

# St. Veronica

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

353 E. NORWICH ST. • MILWAUKEE, WI 53207 414-482-2920

**WELCOME TO THE  
CATHOLIC FAITH  
COMMUNITY OF  
ST. VERONICA PARISH!**

If you are visiting St. Veronica during the holidays or if you are new to the area, we are very pleased that you have chosen to worship with us in our faith community.

We welcome you to become a member of our parish family. Please call the parish office or visit our website [www.saintveronica.org](http://www.saintveronica.org) if you are interested in membership.



## Sacraments

**Baptisms:** The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the first and third Sundays of the month. Contact the parish office to pick up registration materials. Parents are required to attend one Baptismal preparation class.

**Marriage:** We celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage for only our registered parish members. Please phone the parish office one year in advance to schedule a meeting with the priest, before you book other arrangements.

**Anointing of the Sick/Pastoral Visits:**

We are always willing to stop by your home or hospital. Please notify us when you or a family member is in need of a visit. The hospitals do not notify us. Anointing of the Sick will occur after every weekend Mass on the 2nd Sunday of each month.

**Reconciliation:** 1st and 3rd Saturdays at 3:30 pm before the 4:30 pm Mass and every 3rd Thursday following the 8:15 am Mass.

## A Prayer for Families

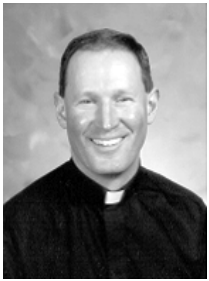
In good times and in bad, in sickness and in health,  
We belong to each other as we belong to you,  
God ever faithful.

By morning and by night may your name be on our lips,  
A blessing to all our days:

So may kindness and patience be ever among us,  
A hunger for justice,

And songs of thankfulness in all we do.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.



### A Message from Father Mark

In our Gospel this weekend, St. Joseph is faced with a dilemma which comes to him in a dream. Earlier in their betrothal, Joseph had risked the ridicule of his neighbors to take Mary into his home because she was pregnant before they lived together. An angel had assured Joseph that the child within Mary was from the Holy Spirit. Now, the angel in his dream announces that Herod is searching for his child to kill him. It was necessary to do more than just leave his hometown of Nazareth. They needed to go to a foreign country, Egypt.

The protective instinct of a parent certainly was enlivened to act. What stirs each of us into attentiveness? During Advent there was a constant theme of being “awake” or “alert” to what is happening in our lives.

Parents select programs on television for their children so that the content of the program is nurturing. Parents are attentive to alerting their children to be aware of dangers that exist around them. Items that we purchase for the children are checked before they are given. How many times have you warned your children about strangers or situations that could hurt them?

Our Gospel suggests that it took great courage for St. Joseph to act upon the stirrings he experienced. It could not have been an easy decision to leave behind everything that was familiar. How many times have we questioned ourselves about decisions that we need to make in our lives and especially for our children? What are the voices that we heed for advice? The need for wisdom figures in our lives is great in our society. A fear that exists is that many people follow voices that reflect passing fads and trends that don't hold truth as the center. Jesus warns the people of Israel to watch out for misleading voices that draw us away from the truth.

If we look at studies done by psychologists, there is a general conclusion that children can develop problems when they feel unheard or isolated from their families. Do we make family time a priority in our lives? Do we spend quality time as a family learning about what each member is doing daily? The voices that teens are listening to are not necessarily that of their parents. There is no substitute for the family and the nurturing that takes place within the household.

Do we take time to model a healthy prayerful environment within our families? If we don't set the precedent within the home, our faith will lack the personal touch that it needs to be fully embraced by family members. Too often parents feel that their children don't listen to them or care about the faith traditions being celebrated. Please remember that children actually pick up more than what is realized. Parents don't give up what you want to share with your children, especially your faith tradition. Share meal prayers, bedtime prayers, Scripture reading, celebrations of baptism days, special Christmas dishes, or Sunday brunch after Mass. It is much later in their lives that your children will draw from the memories of those traditions. Be the voice of a wisdom figure for your children and grandchildren!

On this Feast of the Holy Family, please let us thank God for the gifts that we have due to our families and pray for the needs of families whose struggles are overwhelming to them. *Blessings, Fr. Mark*

### Environment

Thank you to the members of the Church Environment and Christmas Tree Decorating Committees that share their time and creative talents each year creating the beautiful church décor for the Christmas season. This year we were joined by some youth Confirmation candidates. There were over 20 volunteers that worked on Sunday, December 16 and 23, too many to mention without missing someone. Everyone brought their energy and creativity to enhance our environment during the Christmas season. May God bless each of you.

