



September 2011

## AROUND THE PARISH

### OF BOYS AND BUNNIES

My son has started his freshman year of college and appears to be functioning just fine without his mother. I'm trying hard to forgive him for that.

On the drive home, after we'd helped him move into his dorm room and I'd made enough of a blubbery scene to thoroughly embarrass my boy, I got to thinking about his first day of preschool. On the short drive to the school that day, he'd clutched his favorite toy, a stuffed bunny he'd inexplicably named Malcolm and tried to be very brave. So did I.

"You're going to have a wonderful time!" I remember saying too cheerfully. He didn't look convinced. He kept rubbing his finger across Malcolm's head, something he did often to comfort the rather emotional rabbit. "It makes Malcolm feel better," he'd once explained to me. I think it probably made my little man feel better, too.

I remember praying silently on that drive that he would like school and that the other kids would be nice to him and that his teachers would be smart enough to see how utterly special this blue-eyed child was—head and shoulders above any other kid in the school or any other kid in the world for that matter. Maybe I was a little biased. But only a little.

When we arrived at the preschool, he got out of the car with Malcolm tucked under his arm. I reminded him that Malcolm would have to stay with me. I promised to take good care of him.

"He'll be right here waiting for you when I pick you up," I said. I sounded like Mr. Rogers, way too cheerful.

For a moment, those blue eyes brimmed with tears. He rubbed Malcolm's head several times to reassure him, then placed the rabbit back in the car. I still remember watching, through my own brimming tears, as he lovingly strapped the little rabbit into the car seat.

"You stay here, Malcolm," he said stroking the bunny's head one last time. "Only people can go to school. I'll be back soon. You'll be OK."

When we got home after dropping our son off at college, I went into his room and reached into the top of his closet, way back behind the boxes of video games and soccer trophies, and pulled out an old stuffed bunny. His ears are frayed now, and his fur looks matted; the seams in his body are visible. The top of his head is bare in several places, worn down to the fabric by a little boy's fingers.

"Hi Malcolm," I said to him, sounding again like Mr. Rogers. "Long time no see!"

I sat down on my son's bed and just stared at Malcolm for awhile. I rubbed his head several times. I think it made him feel better.

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### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

7-30-11

Chad Michael Brown

&

Amanda Elizabeth Wiland

## SACRED HEART SENIORS

Sacred Heart Seniors have been a vital part of the parish family for over 10 years. The mission of the Seniors Club is to encourage the Seniors of Sacred Heart Parish to improve their quality of life by providing spiritual, educational, recreational, health and social opportunities. Membership is open to parishioners and their spouses or members of our bordering parishes who are age 50 or over.

In an attempt to grow and revitalize the Seniors Club two meetings will be held on Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>:

1 PM in the Wachter Room at the Parish Center and 6:30 PM in the IHM Room located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the school at the parking lot entrance. In these meetings we will be looking for input from anyone who wants to be a part of the Seniors and specifically for ideas as to meeting times, meeting topics, travel, recruitment of new members especially those who fall into the 50 to 70 year age range, and recruitment of executive board members.

Come and join the Sacred Heart Seniors! Be an integral part in continuing the tradition of the Sacred Heart Seniors.

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### PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

Jason & Angella Jones and their daughter Alexa

Benjamin & Pamela Kline and their sons Benjamin & Luke

Martin DeSantis

## SACRED HEART SCHOOL NEWS

### *Get Ready for "Middle States!"*

Every 10 years (in the future, every seven years) schools must undergo a rigorous examination by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. Schools are visited by a team from the Commission on Elementary and Secondary Schools, who are charged with providing the Commission with a report regarding the school's accreditation. Accredited schools must meet twelve Middle States Standards for quality in all aspects of a school's programs and services. Sacred Heart School will be visited by a team in April, 2012. This is a *community effort* - we will be assembling committees of stakeholders including parents, parishioners, community members, student and faculty. We look forward to this opportunity to learn and grow, and to showcase all the good things about Sacred Heart School. So...if you get "the call" to help - please say yes. We need you!

### *Scholastic Book Fair*

One of the most popular events at Sacred Heart School is the Scholastic Book Fair, traditionally held during Catholic School Week in the winter. In response to demand, we are now holding a "Fall Book Fair" to be held the week of September 26<sup>th</sup> in the school library. Many affordable and interesting books will be available (including a special section for adults) as well as the ever-popular posters, pencils and assorted "fun" items. The Book Fair will be open to parishioners as well as Sacred Heart School families, and is a great way to get an early jump

on Christmas shopping. Everyone loves a new book - and you get the satisfaction of knowing that you help our school with every purchase. Watch for hours in the bulletin, or call the school for more information. September 26 - 30....FALL INTO BOOKS!

