

The Benedictine

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Spring, 2006

Sacred Heart Annex Dedicated

On February 12, 2006, our newly constructed Sacred Heart Annex was dedicated at the 10 a.m. Mass. Participating in the Mass were Bishop Joseph Adamec, principal celebrant, and his master of ceremonies, Deacon Gene Neral; Archabbot Douglas Nowicki, O.S.B., and his master of ceremonies, Brother Matthias Martinez, O.S.B., Father Vincent Zidek, O.S.B., pastor, and Brother Maurus Mount, O.S.B., deacon. Along with the clergy, there was a church full of Parishioners. The Igou family of stringed instrumentalists accompanied the Saint Benedict organist, Denise Zalisnock, and the choir to provide music for the occasion. After the Mass, all were encouraged to tour the new facility. There were many wonderful comments regarding the ceremony and the new annex.

Bishop Joseph said he was very pleased that he was able to join with Archabbot Douglas in the blessing of the new annex. "The event reflected the deep faith of God's people in the area. The dedicating of the annex to the Sacred Heart reflects the understanding that there is but one Church, regardless of the location of worship. Such a living out of trust in the Lord and His ways happens with good leadership, for which I commend and thank Father Vincent Zidek, O.S.B. Vibrant parish faith communities such as that of Saint Benedict's make for a vibrant Diocesan Church. As the Diocesan Bishop, I am very much encouraged by that."

Archabbot Douglas stated, "The blessing of the new Sacred Heart Annex... marked the beginning of another chapter in the relationship between the Catholic people of Bakerton and the Benedictines of Saint Vincent Archabbey. For many years, the Catholic community in Bakerton was served by the Benedictine pastor in Carrolltown. Eventually, the Sacred Heart Parish was established as the population in the area grew. In more recent years, many of the Sacred Heart Parishioners became members of the Saint Benedict Parish as a result of consolidation of resources throughout the region. Father Vincent Zidek, the Pastor of Saint Benedict Parish, warmly welcomed the new members to the parish family."

"Saint Paul stresses that we are all members of the one body of Jesus Christ. The naming of the



(continued on page 3)

Our Sacristan

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus tells us that “anyone who aspires to greatness must serve the rest.” Saint Benedict Parish is blessed in having many members who generously give of their time and effort for the good of the Church. Among those who serve is Paul Lieb, the Parish Sacristan. He has been working in this capacity since his retirement in 1983.

Paul’s principal duties include making certain that everything is in readiness for the celebration of the Liturgy: vestments, sacred vessels, hosts and wine, incense, candles, altar linens, and so forth. Part of his schedule is keeping the sanctuary and sacristy in good order. Duties that must be performed on a regular basis include filling the entrance holy water fonts and ordering and replenishing supplies. Jane Farabaugh, his capable assistant, helps to replace candles in the Church, vestibule, narthex, and Sacred Heart Annex. A daily task is keeping the missalettes and hymnals properly arranged. He assists Daniel Bechel, the Parish custodian, in hanging appropriate-color banners for the Church’s liturgical celebrations.

Picking up Church and School mail is another daily task. A weekly commitment is helping to count the Sunday collection. Paul trains and schedules the Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers and schedules the Lectors. He himself has been a Eucharistic Minister for over 25 years, ministering in Church and serving the homebound.

Paul is a member of the Holy Name Society, Knights of Columbus, Cemetery Association, Saint Vincent de Paul Society, and is a Benedictine Oblate. He served in the Ordinance Division of the United States Army as a chaplain’s assistant in England and France during World War II.

Paul is the son of Augustine and Clara Lieb and is married to the former Catherine Gavalier. They are the parents of seven children and have 16 grandchildren and five great



grandchildren. He is the brother of Father Germain Lieb, O.S.B., of Saint Vincent Archabbey and of Blanche Hipps who will celebrate her 102nd birthday in October.

When asked about his long service to the Church, Paul replied, “I am thankful that I can be of service to the Church. It’s a privilege to work in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.”

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BENEDICTINES

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(continued from page 1)

“new annex in honor of the Sacred Heart is not only a testimonial to the unity that we experience in the heart of Jesus Christ but also a lasting memorial of the former Sacred Heart Parish of Bakerton,” Archabbot Douglas concluded.

