elliott Jerome Neal, Cora Orzol, Maryanne Pelzel, Maria Perez, Gilbert Perron, Bud Phelps, Sr. Mary Porter, Christine Regan, Raymond Remick, Nikelle Schafer, Charles Schneider, Katherine Schottgen, Diane & Mike Smith, Marylyn Smith, Lisa Stamps, Jo Ster, Laura & Paul Studer, Simon Sucharski, Clement Sweeney, D. Sweeney, Maureena Sutton, Elise Taylor, I. Thompson, Larry Thompson, X. Thompson, Jovita Vargar, Natividad Vargas, Jean Villanueva, Emily Walsh, Lori Weaver, Marvin Webster

Stewardship
~ a way of life ~

CHURCH SIGN

Many months ago we first noted the need for a sign in front of the church to identify our beloved Holy Family Parish and post vital information for parishioners and passers-by. This vision will soon become a reality - the sign has been ordered and the down payment made through the generosity of a few parishioners. However, the balance of the sign's cost still needs to be covered. Please consider making a contribution to this much-needed addition to our parish grounds. Please call the Parish Office if you can help. We are truly grateful to those who have and will make this sign possible, and we will recognize these generous parties on the occasion of its unveiling.

PLANNED GIVING

Planned Giving is a crucial element of stewardship in the life of a parish. For information on Planned Giving, visit the parish website at www.holyfamilych.org. In the left column of the home page there is a link to detailed information on planned giving. Please take a look at this material, or call Fr. Kiernan in the Parish Office for assistance in this area.

STEWARDSHIP - TREASURE

GENERAL COLLECTION

Weekly Goal	\$	11,000.00
Feb 25.....	\$	11,364.00
Mar 4.....	\$	12,990.00
Mar 11.....	\$	10,597.00
Mar 18.....	\$	9,988.00
YEAR-TO-DATE	\$	398,175.00
Goal-to-Date (38 Weeks)	\$	418,000.00
% of Goal Collected		95.26 %
Annual Goal	\$	572,000.00

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COLLECTION

Weekly Goal	\$	3,750.00
Feb 25.....	\$	1,002.50
Mar 4.....	\$	1,872.50
Mar 11.....	\$	690.00
Mar 18.....	\$	1,962.50
YEAR-TO-DATE	\$	62,187.50
Goal-to-Date (38 Weeks)	\$	142,500.00
% of Goal Collected		43.64 %
Annual Goal	\$	195,000.00

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Catholic Relief Services.....	\$	TBD
-------------------------------	----	-----

In today's second reading, St. Paul says, "For His sake I have forfeited everything; I have accounted all else as rubbish so that Christ may be my wealth." Does my stewardship suggest that I could say the same?



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL'S second graders are enjoying one of the most exciting trimesters of their Holy Family educational experience. This past week they had two special programs visit them: the Roseville Rock Rollers and the Science Wizard. Both "in-house field trips" were based on the Standards Curriculum mandated by the Diocese of Sacramento, and both made the subject matter so much fun that the students never guessed that they were learning valuable material! Yet to come this trimester are two of the most significant experiences of their young lives: First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Both of these are scheduled for the weeks following Easter.

Enrolling Students at Holy Family Preschool for Fall '07

Are you looking for a Catholic based preschool for your child? We offer a spiritually enriched program complete with Bible stories, songs and outstanding Christian role models. Our literature-based program that meets the California standards for ages 2 through 5 years old will challenge your child. We offer preschool from 8:00am until 12:00pm and Child Care from 7:00am until 6:00pm. You are encouraged to call Lucy Eberhardt at 722-4620 with questions and/or a school tour. Register Today!

EASTER EGG HUNT

ALL CHILDREN of the Parish and friends are invited to the Annual Easter Egg Hunt hosted by our Knights of Columbus! This fun event will be held Saturday April 7 at 1:00 p.m., rain or shine. One child in each age group who finds the "golden egg" will win a prize basket! Age groups are: 4 & under, 5-7, 8-10. Bring a basket, and please be in front of the Community Center before 1:00 sharp, as we always start on time, and all 1,000 candy-filled eggs will be found quickly! This event has been an annual Holy Family event for over 20 years!



