

SS. Edward & Lucy News

SS. Edward and Lucy Parish is a Catholic community in Eastern Geauga County

MARCH 2013

REDISCOVER CATHOLICISM

by Fr. Burkley

Members of our parish received a copy of the book *Rediscover Catholicism* by Matthew Kelly on Christmas. We began our discussion of the book at our GOF last month. Everyone seems to have found the book a real help as we try to live out our Catholic faith. Without becoming too "preachy" he helps us to see how our culture often gets in the way of real Christian living. For instance, he talks on pp. 32-35 about our culture and how it blinds us to Gospel values. We all ask universal questions about life. Who am I? What am I here for? Where am I going? He cites individualism, hedonism, and minimalism as the root causes of many of our problems. On p.35 he says when we understand how culture undermines our values, we shouldn't be surprised by sexual promiscuity and sex crimes; how teenagers walking into classrooms and shooting students and teachers, adolescents killing themselves and an increase in violence; and that during our lifetime more than nine times those killed in the Holocaust have been killed through abortion. Today most people make decisions based on individualism, hedonism and minimalism. We will continue to read and study this great book during this Year of Faith. Pray to the Holy Spirit before you begin to read it and let God communicate with us!

ATTENTION HELP NEEDED . . .

FOR 5:00 PM SATURDAY
AND 8:30 AM MASS
AT ST. EDWARD

- READERS (LECTORS)
- MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION
- GREETERS
- USHERS

Please contact Pete and Kathy Lopaska at 440-632-3199 or at thelopaskas@yahoo.com

A GIFT FOR ME?

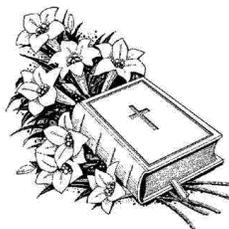
by Mike Hanish

Thank you Church and Fr. Burkley for another special gift to use on my spiritual life's journey - *Rediscover Catholicism* by Matthew Kelly. As I evaluated my few treasures I realized that things I value were given to me from our Church. As I exited Mass on News Year Day, father handed me a new treasure. I wasn't so sure about it when I first looked at this book. But that day I took time to read the Prologue. I am glad I did, it wasn't long till I finished the book and started reading it again. Yes again, I needed to understand the few things I may have missed the first time.

A gift to us for, "The Year of Faith", I encourage each of you to read this book given to us by our Church. It's a wonderful perspective on our Catholic faith and how you can learn to be the "best you can be". Before I read this book I questioned what Faith really means. *Webster's New World Dictionary* defines the word as "trust" unquestioning belief. I thought if I couldn't even get through a week without questioning my Catholic faith, how could I get through a year, my life? The answer after reading this book is YES. It starts with me, you, and yes, us the Church. If we start today to discipline our daily Christian habits, the worldly questions will disappear from our lives. And there you have "Faith"!

Read the book it's yours, given to you by your Church family and friends. As we sing "They will know we Christians by our LOVE BY OUR LOVE." We have proven it for many years. Find out how.

If you did not receive a book, please call the Church office and ask Fr. Burkley for yours. If you can't reach him, call me. I'll be happy to share my treasure with you.



LENTEN REFLECTION

by Fr. Burkley

Fr. Daniel O'Leary writes in the *Tablet* magazine this month about our need to regain the lost rhythm of our soul, especially during Lent. Too often we postpone the work of self-realization, of our inner journey, of the ultimate questions about our existence. We forget that if we do not live our lives abundantly here and now, we never will. As W.H. Auden wrote: "We would rather be ruined than changed, we would rather die in our dread than climb the cross of the moment and let our illusions die." Fr. Pedro Arrupe wrote about this struggle we all are called to enter: "Nothing is more practical in finding God that falling in love (with Him) in an absolute way. When it comes to love, what seizes your imagination affects everything. It will decide what will get you out of bed in the morning, what you do with your evenings, how you spend your weekends, what you read, what you know, what breaks your heart and what amazes you with joy and gratitude. Fall in love with God and stay in love with Him!"

