



ST. ISIDORE HARVESTER

A publication of St. Isidore Church for all registered parishioners, so that they may share in the vitality of our faith community

Summer 2018



Nyumbani Children's Home in Kenya enjoying the gift of your generosity



Knights of Columbus honoring with special recognition



Knights of Columbus awards a scholarship



St. Isidore School Clothing and Equipment Resale started with this group of women

some of the stories and more

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solve the puzzle

www.stisidoreparish.org

COMING TO *Fruition*

History and memories of our parish, building our future

OUR EURCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL



The Eurcharist Adoration Chapel is finally becoming a reality. An online sign-up program for those who want to commit to time in the chapel will be up by September. Opportunities to make a gift for furnishings (chairs, angel statues, plants, candles, etc.) will be forthcoming in the parish Flocknote and bulletin. Access to the chapel after hours will be by security cards like the ones used now for the main church.

By Bill Archer

So, it is time for a little review.

Eucharistic adoration is defined in two ways:

1. Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle, or
2. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament exposed in the ciborium or monstrance.

The Church's guidelines state:

If for some good reason perpetual exposition must take place in a parish church, it should be in a chapel distinct from the body of the church so as not to interfere with the normal activities of the parish or its daily liturgical celebrations.

There should always be a sufficient number of people present for Eucharistic adoration before the Blessed Sacrament is exposed. Every effort should be made to ensure that there should be at least two people present. There must absolutely never be periods when the Blessed Sacrament is exposed and there is no one present for adoration. It may prove necessary to expose the Blessed Sacrament for adoration only at stated times when members of the faithful are present.

The purpose of all exposition is adoration of Christ present in the Blessed Sacrament.

The importance of Eucharistic Adoration is shown in the fact that the Church has a ritual that regulates it. The Order for Solemn Exposition of the Holy Eucharist provides several settings for the Liturgy of the Hours and two Eucharistic Services of Prayer and Praise: Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction. These liturgies are designed to “acknowledge Christ’s marvelous presence in the sacrament and invites us to the spiritual union with Him that culminates in sacramental communion.”

This is an extension of the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament which occurs in every Mass: “Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the Supper of the Lamb.” Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament flows from the sacrifice of the Mass and serves to deepen our hunger for Communion with Christ and the rest of the Church.

Come let us adore... (Psalm 95:6)



On June 26, the Father Guiney Council installed its new officers for 2018-2019.



Part three: Deep Roots

First and foremost a correction and an apology for an error in the last Deep Roots article. Thanks to Elaine and June Stark (daughters-in-law to Martin Stark), we learned that the land upon which St. Isidore Church was built was given by Martin Stark (not John Stark). There were many Starks from Germany who lived in what are now the western suburbs.

Martin T.H. Stark and his wife Agnes gave the land across from their home for the building of a new church and the cemetery – St. Isidore. Army Trail Road at that time was called Grand Avenue. Originally it was just a trail that the local native Americans used; in the early 19th century covered wagons followed the narrow path as they trekked westward.

In 1832 General Winfield Scott used the trail to move troops in the Black Hawk War. Scott himself followed a different route, but his troops were delayed in participating in the war because of a cholera outbreak. The war ended before they arrived, but their heavy army wagons left deep tracks that widened the trail...and thus the name – Army Trail Road.

St. Isidore Church was in the town of Cloverdale, which was annexed to Bloomingdale in 1978. Parcels of Cloverdale were annexed to Carol Stream and Bloomingdale at various times. The name “Cloverdale” came from the fields that were carpeted by sweet clover.

During its heyday, Cloverdale had a bank (where the Shell Station is). There was a lumber yard and a creamery, where the farmers brought their milk in 8-gallon cans for cash. The Gerber family had a bread factory and also Mr. Gerber’s band provided the music for social events. There was also a tavern and restaurant owned by Arthur Miller and a confectionary store.

Tedrahn General Store opened in 1888 and also served as the post office. It was located near the railroad tracks by Grand Avenue. Other shopping was done in either Wheaton or Elgin.

Laying the cornerstone for the new church



The new church under construction

By the late 1800’s, the Illinois Central RR made a “milk stop” in Cloverdale. The depot was called Stark’s Station. There was a corral alongside the railroad tracks where cattle from Iowa would graze and then board the train to be transported to the Chicago Stock Yards. Population at the time was 103. By the 1900’s it was a stop for the Chicago, Dubuque, Sioux City, Omaha route of the Illinois Central RR for freight and passengers. During World War II troop trains came through Cloverdale.