UNIVERSITY OF SACRAMENTO

Did you know that the Diocese of Sacramento has established its first private Catholic college in Sacramento? This weekend, a representative from the University of Sacramento will be available at a table after all the Masses with information on this new private Catholic college. Stop by and pick up information on their Basic Catechist Certificate program, their Advanced Certificate in Catechetics program or their MA in Education.

Special Events for Lent:

HOLY HOUR THIS WEDNESDAY

This Wednesday evening, March 28th, during a Holy Hour, our elect will receive from us the prayer that summarizes the whole Gospel, The Lords Prayer. St Thomas Aquinas says that the Lord's Prayer is the most perfect of all prayers and in it we ask for all the things that we can properly desire. Just as Jesus' teaching on the Sermon on the Mount is a teaching for life, so too the Lords prayer is a prayer for life. Our Holy Hour will begin at 7:30 pm with the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, continue with the Evening Prayer of the church and the Presentation of the Lord's Prayer and conclude with Benediction. Please make plans to join us for this important event for those who will become one with us, this Easter, in the richness of our Catholic Faith.

THE GOSPEL OF MARK

On Wednesday of Holy Week, April 4th, we will have an opportunity to walk with Jesus in the Gospel of Mark as we prepare to celebrate the fullness of the Triduum. We will begin the reading of Mark's Gospel in the chapel at 7:00 pm and we expect to conclude about 9:00 pm. It is our intention that the Gospel be proclaimed by several different readers. It is not necessary for you to be a lector for this occasion. If you feel you would like to proclaim a portion of this gospel, please contact Bonnie Johnson @ 726-7217 or Deacon Mark at 723-2494, ext. 305. Please leave us a message and we will be more than happy to schedule you for that evening.

**STATIONS
of the
CROSS**

**THIS WEEK,
FRIDAY, MARCH 30
7:00 PM**

**FOLLOWED BY
SOUP & BREAD
MEAL**

Lent — Begin the Journey . . .

Are you or someone you know contemplating a **journey of faith** into the **Catholic Church**? How long have you thought about it? Now is the time to take that first step.

You are invited to ask questions and begin a journey that will guide the rest of your life.

Are you a Catholic who has resolved to learn more about your Catholic faith?

Join with others on a journey that will guide the rest of your life. For more information, please call the parish office at 723-2494.

You are invited to **visit us Tuesday evenings at 7:30** in our faith formation classroom in the **Community Center** on the East side of the parking lot, across from the church...



THANK YOU FROM THE FAMILY OF GENNY GILES

Heartfelt thanks to our many extended family and friends within this, our "Holy Family," as we mourned the loss of a dear wife and mother, Genny Giles. My mom was a parishioner here for nearly 37 years and truly considered it "home". Your presence at her services, words of support, cards, prayers, masses that have been offered, flowers, and donations made in her name to our parish foundation have truly blessed us in these difficult days. The reception provided by the Bereavement Ministry and Ladies Relief Society touched our family immensely. Please know that while we are saddened by our final farewell to our loved one, we are rejoicing for her and her life eternal with the breaking of each new morning. Her battle with Alzheimer's was a long and arduous journey. Please know of our gratitude and prayers for those of you who walked it with us.

In Christ's love, Jennifer Yearwood & Vince Giles

CELEBRATING NEW LIFE IN THE CHURCH

As we journey through the Lenten Season, we prepare ourselves for the celebration of Christ's death and Resurrection. There are a number of adults and children amongst us who are getting ready for this year's celebration in a very special way. They are preparing to become members of the Body of Christ in His Holy Catholic Church. Some will be baptized and all will receive the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil. As these adults and children prepare for this most wonderful part of their faith journey, please keep them in your prayers.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults adapted for Children:

- Anthony Alvarez • Cecilia Alvarez • Alix Bradford
- Ashleigh Hoover • Vannya Castellon-Delgado
- Laurén Espinal • Nikkolette Espinal • Jesús Gamino
- Lillian Nuño • Cristian Eduardo Nuño • David Oliveri
- Maiya Muñoz • Vivianna Ponce • John Quinones
- Joseph Renaud • Alanna Hicks • Kammi Hicks
- Denise Velazquez

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults:

- D'Anne Crowell • Aelial Ramirez • David Chavez
- Barbara Dyer • Iris Kievernagel • Victor Ramirez
- Cristina Rubio • Cameron Wandry



NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS



COUNTRY WESTERN HOE-DOWN

The Knights of Columbus of Northern California are having a major event in the Sacramento area on the weekend of April 13-15, 2007. On April 13, 2007, a Country Western Hoe-Down dinner will be served. Everyone is invited to attend this fun outdoor event at the Doubletree Hotel at 2001 Point West Way in Sacramento (across the street from Arden Fair Mall). The main course will be Tri-tip/Chicken. Live music will be provided by "Country Road". Social hour will be at 4:30 PM and dinner at 5:30 PM. The dress is casual and the dinner cost is \$20.00 per person. For further information, please call: Frank Nava at (916) 359-6282 or John Norwood (916) 783-0453. For reservations, please make your check payable to Christ the King Assembly and mail to Frank Nava, 42 Cedro Circle, Sacramento, CA 95833-1419.

Prayer Opportunities

WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA:

Pope Benedict XVI has elevated the World Apostolate of Fatima (The Blue Army.) It is now officially associated with the Pontifical Council for the Laity in Rome. We are happy to offer these prayers here at Holy Family. All are welcome to join us Mondays after the 8:30 am Mass in St. Mary Hall. For information, please call Phyllis, 725-0218 or Phyllis, 725-5358.

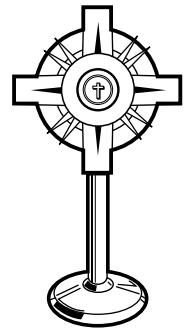


VOCATIONS CROSS

Each week a parish family is presented with the Vocations Cross to take home for the week and asked to pray daily for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life. The next Sunday, the family returns the cross and another family is presented the cross to pray for vocations. If you are interested in taking the Vocation Cross home, please contact Young Stewart at 332-8732.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Jesus stays with us day and night in the Blessed Sacrament, blessing us with the grace that encourages us, consoles us, strengthens us, guides us and inspires us to place our trust in Him. We stay with the Real Presence of Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration to be more personally involved with Him and to keep the Eucharist central in our lives. Spending time with Jesus in the Eucharist enables us to build a truly personal relationship with Him. Come into His presence in our beautiful chapel - He is looking forward to your visit!



BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL VISITING HOURS:

Monday – Friday	9:00 am – 9:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Sunday	1:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Also in the chapel: Each day at 9:00 am a community Rosary and Chaplet of Mercy are prayed, and at 3:00 pm the Chaplet of Mercy is prayed.

DOMINICAN LAITY AT HOLY FAMILY

The Dominican Laity meets here at Holy Family on the first Sunday of every month in St. Mary Hall from 1–3 pm. Come and join us in a way of life of prayer, both private and liturgical, the study of the sacred truth, the sharing of our spiritual life with others in the community, and in our apostolic outreach. For further information call Phyllis Sale at 725-5358.



NEWS FROM AROUND THE DIOCESE . . .

HEALING AFTER ABORTION RETREAT: Mar 30 - Apr 1, 2007
Struggling after an abortion? Still seeking peace years after the choice? Experience the healing love of Jesus at Rachel's Vineyard Retreat, March 30 - April 1st, in Auburn, sponsored by the Diocese of Sacramento. The weekend retreat will combine discussions, spiritual exercises, sacrament of reconciliation, memorial service and Mass. The cost is \$150 for meals, private room and all retreat materials. Financial assistance is available. For a registration packet or more information, call Edie @ (916) 733-0161 or 1-888-HOPE-790 or email esickman@diocese-sacramento.org. Inquiries and participation are strictly confidential.

PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND & ITALY


My name is Father Stanislaw Zak, and I am the Pastor at St. Margaret Mary Parish in Oakland. This year I am organizing a Pilgrimage to Poland and Italy - "In the footsteps of Pope John Paul II" - April 16 - 30, 2007. I still have some room for Pilgrims. Complete Price \$ 3,495.00 includes the following services: Round Trip airline ticket: From San Francisco to Poland; Italy & to San Francisco. All accommodations (double occupancy in hotels) with 3 meals a day, all transportations within Poland & Italy, sightseeing, guide services, entrance fees to all attractions, taxes, and Cancellation insurance. For brochure & detailed itinerary, or if you have any questions please contact Rev. Stanislaw Zak, (510) 336-0698, or Mr. Andre Sobczyk, (408) 229-1950.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

St. Lawrence Parish has an opening for an Administrative Assistant/Receptionist position: full or part time, bilingual (English & Spanish), computer skills & program knowledge (Word, Excel, Access & Publisher), greet visitors, answer telephones and assist staff with office duties. Send resume to the parish office, 4325 Don Julio Blvd., North Highlands, CA 95660, to the attention of either Fr. Joe or Paula or call the office for more information (916) 332-4777.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

"I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus!" A Christian life is a journey to Heaven. Let Worldwide Marriage Encounter strengthen your marriage as you make this journey. For more information, or to register for the next Sacramento Weekend, April 20-22, call Raul & Gayla Ponce, 866-825-2046. Email: srsregistrar@comcast.net.