HE IS RISEN!

by Sue Noreika

He is risen indeed! How that age old Easter greeting can make the heart sing! Prophecies are fulfilled in Jesus Christ the Messiah! It is fascinating to look at the details contained in some of the prophecies. Holy Week starts with Palm Sunday and fulfills what was prophesied in Zechariah 9:9 as recorded in Matt. 21:2-7. "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord" of Matt. 21:9 echoes Ps. 118:26. Ps. 41:9 notes that Christ will be betrayed by a close friend and Zechariah 11:12-13a notes the wage of 30 pieces of silver (see Matt. 26:14-5) which later gets thrown into the house of the Lord (Zech 11:13 and Matt. 27:3-5). One of my favorites, because of the minute detail, is from Isaiah 53:9 "And they made his grave not with the wicked-but with the rich at his death, because He had done no violence, nor was there any deceit in His mouth." In

Matt. 27:57-58 wealthy Joseph of Arimathea asks Pilate for the body of Jesus. His body was destined for a pauper's grave with criminals but instead ended up in the grave of a rich man. Isaiah is thought to have lived around the eighth century BC and here is this prophecy about the grave of Christ. In Luke 23:13-15 Pilate states, "I have found no fault in this man..., no, neither did Herod" which attests to the latter part of the Isaiah quote. The Resurrection is foreshadowed in Ps. 49:15, Isaiah 25:8 and 26:19. This is just a small portion of Old Testament prophecy.

Psalm 22 is another prophetic passage. This Psalm of David would have been written between 1040 and 971 B.C. or around 1000 years before the Crucifixion. As you read through this Psalm look up the following fulfillments: Ps.22:1 fulfilled Matt. 27:46; Ps. 22:7-8 fulfilled Matt 27:39, 43; Ps. 22:14 fulfilled Luke 23:33 and John 19:34; Ps. 22:16 fulfilled Luke 24:39-40; Ps. 22:18 fulfilled Matt. 27:35; Ps. 22:22 fulfilled Heb. 2:11-12; and Ps. 22: 27-8 fulfilled Matt. 28:19-20 and Acts 1:8. The whole idea that the Jews demanded Christ be crucified is really amazing for in Deut. 21:23 it states, "He who is hanged is accursed of God." This was not hanging by a noose, but hanging by impalement or by being nailed to a tree. The Jewish punishment for blasphemy was stoning. Crucifixion was practiced by other cultures, not Jews. Although the Romans did not initiate this form of death, they perfected it to be as cruel and agonizing as possible. In the case of Christ He had been scourged or whipped with many-tailed whips which had pieces of bone, glass, or metal attached to the ends with the intent being to tear through skin, muscle, and sinew to cause maximum pain, damage, and blood loss. Often there would be two soldiers who would take turns doing the scourging. Afterwards Jesus had to walk to the place of His impending death. Usually criminals would carry the cross bar of the cross which weighed about 100 pounds. Christ's human body was so afflicted with blood loss, dehydration and exhaustion that it was necessary for the Romans to press Simon into service to carry the cross. Then at Golgotha, Christ's back was shoved against the rough wood of a cross while his hands and feet had spikes driven through them. There were two types of crosses that were used. One was the Tau cross (Greek for the letter "T") which was a cross bar on top of a vertical shaft. With this type the criminals arms were secured to the cross bar by rope and/or spikes and two soldiers then hoisted it over the vertical shaft with the cross bar having a hole in the center that would fit over a corresponding part on the shaft.

