



# The Voice OF NATIVITY

Volume 15, Issue 2

June-July 2006

## Can You Stand With Me?

This spring seven more wonderful BeFriends have been trained. They are now interning with seasoned BeFriends. The new people are Marge Cagley, Mary Jane Foley, Jim Foley, Al Peach, Mary Beth Peterson, Don Tillisch and Maureta Studebaker.

All these beautiful Ministers come from within the Nativity Community. They are here for any of you who might need a compassionate listener. These people can be described by Henry Nouwen's quote, "The friend who can be silent with us in a moment of despair or confusion, who can stay with us in an hour of grief and bereavement, who can

tolerate not knowing, not curing, not healing, and face with us the reality of our powerlessness, that is the friend who cares." The BeFriend.

No one can take the place of family or friends. The BeFriend is a supportive visitor from the Nativity community. This ministry is not so much a "doing" but rather "being" – a ministry of presence, of quiet listening.

In addition to the new BeFriends, Nativity has thirteen seasoned BeFriends. The Program Leaders are Marlene Daul and Renelda Hushka. Sister Juliana Wisnewski is the Pastoral Minister. The Befriends are Patty Craft, Cathy Duffy, Lisa Laliberte, Karen Opsahl, JoAnne Peterson, Dorothy Renner, Greg Schmaltz, Mari Jo Sigl, Dorothy Thiessen, Karen Walz, and Naomi West.

BeFriends are trained in a twenty-hour course in areas of grief, loss, spirituality, aging, listening



Marlene and Renelda

and confidentiality. The candidates serve a short internship. They then discern with the leaders whether this is their call of ministry. If the judgment is made in their favor, they are commissioned as active trained BeFriends.

All commissioned Befriends participate in monthly meetings with the Program Leaders and the Pastoral Minister. These meetings provide time for ministerial reflection, accountability review, spiritual growth, prayer, and confidentiality review.

The BeFriends attempt to bring Christ's corporal works of mercy to their parish family members.

-Marlene Daul



BEFRIENDER  
MINISTRY

*A Listening Presence*

The BeFriend Logo

## **Church of the Nativity**

Office Hours 8:00 am to 4:30 pm  
Monday thru Friday

Website:  
www.nativitycatholicchurch.net

Parish Office 232.2414  
church.nativity@sendit.nodak.edu

### **Church Staff**

Fr. Dale Kinzler, pastor  
Fr. Bill Gerlach, associate pastor  
Sr. Juliana Wisnewski,  
pastoral minister  
Jean Wilhelmi, Liturgy & Music  
Lynn Stasch & Matt Fisher,  
youth ministry  
Fr. Bill Gerlach, rcia & evangelization  
Kathy Bourdon, faith formation  
Margaret Bitz, adult faith formation  
Tim Mathern, administration  
Frank LaLonde, office manager  
Bev Nesler, secretary  
Mari Jo Sigl, bookkeeper

### **Nativity School**

School Office 232.7461  
Cindy Hutchins, principal  
Carol Johansen, secretary

### **Pastoral Council**

Meets fourth Tuesday of the month  
Marilyn BJORALT, Kevin Capouch  
Tim Hagstrom, Betty Hund  
Fr. Bill Gerlach, Pat Keogh  
Fr. Dale Kinzler, Tim Mathern  
Bev Nesler, Nance Thomas  
Robert Wold, Kevin Wolf—chair  
Brenda Wolf—recording secretary

### **Voice Editorial Board**

Margaret Bitz, Frank LaLonde  
Bev Nesler, DeLaine Kuebler

The mission of the Voice flows from the mission of Nativity: to promote acceptance and growth within our community through education and evangelization. The Voice, therefore will publish articles that have as their purpose evangelization and education of Nativity.

We strive to bring vision and voice to identify God in our midst.

# Social Justice Coordinator Position

Margaret Bitz has accepted the position of Social Justice Coordinator at the Church of the Nativity, Fargo, North Dakota. It is effective April 1, 2006. In this position Margaret's function will be to enable the parish community in forming itself in the social teaching of the Catholic Church. Her role will be one of education, advocacy, community organizing and empowerment of others.