*Submitted by: Kathy Napolitano, Principal SHS*

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## **SVDP CHICKEN DINNER SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2<sup>ND</sup>**

A few weeks ago members of SVDP and several volunteers served about 300 meals to the needy. As the activity slowed down toward the end of the noon meal I had an opportunity to talk with a few of the recipients. I noticed that this one gentleman wears a tie, and that made me curious. So I began a conversation and learned that he was a pilot for American Airlines for 25 years before retiring, and then hitting a patch of bad luck. Another man was just so happy that our meals were easy to eat; didn't have many teeth he said with his big smile.

These are the faces of the poor, and it is these good people that we have the opportunity to serve and represent your support through SVDP.

As we approach our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Chicken Dinner event, we would ask you to consider purchasing dinners for friends, family, employees; there are many who would be appreciative that you included them in this day. Tickets will be available before and after Masses on the weekends of September 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> and September 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, at the Fundraising Desk in the narthex of the Church.

The ticket price remains \$9.00. Big John Catering will have your ½ chicken,

potato, pepper cabbage, butter and roll ready for you to pick up from 10 AM to 12:30 PM in the school parking lot on Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you are unable to participate, please consider a contribution to support SVDP, as we try to keep a smile on the face of our poor.

*Submitted by: Tom Sebastian, SVDP Member*

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## **OUR CONDOLENCES TO...**

The Capozello Family on the death of,  
**Helen M. Capozello**  
8-13-11

The Capozello Family on the death of,  
**Mary Capozello**  
8-18-11

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## **CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

Children's Liturgy at 9:30 AM Mass will begin this year on September 18<sup>th</sup>. If your child enjoys participating, please take a moment to consider volunteering to assist - we are in need of parents help more than ever. It is only a few times a year and mainly entails taking the children to the chapel to help with the Liturgy of the Word. Please contact Maria Nawa for more details: [m.nawa@hotmail.com](mailto:m.nawa@hotmail.com) or (610) 375-7438.

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## **DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE**

A time of grace, fulfillment and continued evangelization will soon be upon us as our Diocese journeys to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. to participate in the Pilgrimage of

2011. Our Bishop will be present to lead us on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at the Shrine and hopes you will join him. Make your bus reservations early by calling Bonnie at the rectory (610 372-4010). The Sacred Heart Seniors are sponsoring a bus which will leave at 8 AM from the Church. The cost for this trip will be \$40 per person and does not include meals. The Pilgrimage will have some special presentations by nationally acclaimed speakers that you won't want to miss. Plan to attend and make the Pilgrimage of 2011 a real religious experience for yourself and your family.

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### **HIGH SCHOOL AND ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

The Sacred Heart Chapter of St. Vincent de Paul Society is looking for volunteers to participate in a Habitat for Humanity workday on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is a great opportunity for high school students to get service hours as well as adults who just want to serve.

Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry that seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the world. Habitat invites people of all backgrounds, races and religions to build houses together in partnership with families in need.

Sacred Heart volunteers will meet at the front of the church at 8:30 AM and return at 2:30 PM. Participants must be at least 16 years of age. Wear old clothing, closed-toe shoes (sneakers are OK), pack a lunch, bring drinks and a pair of work gloves. All other tools are provided on the job site.

Please contact Brad Bohr at (610) 796-2015 or [bbohr@levelaproductions.com](mailto:bbohr@levelaproductions.com) to sign up.

*Submitted by: Brad Bohr, SVDP Member*

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### **SHOPS & SCRIP**

We are back to school and that brings new SHOPS hours:

Sold at School on:

Tuesdays 9:30 AM to 11 AM

Fridays 8 AM to 10 AM

Sold before and after each Mass on all weekends except holiday weekends.

There will be no SHOPS sales or Scrip order placed on Labor Day weekend!

Thanks for your support!

Ruth Butler & Deb Bernheiser,  
Coordinators

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### **DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO BECOME A CATHOLIC?**

*Ask them to "Come and See" at RCIA.*

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process of formation, education, and initiation for those who desire to come into full communion with our faith community. It is for those who:

- Have never been baptized;
- Have been baptized in a non-Catholic denomination and would like to come into full communion with the Church;
- Were baptized Catholic, but have never received the sacraments of Confirmation or the Eucharist.

If you know someone—a family member, a friend, a neighbor or a co-worker—who might like to begin journeying with us in faith, or has simply been asking you lots of questions

about our faith, please ask him or her to call the rectory at (610) 372-4010 or send an email to [SacredHeartRCIA@gmail.com](mailto:SacredHeartRCIA@gmail.com).

