



From Father Jim...



Hello, everyone. This is our third newsletter of 2011. We have much to tell you, especially re: our Faith In Action opportunity, our religious formation and retreats, and continuing youth ministry events. I hope you will read the newsletter through and look for some time to join us in the events we have planned.

You may be aware that every two years, the parish chooses a special theme to connect all the parish activities together. The Social Justice Committee presented our current theme: *What does the Lord require? To do justice, to show mercy, to walk humbly with God.* This line is almost word for word from the book of Micah, chapter 6, verse 8. It's a powerful verse and one that has helped the parish keep its focus on ways we reach out to people in need.

Different groups within the community receive monthly gifts from our tithing fund. A percentage of our offertory collections is used to help the Pregnancy Center, the Boys and Girls Club, Manna Soup Kitchen, Volunteers of America/Community Shelter, and the Durango Food Pantry. We also use tithing money to help people who come to the door, our own food pantry, and special causes that come up quite unexpectedly. Without your work and your giving, there is no way we could continue to help in these ways.

Many people in the parish have given us generous amounts of money to use at our discretion for those who are in distress and can be helped. We do our best

to distribute this money justly. We find people who receive it are so thankful that we wonder why we haven't given it before.

A nephew of mine was a recipient of help. He had been teaching English as a second language in Japan. Until the reactor accident in March, he and his Japanese wife were living a pretty solid and stable life. Teaching was good, and people were most grateful. But after the accident, fears about the seriousness of the reactor meltdown and the uncertainty of what would happen in the aftermath of the radiation problem caused them to have second thoughts about staying in Japan. Yuki, my nephew's wife, whom you would think would want to stay in her home country, was the one who really pushed for a move to the States.

So on July 15, the couple moved to Arkansas to begin a new life. They sold everything, came to the States without knowing if a job would be available, and just made it on a wing and a prayer. Fortunately for them, there were people who believed in the principle expressed in the verse we chose for our theme: *What does the Lord require? To do justice, to show mercy, to walk humbly with God.* People did them justice; they were delighted to show them mercy, and walk humbly with them to bring them to the States with welcoming and happiness.

Hopefully, in our small ways, we are doing something for people who are in need that may give them a second chance in family or home disasters. What a gift we can be in these troubled times, to give hope and care to others! May our newsletter be a wellspring of the good news we can accomplish with one another. ✚

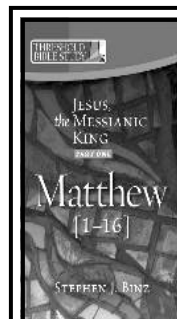
Grief Support Group

The Bereavement Ministry will offer a Grief Support Group meeting on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 - 7:30 pm, in the parish wicker room from September 6 through November 15. The group welcomes anyone experiencing grief over the death of a loved one. Members of the Bereavement Ministry are: Mary Ralph, Pastoral Associate, Margaret Ledford, Doris Pearce, and Sheila Marchetta. They help those going through the grieving process by sending cards, assisting in funeral planning, preparing the All Souls Liturgy for Nov. 2, and offering the Grief Support Group.

Sheila Marchetta, MA, a professional grief counselor and parish member will facilitate the group. The Bereavement Team will help to provide a supportive setting, share information about the grief process, and suggest ways to heal during the painful period following a loved one's death.

For more information, or to register, please contact Mary Ralph 247-0044, or Margaret Ledford 247-8681. ✚

by Sheila Marchetta, Bereavement Ministry



Bible Study 2011/12

The Gospel According to Matthew

Helps you understand the scope of this gospel, the clear advice it offers for the church, and its personal implications for the lives of disciples today.

Bible Study Introduction

Aug. 17, 6:30 pm & Aug. 19, 10:00 am

Cost is \$20 • No experience necessary!