SAVE THE DATE! Camp Pendola's Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, April 30, 2007, at Northridge Golf and Country Club. For information on the tournament and sponsorship opportunities, please contact Lori Rosene at 916.733.0141.

ST. FRANCIS HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

4th Annual Alumnae Luncheon and Fashion Show - Spring Fling. Don't miss this wonderful Alumnae Association event on Sunday, April 29, 2007. Representatives from the "decades" classes of '57, '67, '77, '87, '97 and '07 will model great fashions for all ages. Members of the Class of '57 will be honored and presented with the 50-year anniversary Golden Diploma. Cost \$30.00 per person. Please R.S.V.P by April 20th, 2007. For reservations or additional information, please contact Jan Millner 452-3461, ext. 220 or jmillner@stfrancis.org.

FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

March

"Living Beyond Lent: living the message of Lent throughout the year" presented by Larry Castagnola. Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Sacramento. March 28th 7 pm. For more information call (916) 488.4626.

"Women's Day of Prayer for Women in the North Area" Facilitated by Sr. Janel Sawatzki and Sr. Gloria Heese. Sacred Heart, Red Bluff, March 31st. Cost: \$20 (\$25 at the door). For more information contact: (530) 527.1351

April

NEW! "Debunking Revelations: a four part series on the book of Revelations" presented by Dr. Sam Mussro. Presentation Catholic Church, Sacramento, April 18th & 25th, May 2nd, & 9th. Cost: \$25 per series. For more information call 916.359.5062.

1 DAY RETREAT FOR SINGLE ADULTS:

"Crossing the Red Sea - A Journey Through Separation, Divorce and Beyond" facilitated by Victoria MacDonald - Single Adult Ministry of the Diocese of Sacramento (S.A.M.) invites adult singles in the Diocese to a one day retreat to be held 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Saturday, April 28, 2007, at the Sacramento Diocese, 2110 Broadway, Sacramento. Registration will begin at 8:30 am. A catered lunch will be served. Cost is \$35.00. Please call MaryLee Barcena, 419-9845, or e-mail MaryLee at mbarcena@earthlink.net to receive a flyer and registration form. Register by April 20 to reserve your space.

MASS FOR SINGLE ADULTS

Single Adult Ministry of the Diocese of Sacramento (S.A.M.) with support from Southern Solano Singles Ministry, invites adult singles in the Diocese to a mass to be held at 5:30 p.m, Saturday, April 21, 2007, to be hosted at St. Basil's Catholic Church, 1200 Tuolumne Street, Vallejo. The mass will be followed by a discussion, gathering and potluck dinner in the Parish Center across the street from the church [1225 Tuolumne Street]. A 4 o'clock presentation on the annulment process will precede the mass. Please RSVP by April 6th to MaryLee Barcena, 916-419-9845 or Teresa Cadorna at 707-747-4794 or e-mail MaryLee at mbarcena@earthlink.net.

... AND BEYOND

CATHOLIC LOBBY DAY 2007:

On Tuesday, April 24, at 9:00 a.m., concerned Catholics from all over California will gather at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in downtown Sacramento for the opening of an urgent call to action sponsored by the California Catholic Conference. We will celebrate Mass together, learn about issues that are important to us as Catholic citizens, rally at the Capitol, and dialogue with our legislators. Registration forms are available at the parish office or by calling the Diocesan Office of Social Service Ministry at 733-0253. The registration fee of \$5.00 includes the cost of lunch. **Your voice counts!**