Gerry Butzler  
Tree Decorating Chair

Carla Jager  
Environment Chair

Jeff Montoya  
Youth Minister-Confirmation



Thank you to all the musicians who helped to make our Christmas celebrations so beautiful! Flute, brass, keyboard, strings and voices all combined in glorious song! May God bless you as your gifts bless us!



### St. Veronica Pancake Breakfast

Join us today December 30 in Johnson Hall for all you care to eat pancakes, sausage, eggs, and beverages. Serving time will be from 9 am – 12 pm.

*When Herod had died, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." He rose, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. - Mt 2:19-21*

### Parish Office Hours During Holiday Season

Please note the change in hours for the upcoming Holidays.

*Parish offices will be closed all day,  
Monday, December 31  
Tuesday, January 1*

All year end donations must be received before December 31 in order to receive credit for 2007.

Thank you to Cathy Thiry and all of her parent helpers for the inspiring Children's Christmas play at the 4:30 pm Mass on Christmas Eve. This is a great way to teach our children the true meaning of Christmas

# Human Concerns

## A Suggested Prayer

For those who work in the right-to-life movement in any capacity, that they may receive the gift of patience, we pray.

## Reflection

The Christmas story is one of the greatest stories of all time! How much clearer could God make the statement that the unborn child is a human being whose passage through the womb has been sanctified by Jesus' similar journey?



## DID YOU KNOW...

“A human clone could be implanted into a woman's uterus to allow the child to develop and be born. Scientists are generally opposed to this purpose which they call “reproductive” cloning. What researchers really want is to create human clones, allow them to develop for an indefinite period of time, and then destroy them to obtain cells, organs, or tissues. They call this “therapeutic” cloning, even though there is no therapeutic value to the cloned human being.”

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

Mark those calendars to come hear Dr. David Prentice on this very important issue of stem cell research and cloning. He will be presenting on Sunday, Jan 13, 2008 at 10:45 am. He will be presenting at Ryan Hall, following Immaculate Conception's 9:30 Mass. Light fare offered. Free will offering.



## St. V's Pantry Food of the Month

From time to time, the question is asked: “What food do you need in the food pantry?” The specific food item requested for the month of JANUARY is “Chunky” soup or stew. Donations may be dropped off in the Ushers room or brought to the parish office. Thank you.

## Free Clinic

The Open Door Free Clinic for the uninsured and underinsured will be open on: Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30.

The clinic is located inside Unity Lutheran Church, 1025 E. Oklahoma Ave. Sign-in time is 5:30pm and the provider will see patients at approximately 6pm.

## Prayer Network

In November, there were more than 105 requests for our prayers called in to our Prayer Network or written in our parish Book of Intercessions.

Intentions included: Employment - Family guidance - Family healing - Healing from accidents, surgery,

illness, depression etc. - Peace - Peace after death of a loved one - Peaceful death - Safe travel - Special intentions - Spiritual guidance - Success in job - Thanksgiving. Please remember all prayer requests in your prayers. Become a part of Pope Benedict XVI's prayer group. The general intention recommended by the Holy Father for DECEMBER is: (Those Suffering from AIDS) That society may care for those stricken with AIDS, especially women and children, and that the Church may help them feel the Lord's love. The mission intention is: (Asia) That the incarnation of the Son of God may help the peoples of Asia recognize Jesus as God's Envoy, the only Savior of the world.

TIME	CAPTAIN	PHONE
7-12 pm	Jeanette Kuechenmeister	481-6224
12 pm-3 pm	Lucille Devine	529-8570
3-5 pm	Cecilia Bonczkowski	744-9406
5-7 pm	Helen Rewolinski	744-4139

Intentions left on a Captain's answering machine will be taken care of

## Troop 208 Thank You

Boy Scout Troop 208 wishes to thank all those who helped the troop provide Christmas Dinner Baskets to the clients of our Food Pantry. All you who generously contributed so that we could provide a wonderful dinner with which these people can celebrate the coming of our Lord Jesus -may you be especially blessed. The Troop would also like to thank Mr. Potter of Potters Piggly Wiggly and all the Food Pantry volunteers, who ministered so tirelessly on our behalf making the Food Pantry a reality that helps so many throughout the year.

Troop 208 extends its gratitude and wishes to the entire parish family a blessed Christmas season and a wonderful New Year!

## Alanon Meeting

Is someone in your family dealing with the disease of alcoholism? Would you like to talk with someone about how this is affecting you?

Alanon Family Groups are fellowship gatherings of relatives and friends of alcoholics. These gatherings are confidential and provide an opportunity for those gathered to share their experiences, offer support to each other, as well as, encouragement and hope. One such group has just started meeting at Nativity of the Lord Parish.