Exploring my Spiritual Gifts

By taking the Catholic Spiritual Gifts Inventory you can learn more about your personal spiritual gifts. One of the evaluation statements from the Inventory is: "I am very confident that God answers prayer and will provide all that I need to serve others and fulfill my God-given mission in life." I quickly selected "Often" as my response, not really thinking much about the cumulative result of my answers to the 120 questions. When I tallied the results, I was pleasantly surprised to learn that *faith* was among my highest ranked spiritual gifts. I had never really considered this a gift from our Creator. In fact, I rarely gave faith much credence. And this is at least part of the purpose of the inventory. These spiritual gifts are not skills you have consciously and consistently nurtured over the course of your lifetime. Rather, these God-inspired gifts are what make you uniquely you.

Seventeen years ago, I believed I would survive breast cancer – and the treatment for it. I'm so appreciative that faith was one of my gifts. It turns out that I needed it in a most personal way.

Confessions of a (former) Church Secretary

From the parish office windows, I can watch preschool parades, deer munching on rectory flowers, and weather changes roll in over the mountains. My secretarial chair won't stay up. I raise it up, and gradually sink to well below eye level with visitors. The office is too warm on summer afternoons and too cold on winter mornings.

Being a parish secretary has its ups and downs, changing seasons, frustrations and serendipities. Time comes for personal and parish changes. And so it has.

I confess I loved my job and always felt a little guilty drawing a salary to hang around such wonderful people. Other staff, volunteers, old and new parishioners were always passing through, spreading the blessings of their presence. Even the curmudgeon could be cajoled, the worried one comforted, the mourner consoled.

Others came to the door asking for some kind of financial assistance. This was perhaps the most difficult part. I confess, *to you my brothers and sisters*, it was hard to practice tough love – sending them to VOA, giving food but not gas. Sometimes I was swayed, or inconsistent. Sometimes I was angry to be recipient of a guilt trip. Other times I was rewarded with warm words and hugs of appreciation for what you, the parish, do for people in need.

I have faith that God has a plan, and my life will have purpose. Do I have all the answers – or any answers, for that matter? No. But I do believe in the promise that it will all come together.

I have faith we are where we need to be at a particular time, experiencing what we need to that will help us grow as people. It's cliché, but "If God will bring you to it, He will bring you through it." Just have faith, right?

What are your unique gifts? What can you share with others? What brings you joy in your life? As we strive to be "A Community Doing God's Work on Earth, *Caring for One Another Through Prayer and Action*", what will you contribute? Join us as we embark on an exciting year of self-discovery – as individuals and as a parish community.

Grateful Caretakers is a St. Columba parish ministry devoted to helping parish members discover their spiritual gifts and share their time, talent and treasure for the benefit of all. ✝

by Cheryl Lynn

Admittedly, I am more of a visual wordsmith than a data person. I spent more time on the bulletin, newsletter, and other communications than I did on updating parish registrations and producing reports. The parish secretary must keep up with many tasks. My guilty pleasure was any opportunity to use my writing/editing gifts. My sin was not fully embracing the techno world.

What I have failed to do is to thank volunteers enough, *all the angels and saints* who helped in so many ways. For counting collections, covering the office, answering phones, preparing mailings, folding bulletins, cleaning up and just seeing what needed to be done, *thank you* from the entire parish.

Finally, I apologize for the times a piece of the puzzle got lost – a missed Mass intention, overbooked parish center, contribution error, forgotten name or message. I can only say *forgive me*.

The new secretary, bless her soul, will have gifts and talents different from mine. Her position will have its ups and downs, and be every bit as full of responsibilities and confessions. Please continue to support her, as you have me, with your time, talent and treasure. And *pray for us to the Lord our God*.

✝ by Bonnie Simons

Why a new translation of the liturgy and why now???

On November 27, 2011 the Diocese of Pueblo will fully implement the third edition of the Roman Missal including the new English texts. This is the result of years of work by the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL), representing ten conferences of bishops in addition to the U.S. So, why this new translation, why now, and what does it mean for our parish?