Health Care policy will be the focus for this year. This decision was made in conjunction with the Social Justice Ministry Commission. This came from the priorities that surfaced in the parish survey last year.

Margaret has a passion for social justice and says that it was nurtured by her parents' lives. In a small home housing 14 children her mother found room to house a family of 8 for six weeks while they were homeless. Her father believed in shopping at the local businesses because, as he claimed, "These people need to eat too." Her education at Alverno College, a Catholic Women's College in Milwaukee, sealed that commitment to justice.



Margaret Bitz

Margaret most recently has been the Adult Faith Formation Coordinator at the Church of the Nativity. She previously worked at Rainbow Bridge, Head Start, St. John's/Ansgar Hospitals, MeritCare, churches in Kansas, Montana and North Dakota. She was an elementary education teacher in North Dakota.

Margaret attended Alverno College in Milwaukee, WI, Moorhead State University, International School of Religious Education in London, Ontario and North Dakota State University. Margaret has a Bachelor of Science in Education, Masters in Religious Education and a Masters in Counseling.

# Time For a Heavenly Inspection?

By Margaret Bitz

Johnny, the youngest of the family, wanted everything for himself. He railed against his older brothers and sisters when they didn't do what he wanted. He humiliated them. He threw things at them. He locked them out of the house. He failed to take care of the things that his parents provided him. When he got tired of something he threw it away. He broke things around the house because they happened to be in his way. He dropped his garbage wherever he happened to be. When he made a mess he walked away from it. This was not the parents' plan when they brought him into the world. They expected him to live in harmony with the rest of the household. They expected him to treat everyone with respect. They expected him to care about them and his siblings. They expected him to respect the things he received and the things he used. Johnny did not live up to his parents' expectations. There are times within the family of God when all of us are like this child.

God created the world. He expects us to live in harmony with the rest of God's household. From

Jesus' message it's difficult to imagine God endorsing any people of one part of the world grabbing the resources of the world all for themselves. It's difficult to imagine God endorsing an attitude of superiority of one people over another when it comes to the use of resources. He expects us to live in harmony with all the peoples of the world. He expects us to treat everyone with respect. He expects us to care about Him and about all of our brothers and sisters. He expects us to share equally.

God expects us to treat the home of the world with respect. It's difficult to imagine God endorsing any people using up the resources of the world without regard for anyone else. It's difficult to imagine God endorsing pollution because it allows the economy to flourish. God did not have this in mind when he created the world, when he created us. He expects us to take care of the earth. To treat it like a gift from Him.

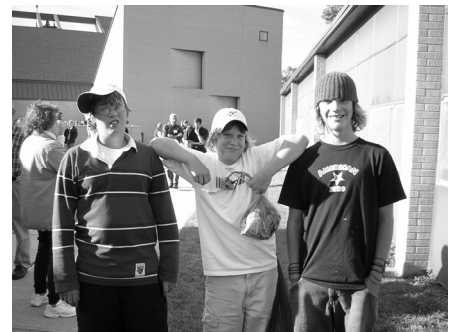
Every once in awhile we read or hear of garbage-packed homes. We shake our heads and talk with disdain about people of such households. It's easy to imagine that is what God sees when he looks into our

world. Dumps of disposables. Using something once and then throwing it away because it's more convenient than reusing it. Plastic bags blowing all over the world because it's too much bother to recycle them. Disposable Styrofoam cups because we don't like washing cups.

Spring can be a time for letting the heavenly inspection into our world and working with the Inspector to clean up the mess we have made of it. To make the effort to permanently lessen the garbage we make. Toward this end it would make sense to undertake recycling at Nativity Parish. We could start using only biodegradable products. We could start using environmentally friendly products. Cleanup could work with someone providing recycling containers. Cleanup could work with someone delivering recyclables to recycling centers. Cleanup could work with someone coming forward to coordinate all activities related to recycling. Restoring the beauty of God's creation could begin with us.