In those early days, children worked on the farms alongside their parents and manned the food stall along the road. For fun, they played baseball, hide and seek, kick the can and tag. When the soles of their shoes wore down, cereal boxes were cut to fit into the shoes and they were referred to as “cereal shoes”.

Those were the good ole days for these early parishioners of our St. Isidore church.



An idea that had its roots at Cossitt School in LaGrange, Illinois back in 1992 came to fruition for St. Isidore School in September 1998. The Children's Clothing & Equipment Resale had its inaugural event in the Ministry Center making gently-used clothing for boys and girls available in infant sizes through size 16. Also available were books, toys, and an assortment of necessities for baby and beyond including strollers, playpens, high chairs, bicycles, and more.

SIS Children's Clothing and Equipment

The initial team of school moms who organized the event included Diane Limanowski, Sue Culhane, Linda Doyle and Teresa Serio. School families were asked to volunteer to facilitate in-person registration of consignment sellers intake of merchandise, sale floor assistance during the two days, and clean-up. All event information was recorded manually into a spreadsheet, ledger or binder. Twenty years ago without the aid of much technology, the team found creative ways to spread word of the newly established resale, delivering flyers to nearby schools, advertising via SIS School mailings and posters, and posting signs on St. Isidore property. Local newspapers agreed to print notices about the resale, and some communities offered their website announcements.

It took a couple of resales before "word on the street" got out about this opportunity for families in the area to make a profit by selling their gently used children's items; by Spring 2000, there were over 120 consignment sellers who participated in the St. Isidore event. Many sellers began bringing in several armloads of clothing items required to be on hangers with very specific instructions on where to pin the tags. Most clothing is hung on racks (originally built and donated by Boy Scouts), sorted by gender and size. Items that could not be hung on hangers such as bibs, booties and socks, etc, are required to be in ziplock bags with details noted on the pinned-on tags. Before long, there were so many bicycles, scooters, toys and baby equipment that they spilled into the hallway of the Ministry Center.

Father Tony Taschetta, pastor at the time of the early resales, was a regular customer, purchasing clothing for his grandchildren. He labeled this event as a "true ministry to the local community" in large part because he noted the overall care the resale team gave to accepting only good, reusable merchandise at reasonable prices. Of course, since the consignment sellers price their own items, amounts



noted on the tags are not negotiable. The volunteers who accept the items brought in by sellers are very careful to note if something is not in good condition and can reject those items or if clothing has stains, tears, broken zippers, etc. Today, sellers still receive 70% of the price they list on tags, unless it sold for half-price, while the School receives 30% as profit.

Day 2 of each resale is an opportunity to purchase items that sellers can designate as half-price. In other words, a different color tag affixed to an item is a seller's way of allowing the resale team to charge half of the price listed on that tag. So Saturday is usually a very busy day to welcome customers into the Ministry Center! Once the resale closes, sellers pick up their unsold items or have the opportunity to donate them to the St. Vincent DePaul Society.

Each year, the resale has gradually expanded to include the sale of school uniforms and maternity clothes, the use of an online system for sellers and volunteers, and additional rooms on the main floor of the Ministry Center. The current resale committee includes Lisa Conte, Rita Crotinger and Deb Dorman. The event is still held twice a year, once in September for fall and winter clothing and scheduled for March 15-16, 2019 for spring and summer items. If interested in selling any of your children's gently-used items, watch for bulletin announcements as well as local communications for registration dates. To have a reminder postcard sent to your home, contact the school office: 630-529-9323.



BIBLICAL MATCHMAKERS

*Tradition deems spring to be the time for weddings. However, at St. Isidore Parish, it is in fall that the sacrament of marriage is most celebrated. Holy Scripture reveals many relationships between a man and a woman.
(For the more “challenging” couples there are biblical clues.)*