The second type was the cross we are most familiar with and the person was secured to both the cross bar and vertical shaft which was then raised probably with ropes and dropped into a hole in the rock of Golgotha. Can't you feel the jarring and the pain in your hands and feet as you feel it drop into position and the scraping along the mangled tissue of the back? Often it took days for a person to die with them alternately pushing themselves up and experiencing excruciating pain in the feet and lower body but needing to do so to be able to breathe then experiencing the excruciating pain in the upper body by hanging by their hands/arms until so much fluid accumulates in their lungs due to impaired circulation from hanging that they try to lift the body up again. This continues until death by asphyxiation. To hasten death the offender's legs were often broken causing more excruciating pain and hastening asphyxiation since the person could no longer raise himself up. The purpose of this explanation is not just to demonstrate the tortuous pain the victim incurred (in case you did not notice exCRUCiating and CRUCifixion come from the same base) this pain was nothing compared to the pain of "My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me?" Separation from God is what we deserve for our sins yet Christ took that upon Himself so that we would not have to experience that endless separation from God's Light and love if we but turn to Him. Can you imagine the weight of all the sins of the world up until that time and on into the future until the end of the days - all that pressing down on our Savior and yet He bore it for love of us. Read what Isaiah says in 53:4-6 that Christ would carry the weight of our sins and then read Isaiah 55:6-7 for confirmation of the abundant mercy God has in store for us.

Have a joyous Easter Season basking in the love of a God who would send His only begotten Son that all who believe in Him might have eternal life!

WOMEN'S CLUB

by Maria Cocco

Six year ago when I joined the St. Edward and Lucy Women's Club I had no idea what I was getting myself into. Those years have flown by and I find myself blessed on a regular basis because of that decision to "try out" joining this parish group. The most important blessing has been to fellowship with these wonderful women in the parish. They are a true reflection of God's love in all they do. The Women's Club sponsors and supports many events within the parish that not only enrich our lives as part of the Women's club but

also benefit many other members of our Parish Family.

Just a highlight of a few of the events, but know there are many more that we are involved with. We sponsor the Living Rosary twice a year - once in May and then again in October. This prayerful event has touched many hearts. You may want to try and attend to see what all the talk is about. We also sponsor an annual "Mother Daughter Banquet." This event is opened to ALL women of the parish. It's a time for fellowship with other women. Women of all ages are welcome to come and enjoy a great meal, entertainment and sharing with other women of the parish. We are all "Daughters of Christ." A few years ago we started a morning of reflection for the women of the Parish. This is usually held on a Saturday morning in September. We have a different speaker each year, share our faith and enjoy a delicious lunch. Then there is our annual craft night in November where you can come and make a craft and enjoy the company. One of our signature events is "Supper with Santa." It's worth it just to come and see the faces of our young people in the parish as Santa comes into the room bearing gifts. Not to mention the cookie decorating and again some great food.

All women of the parish are welcome to join the Women's Club, or just stop by at one of our events. The doors are always open. Even if you just want to see what we are about. We meet the first Tuesday of every month at St. Lucy Winca Hall at 7:00 PM.

ENCOUNTER WITH AN ANGEL

by Bobbi Victor

In October 2004 my husband David (now deceased) and I decided to go to Geneva State Park for our weekly Sunday walk. We liked to walk on the beach towards the cliffs and set up our chairs there because we could be protected from the wind, but still enjoy the sun and water. No one was on the beach this particular Sunday. Dave and I started to set our chairs when a man behind us asked if we knew where the fishing hole was as he was meeting some friends. I thought it was odd because you don't hear that term any more.

He introduced himself and started talking about wood, of all things. He said he and his family were in the woodworking business. After talking about 10 minutes, I told the guys they could talk and I would read for a while.

Fifteen minutes later the gentleman asked if we could pray before he left. I

got up and we gathered in a circle. He led us in prayer as we held hands. When we finished, we said our good-byes. Dave and I started to fold up our chairs. I turned around to ask the man a question but he was nowhere to be seen! No one walking on the beach and no footprints except where we stood to say prayers! Dave and I were astonished!

On our way home Dave asked if I noticed how rough his hand was when we held hands as we said prayers. I was amazed, because I couldn't get over how soft and smooth his hand was for someone working so much with wood. It was then we came to the conclusion we had been talking with an angel!