## Courtyard Party Wednesday, August 16, 2006

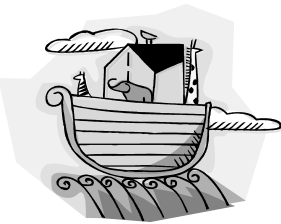
Put the date of August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2006, on your calendar for our annual courtyard party. Sun or cloud, warm or cold, our Nativity Evangelization Committee will provide a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our faith community. Once again, the group from St. Joseph's in Moorhead will inspire us with their sung praise of our God, the Knights of Columbus will serve a picnic-style meal that we may break bread together, there will be games for the children, and we will acquaint ourselves with new members of our parish family and community and reacquaint ourselves with those whom we haven't seen over the summer months. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Bill at 232-2414 or bill.gerlach@sendit.nodak.edu



## I Wanna Go!

By Kamie Kuenemann

Our Faith Formation Sunday School program



started in October and concluded in April. It was made available for children ages 4 and 5. The Sunday activities were held in the Nativity School classrooms during the 10:45 am Liturgy on Sunday mornings.

The children learned about the many incredible

stories and teachings of the Bible, which included lessons on Creation, Noah's Ark, the Birth of Jesus, the many Miracles of Jesus, St. Valentine, St. Patrick, Baptism, Easter and others. The teaching was done through a variety of fun activities such as coloring, craft projects, stories, and musical activities. Occasional visitors such as the Red River Zoo and St. Nicholas shared their time and message with the children.

Two highlights of our year were our Christmas pro-

gram and our procession on Palm Sunday. In our Christmas program, the children dressed up and played a part in the Nativity scene. They sang beautiful songs to a large audience of friends and family.

Thank you for the ministry of our catechists (teachers) who made this year so wonderful. They, with the children, grew in their faith and developed many memories and friendships.

# Topsy, Turvy...Standing on Your Head...Up-Side Down

By Kathy Bourdon



Parents participate in Faith Formation sessions with their children.

You may have felt our faith formation program at Nativity a little topsy-turvy this year. Parents were asked to join their children in Faith Formation sessions. We invite the parents for a very good reason. The primary source of a child's growth in faith is the parents.

In many areas of our lives, parents drop off their children to be taught by others. This has been the norm. Parents take their children to hockey, basketball, dance, music lessons, and the like. The "expert" takes over to teach and coach the children and the parents become the observers. Not so in the formation of a child's faith.

Being a follower of Jesus is more than just learning the "stuff" experts teach us. The goal of our Faith Formation program is to

foster an environment where both parent and child are formed in the faith together; everybody becomes "learners" together. Parents participate in Faith Formation sessions with their children. Parents discuss the up-coming Sunday gospel with their children. They sing and pray together with their children. Parents teach their children about the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist and Reconciliation in their homes. The home is the sacred place where families daily reflect the love of Jesus in their lives.

Today's religious leaders, bishops, pastors, and catechists, stress the function of religious education is to nurture the faith of a child. How lucky those parents are who

experience a child's growing relationship with God. Sometimes this can be funny and still awesome. A little 4-year old asked her father, "Daddy, why do we have to die and go to heaven?" She came up with her own response, "I know, because if we didn't we'd get so tall that we'd bump into everything."

# When Did I See You Hungry?

By Margaret Bitz



Below are some reviews on videos that either directly or indirectly deal with Christ's Last Judgment criteria. Do we stand in solidarity with all peoples throughout the world? Do we accord them the same rights as ourselves? The right to earn a decent living? The right to decent working conditions? The right to have a say in their countries' policies?

## ***The Global Banquet Politics of Food***

50 minutes  
Two part video by Maryknoll World Productions

This video shows how free trade policies allow a handful of very powerful corporations to control the world's food system. These corporations, which enjoy enormous profits, are largely responsible for the destruction of the family farm economy in the United States and the eradication of the livelihoods of peasant

farmers throughout the developing worlds.