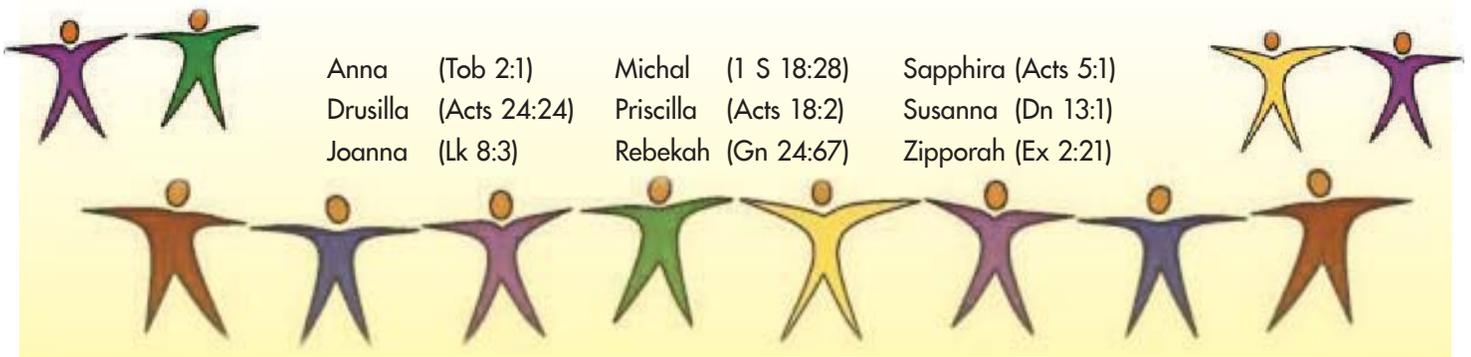
Can you connect the following soul mates?

MEN

a_Abraham f_Chuza k_Joakim
 b_Adam g_David l_Joseph
 c_Ananias h_Felix m_Moses
 d_Aquila i_Isaac n_Tobit
 e_Boaz j_Jacob o_Zechariah

WOMEN

__Anna __Mary __Ruth
 __Drusilla __Michal __Sapphira
 __Elizabeth __Priscilla __Sarah
 __Eve __Rachel __Susanna
 __Joanna __Rebekah __Zipporah



Harvester

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WHAT WOULD YOUR PARISH DO WITHOUT



By Angie Orlando

Our parish is large by any standards and cannot function without volunteers. We have three priests and they each only have twenty-four hours in a day. Our parish staff can only do so much. We really could not hire enough people to keep a parish this large functioning.

What would happen if all the volunteers you see at the Mass you attend weren't there doing what they do? There would be no plants, banners or seasonal decorations. If you light candles before Mass, there would be no candles in the candle chapel. The Altar would not be set up with the bread and wine to be consecrated, the candles would not be lit. During the celebration, there would be no one to lead the hymns. Readings would all be read by the celebrant. Nobody would take up the collection. Distribution of the Eucharist would take six to eight times as long since only the priest and deacon would be doing that. (Because of that timing, we would have to celebrate fewer Masses and they would be much more crowded.)

As you leave, you'll have to find your own bulletin from wherever the piles of them were located. The Mass coordinator who sets up the altar, the altar servers, the lectors, the cantor, the Eucharistic Ministers and the Ushers are all volunteers. After the celebrations, your contributions are counted and recorded by volunteers before they go to the bank and a couple of volunteers wash the linen purificators (for cleaning the cup) and the altar server robes.

And that's just for the weekend celebrations. Those who volunteer on their own time are legion.

The Parish Council and the Parish Commission Members who advise our pastor are all volunteers.

No Religious Education? The RE teachers and class aids are all volunteers.

No school extra-curricular activities? Sorry, the coaches are all volunteers.

Getting Married? Your celebration runs smoothly because you've been prepared with classes and a volunteer gets there early to set up the church for you serves as your wedding coordinator.

Baptism for your baby, well, of course, there are some people who give their time to get the candles ready and seating arranged along with towels

to wrap your bundle of joy and the baptismal prep facilitators And then there are the Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) adults who are ushered into Catholicism by volunteer sponsors and leaders.

Death doesn't stop the volunteers; they set up the church for the final commendation of our beloved parishioners.

Our parish is a weekly site for PADS (Public Action to Deliver Shelter) and once a month our parishioners set up the bedding, prepare dinner, pack lunches and serve breakfast to take care of the homeless who come to us. Then the area is cleaned all before the school children start arriving.

Our campus is dotted with plants and we maintain a vegetable garden for the food pantry. Those gardeners are volunteers.

By the time this Harvester is delivered to your home, there have been a couple of meetings, and hours spent researching, writing and editing the articles by volunteers. Remember volunteers in ESL, food pantry, collection counters, office helpers, outdoor worker at Easter and Christmas Liturgy of the Word for Children, St. Vincent DePaul and many, many more.