A CHILD'S VIEW OF HEAVEN

by Bobbi Victor

This particular incident happened when my son Nathan was 2 1/2 -3 years old (He just turned 30). One day he and I were riding in the car when out of the blue Nathan said, "Mommy, it was so beautiful!" I asked him, "What was so beautiful?" "Heaven." You can imagine my shock and surprise, but I asked him, "How do you know that?" He said, "Because I was there before I came here." I was dumbfounded but totally believed him and still do to this day. People I've told this to feel he just made that up or heard other people talk about Heaven, but that is not the case.

This past summer I read the book *To Heaven and Back*, a true story of a doctor's walk with God by Mary C. Neal M.D. (she's the doctor) I was so surprised to read the following because I feel just like her. "I need to categorically state that I believe very young children clearly remember where they came from and are still quite connected to God's world. I believe they easily recall the images, knowledge, and the love of the world they inhabited before their birth. I believe children may still be able to see angels, and many other people have written about this phenomenon. As young children become more engaged with the world, their memories fade and they begin their personal journey, often filled with detours and dead-ends, of finding their way back to God. Ultimately, they must not only find God, but must freely choose to accept God's love and direction. God gave humans this ability to choose freely, which makes us ultimately responsible for our choices, our actions, and our lives."

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL DINING HALL OF WARREN

by Joan Komar

One of the ministries of SS. Edward and Lucy is the dining hall in Warren. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Trumbull County started from a humble beginning in 1930. In the depth of the worst depression in modern history, lay people and their priests came together to assist the poor and needy.

In 1965 the purchase of the present property on Niles Road was made to house the necessary items for home and personal use. Much needed repairs and additions were once again made thru the generosity of others.

In 1989 the rundown kitchen and restaurant across the street from the store was purchased at an auctioned sheriff's sale. Remodeling and improvements ensued thru the generosity of voluntary labor and building materials. A new steel gable roof, commercial stove, heating, booths and necessary appliances were added thru the generosity of many.

The following year a 30 x 30 foot room was constructed to house shelves, walk-in freezer and refrigerator and the foods to serve the people who walk thru the door.

Hundreds of thousands of meals have been served over the years by parishes like ours.

We at SS. Edward and Lucy are honored to gather on the fourth Saturday of every month to prepare the healthiest meals possible from donated foods and those purchased by the Society from the Food Bank. We start to gather at 9 am at 2415 Niles Rd., Warren 44483. We prepare a menu that was set by us the previous month, ready to be served from 11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. We shut the doors and clean to the necessary standards; we vacate by 2 P.M. This is not a chore for us; it is a welcomed task and we have a good time.

Anyone and everyone is welcome. A crew of 10-15 is ideal to get it all done. Any group or individual wishing to come down, please call Joan Komar at 440-724-5090 or e-mail at jkomar233@live.com.

Mission Statement

SS. EDWARD AND LUCY
ST. VINCENT de PAUL DINING
HALL MINISTRY

The dedicated mission of the St. Vincent de Paul Dining Hall Ministry is to provide hot, nutritious meals to ALL who enter this dining hall. WE will be kind, caring, friendly and compassionate;

OUR PURPOSE is to SHOW GOD'S LOVE FOR THEM THRU US; AND TO ENRICH THEIR LIVES.

WHAT IS DIVINE MERCY ALL ABOUT?

by JoAnn Arambasick

Divine Mercy is celebrated the Sunday after Easter. It came about due to the inspirations, visions, revelations, the gift of prophecy and of reading into human souls and requests by Jesus to a Polish sister named Faustina Kowalska. She was the third of ten children. At the age of seven, she knew that she had a very high attraction to Jesus. She very much desired holiness. Her entry to the convent happened in her teens. Her parents weren't in favor of her entrance at the time. Later, they realized that, indeed, she had a vocation. She died on October 5, 1938 and was canonized a saint by Blessed John Paul II on Mercy Sunday, 2000. She was the first saint canonized in the new millennium.