We will have an informational meeting on Sunday, September 11th from 9–11 AM in the Bornemann Room of the Parish Center. Some members of our community who have already gone through RCIA will be there to discuss their experiences and answer your questions. We will all attend the 11 AM Mass together.

If you are curious about becoming Catholic, then come and see.

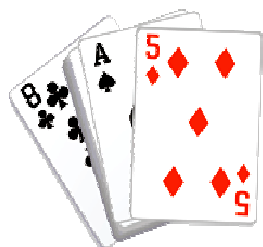
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### THEY'RE BACK...

Summer vacations are over...so that must mean the return of Coffee and Donuts! Sure enough, coffee and Donuts which occurs on the first and third Sundays of the month after the 9:30 and 11 AM Masses will return on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>!

Many thanks to our core team which makes this time of fellowship and breakfast treats possible: Beth & Andrew Tharp and family, Denise DeAntonio and family, and Rina Carhuayano and family.

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### BRIDGE PLAYERS NEEDED!

Wednesday afternoons, September through February. Interested parties please call Mary Lou Parisi at (610) 376-5812.

### RELIGIOUS ED REGISTRATION

Diocesan policy states that two years of preparation are required before the celebration of the sacraments of First Penance and First Eucharist. Thus all students entering first grade in September 2011 should be registered in Sacred Heart's Religious Education Program. Registration forms can be picked up at the Religious Ed Office, emailed, or sent by mail. Please return the form, fee, and a copy of the child's Baptismal certificate to the office. For more information or questions, contact Valerie Christo, DRE (610) 374-5430.

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### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every Tuesday the real presence of Jesus is in the Church/Chapel for the entire day beginning after 8 AM Mass till 10 PM. Please take time from your busy schedule to spend an hour or a half hour with Jesus. Many blessings have been received and prayers answered after time was spent in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. If you can commit one hour or ½ hour a week or once a month, your presence would be greatly appreciated. We especially need additional volunteers to partner with our present volunteers at the following times: 10 AM to 11 AM; 11 AM to Noon; Noon to 1 PM; 4 PM to 5 PM; 6 PM to 7 PM and 8 PM to 9 PM. Please prayerfully consider sharing your time with our Lord. If you would like more information, please call Bonnie Batdorf at (610) 372-4010.

## SACRED HEART SENIORS 2011 TRIPS

Monday  
Nov. 14th      FREE trip to Showboat  
Casino in Atlantic City  
\$5 Coin Return  
Departs 8:45 AM

Friday  
Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>      American Music Theatre  
*Christmas Show*  
Lunch at Shady Maple  
**Cost: \$60.00**

You don't have to be a senior to sign up for one of the many trips offered throughout the year. One thing you'll always find is that our trips are the least expensive in town.

For reservations call Jim Loeper at (610) 375-2185.

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## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

This ministry, which is sponsored by the St. Vincent de Paul Society and ably manned by the Parish Knitters and Crocheters, knits mantels of healing for those in nursing homes and assisted living facilities, those who are homebound, and those people in our parish who are experiencing pain, sorrow, personal problems, loneliness or simply can't be with us for worship. Each shawl sends the message that the recipient has been prayed for and that the mantle is a token of love and concern from Sacred Heart Parish. Recipients can wrap the shawls around them knowing they are also being wrapped in prayers for God's presence and healing.

If you know someone from our parish who is experiencing pain or sorrow and you would like them to have a prayer shawl, please contact Bonnie at the Rectory (610) 372-4010.

## 4 WAYS TO WORK MORE PRAYER INTO YOUR DAY

Some time-honored Catholic practices that are meant to enhance Christian life:

- ★ Centering prayer
- ★ The rosary
- ★ Walking the labyrinth
- ★ Going on pilgrimage
- ★ Public processions
- ★ May crownings
- ★ The Jesus Prayer
- ★ Wearing medals and crosses
- ★ Confessing your sins
- ★ Seeking spiritual direction
- ★ Eucharistic Adoration
- ★ Studying and imitating the lives of the saints
- ★ Admiring Christian art
- ★ Receiving the sacraments
- ★ Making a retreat
- ★ Studying theology
- ★ Doing the Stations of the Cross
- ★ Cultivating devotion to a saint
- ★ Using holy water
- ★ Giving alms
- ★ Adopting a cosmic consciousness
- ★ Becoming attentive to divine providence
- ★ Performing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy
- ★ Moving reverently through the liturgy

*Excerpted from a book by Robert Barron*

### QUESTIONS?

Misplaced your altar server/lector/EM schedule?. Can't find your bulletin or newsletter? Go to the parish website...it's all there.

[www.shrcparish.org](http://www.shrcparish.org)