## ***Precarious Peace God and Guatemala***

72 min – two part video by Gateway Films sold by Orbis (Maryknoll Publications)

This story-driven documentary looks at the history of violence and brutality in Guatemala through the eyes of a Mayan family. It takes a look at the complicated role religion plays in that drama. There are frank comments from a former military officer, a Roman Catholic bishop who faces constant death threats, a Mennonite educator, a native poet/activist and a Lutheran clergyman who was instrumental in getting the warring parties into dialogue.

## ***Conviction Prisoners of Conscience***

20 min video by Richter Productions sold by Orbis (Maryknoll Publications)

This video shows last November's demonstration at the School of Americas in Fort Benning, Georgia. These demonstrations have been taking place since 1990 protesting the teaching of guerilla warfare at the school. Latin American military men have been the students at this school and have been

responsible for much brutality in their countries. The protestors are attempting to convince Congress to close this school.

## ***Coming to Say Goodbye Stories of AIDS in Africa***

30 min video by Maryknoll Productions

This video gives us stories of people suffering from AIDS in Africa. They lead us to reflect on how poverty and the lack of access to treatment deprives these people of respect and dignity. As one interviewee says, AIDS statistics "are numbers with the tears washed off." There are commentaries by Church workers, medical professionals, social workers and educators who stand by these suffering people, especially the children. They challenge us to become global advocates in combating this devastating disease.

## ***Mexico Close-U***

Children of the Earth Series  
28 min video by Maryknoll Productions

Jesus Manuel Aldaba Soto's family lost their livelihood on the farm and moved to the city. They now live in the slums. The children do go to school

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# Finding God in All Things

By Fr. Amand Nigro, SJ



I settled into a comfortable posture in the chapel, Bible in hand, wanting to listen to God's word. A jack-hammer in the street shattered the quiet, machine-gunning on and off. My first resentful reaction changed into gratitude as I was reminded that some people are deaf and cannot hear any noise.

Occasional body pains are annoying – or worse – until we are reminded that other people are paralyzed and have no feeling in their limbs. The pile-up of work and pressure can seem oppressive until we remember that some people are too sick to work or cannot find work and do not feel needed or wanted for anything.

One way of tasting God is by sharing His Presence during those rare, delicious hours of quiet and silence, free of noise and care and pain, free of other people's presence.

Another (more frequent)

way of experiencing God is to realize that our being is saturated with God's presence, every cell and pore in our bodies, every conscious corner of our thoughts and longings, every particle of cosmic dust in the universe. He is waiting to be found and to reveal Himself in every loud machine and busy office, in every noisy home and school yard, in every fussing and sleeping child, in every pain and sorrow, every pleasure and joy. He is there giving existence to all reality and life to our senses. Because His power and life in us make us aware and alive, every taste and touch and sigh and sound is an experience of his creative loving presence.

To pray is consciously to be with God as he consciously lives in us and in all that surrounds and bombards us.

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## When Did I...

*(Continued from page 6)*

during the day and the parents work in assembly factories in the evening.

Guadalupe Vazquez Luna is a 13-year old orphan whose parents were killed by paramilitary forces on December 22, 1997. We see how she is dealing with this traumatic experience.

### **My Americas: An Adventure-filled journey into the heart and soul of Latin America**

DVD – 13 episodes (24 min each) on two discs

Roberto Alcaraz and Leticia Vasquez journey to eight Latin American countries showing us the people's deeply held cultural, historical and spiritual traditions.



# Spirituality of Preparation

By Fr. Bill Gerlach



As some of you may remember from my introduction to the parish in the Voice about a year and a half ago, I grew up in Saint Paul. I attended Cretin High School, which was named for the first bishop of what then was called the Diocese of Saint Paul. At the time I attended, it was an all-male Catholic school with a mandatory JROTC program. Cretin has since merged with Derham Hall High School, an all-girls Catholic school that was literally “across the field,” and the JROTC program has become optional.