*Alanon Meeting, Thursdays, 6:30 pm, Nativity of the Lord Christian Formation Center, 3658 E. Plankinton Ave, Cudahy*

For more information, please contact the Alanon office, 257-2415 or one of the following members *Suzanne B. 570-9906/Mary B. 570-9407.*

## Recycled Bags for Food Pantry

We could use your recyclable grocery-size plastic and paper bags. Please bring them to the parish office or leave them next to the “feed the hungry” stand in Church.

## Scripture Insights

The reading for the feast of the Holy Family teaches us, as God's chosen and redeemed one, how to treat the members of our own family and the whole human family.

The Gospel shows us Joseph and Mary fleeing to Egypt to protect their child. While the Lectionary presents this as an example of family life, the Gospel writer's purposes were theological. He was teaching his primarily Jewish audience that Jesus is not only the fulfillment of the words of the prophets, but the fulfillment of the history of his people. Using a teaching device of the time called *midrash*, the author weaves Old Testament allusions around his account of New Testament events. He reminds us of Moses when he describes a slaughter of children at Jesus' birth and of the nation, Israel, as he describes Jesus being called out of Egypt.

The author of Sirach then urges children of all ages to treat their parents with deep respect. Those who treat their parents with love and respect all their lives will reap benefits in both their relationship with God and their bond with their own children.

When Paul addresses the Colossians as "God's chosen ones, holy and beloved," and tells them how to act toward one another, he is speaking in the context of the whole Christian community.

However, what he says is just as applicable to families. Paul emphasizes that forgiveness is absolutely necessary. Since we have been forgiven, we must forgive.

Protection, respect, and forgiveness are all necessary components of our family lives, but most important is love: "And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection."

A Home with the Word, 2008

## Lectionary Link

This week we are celebrating the Feast of the Holy Family. Every family is holy, meaning that God has blessed family life. The family is called the domestic church for it is through the family that children first learn about the love God has for each of us. In the Readings we hear how to treat the members of our own family and the whole human family. As Paul writes to the Colossians, respect and forgiveness are vital components in family life but love is the most important.

*Adult: In your household, how do you protect and take care of each other, especially in times of danger or sadness?*

*Child: How do you and other members of your family take care of one another?*

Readings for the Week of December 30

*Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23*

*Monday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18*

*Tuesday: Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21*

*Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28*

*Thursday: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6/Jn 1:29-34*

*Friday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Jn 1:35-42*

*Saturday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Jn 1:43-51*

*Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12*



## Prayer for the New Year

*Dear Lord, at the beginning of this New Year, I remember that you are a God of beginnings and endings.*

*You created the world, with all its eternal patterns.*

*Winter begins in frost, and ends in Spring's thaw.*

*Spring begins in new, green life, ending in Summer's heat.*

*Summer begins in sunshine, and ends in Autumn's breezes.*

*And Autumn's colors lead to the white of Winter again.*

*As another year ends and begins in our lives, help us to remember that you have made a world of cycles.*

*When fortune turns to trials, or hardship turns to joy, help me to take delight in the life I've received from you.*

*Remind me that I will one day pass from this world and enter a new life like those who've gone before me.*

*Amen  
(lpi08)*

## Parish Financial Stewardship for the Week Ending 12/09/07

Offertory	\$ 672.80
Stewardship	16,066.99
Holy Day	245.08
Feed & Shelter the Poor	1,289.25
Fr. Mark's Wish List	<u>1,177.16</u>
Total	\$ 19,451.28



**This week on Catholic Knights  
presents "Living Our Faith"  
with Archbishop Timothy Dolan**

Archbishop Dolan visits with Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker to talk about issues facing our community and students from St. Andrew School, Delavan, share their New Year's resolutions.

Archbishop Dolan responds to viewer questions and shares an end-of-the-year reflection.

Saturday, December 29, 11 am-WISN TV 12  
and Time Warner Cable's Wisconsin on Demand  
Channel 1111

## ~Mass Intentions~

### Sunday, December 30 Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

- 8:30 am For Our Parishioners  
10:30 am † Michael Spiegel (Wife & Children)  
† Cornelia Wisniewski (T. & S. Papagiannis)  
† Elizabeth Huberty (Family)  
† Julian Mirzejewski (Family & Friends)

### Monday, December 31 New Year's Eve

- 7 pm † Albertine Guidotti (Family)  
† Thomas Stroinski (L. Zager)

### Tuesday, January 1 Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of God

No Mass

### Wednesday, January 2 Basil the Great and Gregory

- 8:15 am † Blanche Busniewski (Family)