We need prayer, but we need your time and talent too. Can you figure out where you could or should be doing some works along with your prayer? Volunteers bring LIFE to our parish and it shouldn't be the same volunteers or we will miss out on experiencing the gifts of those who bring new gifts to our parish.

"...faith without works is useless." Our faith community needs, nay requires, everyone's help.

NEW SCHOOL PLAYGROUND COMES TO FRUITION

By Mike Yerly,
Director of Development

The result of a two-year fundraising campaign has come to fruition for St. Isidore School children for the 2018-19 school year, in the form of a brand new playground on the St. Isidore School campus.

Thanks to the generous donations of parents, alumni and friends to last and this year's annual fund campaign and Gala's Fund-A-Cause, the installation of new playground equipment and landscaping has taken place in time for the opening of the new school year. The new play area includes two basketball hoops, a freshened up swing set area, new borders and mulch, as well as a modern, expansive modular play structure from Team REIL, Inc. that includes swings, slides, towers, climbing walls and other recreational elements.

"We needed to provide an updated, expanded, safer and more modern playground for our students, in order to make their time outside more active and fun," explains Mrs. Cyndi Collins, school principal. "We joked in our appeals to alumni that our current playground equipment might still have been the same equipment that they played on depending on how long ago it was that they were here. But the need was real and something the kids wanted badly. And our generous benefactors came through for us again."

The final cost of the playground was in the neighborhood of \$60,000.

A group of parent volunteers, supervised by Team REIL representatives, installed the new equipment over the weekend of August 10-11.

School parents Matt Hug and Jeff Hagan coordinated the "build" weekend. Much thanks is also due to past school board member and president Jennifer McFadden, who spearheaded the project a couple years back and promoted it vigorously ever since.

While the main fundraising for the project is complete, Mrs. Collins says that if we can raise an additional \$7,000, a piece of equipment called a JAX-Web Climber will be added to the playground as well. Additional monies are still needed to purchase mulch to complete the landscaping, the cost of which is a bit higher than anticipated.

Parishioners wishing to donate to the project can do so by dropping off a check at the school office, or on-line at https://e.givesmart.com/events/5g1/i/_All/3Ehu/.



*The word deacon is derived from the Greek word *diákonos* which means servant or minister. The Joliet Diocese ordained twenty-five new deacons on August 25th and St. Isidore Parish is blessed with two of these ministers. I recently had the pleasure of talking with Dan Defino and Terry Neary regarding their journey to the diaconate and their roles as deacons.*

Deacon Dan has always been strong in his faith and as a teen even considered to be a priest at the suggestion of his brother. After college Dan joined his family's business, married his wife Zaira and was blessed with four children.

Dan shared how during one Sunday approximately four years ago, Fr. Jim read an announcement regarding a meeting the Joliet Diocese was having

for men who were interested in becoming deacons. While Dan heard the announcement, he did not initially consider attending the meeting.

However, as Dan was leaving Mass, Deacon Don Randolph, shook his hand, pulled him close and said, "You know, that announcement was meant for you."

That interaction encouraged Dan to pursue the vocation of the diaconate.

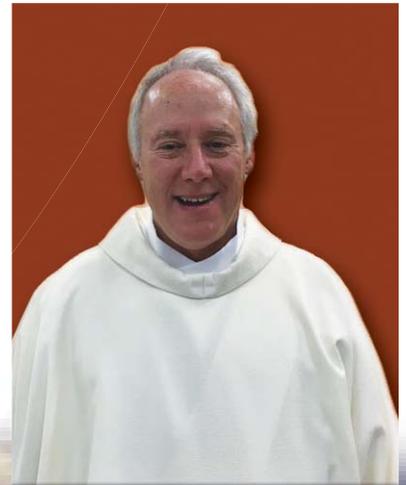
Dan and Zaira, parishioners for 25 years, have been nursing home ministers the last four years and this ministry is one he may focus on once he is ordained. During formation, Dan also ministered in hospitals and prisons and while he will be based at St. Isidore, sees his focus out in the larger community. He is appreciative of the support of his family and knowing they always "had his back" during formation.



Deacon Terry has been a St. Isidore parishioner for 30 years and attended both Catholic high school and college. He has been a lector and participates in the St. Vincent DePaul and nursing home ministries. Approximately ten years ago, he felt the call to use his gifts as a deacon.