She prayed a great deal and suffered a great deal in her desire to be in union with Christ. She willed her will to be as closely united to Christ as possible. To this uneducated religious, Jesus commissioned her to the mission to spread His message of mercy to the whole world. He told her, "I am sending you with My mercy to the people of the whole world. I do not want to punish aching mankind, but I desire to heal it, pressing it to My merciful Heart." (Diary, 1588) "You are the secretary of My mercy; I have chosen you for that office in this and the next life (Diary 1605) to make known to souls the great mercy that I have for them and to exhort them to trust in the bottomless dept of my mercy." (Diary 1567)

Jesus gave to her this mission and the means to convey this through the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Divine Mercy Novena. Practicing these devotions leads souls to a revival of the spiritual gifts of Christian trust and mercy. The greatest of graces are poured upon those participants who begin the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and the Novena of Divine Mercy on Good Friday and continue until Mercy Sunday. A participant is to go to Confession during that time and Communion as well. The promise of Christ to Sr. Faustina was, "...by praying this Chaplet the souls will be embraced by My mercy during their lifetime and especially at the hour of their death." (Diary 754) Also, "When this chaplet is said by the bedside of a dying person, God's anger is placated, unfathomable mercy envelops the soul." (Diary 1514) It is best that the Chaplet and Novena be prayed at 3 o'clock, the hour of Divine Mercy and the hour of Christ's greatest sacrifice.

The Chaplet is to be prayed on rosary beads. Please bring rosary beads to mass on Mercy Sunday. We will try to have both the novena and chaplet leaflets in the church before Good Friday.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF MARIAPOCH, BURTON, OH

by Kimm Elko

Pilgrimage noun *A journey to a sacred place or shrine*

It is said that those who believe in miracles need no explanation. And to those who do not believe, no explanation is possible.

This is a true story of a centuries-old miracle that occurred in Hungary and had a pleasant result right here in our own backyard in Burton, Ohio.

The shrine on Mumford Road was built as an American counterpart to the Shrine of Our Lady of Mariapoch in Hungary. One day in the tiny village of Povch (pronounced –“poach”) incredible news brought people to the church. An Icon – a Greek painting of the Most Holy Mother of God – appeared to be shedding tears. In Hungary, the icon wept on three separate occasions. These miraculous weepings have drawn pilgrims to the icon of the Mother of God for many years.

The immigrants of Hungary, because of their love of the Mother of God, donated funds to build this shrine in 1956 in devotion for all to worship. It is very

similar to the one in Hungary. This is a beautiful, serene, peaceful wooded area where tranquility and spiritual comfort can be experienced.



DID YOU KNOW?

- The Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma oversees the shrine?
- The Byzantine Catholic Church is united with the Pope of Rome?
- The Shrine is open the first weekend of May through the first weekend of October?
- Liturgies are offered at 3:30 p.m. each Sunday during those months?
- The lay group “Friends of the Shrine” is open to all who wish to volunteer?

- The shrine has a website www.mariapoch.org?
- You can witness the shrine’s own miracle at Stations of the Cross XIII?
- Stations of the Cross will be held at the shrine on Good Friday?
- The Parish picnic will be held on June 22 at the Shrine?
- The Women’s Renewal Annual Picnic at the Shrine is July 18?

“YEAR OF FAITH” - what a perfect time for a pilgrimage to the Shrine!

HOLY WEEK MASSES

Holy Thursday, March 28

7:30 pm Mass of Lord’s Supper - St. Ed
8:30 pm Adoration till Midnight - St. Ed

Good Friday, March 29

3:00 pm Good Friday Service - St. Ed
7:00 pm Good Friday Service - St. Lucy

Holy Saturday, March 30

8:00 pm Easter Vigil Service and Mass
- St. Lucy

Easter Sunday, March 31

8:30 am Mass - St. Edward
10:30 am Mass - St. Lucy

We gratefully acknowledge the J.S. Paluch Printing Company, who prints our parish bulletin and the parishioners who invested their time and talents to produce the newsletter.

St. Edward Church
P.O. Box 709
16150 Center St.
Parkman, Ohio 44080
St. Lucy Mission
P.O. Box 98
16280 High Street
Middlefield, Ohio 44062