### Thursday, January 3 Holy Name of Jesus

- 8:15 am

### Friday, January 4 Elizabeth Ann Seton

- 8:15 am

### Saturday, January 5

- 4:30 pm In Thanksgiving (C. Mofatt)

### Sunday, January 6 Epiphany of the Lord

- 8:30 am For Our Parishioners  
10:30 am † Julian Mirzejewski (Family)  
† Laurie Eversman (M. Wszalek)  
† Dorothy Butzler (Family)

## Parish Meetings and Events

### Sunday, December 30

- |      |                     |              |
|------|---------------------|--------------|
| 9 am | Pancake Breakfast   | Johnson Hall |
| 7 pm | M.A.L.E.S.          | POMR         |
| 7 pm | Women's Bible Group | Assisi       |

### Monday, December 31 Parish Office Closed

### Tuesday, January 1 Parish Office Closed

### Wednesday, January 2

- |       |          |              |
|-------|----------|--------------|
| 11 am | AA       | Seton        |
| 6 pm  | Dartball | Johnson Hall |

### Thursday, January 3

- |      |                     |               |
|------|---------------------|---------------|
| 9 am | Stewardship Mailing | Assisi Center |
|------|---------------------|---------------|

### Saturday, January 4

- |      |                         |  |
|------|-------------------------|--|
| 9 am | Food Pantry/Thrift Shop |  |
|------|-------------------------|--|

### Sunday, January 5

- |         |                     |        |
|---------|---------------------|--------|
| 8:30 am | RCIA                | Assisi |
| 9 am    | SRE                 | School |
| 7 pm    | M.A.L.E.S.          | POMR   |
| 7 pm    | Woman's Bible Group | Assisi |



## Offices:

St. Veronica Parish Office (414) 482-2920  
353 E. Norwich St. 53207 Hours: M-F 8 am-4:00 pm  
Fax: (414) 482-3025

Website: [www.saintveronica.org](http://www.saintveronica.org)  
[parishoffice@saintveronica.org](mailto:parishoffice@saintveronica.org)  
Johnson Hall 414-482-2920, ext. 132

**Christian Formation Office** (414) 481-0777

**Very Rev. Mark Payne, Pastor** (262) 370-1845 (cell)  
(414)482-2920, ext. 111 [markpayne@saintveronica.org](mailto:markpayne@saintveronica.org)

### Deacon Emeritus John Dziennik

**John Albinger, Technology**, 482-2920, ext. 114  
[johnalbinger@saintveronica.org](mailto:johnalbinger@saintveronica.org)

**Karen Bushman, Director of Elementary Formation**,  
481-0777, ext. 117 [karenbushman@saintveronica.org](mailto:karenbushman@saintveronica.org)

**Jeffrey Montoya, UAC, Youth Minister**,  
481-0777, ext. 135 [jeffmontoya@saintveronica.org](mailto:jeffmontoya@saintveronica.org)

**Kate Sponholz, Director of Music**, 482-2920, ext. 128  
[katesponholz@saintveronica.org](mailto:katesponholz@saintveronica.org)

**Tony Goodenough, Facilities Coordinator**, 482-2920, ext 115  
[tonygoodenough@saintveronica.org](mailto:tonygoodenough@saintveronica.org)

**Mike Stahler, Maintenance**, 482-2920, ext. 115  
[mikestahler@saintveronica.org](mailto:mikestahler@saintveronica.org)

**Gerry Cofta, Parish Secretary**, 482-2920, ext. 110  
[gerrycofta@saintveronica.org](mailto:gerrycofta@saintveronica.org)

**Carla Jager, Office Coordinator**, 481-0777, ext. 140  
[carlajager@saintveronica.org](mailto:carlajager@saintveronica.org)

**Char Zeller, Office Assistant**, 482-2920, ext 110  
[charzeller@saintveronica.org](mailto:charzeller@saintveronica.org)

### St. Thomas Aquinas Academy

#### Principal Mary Stallmann

(414) 744-1214 341 E. Norwich St.  
[www.thomasaquinasacademy.com](http://www.thomasaquinasacademy.com)

## Parish Council and Liaison Members 2007-2008

*Pastor*, Fr. Mark Payne

*Chairperson*, Paul Klajbor, 405-2674

*Vice-Chairperson*, Nick Karabon, 481-9165

*Agenda Secretary*, Christina Mascitti, 745-9013

*Trustee Treasurer*, Ken Widenski, 482-2417

*Trustee Secretary*, Patti Jeffers, 427-4069

*Building & Grounds*, Mike Zilinski, 482-4448

*Christian Formation*, Rodger Nelson, 571-0121

*Parish Life & APC*, Monica Phillip, 744-1697

*Prayer & Worship*, Lynn Larson, 489-9148

*STAA Board*, Judi Caruso, 744-1554

*Stewardship*, Robin Decker, 483-5485

# Christian Formation

## Adult Ministry

### Rite of Christian Initiation Corner

The participants will take the weekend off to celebrate the holidays with their families. The parishes of St. Veronica and St. Paul are fortunate to have team members and sponsors who give of their time and talent to share the message of Christ with those seeking to know Him through the Catholic tradition. Please continue to pray for the participants, sponsors, and team members during this holy season.