From the earliest days of the Church, language translations have been a challenge. For hundreds of years, following the transition from Greek to Latin, the issue was pretty much avoided. Latin was the language of the Roman Missal and the Church. Conjure a vision of translations at the Tower of Babel without a computer, and you can understand the challenge. However, following the Second Vatican Council, the translation to the vernacular, or language of the local people, began with the publication of the assembly's parts of the Mass in 1965. With lightening speed (for the Church) by 1974, the first English edition of the Mass, including all parts, was published. Coinciding with a second edition of the Roman Missal in 1985, the translation we use today was adopted.

The early English translations were based on a style known as "dynamic equivalence". This style allowed for a more conceptual, less literal translation, with more stress on interpreting the sense of a phrase rather than precise wording, and allowing for some creative expression. Even as this first translation was in process, concern was felt by many that some of the richness, poetry, and precise descriptions rendered by a more literal translation were being lost. So, in fact, the translation we currently use was never fully embraced and has always been considered to be an unfinished project.

In 2001, the Vatican document, *Liturgiam Authenticam*, required a more direct, faithful, and literal rendering from the Latin to English and other vernacular languages. Thus, the new liturgy will include closer attention to the original text including the more poetic and elevated language of the Latin Missal. In addition to the intention of a more accurate, precise translation to English, the new language in the liturgy brings English speakers closer to the translations in other languages that more directly derive from Latin. A proper English translation is especially important, since the English language provides the basis for many languages that were not developed from Latin. We can see both the continuity and unity of the Church reflected in the changes.

Finally, as in the past, a translation coincides with the publication of a new edition, the third, of the Roman Missal. Although the process has been slow and imperfect, the time has come to move forward in embracing not only new words, but truly a renewal of the liturgy. The Liturgy Committee at St. Columba has studied the changes and how they will impact our parishioners. As Advent 2011 nears, we will provide additional information and materials to make the transition as easy as possible. We will all stumble at first. Be patient, especially with Fr. Jim who will have more change to deal with than the assembly!

The transition to the new translation will require time, patience and prayerful effort, but the reward will ultimately enrich our experience and relationship with liturgy. Let us learn to speak the new words from our lips, and keep our prayers coming always from our hearts. ✝

by Myriam Palmer, Liturgy Committee

Moon over the Sea

Save the date!
Oct. 22, 2011 6 pm
Tickets \$30, available Sept. 6

Proceeds benefit the school operating budget and will provide for advanced technology learning through the purchase of classroom tools, notepads and iPads.

Kathrene Frautschy • St. Columba Parish
Director of Development
saintckath@earthlink.net, 385-4324.

St. Columba Parish
Bill Pearce Classic
Golf Tournament

Paul Cahill & Bryan Brock "event coordinating team members" invite you to mark your calendar for
Sunday, September 11 • Hillcrest Golf Course

Proceeds support the St. Columba School

Adopt-A-Student Fund
insuring no student is turned away from St. Columba School for financial reasons.

Details regarding business or individual hole sponsor opportunities (\$250/ \$500) or tournament entry fees will be highlighted in upcoming parish bulletins.

For information contact Kathrene Frautschy
St. Columba Parish Director of Development
saintckath@earthlink.net, 385-4324.



Children's Catholic Formation

Tying It Together

*Communicating the Children's Catholic Formation with Parents
and the Greater St. Columba Parish*

**3rd Annual Open House • August 21 • 10:00 am
St. Columba School Gym**

**Jesus had a family, a name, a home, a
church.....and we do too!**

- 70 kids attended over 4 days.
- 24 MS/HS kids were Tribe Leaders.
- Nine adults, including Fr. Jim and Deacon Van, led crafts,



Vacation Bible School June 2011



First Reconciliation
preparation, for all St. Columba
children and their parents, will
meet Tuesday evenings, starting
October 18, 6:00-7:00 pm. We will
celebrate this sacrament on
November 15, at 6:30 pm.



First Communion
preparation, for all St. Columba
children and their parents, will
meet on Tuesday evenings,
beginning March 20, 2012, 6:00-
7:00 pm. First Communion
weekend is May 5/6.