In high school, I became involved in the drama program, first backstage as a “techie,” and then later on stage as an actor. Students from the two

schools acted in plays at both schools. I recall the rehearsal times being a lot of work, but also a lot of fun. Despite all that preparation, though, things sometimes did not work out exactly as planned: someone forgot a line, or a sound cue was missed or came late. It is then that good preparation bears fruit, because the actors are able to carry on, since they are not simply reciting lines, but are telling a story they know well.

In my senior year, a swing choir was begun between the two schools. Our first concert was in front of the regular weekly assembly of the entire student body at Derham Hall. At the time of that concert, we had recruited only three of us guys to sing with the eight young women who were chosen from the few dozen who auditioned. Again, good preparation helped the three of us to overcome what I remember were considerable nerves at singing in front of a few hundred high school girls.

In college, I continued to sing in the choir, but gave up theater due to time constraints. As an adult, I have been a member of community

theaters and choruses. Since coming to Fargo in 1988, I have performed in operas, operettas, musicals, and plays with various community organizations. While those activities were curtailed when I was in the seminary, I was able to be stage manager for a summer production. I also performed in a winter production with a community theater group in Saint Paul along with my brother, brother-in-law, and niece.

Since coming to Nativity, I have had the opportunity to participate in Come to the Table and Come to the Word. The rehearsal process for these had many similarities to my experience in Community Theater. Dance steps and movement had to be learned in coordination with the other members of the troupe and the musicians. I had to concentrate on individual scenes while keeping in mind the shape of the whole.

There were also a few notable differences. Rather than rehearsing to tell a story, we were rehearsing to lead a prayer. Rather than each of us acting out

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# Preparation



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a character, we were acting out our individual and communal relationship with God. However, the rehearsals themselves were also different. Not only did each rehearsal begin and end with prayer, but also the process of rehearsal preparation was itself prayerful. In our rush towards the "performance", I see that we may overlook the spirituality of preparation in many things we do. My experiences in *Come to the Table* and *Come to the Word* have reminded me to seek God in my preparation times. I hope that this reflection will allow each of you to appreciate and embrace more fully the spirituality of preparation.

Times of preparation in the life of parish: readying dishes for the next parish dinner; CHRP banner ready for the next weekend; graduates being blessed as they start the next phase of their life; the new crucifix being hung over the altar; VBS school students preparing to live out their faith in a new way; breaking ground for the new rectory; parents preparing for the sacrament of baptism.

# Nativity Anew—Summer 2006 Projects

Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things



This update on the Nativity Anew Campaign confirms the generosity and “stick-to-itiveness” of the people of Nativity. The goal was to retire the debt, enhance and repair the facilities, address social justice needs, and establish new ministries. The Nativity Anew fund drive launched in 2000 resulted in gifts and pledges totaling \$1,500,000 from 750 donors. There were 251 volunteers that devoted countless hours to this effort with the leadership of Dave & Jolette Olig and Duane & Pat Berglund. The parish selected Duane Berglund, Mike Conzemius, Joan Edwards, Diane Gerst, Dave Olig, Dave Opsahl, and Roger Schwinghammer to work with the pastor and administrator to detail the work as stewards of the people’s generosity and parish needs.

Each parish member received a list of the items we have completed thus far with Nativity Anew money. We are closing the collection of Nativity Anew I and are able to precede with the following projects with the Nativity Anew gifts.

The following items include projected and related costs of architecture, design, installation, and fees.

Church exit doors by chapel	\$4,000
Chapel emergency exit door	\$1,500
Church lighting and controls	\$35,000
Cross over altar	\$11,000
Landscaping	\$7,472
Meeting room/restroom project	\$159,000
Nativity Anew II	\$25,000
North door & 8 main doors	\$15,500
Social justice mini grants	\$10,000
Social ministry program, 10K/year for 5 years	\$50,000
Statuary “seed money”	\$10,000
University reader board sign	\$25,000

If you have any questions about any of these projects please call me and we will get the proper information to you. As you note \$25,000 is designated to Nativity Anew II. Anew II is a savings plan for future building and repair needs. Any money received in blue envelopes will be placed in this restricted fund for future needs.