Any adult who has not been baptized, was baptized Roman Catholic but has not received Eucharist and Confirmation, or was baptized in another Christian denomination is encouraged to consider RCIA. The next class will begin in September of 2008 but we would like to get to know you at any time. We have already been contacted by a few people who want to participate next fall. Call or email Karen Bushman for more information.

### Adult Confirmation Begins in January

Is God calling you to complete the Sacraments of Initiation by receiving Confirmation? Adults over 18 who have not yet received the sacrament of Confirmation are invited to participate in the spring adult Confirmation class. The first session will be January 10, 2008. Sessions are held twice per month on Thursday evenings at 7pm. This is a collaborative program among the parishes in this area. If you or someone you know would like more information please call Karen, 481-0777 or email [karenbushman@saintveronica.org](mailto:karenbushman@saintveronica.org). We welcome your interest.

### Evening for Couples 2008



St. Veronica will again host an Evening for Couples. Mark your calendars for Feb 9, 2008.

We will begin with a special blessing at 4:30 Mass and then go downstairs for a catered dinner, speakers Nancie and Tom Chmielewski, and mood music. Call your friends and make it a special evening. Watch the bulletin and the January parish monthly mailing for reservation information.

## House Blessing for the New Year

As we turn the pages of the calendar to 2008, we can bless our homes and families. *Family gathers around a calendar on the kitchen table.*

Leader: *In the Gospels, Jesus told His disciples to say "Peace be with this house" whenever they entered a house. May God help all of us who live in this house to share God's peace this year.*

*Our lives are filled with meetings, appointments and activities. It can be hard to find time to be together as a family. Lord, be close to us as we take time to sit down to eat together, finish homework, attend sporting events, and attend Mass. Help us to love one another as you love us. Continue to bless us so that we can be your faithful followers.*

All: *Hear us and bless us, Lord. Amen*

## Catholic Kids Corner

### Empty Pringles® Cans Needed

For a Lenten activity, the Religious Education program is in need of empty 5<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>oz Pringles cans with the plastic lid. The cans are needed by January 27. If your family enjoys this snack, please save the cans and leave them in God's Cozy Corner Parish library or bring to the parish office. Thank you.

### Children's Liturgy of the Word Invitation for Adults and Youth to Join the Ministry.

The spring sign up for volunteers will occur in early January. Would you be willing to share your time with the children of the parish? Volunteers can either read the Scripture stories or give a short reflection. Lesson plans are provided and you can choose the Sunday's that you are available. Children's Liturgy of the Word takes place during the 10:30am Mass on the first and third Sundays of the month. Volunteers are scheduled for only two Sundays per semester. If you would like more information. Please email [karenbushman@saintveronica.org](mailto:karenbushman@saintveronica.org) or call 481-0777.

### Fun Facts for Faithful Kids

Will you stay up until midnight on December 31 to celebrate the coming of the New Year, 2008? Before Julius Caesar became emperor of Rome, a new year began in March because it was the first month of the Roman calendar. Emperor Caesar changed the date to January 1 in honor of the Roman god,

Janus. This god was shown as having two faces; one looking back and the other looking forward. It became a day to remember the past but to make a resolution to do better in the coming year.

January 1 is the feast of Mary, Mother of God. As Catholics we believe that Jesus is God. The Greeks had a special name for Mary, *Theotokos* which means "God-bearer".



January 1 is also World Day of Prayer for Peace. Why not say a decade of the rosary and dedicate your prayers for peace in our world?

January 4 is the feast of Elizabeth Ann Seton, who was born in 1774. She never gave up, even when life was very tough. She was married to a wealthy businessman and had five children. However, her husband became sick and died, the business failed, two of her daughters died, and her family refused to speak to her because she became a Catholic. St. Elizabeth did not quit. Instead she became a teacher and opened the first American Catholic school, the first American orphanage, founded the first American Order of nuns – the Sisters of Charity, and finally became the first American born saint. So if you feel like giving up, remember St. Elizabeth.

# HAPPY NEW YEAR