Pastor's Message



For as many years as our parish has been in existence, it has held ministry for youth as one of its highest priorities. We continue to hold this ministry at the top of our list of goals today. Emily Brabham, our youth ministry coordinator, has worked very hard to help us all appreciate what our youth do in the parish and what they have achieved also in community life. Please take the time to read Emily's annual update; give her your feedback and suggestions if you have any. And most especially, keep up those prayers for all of the youth, their parents, and the teachers in our youth programs.

Fr. Jim

Youth Ministry Annual Update 2011

Coordinator's Corner

This past year has been an amazing opportunity for me to serve the St. Columba community as the youth ministry coordinator. I'm truly blessed to be a part of this community and get to work with the wonderful youth and volunteers of our parish. I'm amazed by how fast this year has gone! Inside you will see some of the various activities we did and upcoming dates for this next year. I invite adults to prayerfully consider volunteering and strengthening our youth ministry program. Teens, I invite YOU to JOIN US! Give it a shot and see what we're all about!

Emily Brabham
Youth Ministry Coordinator

247-0044, x12, stcolumbaflame@gmail.com

Youth Group

Teens are invited to join us for youth group. What is youth group? It is a group of youth exploring their faith and how it applies to issues and challenges they face in their daily lives.

High School Youth Group
Meets Sundays 10-11:15am



Middle School Youth Group
Meets alternating Thursdays 6-7:15pm

Our calendar of events is online at <http://www.stcolumbacatholic.org/Youth/upcomingevents.html>



Confirmation

Receiving the sacraments is at the core of youth ministry, just as it is of our faith. Sixteen high school teens received the sacrament of Confirmation this spring. Confirmation preparation at St. Columba is a two year process beginning their sophomore year of high school.

Registration for Confirmation Preparation has begun.

Youth Mass

The heart of youth ministry is the liturgy. At our monthly Youth Mass, teens participate more fully in the liturgy by participating in the various ministries of the liturgy including music ministry. Many of our teens also participate regularly outside of Youth Mass as lectors, ushers, altar servers and Eucharistic ministers.

Our next Youth Mass is August 20, 2011 at 5pm

A potluck dinner will follow this event in the St. Columba School Gym. This is our 2011-2012 Kick-Off. It's a great opportunity to meet the catechists and volunteers that give their time to our youth ministry program. Parents and teens will have the opportunity to register for Middle School Formation and Confirmation 1 & 2.



ReCalibrate

In September 2010, middle school and high school teens were able to attend an inter-denominational Christian worship and music event. With over 35 teens in attendance, our St. Columba presence was noticed by the larger community.



Retreats

Retreats offer a way for teens to encounter Christ outside of their day to day life. Retreats offer a break from their daily routine to examine the role of their faith in their lives. Over 25 high school teens attended our high school retreat last fall "Strength for the Journey" in Vallecito, CO. There they explored different expressions of prayer and how to connect to God in their own way. Our spring middle school retreat focused on the Gospel of John. Our middle school youth were excited and enlivened by the Gospel message. By their request, our middle school retreat next year will focus on the Acts of the Apostles.

Middle School Retreat—November 4-5, 2011

High School Retreat—January 20-22, 2012



Annual Deanery Youth Mass

In October 2010, over 70 youth and chaperones attended a special youth Mass with Bishop Iern at John Paul II in Pagosa Springs. The day started off with a stop at the hot springs. We then joined the youth of the deanery in a special youth Mass. Our teens then got to break bread and get to know other Catholic teens in our deanery. The day finished up with music, testimonials and a special prayer time. This year the Mass will be in Cortez.

Deanery Youth Mass—October 30, 2011 in Cortez

Volunteer and Service Opportunities

Manna Soup Kitchen and the Durango Community Shelter

Justice and Service is one of the main components of comprehensive youth ministry. We are blessed as a parish to have teens and families that are so committed to giving back both locally and regionally. Teens regularly participate in Fr. Jim's highway cleanup. Continuing in the tradition of service at St. Columba, high school teens continue to serve at Manna Soup Kitchen quarterly as they have in the past. Middle school teens participated in serving at the Durango Community Shelter.

