Parish VOICE

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St. Charles Parish Hosts Forward in Faith

Forward in Faith, the new initiative for adult faith formation in the Archdiocese of San Francisco, began here at St. Charles a few weeks ago and has been a rousing success! Meeting on Wednesday nights in Borromeo Hall, this outstanding online program gives parishioners the opportunity to deepen, examine, and share their faith in light of contemporary Catholic teaching. With over 170 people enrolled in the program, including 90 from this parish, Forward in Faith presents outstanding theologians from around the country who

discuss issues central to our faith as Catholics living in the 21st Century.

This first series of classes began in January and will end in the last week of March. Consisting of lectures and presentations given at Boston College by its highly regarded faculty, the first 10 week session dealt with the themes of Encountering Christ in the Scriptures and the Identity of the Church. Starting in September, our Forward in Faith program will tackle Sacraments as Actions of the Church, while also examining

Foundations of the Christian moral life.

Each Wednesday evening finds parishioners streaming into the Hall, excited at the prospects of an evening of discovery, exploration and great discussion! Fortified with snacks and coffee organized by the incredible Michelle Baeza, people watch a video on the topic of the evening, then spend 20 or 30 minutes discussing the topic in small groups. For many, these small group sharing sessions are the highlight of the evening. Not

(Continued on page 2)

Dear Friends,

IN THIS ISSUE

2 Forward in Faith (cont.)

Baptisms

Wedding

Academic Decath-Ion

Teen Bible Study

3 Shadow Stations of the Cross

Scripture Camp

WINGS

Men's Club

I have often looked at the Parish priest as the farmer in the priesthood. We are assigned to a geographical area and like any good farmer we try and get a good lay of the land—where the fertile ground is, where the seeds of faith are sprouting and where the land that needs more cultivation or attention is located.

As Easter draws near, the traditional time to speak of new life in the Church, we are surrounded by signs of this new life. This year we have been a host site for an Adult Faith Formation program presented by Boston College and sponsored through the Archdiocese of San Francisco. St. Charles Parish is the largest host parish and has around 90 members attending this 10 week workshop. The presentations have been excellent and I look forward to the fall term when Moral Decision Making and Social Justice Issues will be presented and discussed.

Members of our Youth Group have taken some very relevant social concerns and presented opportunities for our community to learn about these issues and to discover ways we can help. As they have done for the past 18 years, they are planning and raising funds to continue their Mexico Mission Trip this June to once again build houses.

As we have completed the renovation of our Church and Campus, the Parish Council has turned its attention to the people who make up this community of St. Charles. The evaluation and review of our programs, especially those that deal with our young adult members, such as marriage preparation and baptism class for their children, are the top priorities this year.

It has been a weak winter here in California, but in San Carlos, we have received a great deal of bountiful blessings in these winter months. I do believe that we will see a fantastic harvest as signs of new life are already sprouting around us. May you have a blessed Easter and rejoice in this New Life we have all been given.

Sincerely yours in Christ, Father Dave

only do people get to meet and make new friends, the material presented earlier in the evening is often deeply enriched when augmented by the experiences and perspectives of others.

The people presenting have been remarkable, including authors Thomas Groome and John Shea, as well as Boston College professors Celia Soros, Daniel Harrington, and Thomas Stegman. However, I think everyone's favorite has been the remarkable Father Michael Himes! Father Himes, who has been the presenter in several of our classes, is a delightful man who discusses often complex concepts in ways that combine both humor and insight, making his material easily understandable. His class on "Trinity, God's Call to Relationship," was beautifully done, and in his recent talk on "Why We Need Church," he somehow managed to bring in both Nietzche and The Brothers Karamozov while leaving all of us wanting more!

Our Pastor, Father Dave,

has been very pleased that so many parishioners have taken advantage of this great opportunity. With tongue planted firmly in cheek, Fr. Dave claims that the only reason so many have signed up is that we've been starving them of adult catechesis for so long! However, that's no longer the case and St. Charles is now leading the way! For many of us, our last formal education in the Faith may have happened in high or even elementary school. Now that we've moved on in life, and our relationship with God has continued to grow and evolve, this is a great chance to learn more about our faith in light of current Catholic teaching and our own place in the world.

While the current session is winding down and will end on March 28, keep an eye on the Bulletin. Beginning in September, we're going to be starting again and, as the song says, "All Are Welcome!" Don't miss it, and hope to see you there!.

Baptisms

Marisa Goia Marty Tyler James Moerk James Palmer Knokey **Zachary Beals** Samuel Beals Jackson George Marinos Ava Sophia Marinos Olivia Diane Toland Gavin Joseph Lago Abagail Jane Hooper Andrew Yagen Connor Yagen **Gavin Swinehart** Hayden Cruz Robertson Kennedy Kathryn Marek Trevor Moguin Elizabeth Sophia Stamos Jessica Beatrice North Matthew John Ghiorso Rennock **Garrett Michael Glass** Liam Santoso Abigail Maryann DeMartini Marika Lynn Jongejan

St. Charles School Wins Honors at Academic Decathlon

St. Charles School has participated in the San Francisco Archdiocesan-wide Middle School Academic Decathlon for the past ten years and this year the school had its best overall performance.