“It is heartwarming to know that the Sacred Heart Annex has been named in testimony to the parishioners of the former Sacred Heart Church in Bakerton. It is a tremendous honor for them,” said the late Father David Cronauer, former pastor of Sacred Heart Parish.

Nancy Westrick, former member of Sacred Heart Parish, said, “I think I can speak for the entire parish of the former Sacred Heart Church, when I say our hearts were broken to see the church close its doors forever. When I heard that the new annex added on to the Saint Benedict Church would be dedicated to the memory of the Sacred Heart, I felt honored and privileged to belong to the Saint Benedict Parish. The new Sacred Heart Annex is a beautiful addition to the Saint Benedict Church and I pray that it will hold as many fond memories of new brides, new babies and children making their first Holy Communion as I have of the Sacred Heart Church. As a former Parishioner of the Sacred Heart Church I want to express my gratitude for the thoughtfulness of this precious gift of the heart.”

Paul Lieb stated, “Sacred Heart Annex is a great addition to our church providing easy handicapped accessibility to those in need, as well as the modern restrooms. It also contains additional multi-purpose rooms and storage space which are really needed.”

Chad Hoover, altar server and high school student commented: “The Sacred Heart Annex to me is a special tribute to the members of the Sacred Heart Parish. It is not just a building or an addition, but rather an extension and a welcome to the new members of the church. Its addition also is beneficial to the handicapped of our Parish. It is something more than just money spent; it is something for the Catholics of Carrolltown to be proud of. It is a place that shows the rich, Catholic heritage of Carrolltown and a place for the handicapped to enter the Church and worship God.”

Irene Haycisak said: “The fact that I am the mother of a handicapped son, I feel blessed each time we enter the new annex and use the elevator. I am amazed to see the spaciousness, convenience and beauty of each area of the Sacred Heart Annex.”

“The Sacred Heart Annex has been a real blessing for me. Because of health problems, I have difficulty walking. Before the Annex, I would use a walker to get into Church. Since we have the Annex, my family can drop me off right by the door and I can use one of the wheelchairs and take the elevator up to Church. I don’t have to be out in the weather. It is just so nice!” said Helen Wysocki, a choir member.

Several Saint Benedict School students commented on the fact that they could utilize the Boniface Wimmer room for School activities such as music lessons, that the Annex provided additional access to the Church, that it has larger and more spacious rest rooms, and that it has an elevator to accommodate handicapped access. Olivia Kline thinks the best part is, “the stained glass window piece in the front of the Annex. It has very pretty colors and it brings out the whole Sacred Heart Annex.” Julie Veneskey said, “It’s cool to have the glass walk-way connecting the Church and the Annex.” Mikael Hollis wrote, “It looks good and looks like the Church so if you just recently moved or came past you would think that it was part of the Church.” Mara Leyo said, “It’s ... better when the servers and Father gather in the vestry before Mass.” Emily Waksmunski, another altar server, agreed: “Now you can go through the Church hall to get to the Annex instead of having to go outside in the cold to get to the back of the Church.” Emily also came up with another beneficial use for the elevator: “This is especially useful if you are carrying things or if you are using a cart from the Church hall.”

Blessing of Throats & Saint Blase Blaze



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Our Parish celebrated the memorial of Saint Blase on February 3, 2006. The memorial coincided with a Saint Blase blaze which originated centuries ago when the Christmas Season ended with the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus on February 2nd. The German people would take their Christmas trees down and burn them the following day at a Saint Blase blaze. The feast honors Saint Blase (Blaise) who was a 4th century bishop from Sebaste, Armenia.

Honoring this same custom Father Vincent followed this practice at Saint Benedict Church. Since his arrival we have had a blaze every year with the exception of

last year due to the construction of the Sacred Heart Annex.

The primary purpose of the gathering is to honor Saint Blase, as well as to provide the traditional Blessing of Throats. This blessing calls for the healing of all ailments including those of the throat. This blessing is what brings Parishioners to the celebration. Following the prayer service, the Parishioners linger to enjoy the fellowship offered by the blaze and refreshments. The celebration is enhanced by the voices of the Choir who have shared their vocal talents at each Saint Blase blaze. The Carrolltown Volunteer Fire Company has played an important role each year also. They ignite the fire, keep everyone safe and stay until the fire is

completely extinguished. The Saint Benedict MOMS Group provides cookies and hot chocolate to complete the evening. The event offers everyone an opportunity to receive an important blessing and to visit with other Parishioners.