Dates for service at both organizations are available in our 2011-2012 calendar available online. If you are interested in supervising or participating, please contact Emily for more information.



Thanksgiving Community Dinner

As in years past, middle school and high school teens made mashed potatoes for the annual Thanksgiving Community Dinner. They took that opportunity to recognize all that they're thankful for and give back in service.



Spring Break Service Trip

Middle school and high school teens had the opportunity to travel on a service trip partnered with the Social Justice Committee to Ft. Defiance, AZ. There they worked on a sustainable gardening project and learned about Navajo history and culture through various experiences and presentations. In an area so close to home, they were able to learn about poverty and social justice issues. The teens that attended gave feedback about how the trip transformed them and helped them grow. As part of our theme from last year, they were able to begin to grasp what it means to "do justice."

Middle school and high school teens will have the opportunity to participate in this service trip again. We will continue to pursue the sustainable gardening project, but will have additional opportunities for cultural activities.

2012 Spring Break Service Trip

April 9-13, 2012



Steubenville Youth Conference—Denver, CO

High school teens attended the Steubenville Youth Conference in Denver, CO in July. At this conference they were challenged to go deeper in their faith. They attended presentations about relevant challenges to their faith as teens. They experienced prayer and worship in a large forum with over 2,000 teens.

The National Catholic Youth Conference will be held in November in Indianapolis, IN. This is a youth conference with over 25,000 teens. They will be able to pick workshops that are relevant to their experiences as teens.

Archbishop Chaput from the Archdiocese of Denver shared with the teens that they are not the Church of tomorrow, but the Church of today. Our attendance at these conferences and scholarships that allow teens to participate in the service project are available because of the support of the St. Columba community and your support of our fundraising efforts. Thank you!



The 2011-2012 Calendar is online

<http://www.stcolumbatholic.org/Youth/upcomingevents.html>

Adult Volunteer Opportunities

Youth ministry is not possible without the hard work of many adults in the community. No matter where you are in your adult life, whether you're just graduating from college or are retired, we have opportunities for you to get involved and be a positive influence on the youth of our parish. By your very presence and participation, you can evangelize our teens and transform their hearts. Join us!

Parish Census & Survey

The St. Columba Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) has recommended, and Father Jim has approved, a parish census and survey this coming fall. While these will be undertaken simultaneously, they are separate projects with different purposes.

The purpose of the census is to update parish membership records to make sure we have correct names, addresses and other key parishioner data such as contact information. It has been about a decade since the last parish survey, and as time has passed, these records have become less reliable. The census asks parishioners to respond using a form that covers an entire family.

The census information will be controlled by the parish and not shared with outside parties, with two exceptions: (1) certain information is provided to the Diocese for its records; and (2) names and addresses are updated with our contribution envelope service.

The parish survey will be anonymous in keeping with the principle that parishioners should be able to express their views confidentially. The survey will seek input from all individual parishioners, as opposed to family groupings. The purpose of the survey is to gain a current understanding of parishioners' perspectives on St. Columba's strengths and

challenges as it strives to meet the needs of our faith community. Parishioners can expect a mix of questions that on the one hand evaluate parish services and on the other seek input on how parishioners feel about St. Columba. The results of the survey will then be used to refine the on-going parish strategic planning process. The survey data will be compiled into a findings report that will be shared with the parish community.

In addition, the survey results may well complement a process being planned by Bishop Iern to begin later this summer. The Bishop is organizing a schedule of visits to every parish in the Diocese where he will hold town meetings to learn about the needs and desires of each.

Both the census and survey will be undertaken during Mass on the weekend of September 24 & 25. For those who may be away this weekend, an on-line, mail or phone based opportunity to participate in either the census, survey or both will be offered.