Thank you for taking care of your parish and planning for the future of Nativity. Tim Mathern, Administrator, 232 2414, tmathern@juno.com

# Our New Crucifix

By Jean Wilhelmi



Szeitz forming the corpus with copper.

The Liturgical Commission has been working diligently for a number of years to complete the updating of our liturgical furnishings and elements. When the Nativity Anew campaign was begun, the updating of the interior elements of our worship space was identified by the parish as a priority. Through the generous support of our parishioners, the Nativity Anew Campaign and our Liturgical Commission have been making these dreams a reality. In the last year and a half, we have completed the construction and installation of the altar, ambo, font, ambry (receptacle for the Holy Oils), and the addition of Stations of the Cross. We now celebrate the installation of our new crucifix.

We commissioned P. Rich-

ard Szeitz to design and sculpt our crucifix after seeing his work in his own parish of St. Joseph's in Moorhead. Mr. Szeitz served as professor and chairman of the art department at Moorhead State University for twenty-five years. He was co-founder of the Lake Agassiz Arts Council, and served as its president. He has exhibited in southern and northwestern parts of the United States and in Europe and has completed numerous public and private sculpture commissions throughout the U.S.

The corpus is forged and brazed copper, handcrafted by Mr. Szeitz. The cross is made of wood, with a gilded gold interior. The Liturgical Commission provided input into the design concept, determining the

direction the art piece would take. The Commission chose the open-frame cross through which the corpus, finished on all sides, could be seen throughout the church. The body of Jesus shows his head up and arms outstretched, with the essence of triumph and resurrection, hope and strength, appearing even in the midst of the crucifixion.

The crucifix is not yet complete, in that the lighting in the church will be updated so that the face of Jesus will be lit from the front. The scope of our Nativity Anew project included plans to update the lighting and control panel, and we have waited until now to begin the necessary changes so that the new elements, including the crucifix and the stations of the cross, may be appropriately lit. It was necessary to hang these elements first in order that the lighting design could incorporate their final locations.

Thank you to the many people who have supported these projects!

# Doing What I Love and Loving What I Do

By Jill Perhus

My ministry has always been in music here at Nativity but I knew I found my place when I started with the Youth Choir four years ago. Jackie Mengedoth had asked if I would help her out because being a new mother, she wanted to have more flexibility. I said sure and watched and learned. Jackie was amazing!



The kids loved her and she really had a good thing going. After two years together, she decided it was time for her to move on. She had been doing it for 8 years and wanted to give her son the attention he deserved. I really didn't have the confidence to do it myself. She was a hard act to follow.

After much thought and prayer, I decided to keep the choir going. I asked Laurie Gress and Lisa Flaa to help me out. We all have children in the choir so we decided to work together and it has been quite a trip. Laurie has been an unbelievable help in organization and setting up and directing the kids during practices and Lisa keeps us going with her wonderful guitar playing. They have become part of my "church family" and I can't imagine not having them in my life. It has been fun for me to watch the children form bonds with each other so they have a sense of community at church as well.

The kids range from second grade to 7th or 8th and they sing for one Eucharistic Liturgy a month. We practice once a week in the church right before Faith Formation so it works well with a lot of schedules.

We have between 30 and 35 kids in the choir and they are very dedicated to this ministry. I find it amazing that even people this young can be doing something so important in our church. I know they will grow up and be involved as adults. Before the Eucharistic Liturgy we pray that God will use us as his instruments to sing the Word of God so it is meaningful for the parishioners. Lately we have been splitting the kids into smaller groups and letting them sing verses alone in front of the church. I know that this confidence building will help them out in all areas in life. As I stand behind them for support and watch the faces of people in the assembly, I know something wonderful is happening. I am so filled with pride and very aware that the Holy Spirit is working through us.

We have parents tell us, "Thank you for all the work you are doing." We have parishioners say, "Thanks for making this Mass a wonderful experience."

The kids are filled with excitement and pride. This is God's work and we absolutely love it.