Terry is a psychologist and has counseled all ages for a wide variety of issues. His professional experience will be valuable in his role as a deacon. Terry believes that sometimes the only answers to problems are spiritual and can apply this philosophy as he ministers. He has a passion for faith formation and is interested in teaching on diverse topics such as the real presence of Jesus during Transubstantiation, heaven and finding God during pain and suffering.

Terry has two adult children and is thankful for the support his wife, Jewell.



Journey to the Diaconate

By Barb Mendralla

During the three year formation Dan and Terry traveled to the Diocesan Office in Crest Hill for the twice-weekly two-hour classes. There are four key areas in the diaconate program: the Human, the Spiritual, the Intellectual and the Pastoral. Candidates must complete assignments, papers and tests, as well as participate in retreats and spiritual days. This is in addition to their full-time occupations so their summer breaks are well deserved.

As deacons, Dan and Terry will assist at the Eucharistic Celebration, administer Baptism, officiate at wakes and preside at prayer services, such as a communion service. This Ministry of Liturgy is in addition to the Ministry of Charity and Ministry of the Word areas of diaconal service.

When you notice new faces on the altar this fall, please take the time to congratulate Dan and Terry on their ordination. Their journey has been long and we welcome their service to St. Isidore.

Did You Know?

2018 is the 50th anniversary of the approval by Blessed Pope Paul VI in 1968 giving bishops of the United States permission to renew the permanent diaconate as an active order of ministry.

A 2015 study by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown University reports that there are over 18,500 permanent deacons in the United States today. Worldwide, there are approximately 30,000 deacons.

A deacon is ordained to serve the diocesan church and ultimately reports to the Bishop.

Source

<https://deacon2018.org/index.php/component/content/article/14-diaconate/3-diaconate-ministry>

<http://usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/vocations/diaconate/faqs.cfm>

A Thank You and a Request

I would like to thank you for your continued support of Nyumbani Children's Home in Kenya. As some of you remember, the Lord called me to serve there from June 21st - Sept. 21st in 2004. Through all your prayers and generosity and the 'Yes' each of you gave, including my husband, Mark, and our children, I was able to work with God's precious little children.

Sister Mary Owens, I.B.V.M., Executive Director of Nyumbani, also thanked our parish in an email, "Thank you once again for organizing another Cookies for Kids Bake sale." This year's CCW's Cookies for Kids Bake Sale netted \$2,241, plus the 5% proceeds from that weekend's collection, resulting in \$4,200 sent to support Nyumbani Children's Home.

Fr. Angelo D'Agostino, SJ, the founder of Nyumbani, passed away in 2006. Many people around the world are praying for his cause for Sainthood. The first level is called 'Servant of God'.

"Fr. D'Agostino's case has been handed over to the Jesuits who, after studying the case documents, will make a decision whether to present it to the Vatican for consideration of Fr. D'Agostino being declared a Servant of God. We continue to pray that this will happen." says Sister Mary Owens.



By Carol Osburn

Please pray for God's will to be done. Go on Facebook and look for United for the Canonization of Fr. Angelo D'Agostino SJ and "like" what you read.

Here is a copy of the prayer you can pray:
<https://photos.app.goo.gl/i935WpimS5sG0k8i2>



Connecting
the mates

Abraham/Sarah
Adam/Eve
Ananias/Sapphira
Aquila/Priscilla
Boaz/Ruth
Chuzo/Joanna
David/Michal
Felix/Drusilla
Isaac/Rebekah
Jacob/Rachel
Joakim/Susanna
Joseph/Mary
Moses/Zipporah
Tobit/Anna
Zechariah/Elizabeth



CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN THE JOLIET DIOCESE

By Michael Fassbender

Catholic education presents a meaningful alternative to the public school system. For Catholic parents, the emphasis on faith and the refusal to separate morality from religious principles create a desirable alternative; a favorable academic track record does not hurt. The Diocese of Joliet has contributed to this rich fabric for nearly seven decades.

The Diocese created its Catholic Schools Office in 1949. Today, it manages sixty-five schools in a seven-county territory. Setting the three universities to the side, this still represents a student body in excess of 22,000. Fr. John Belmonte, SJ, serves as its sixth superintendent.

One area of education that has seen significant growth in recent years is preschool education. The Diocese reports seven “early learning centers” on its website. In addition, kindergarten is available at all elementary schools in the Diocese, with 39 of them (including St. Isidore) also offering preschool services.