Our goal for both is to get as close as possible to 100% participation, and we ask in advance for your energetic participation. Thank you! ✝

by Jay Eagen, Parish Pastoral Council

Emmaus Encounter Experience

Our parish will host the third Emmaus Encounter Experience – *The Holy Spirit Our Guide* - **Saturday, September 24, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm**, at the parish center. Joseph Chrisman, Director of Worship for the Diocese of Pueblo, will be the presenter.

This experience is for all who are catechists and teachers in our school, children formation, youth ministry, Confirmation prep, RCIA, Bible Study, as well as liturgical ministers and those who would like to learn more about our faith. The presentation will inspire us to understand the Holy Spirit, third person of the Blessed Trinity, in a

deeper way. We encounter the Holy Spirit in the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, and each day in our life experiences. Join us as we encounter God, the Spirit, and like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, “our hearts will be burning” with a deeper understanding of our faith. ✝



by Mary Ralph

Adult Faith Formation

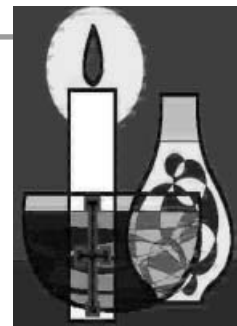
RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the spiritual journey through which adults become full, active, participating members of the Catholic Church.

- Do you have a friend asking you about joining the Catholic Church?
- Do you know an adult that wants to celebrate Confirmation?
- Would you like to invite a friend to return to the

Church?

- Do you have a child 7 years or older who has never been baptized?

Then RCIA is the place to start asking questions! Invite or bring a friend to our first night **welcome dinner** on Thursday, August 25, at 6:00 pm, in the parish center. ✝



My Journey

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is **Sonya Jantz**. I have recently completed the RCIA program and would like to share some of my thoughts and feelings about my journey. At the beginning of 2010, I met with Father Jim about starting my journey. I could hardly wait until August to start the RCIA program. I knew, after visiting a Catholic Church in El Paso, Texas, this was where I belong. It was wonderful to go to class every week and hear the comments, questions and stories of my fellow Candidates and Catechumens as well as the team members. We all have such different personalities, yet we were all there with the same result in mind. We all come from different backgrounds and all have a story of how we ended up in the same place at the same time. We laughed, shared, cried and celebrated together. I loved learning the history of my new faith. There is a reason and a story behind everything we do! Who knew?

This journey has been very emotional for me. I grew up in a Baptist church, and although I had heard the myths regarding the Catholic faith, I felt pulled toward it. I finally followed what my heart was telling me. This was one of the biggest decisions I have made in my life and, without a doubt, a very rewarding one! I have had unbelievable support from my friends and my entire family. I am truly blessed to have the support system I do. Thank you all!

I would like to say *thank you* to the Team. I am very grateful you have shared your time and knowledge with us every week. Your dedication leaves me in awe.

I would like to say a special *thank you* to my sponsor, **Fernando Moriel**. You are often times, my lighted path and the one who shows me everyday, how to live what you believe! I love you! ✝

by Sonya Jantz

YOU ARE THE HOPE OF THE HUNGRY!

St. Columba Holiday Food Drive September - December, 2011

Any of these items would be appreciated:

Helpers: Hamburger, Chicken, Tuna

Meals: Chili, Stew, Ravioli, Soup, Spaghetti Sauce, Pasta

Holiday: Yams, Pumpkin, Cranberry Sauce, Stuffing, Instant Potatoes

Staples: Flour, Sugar, Coffee, Tea, Salad Dressing, Oil, Baking Mix

Other: Peanut Butter, Jam, Jello, Pudding, Raisins, Rice, Beans, Cereal, Crackers

Place your donations in the baskets at the church entrance or at the parish office.

Faith In Action

I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. I Timothy 2:1

"Faith In Action" is at the core of why St. Columba parish exists as a parish community. It addresses the essence of our vision as "a community doing God's work on earth", giving each of us actionable ways to love our neighbor as individuals and as community. Our logo presents visually what Faith In Action embodies: a cross with all that it symbolizes - pain, sacrifice, suffering, forgiveness - emitting rays of mercy, grace, hope - emerging into a heart brimming with care and love.