When asked what he enjoys most about the Saint Blase blaze, Father Vincent responded, "Seeing the excitement in the children's eyes and watching them grow in their Faith." He may have witnessed exactly that in the eyes of four-year-old Parishioner Noah Donahue. His favorite part was when the fireman threw the oil on the fire and the big flames shot up.

Our Parish thanks Father Vincent, the Choir, the Carrolltown Volunteer Fire Company, the MOMS Group, and everyone who attended for making this year's Saint Blase blaze a success!

Church Transfiguration

— a Major Undertaking

Each Church's membership, mission, location, and vision are different from every other. The purpose and scope of developing a project such as ours involves numerous meetings to explore visioning, roles and responsibilities. This often includes a behind-the-scene-type communications between all parties involved to develop the basic floor plan and architectural design needed to create a beautiful, warm, functional, and flexible cohesive end result. As our kitchen and loft work begin, Parish Council President Barry Fox and Finance Council member Jeannine Cymbor gave an account of what this work may entail.

What architectural challenges are there?

Barry Fox: Reinforcing pillars from the basement through the Church to hold the weight of the loft, yet not be an eyesore; making sure that we do not waste space.

Jeannine Cymbor: As with any improvement project, the challenge with the loft is to incorporate it into the existing facility to make it look as though it has always been a part of the church all the while taking into consideration structural safety and construction codes.

Will the loft work encompass other facets in the Church?

Barry Fox: We will definitely lose some pews in the back but will have some cut down and relocated so we have sufficient seating. If necessary, we can use the area that the choir currently uses.

Jeannine Cymbor: Support beams for the loft will need to go down through the church hall affecting the design of the kitchen area. Pews and confessionals will be affected as well. The beautiful result will be worth it though.

Will the kitchen work encompass other facets in the Church?

Barry Fox: An existing wall will be relocated and the other walls will be refinished. The exterior door will now be used only as an emergency exit and will be brought up to code. All debris would have to be removed.

Jeannine Cymbor: With the expansion of the kitchen and the installation of a walk-in cooler/freezer unit, a number of smaller units now being utilized will eventually be done away with freeing up much needed space in the hall itself. Plans also include refinishing the interior walls of the hall and replacing the exterior doors bringing them up to code.

Will there be inconveniences?

Barry Fox: There certainly will be inconveniences, but with proper planning it will be at a minimum. Dust and dirt will be throughout, but plans are in place to keep it contained as much as possible. The work will be done in stages and completed so we do not interfere with too many Church functions. A benefit from the construction of the Annex is being able to utilize the Boniface Wimmer room that is complete except for flooring.

Jeannine Cymbor: Yes, definitely. Inconveniences cannot be avoided when undertaking any remodeling project. I'm sure the builders will do their best to keep the mess of construction in hand and will plan the work on the loft so that we can continue our weekend Mass celebrations as usual with minimum inconvenience.

Where will Confessions be heard in the meantime?

Barry Fox: In all likelihood, when the current confessionals are removed, but before the new ones are installed, a temporary arrangement will be set-up in either the vestry or Boniface Wimmer room of the Annex.

(continued on page 7)

March for Life, 2006

Each year in January on the anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade decision, many dedicated Parishioners make the trip to Washington, D.C., to demonstrate their support for the right to life for all humans. This year Allan and Joanna Duman and their daughters, Emily and Abigail, were among the group of supporters from Saint Benedict Parish who participated in this annual March for Life. The Dumans graciously agreed to tell how they came to make this commitment and what this year's March meant to them.



Edmund Burke once said, "All that is needed for the forces of evil to triumph is for enough good men to do nothing." As parents, Allan and I realized very early that we have a moral obligation to instill our strong sense of Catholic responsibility in our children in all areas of their lives. So it was never a difficult decision for us to become spiritually and politically active in the Pro-Life movement as a family.