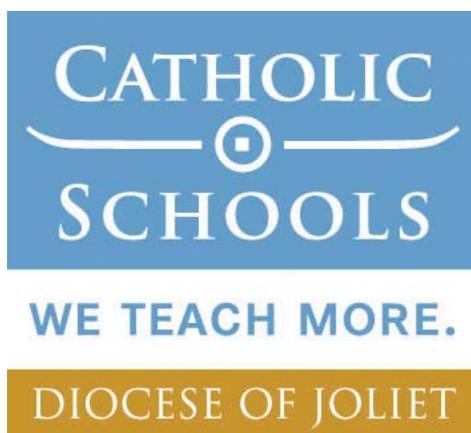
With 48 schools on the elementary level, primary education is clearly the focus of the greatest attention. As these serve a particular parish that provides both the students and much of their support, they are an outgrowth of the American parochial school tradition. Parental engagement is high, and

parents can find links explaining the Diocese’s curriculum and academic standards on the Elementary Schools page of its website.

Seven high schools carry Catholic education forward: Benet Academy, Bishop McNamara High School, IC Catholic Prep, Joliet Catholic Academy, Montini Catholic High School, Providence Catholic High School, and St. Francis High School. With high standards, attentive faculty and staff, and parents who are involved in their children’s education, these high schools enjoy distinguished records. Most graduates from such schools go on to pursue further study on the collegiate level, and find themselves well-prepared for the experience.

Three Catholic universities are located within our diocese: Benedictine University in Lisle (across the street from Benet Academy), Lewis University in Romeoville, and the University of St. Francis in Joliet.

The work of the Catholic Schools Office is ongoing. Recent initiatives include the accreditation of Diocesan schools and the expansion of technology efforts to include safety and security training for students using the Internet.



Bishop Siegel Scholarship Winner

On June 12th Father Jim and Grand Knight Tom Murray presented to T.J. Constertina the Bishop Siegel Scholarship check in the amount of \$ 1,500. T.J. will be attending St. Thomas University in St Paul, MN. Although Bishop Siegel was unable to attend the presentation, he called and spoke with T.J. about his goals and his college major. T.J. also read to the Council his winning essay.

Identity theft is a hot topic now.

It's obviously very prudent to protect our credit cards, bank and investment accounts, and others forms of identity. However, this article is about something even far more important: safeguarding our identity as Catholics and as Christians.

The biggest hurdle is simply recognizing the need. Aren't all those years of Catholic schooling and/or religious education sufficient? Didn't Confirmation ensure that we were "in"? And, what about weekly Mass attendance and even involvement in parish ministries? All of this is good. However, we can become satisfied with good, instead of setting our hearts and minds on better.

Some believe that we have entered what many call the post-Christian era. For example, it has become more commonplace for many people to believe that Christians want to impose their beliefs on others.

How do we respond to the growing confusion?

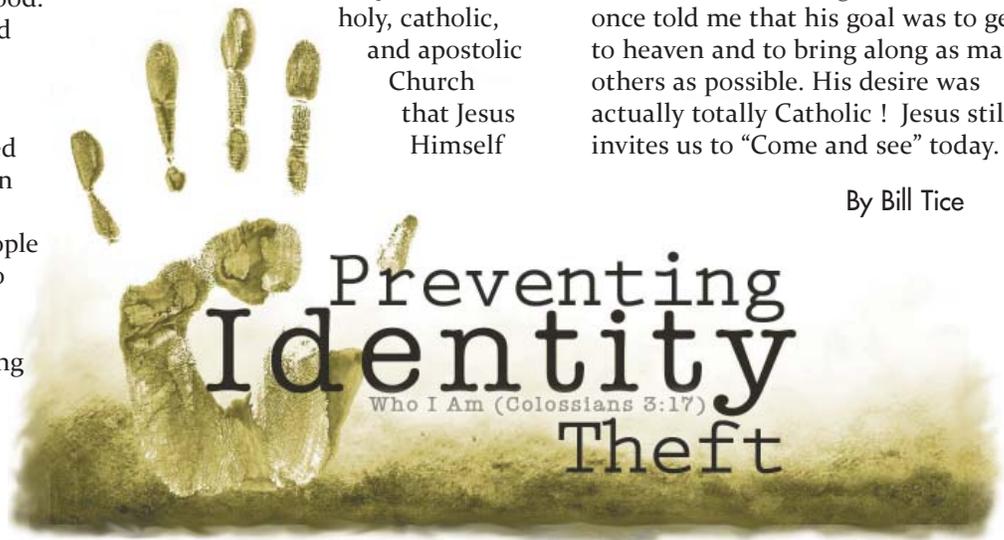
First, our identity must be deeply rooted in our relationship with God. Jesus began His public ministry with an invitation to "Come and see" (John 1:39). That strongly implies openness and willingness to set aside our preconceived ideas of what is most true and most important. Instead we must surrender our hearts, minds, and wills to Him.