# ¿Tienes Perú?

Got Peru? My name is Ellory Eggermont. I am 17 and going on our parish's mission trip to Chimbote Peru this June. I am looking forward to all this journey includes: going to Peru, learning tons, and teaching at Nativity and within the larger community.

I want to learn all I can about the people of Peru—how they live, love, pray, and work. Also I want to learn what I can do to help better their community and country.

I have already been on two mission trips to Reynosa, Mexico with Oak Grove School. These opened my eyes to the "real world." They made me more

interested in helping those who need it the most. These trips strengthened my faith so much that I now want to continue going on mission trips to learn and grow even more.

Experiences like this make me think about my future in a whole new way. I have felt the call to be a teacher ever since I was young. Natalia Espejo came and talked to LINC, our youth group, and explained the importance of education. She told us it is the basis of a thriving economy.

I want to go to Chimbote so I can learn and teach about the plight of Peruvians when I get back.



Houses made out of reeds.



Mother with child on back, splitting rocks to earn money for food.



Mother with child in Chimbote.



Street Market in Chimbote

## Play it Again



Jill Perhus and family rehearsing gestures for the DVD project.

Children love finger plays. They love to do actions with their bodies. They love Sesame Street. They love to watch children's action TV shows. Nativity parish has come up with a DVD/Video that combines these two

features using religious songs with gestures. The Perhus family of the parish worked hard to put together the video. Jill and the children, Natilie, Josie and Charlie did the songs with gestures and Ray videotaped the action. LaVonne Rustad accompanied the Perhus family on the piano. Frank LaLonde did the editing. These will be made into DVDs/videos. One hundred copies will be made available for purchase by families with pre-schoolers and 1<sup>st</sup> graders. These DVDs/Videos will be available in Fall. Watch the bulletin for further details.

# “Let The Word of Christ Dwell In You Richly!”

(Colossians 3:16)

## Readings for the Week of June 4, 2006

Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b  
or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/  
Rom 8:22-27/ Jn 7:37-39; Day: Acts  
2:1-11/ 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal  
5:16-25/ Jn 20:19-23 or  
Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15  
Monday: 2 Pt 1:2-7/ Mk 12:1-12  
Tuesday: 2 Pt 3:12-15a, 17-18/ Mk 12:13-17  
Wednesday: 2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12/ Mk 12:18-27  
Thursday: 2 Tm 2:8-15/ Mk 12:28-34  
Friday: 2 Tm 3:10-17/ Mk 12:35-37  
Saturday: 2 Tm 4:1-8/ Mk 12:38-44

## Readings for the Week of June 11, 2006

Sunday: Dt 4:32-34, 39-40/ Rom 8:14-17/  
Mt 28:16-20  
Monday: 1 Kgs 17:1-6/ Mt 5:1-12  
Tuesday: 1 Kgs 17:7-16/ Mt 5:13-16  
Wednesday: 1 Kgs 18:20-39/ Mt 5:17-19  
Thursday: 1 Kgs 18:41-46/ Mt 5:20-26  
Friday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-16/ Mt 5:27-32  
Saturday: 1 Kgs 19:19-21/ Mt 5:33-37

## Readings for the Week of June 18, 2006

Sunday: Ex 24:3-8/ Heb 9:11-15/  
Mk 14:12-16, 22-26  
Monday: 1 Kgs 21:1-16/ Mt 5:38-42  
Tuesday: 1 Kgs 21:17-29/ Mt 5:43-48  
Wednesday: 2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14/ Mt 6:1-6, 16-18  
Thursday: Sir 48:1-14/ Mt 6:7-15  
Friday: Hos 11:1, 3-4, 8c-9/  
Eph 3:8-12, 14-19/ Jn 19:31-37  
Saturday: Is 49:1-6/ Acts 13:22-26/  
Lk 1:57-66, 80