MARTY HAUGEN & TONY ALONSO IN CONCERT

Pastoral Musicians, Liturgists, Catechists, & Youth Directors World-renowned composers MARTY HAUGEN & TONY ALONSO are presenting a concert and workshop at St. Clare Catholic Church, Roseville, on April 20 & 21. You all will want to be present at both events! The concert on Friday, April 20 begins at 7 pm. The workshop on April 21 is from 9am to 4pm. Tickets for the workshop and concert are \$60- - for the concert only \$30-and for the workshop only \$40. Any ticket purchased before April 6th may be discounted \$5. An additional discount of \$5 per ticket may be taken if purchased in groups of 10 or more. For information call Nina Malone at 772-4717 or e-mail scliturgy@surewest.net

FASHION SHOW FUND RAISER

The Ladies Guild at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church is holding a fund raiser in April. The event will be a fashion show featuring women's apparel from Christopher and Banks. This store is located in Sunrise Mall. The event will take place on Saturday, April 21, 2007 beginning at 11:30 am in our new Tralee Center at 5751 Locust Avenue, Carmichael. A luncheon will be served to our guests with tickets. Entertainment will be provided. Reservations are required by April 15, 2007. Call Bettie Wade for ticket information at 483-4400.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY AT THE CATHEDRAL

Pope John Paul II established the Second Sunday of Easter as "Divine Mercy Sunday." Following the celebration of the Holy Triduum, Easter Sunday and the Octave of Easter, the Second Sunday of Easter draws attention to God's infinite mercy poured out on mankind through the Paschal Mystery of our Savior's death and resurrection.

The inspiration for the celebration of Divine Mercy on the Octave day of Easter goes back to the early centuries of the Church. For example, St. Gregory of Nazianzen wrote about it. For St. Augustine, the Octave Sunday of Easter climaxes our "creation in grace" through the mercy of Christ's Easter victory and is the "most privileged octave-day." The Divine Mercy was a frequent theme of Pope John Paul II.

The special Divine Mercy Mass at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament will be celebrated at 3:00 p.m. to be preceded by the recitation of the Chapel of Mercy and veneration of S. t. Maria Faustina's relic at 2:30 pm.

SERVICE MINISTRY, continued

instruments in renewing the earth by their leadership and faithfulness in the community. The most challenging work for justice is not done in church committees, but in the secular world of work, family life, and citizenship.

Serving the "Least of These": Outreach and Charity

Parishes are called to reach out to the hurting, the poor, and the vulnerable in our midst in concrete acts of charity. Just as the gospel tells us our lives will be judged by our response to the "least of these," so too our parishes should be measured by our help for the hungry, the homeless, the troubled, and the alienated-in our own community and beyond. Parish efforts to meet human needs also provides valuable experience, expertise, and credibility in advocating for public policy to address the forces that leave people in need of our charity.

Advocating for Justice: Legislative Action

Parishes need to promote a revived sense of political responsibility calling Catholics to be informed and active citizens, participating in the debate over the values and vision that guide our communities and nation. Parishioners are called to use their talents, the resources of our faith, and the opportunities of this democracy to shape a society more respectful of the life, dignity, and rights of the human person. Parishes and parishioners are finding diverse ways to be political without being partisan, joining legislative networks, community organizations, and other advocacy groups.

Creating Community: Organizing for Justice

Many parishes are joining with other churches and groups to rebuild a sense of community in their own neighborhoods and towns. Parish leaders are taking the time to listen to the concerns of their members and are organizing to act on those concerns. These kind of church-based and community organizations are making a difference on housing, crime, education, and economic issues in local communities. Parish participation in such community efforts develops leaders, provides concrete handles to deal with key issues, and builds the capacity of the parish to act on our values.

Building Solidarity: Beyond Parish Boundaries

Parishes are called to be communities of solidarity. Catholic social teaching more than anything else insists that we are one family; it calls us to overcome barrier of race, religion, ethnicity, gender, economic status, and nationality. We are one in Christ Jesus (cf. Gal 3:28)—beyond our differences and boundaries.

The closing paragraph of the Bishops' document wraps up the need nicely: "Today, more than ever, our parishes are called to be communities of 'salt' and 'light'; to help believers live their faith in their families, communities, work, and world. We need parishes that will not 'lose their flavor' nor put their 'light under a basket.' We seek to build evangelizing communities of faith, justice, and solidarity, where all believers are challenged to bring God's love, justice, and peace to a world in desperate need of the seasoning of the gospel and the light of Catholic teaching."

Please see next week's bulletin for more information and the link to access the new Social Ministry section of the parish website.