

St. Gabriel the Archangel
Catholic Church and School

St. Gabriel Herald

Volume 6, Issue 3

Fall 2004

Inspiring, Energetic, Nourishing...The Parish Mission!

By Patrick R. Pearsey

The 2nd Parish Mission in the history of St. Gabriel Parish began on Sunday, September 19th. However, the planning for this event began 6 months ago. At that time, The Redemptorist Parish Mission Preaching Team of the Denver Province was contacted. This required a meeting between the Redemptorists and the St. Gabriel Mission Committee. Two Redemptorists who are based in Chicago, Illinois were assigned to come to St. Gabriel Parish

These men were Father Robert Halter, C.S.s.R. and Father Daniel Aigbona, C.S.s.R. Father Bob had conducted St. Gabriel's first parish mission in 2001. He is a

native of Wagner, South Dakota, was professed as a Redemptorist in 1965 and ordained in 1970. He is fluent in Spanish and also conducted the Spanish mission, which was to follow the English version here. Father Dan is a native of Nigeria, where he served as a

seminary Philosophy professor before being called to the priesthood. In June he came to the United States to



learn how things are done here. He has a very dynamic style of preaching. Both men used humor and storytelling to get their points across.

For St. Gabriel's part, Connie Gorman, mission chairperson, began working with a team of hundreds of fellow parishioners to make things ready.

This included among many other things, serving refreshments at the end of each night of the mission and organizing several choirs to perform.

Each night of the mission had a symbol and a topic. These were:



Day	Symbol	Topic
Sunday	Water	Baptism
Monday	Oil	Confirmation
Tuesday	Ashes	Reconciliation
Wednesday	The Cross	Holy Spirit
Thursday	Bread & Wine	Eucharist

Each evening, one Redemptorist would serve as the preacher. Father Larry Crawford served as president each evening. Through their varied styles, Fathers Bob and Dan preached the Gospel and taught how each of the Sacraments mentioned above plays an important part in our lives. Each visitor to the mission received on different nights, a symbolic rendering of the Sacrament which was the subject of discussion,



(Continued on page 6)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Stewardship Initiative	2
From Whence We Came-The McAndrews Family	3
Meet Mr. John Kohan, Principal St. Gabriel School	4
Fruits of Vocation	5
Share Your Culture	6
Picnic Pictures	7
A New Day in Faith Formation	7

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners:

As we move further into fall the parish continues to enjoy the afterglow of the Parish Mission. We all need a glimpse of what can be from time to time.

As everyone is now aware, we hired two new parish administrators this summer. Mr. John Kohan is the principal of St. Gabriel the Archangel School and Ms. Virginia Cygan is our Faith Formation Director / Youth Minister. I have asked both of them to share with you in this Newsletter their vision for their ministry at St. Gabriel.

The major thrust of the month of October will be our annual stewardship drive which will culminate in our Pledge Sunday, November 7. My sincere thanks to the Stewardship Commission for all the work they are doing to make this a successful effort this year. They, with the help of others, have worked very hard and gone the extra mile to make this a growing experience for all parishioners. I hope you will respond to the call to take that step in gratitude. We sure do need it.

For many years the Youth Activities Committee has had a homecoming for the football teams. The last couple years the Men's Club has had a very nice pig roast as part of the weekend activities. In recent years we have been working on developing an Alumni Association for St. Gabriel the Archangel School. This year we are bringing all this together. We will have an Alumni kickball and football game in the afternoon and all the alumni and families will be invited to the pig roast that evening. There will be more details but mark October 23 on your calendar. Please let all families and friends of St. Gabriel know of the homecoming events.



All Saints' Day

Please remember our dead on November 1 and 2. One of the really beautiful traditions of the Catholic faith is All Saints Day and All Souls Day. I hope you join us in worship as we remember all the dead especially members of your family and remember the practice of visiting the cemetery during the month of November.

Fr. Larry Crawford
Pastor

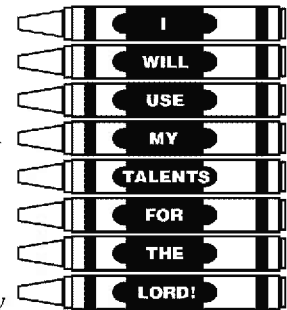
Stewardship News

By Lynda Miller

This is an exciting time for the St. Gabriel Stewardship Commission. St. Gabriel has been chosen to participate in the pilot program of the Mission Enhancement Initiative. The program focuses on the development of Parish Stewardship. It is not a fund raiser or a capital campaign, but rather a program to raise awareness and a campaign to teach the meaning of true stewardship to the parishioners of St. Gabriel.

Stewardship is not a program. It is a way of life, an attitude of the mind and heart that is expressed in action. Christian stewards are women and men who acknowledge God as the owner and giver of all things. We are called to be stewards of all God's blessings- both material and spiritual.

The primary objective of the Mission Enhancement Initiative is to provide parishes with a way to teach stewardship principles, while also encouraging them to experience stewardship in action. Each of us will be challenged to reflect on God's blessings and then prayerfully consider how God wants us to use them for service through the parish. Together, we will learn the principles of Stewardship.



Many people will be directly involved in the administration of the program and the entire parish will be asked to participate in special events to help raise awareness. There will also be gatherings to celebrate our success in Growing Stewards.

Many, many of our parishioners are already good stewards, but still might not really understand how stewardship really affects our lives and the lives of everyone around us. This will be a great spiritual and educational journey for the entire parish. We hope all of the parish will join in the excitement.

Coming Soon!

St. Gabriel Pictorial Directory

Have you scheduled your sitting?

For more information contact Kristine Gorman at 291-8423