## Readings for the Week of June 25, 2006

Sunday: Jb 38:1, 8-11/ 2 Cor 5:14-17/  
Mk 4:35-41  
Monday: 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18/ Mt 7:1-5  
Tuesday: 2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36/  
Mt 7:6, 12-14  
Wednesday: 2 Kgs 22:8-13; 23:1-3/ Mt 7:15-20  
Thursday: Vigil: Acts 3:1-10/ Gal 1:11-20/  
Jn 21:15-19  
Day: Acts 12:1-11/ 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/  
Mt 16:13-19  
Friday: 2 Kgs 25:1-12/ Mt 8:1-4  
Saturday: Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19/ Mt 8:5-17

## Readings for the Week of July 2, 2006

Sunday: Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24/ 2 Cor 8:7, 9,  
13-15/ Mk 5:21-43 or 5:21-24, 35b-43  
Monday: Eph 2:19-22/ Jn 20:24-29  
Tuesday: Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12/ Mt 8:23-27  
Wednesday: Am 5:14-15, 21-24/ Mt 8:28-34  
Thursday: Am 7:10-17/ Mt 9:1-8  
Friday: Am 8:4-6, 9-12/ Mt 9:9-13  
Saturday: Am 9:11-15/ Mt 9:14-17

## Readings for the Week of July 9, 2006

Sunday: Ez 2:2-5/ 2 Cor 12:7-10/ Mk 6:1-6  
Monday: Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22/ Mt 9:18-26  
Tuesday: Hos 8:4-7, 11-13/ Mt 9:32-38  
Wednesday: Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12/ Mt 10:1-7  
Thursday: Hos 11:1-4, 8c-9/ Mt 10:7-15  
Friday: Hos 14:2-10/ Mt 10:16-23  
Saturday: Is 6:1-8 / Mt 10:24-33

## Readings for the Week of July 16, 2006

Sunday: Am 7:12-15/ Eph 1:3-14 or 1:3-10/  
Mk 6:7-13  
Monday: Is 1:10-17/ Mt 10:34—11:1  
Tuesday: Is 7:1-9/ Mt 11:20-24  
Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/ Mt 11:25-27  
Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/ Mt 11:28-30  
Friday: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/ Mt 12:1-8  
Saturday: Mi 2:1-5/ Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

## Readings for the Week of July 23, 2006

Sunday: Jer 23:1-6/ Eph 2:13-18/ Mk 6:30-34  
Monday: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8/ Mt 12:38-42  
Tuesday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/ Mt 20:20-28  
Wednesday: Jer 1:1, 4-10/ Mt 13:1-9  
Thursday: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13/ Mt 13:10-17  
Friday: Jer 3:14-17/ Mt 13:18-23  
Saturday: Jer 7:1-11/ Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

## Readings for the Week of July 30, 2006

Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:42-44/ Eph 4:1-6/ Jn 6:1-15  
Monday: Jer 13:1-11/ Mt 13:31-35  
Tuesday: Jer 14:17-22/ Mt 13:36-43  
Wednesday: Jer 15:10, 16-21/ Mt 13:44-46  
Thursday: Jer 18:1-6/ Mt 13:47-53  
Friday: Jer 26:1-9/ Mt 13:54-58  
Saturday: Jer 26:11-16, 24/ Mt 14:1-12

## **The Miracle**

Out of the rain springs  
The miracle of life,  
God's gift to the world.

The brown of winter turns  
Into a lush green carpet,  
A treasure for feet to explore.

Tiny seeds sprout into  
Food for the multitude, tasty  
Vegetables and juicy fruits.

Buds burst open in a  
Rich array of colors, delicate  
Blooms and hearty flowers.

Barren trees sport new green  
Coats, decorated with fruit  
And sweet-smelling blossoms.

Lakes and streams are replenished  
With sparkling clean water,  
A haven for many creatures.

Animals drink of the life-  
Sustaining gift from heaven,  
Revitalized they scamper away.

Cleansed of its dirt and dust,  
The natural hues of the earth  
Are reborn, harmonizing the whole .

And in enjoying nature's beauty  
Mankind is also refreshed,  
Drinking in the peace of the scene.

Thanks to God, who provides  
A season of rain, the  
Miracle of life continues

Karen O'Leary



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## W.O.W Bowling Party