The school sent a team of ten students, five seventh graders and five eighth graders. The competition included individual tests in five subject matters along with a group test of logic and problem solving and a team-based Jeopardy-style super quiz. The team

won the super quiz and placed second in the group logic test. One member, Kelly Sala, placed first in the individual Theology test. As a whole, the team placed second overall.

The team's coaches, Lisa Clancy and Diana Gendotti, have each been coaching for ten years. The coaching and studies are completed as extracurricular activities.

We congratulate the School, the team and its coaches for such great achievements!

Wedding

Daniel Vincent Tiraschi & Heather Anne Harrington September 24, 2011

The Mexico Mission Fund-Raising Dinner will be on May 12, 2012. Please come and support our youth and our church in this outreach!



Academic Decathlon Team

Summer Bible Study for Teens

Charlie's Angels will once again offer a Summer Teen Bible Study. This will be a 6-week study on the book of Revelation, Tuesdays from 8-10 p.m. [dates TBA]. All teens in grades 9-12 are invit-

ed to participate. The cost is only \$20 per person. For more information and to register, contact Tami Palladino (650) 591-7349 ext. 31 or tami@stcharlesparish.org.

Teens to Present "Shadow Play" Stations of the Cross



High school teens will present the Stations of the Cross as a "Shadow Play" on Good Friday, April 6th, in the Church for the whole parish community at Noon and again at 7pm. All are invited.



Scripture Camp: Everything Is Possible with God

MARK YOUR CALENDARS June 18 – 22, 2012 / 9am – 12pm

Open to all St. Charles school and parish children who are completing Kindergarten through 4th Grade this year. Parents: we are still looking for a few volunteers. Volunteering with Scripture Camp is a great way to make a different

in the St. Charles community while spending time with your child(ren). Please contact Michelle Baeza (650-591-7349 ext. 34 or mbaeza@stcharlesparish.org) if you would like to volunteer or have questions about the program.

WINGS (Women in God's Spirit) - Prayer, Faith Development and Fellowship

WINGS welcomes women of all ages and in all stages of life. We seek to nurture ourselves in order to be able to give of ourselves. Supported by one another, the women of WINGS are committed to building a community where love grows.

Spring 2012 Meetings 7:00 p.m. – Borromeo Hall

Thursday, March 29-Nurture

Your Garden

Welcome Spring with a gardening "how-to". Speaker to be announced.

Admission: \$5; Outreach: Canned food for SVDP food pantry

Wednesday, April 18—Bunco!

Admission \$20; other details to be announced.

Wednesday, May 16— Cultivating Compassion Marlene deNardo, educator and spiritual director with a degree in Spirituality & Culture, will speak on Cultivating Compassion in ourselves and others.

Admission: \$5; Outreach: Baby items for First Resort

Questions? Robyn Rourick at rrourick@gmail.com or

Sharon Branaman at slb@stanford.edu or 650-592-7921

Men's Club - Unity / Growing / Giving

The St. Charles Men's Club Celebrates its 11 Year Anniversary and continues to thrive in 2012. Please join us at our next meeting to celebrate our decade of Unity / Growing / and Giving.

All members of the Saint Charles community are invited to participate in our monthly programs which promise to bring perspective in many areas of our lives. This includes topics related to our children and their wellbeing / internet security and potential threats / men's health / spiritual guidance focusing on life development / and a variety of sport related topics. This is a great way for men in our Parish to meet a won-

derful group and share in our life's successes, opportunities, and struggles. Please stay tuned for announcements in the bulletin and get involved.

The Men's Club was established for the purpose of enhancing the community of St. Charles. The organization exists to develop a men's community within the parish by providing opportunities for spiritual and personal growth, social interaction, and service outreach to the parish community.

There are no membership fees or registration! All men of the Parish are welcome! The Club Meetings are typically held monthly during the school year (always check the Bulletin as dates do change). A \$20 admission charge covers dinner and drinks, entertainment and ever-popular door prizes.

Hope to see you soon.

Kirby Kish President



Please consider participating in our Eucharistic Adoration which takes place the First Friday of every month in the Parish Center chapel from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. - "be still and know that I am God."

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HOLY WEEK



RECONCILIATION SERVICE (March 27th)

7:00 p.m. in the Church

EIGHTH GRADE STATIONS OF THE CROSS (March 30th)

- In the Church
- 1:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY (April 1st)

- All Masses
- Blessing of Palms, before each Mass

WEDNESDAY (April 4th)

• Tenebrae, 8:00 p.m.

HOLY THURSDAY (April 5th)

- Mass, 7:00 p.m.
- Silent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

 Altar of Repose in Borromeo Hall until 10:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY (April 6th)

- Shadow Stations of the Cross, Music and Meditations, Liturgy of Good Friday 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- Shadow Stations of the Cross, 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY (April 7th)

• Easter Vigil Mass, 8:00 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY (April 8th)

- Masses at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (No evening Mass)
- Easter Egg Hunt for Children follows the 8:30 a.m. Mass