Numerous parish ministries are all about giving and serving; each involved in doing tremendous good. But for many folks, life commitments limit their ability to serve on a formal committee. "Faith In Action" has been designed to *give everyone the opportunity* to help others throughout the community without having to attend a meeting. The ministry identifies members of our community who are in need and provides support to them through prayer and assistance. Put simply, we pray for one another and help one another. This truly embodies the concept of loving our neighbor.

"Faith In Action" has two components. First, individuals join our virtual prayer circle. **All parishioners are cordially invited to join the prayer circle.** Second, **parishioners are encouraged to submit a prayer request** (for themselves or on behalf of others). All parishioners are cordially invited to submit a prayer request at any time. As "Faith In Action" develops further, parishioners will be invited to join in providing practical assistance to fellow parishioners in need. Details on this will be

forthcoming.

New computer software will facilitate a *confidential* parish-wide data base linking those in need with those willing and able to assist with prayer and/or practical assistance. Parish members can register as a member of the prayer circle or submit a prayer request by logging on to the parish website www.stcolumbacatholic.org, then simply click on the "Faith In Action" logo. Additionally, prayer circle member or prayer intention request forms are available at school and parish offices.

Special thanks to **Patrick Gaughan**, parishioners **Mark House** and **Mark & Leanne Beasley** (Creative Compass) for assisting the Faith In Action team in building the required technology infrastructure. †

by Kathrene Frautschy



Back to School

Wednesday

August 24

School Website Under Construction

School principal Kevin Chick, Director of Development Kathrene Frautschy and parishioners **Mark & Leanne Beasley** (Creative Compass) are at work creating the St. Columba School website, designed to keep parents, parishioners and school friends informed about daily news and details, share alumni news and serve as a source of education about the school for prospective families. The website will link to the parish site (stcolumbacatholic.org). The website will launch in early September—www.stcolumbaschool.org. †



Knights of Columbus Council 1408 painters
refinish Father Jim's rectory.

St. Columba School Welcomes Uniforms

Among the most visible changes for the coming school year, students will be wearing school uniforms. Look for St. Columba students dressed in navy, powder blue and evergreen, with khaki skirts, jumpers, shorts or trousers. A School Board sub-committee conducted extensive research regarding Catholic school uniforms. Member **Jim Howland** noted,

"The School has defined a uniform program that contributes to building school pride and a sense of belonging. With flexibility built into the program, parents and students will have many options not only on clothing but also cost." †

Parish Pastoral Council

One of the beauties of St. Columba Parish is that it does so much seemingly effortlessly. But we're a little like a duck, all smooth and serene on the top of the pond and paddling like crazy underneath!

"...the purpose of the pastoral council is to do the very hard work of building consensus in the parish about the community's vision of Gospel ministry and its implementation of that ministry" (from "A Handbook for Parish Councils", Diocese of Pueblo)

St. Columba's PPC has been doing the hard work, and working hard, to live out this responsibility. The council is blessed with dynamic leaders who listen well, are open to growth and formation, and are willing to challenge and plan based on the needs of the parish.

We are also blessed to have dedicated, helpful and challenging staff who work with us to create and implement the parish plan.

In September, we will have the annual selection of new members for the Council. This year, two new members will be selected. We are looking for participating parish members who:

See the Church as the People of God

Listen well and can keep confidences

Are open to study and reflection

Empower others

Can make a 3-year commitment

Work hard

The timeline for the PPC Selection Process is as follows:

August 13 & 14: Pulpit talks

August 20 & 21: Calling Forth at all Masses

August 30 & 31: Information nights

September 10 & 11: Bios in the bulletin

September 17 & 18: Selection at all Masses

October 8: PPC Retreat and commissioning at 5pm Mass

October 25: First meeting for new members

We ask for your prayers for the Council and participation in the process. ✝

by Penny Juskevich, Parish Pastoral Council

St. Columba Recycles!