Second, the identity which is rooted in our relationship with Jesus must be solidified by confidence in the authority of the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church that Jesus Himself

established. Very sincere and dedicated Christians interpret Jesus' words in vastly different ways. Jesus established one Church so that His teachings would not be distorted, so that we can confidently "stand firm". It is His gift to us. The unacceptable alternative: "If you believe what you like in the Gospels and reject what you don't like, it is not the Gospel you believe, but yourself" (St. Augustine).

Third, we must embrace the personal call to evangelize our families and our culture. An Evangelical Christian once told me that his goal was to get to heaven and to bring along as many others as possible. His desire was actually totally Catholic ! Jesus still invites us to "Come and see" today.

By Bill Tice



Flight home from Florida

By Carol Osborn

The Holy Spirit is amazing!!! Mark and I were on the way home from Florida. We boarded the plane and Mark had the window seat and I the middle seat. As the plane filled our aisle seat was left open. I was very excited to have the empty seat because I prefer the aisle. Shortly after takeoff the man across the aisle moved over. I was a little perturbed inside but then figured, oh well, it wasn't my seat to begin with. During the flight I finished reading a book given to me by Sharon Zappa titled, **Everyone Needs to Forgive Someone** by Dr. Alan Hunt. It was ... excellent and I prayed to the Holy Spirit to please let me know if there was someone who needed this book and left it like that. When I finished reading it I tucked it into my seat tray, title in full view.

Towards the end of the flight the man spoke to me. He said, "That's a very interesting title you have there and it's so true." I smiled and he proceeded to share some of his story...quite amazing. I took the book in hand and gave it to him. He said he didn't want to take the book I was reading. I told him I had finished it and it was his. He said thank you with a smile and continued sharing his story. I knew inside my prayer was answered and thanked God for His inspiration. I began this story stating how amazing the Holy Spirit is and I end now with those same words. The Holy Spirit is amazing!!!



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We look to our church for inspiration and guidance as we grow in the promise of Christ. And while we have each had times of great connection to the Spirit that dwells within each of us, many times we have also felt far away, unable to access the joy of the Lord. It is this joy for which we are thirsty, and we seek a way to connect to it not only at church, of course, but in our everyday lives where we live out our mission, our work, and our love for each other.

Be My Witness seeks to bring us all together to voice this calling, to name this journey and to grow in closeness to Christ and to His need to work through us in this world. Created by Renew International, Be My Witness is a Christ-centered, Spirit-led transformation that asks each of us if we wish for further depth in our understanding of our Christian inheritance and mission.

We all wonder what God has in mind for us, and how to respond to His call for us in the world. But we become stuck, often, in figuring out how to actually move closer to Him, how to actually feel and share the joy of the gospel with others. We know we are to be His witness in this world, but are unsure how to do that.

Be My Witness deepens our understanding of how each of us is called to work, love, and live in this world and therefore evangelize in our everyday lives. Be My Witness will help us identify and strengthen our personal gifts, the ones given to us by God, in order to live in this joy and to build a vibrant and welcoming

community both in our parish and beyond.. It leads us in becoming more open and able to use our personal gifts to build a culture of welcome, belonging, and witness to the love of Christ.

In small faith-sharing groups that meet for two six-week sessions, in the fall and again in late winter, we will encounter Christ in community by sharing our Christian faith through prayer, scripture, reflection and witness. Learn to witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ as missionary disciples in your home, neighborhood and parish and allow your witness to become the encouragement others may need to encounter Christ. You may choose a group based on days, time of day, station in life or you may wish to use any criteria at all when choosing. We warmly invite you come and awaken your Spirit-filled life!

Be My
WITNESS

Spirit, Joy, Community

By Penni Cannova