We deliberately chose not to shield our youngest daughters, Emily and Abigail, from the ugly reality of abortion. It was important for them to

form their opinions independently and ask those questions that needed to be answered. We did not want abortion or any of its effects to remain abstract in their minds. We witnessed the accounts of women that regretted terminating their pregnancies, and my daughters heard the cries of mothers that now mourned the loss of their child. As a family, we heard the graphic accounts of the images of aborted babies. Our daughters asked many questions—sometimes with tears in their eyes—and we answered every one without hesitation.

Abortion is not just a struggle for Catholic Christians or Caucasians. We heard members of the Jewish and Orthodox Christian communities, and we all witnessed the impact that abortion had on the African-Americans in America. This year we think it really became apparent to Emily and Abigail that abortion affects the whole human race—it is not bound by color, religion or even social status. Many of the speakers were politicians. We became encouraged by their sense of responsibility and what they are doing to affect change. Any sense of hopelessness we felt as a family was soon replaced with a feeling of communal empowerment.

While one person may struggle to affect change, it was difficult to deny that there was strength in numbers. We hope the confidence that our children gained by seeing others sharing the same respect for human life continues to motivate them to remain involved politically until Roe vs. Wade can be overturned. Although they are too young to vote, our daughters joined us in the political process that day as they wrote letters to their legislators and marched in solidarity toward the Supreme Court building.

By blessing us with children, God has given us the biggest responsibility we will ever know as human beings. We know our success as parents will be determined in part by our ability to encourage social responsibility in our children. Allan and I know that we were not just leading our children toward the Supreme Court building on that cold day last January, we were leading our children to a life where Christ is the center and respect for all life from conception to natural death is paramount.



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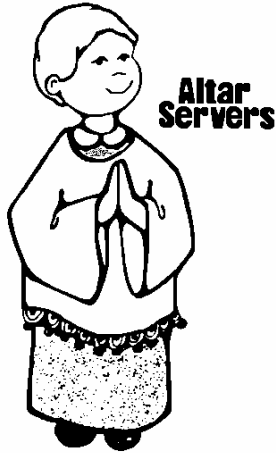
Jeannine Cymbor: To date, I've not been involved in any discussions concerning confessions. I'm sure Father Vincent has plans in mind to utilize other areas of the church, for example the altar area as is done during holidays when visiting priests are here to help. We also have the Boniface Wimmer room now, which could be used for just such a purpose.

Will activities and events be held in the hall during this period?

Barry Fox: Most of the Church activities will still happen. As they say, no pain, no gain—but the rewards for a little inconvenience are much greater by having a Church that can service all its people regardless of health status. We can now cover weddings or funerals with much more dignity and respect. Everyone must understand that, unfortunately, due to new building regulations, many churches and schools have had to close because they would have to keep up to code. At Saint Benedict, we are doing all we can to maintain and grow our Parish and at the same time make sure we are meeting all legal requirements.

Jeannine Cymbor: Events and activities will be held as much as possible with safety considerations in mind. Obviously, when active work is going on, events would be impracticable.

Altar Servers



They are in attendance at every Mass and other liturgical celebrations but we do not seem to pay much attention to their presence on the altar. The altar server, however, plays a very important role in our liturgies as an assistant to the celebrant. From carrying the cross in the opening procession to assisting in the preparation of the gifts, this lay ministry is both important and helpful.

At Saint Benedict Parish, Paul Lieb has taken the responsibility of preparing young boys and girls for the Altar Service. Since 1982, Paul has trained hundreds of eager young students beginning in the 5th grade. In the past only boys were permitted to participate in the Mass as altar servers but recently, girls have been welcomed to the ministry. These days the girls have outnumbered boys but Paul does not mind. He is happy with the enrollees excitement as they begin their training.

Shannon Illig, daughter of Tom and Kathy Illig, was the first girl at Saint Benedict Church to serve on the altar in the ministry. Kathy stated that Shannon and her sister, Alison, were very eager to sign up for altar service.

She is proud that both girls served and volunteered for weddings and funerals. When each girl served their first Mass, Kathy was in attendance.

The role of altar server is a rewarding ministry since the youth have a better understanding of the Mass with their participation on the altar. Most young altar servers consider their role as a personal privilege and are proud to volunteer their time for our Parish community.

Saint Benedict Church

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