I would like to announce an exciting new addition to our parish – recycling pick-up. This is one simple way we can "promote stewardship of the earth's resources." (Parish Plan, II.C.) The containers for plastic bottles, glass and metal are located next to the school, joining the cardboard and paper bins. All of these recyclable items will be picked up by the City of Durango on different days each week.

Together, let's take this small step toward respecting God's creation.

Blessings, Fr. Jim

These guidelines apply to all parish and school activities and events, ministry meetings, and any group or individual using St. Columba facilities. ✝

Cans

- Empty, rinse aluminum and steel cans and lids.
- Pinch open end of steel cans.
- Place in cans appropriate basket.
- If full, empty basket into CAN bin outside.

Glass

- Empty, rinse glass jars and bottles.
- Remove any metal.
- Place clear, green and brown bottles in appropriate basket.
- If full, empty basket into GLASS bin outside.

Plastic

- Empty and rinse bottle-shaped #1 and #2 plastic bottles, jars and jugs.
- Check the neck! Recyclable bottles openings are smaller than the base, or have a screw-top.

- Remove and throw away caps, lids and pumps.

- Crush bottles, if possible, and place in appropriate basket.

- If full, empty basket into PLASTIC bin outside.

Cardboard

- Flatten only corrugated cardboard.
- Place cardboard in CARDBOARD bin outside.
- Brown grocery bags can be recycled with cardboard.

Paper

- Place light-colored office paper, envelopes, folders, mail, newspapers, magazines, phone directories, advertisements, etc. in collection boxes.

Refuse

- Place non-reusable and non-recyclable items only in designated cans.
- Empty trash into large GARBAGE bin outside. Replace garbage bag in inside can.

St. Columba Catholic Parish
1830 East Second Avenue
Durango, CO 81301

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Diocesan Ministry Fund

Thank you St. Columba Parish members!

With campaign leadership provided by parishioners **Matt & Mary Lynn Clark**, and thanks to the generous support of you, our parishioners,

we have met our 2011 DMF goal.

Thank you to our loyal annual donors and a special welcome to our new donors.

Each of you made a significant difference. For those of you who made a one-time gift, well done! For those of you who pledged a gift, your on-going donations will complete the campaign.

It is my privilege to serve as the pastor of a parish that shares their valuable time, tremendous talents, and treasure generously for the benefit of its parish members and our larger Catholic Church family.



Dates to Remember

- Aug. 14 HS Tubing on the Animas
- Aug. 17 & 19 Bible Study begins
- Aug. 20 Youth Mass, YM Kickoff Potluck 5:00 pm
- Aug. 21 Formation Open House 10:00 am
- 4H produce pick-up
- Aug. 22 9R schools begin
- Aug. 24 St. Columba School begins
- Aug. 25 RCIA Welcome Dinner
- Aug. 27 Catechist Workshop in Cortez
- Sept. 5* Labor Day (School & office closed)
- Sept. 11 Bill Pearce Classic Golf Tournament
- Sept. 13 KCs Meet 7:00 pm
- Sept. 17-18 Parish Pastoral Council selection
- Sept. 24 Emmaus Encounter
- Oct. 3 Journey with St. Francis 6:30 pm
- Oct. 10 Journey with St. Francis 6:30 pm
- Oct. 11 KCs Meet 7:00 pm
- Oct. 17 Journey with St. Francis 6:30 pm
- Oct. 22 Auction & Gala 6:00 pm

** Parish offices closed*

Comings & Goings is published quarterly by St. Columba Parish, 1830 E. 2nd Ave., Durango, CO 81301
Office open 8:00am to 4:00pm, Monday - Friday, 970-247-0044, FAX 970-385-5737, www.stcolumbacatholic.org
Pastor: Rev. Jim Koenigsfeld Mass: Saturday 5:00 pm, Sunday 9:00 and 11:30 am, M-Th 7:30 am, F 8:15 am