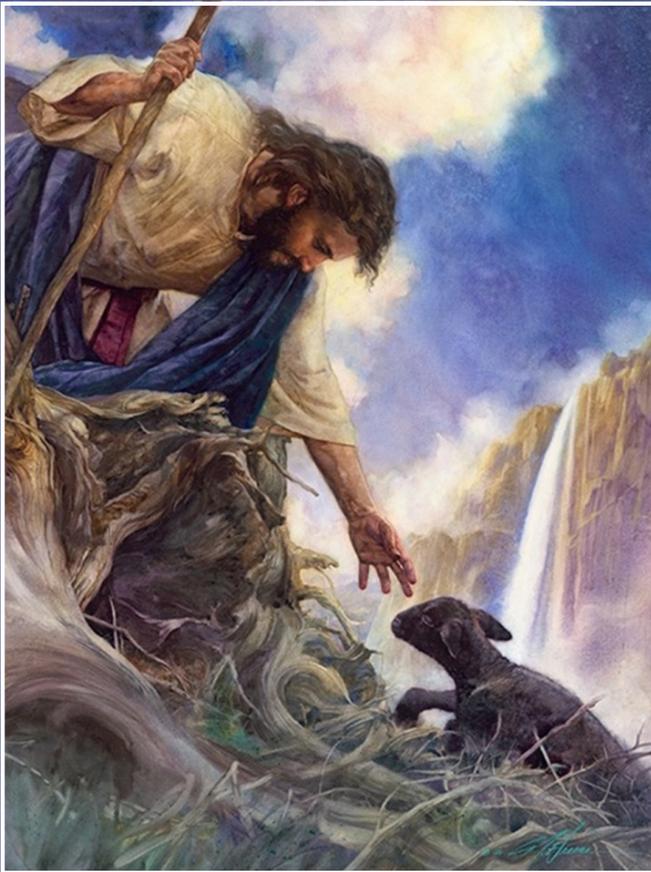


Christ is Risen!



I am the Good Shepherd

From the Pastor's Desk

This week I have asked Gillian Ernst to share with us.
God Bless, **Fr. Dennis**



“This is my body, which will be given to you; do this in memory of me.”
Luke 22:19

Being a part of the journey to First Communion is a privilege, a truly wonderful gift. The opportunity to prepare the second grade students for their First Holy Communion was something the Holy Spirit knew I needed long before I did.

My name is Gillian Ernst and I am the first and second grade teacher at Most Holy Trinity School. I am originally from Cadillac, Michigan. Growing up I attended public school and was baptized on Easter when I was in middle school. Being the youngest in my family and having moved before I was born I believe played a role in my parents putting off my baptism. Throughout my middle school and high school years I attended weekly CCD classes and went to Sunday Mass. I enjoyed learning about my faith and that was about it. I didn't do much extra and I was ok with the little knowledge I gained from the weekly CCD classes and Sunday Masses. Fast forward many years later, I landed in

Fowler, Michigan at Most Holy Trinity. I began my teaching career in a public school system and I had a great experience and learned a great deal from the veteran teachers, however, I will say that it did not prepare me for what I was about to learn about myself or for what God had in store for me teaching in a Catholic school.

For the past five years I have had the honor to help shape the minds of the first and second grade students not only educationally, but spiritually as well. (It sounds like a huge task when I write that down on paper!) Each year when school begins, the second graders always express their excitement for the two sacraments they will complete. I share the same excitement because I am able to witness, first hand, this beautiful experience. We prepare all year to be ready for First Reconciliation and First Communion. The students participate in many discussions and question and answer time to get ready for these two sacraments. There are many times when I have to say, you just have to experience the sacrament on your own to know what it is like. There is always buzz about what the blood or the body tastes like or what if I drop it or what if I spill the blood on me, etc. In their little minds this is a big deal. The same small things adults worry about, the children are so busy worrying their little minds about, sometimes forgetting what the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Sacrament of Holy Communion is truly about.

“In the Eucharist, Christ is truly present in the consecrated bread and wine. To receive Holy Communion you must be in the state of grace. You are encouraged to receive Holy Communion every time you go to Mass,” (a Little Catechism, RCL Publishing, p. 74). Students are naturally curious about the bread and wine and want to know exactly how it becomes the body and blood of Jesus. I realized, early on, that I am someone the children are going to turn to, to ask questions, hard questions. From that point on I decided I needed to look at myself as a Christian and how I can change. I needed to learn more about myself and how to better prepare my students to receive Jesus fully in Holy Communion.

I am so fortunate I am able to talk about my faith everyday and I am even more fortunate to learn from my students each day. They teach me to be more ‘child like’ in my faith. I need to give so many things up to God and I am constantly learning that every day. When I said helping to prepare the children for First Communion is a privilege, I really meant it is a blessing. It has changed me in so many ways and I pray that I will continue to be more open to new things and to the opportunities God has for me. Teaching is extremely rewarding and is my true vocation. Whether I am ready for it or not I know that the Holy Spirit will continue to challenge me in many ways.

On Saturday, May 5th I will be so honored to be a part of the second grade students receiving Jesus for the first time. I look forward to seeing the excited smile and the many great things they will do each day in the future. Thank you for all your prayers and to the parents for all your love and support.

God Bless, **Gillian**

Announcements



**Pope Francis says:
Remember your Baptism
date and celebrate it!**

The Holy Father in a recent public audience encouraged Catholics: "Just as we all remember the date of our birth and celebrate it, why not celebrate or at least remember the date of our baptism as well?". ***"Find out the date of your baptism and thank the Lord for it because it marks the day the Holy Spirit entered into our lives. It is our second birthday, our rebirth."***

"In Christ all sons of Adam are called to a new life and immersing us in Christ, baptism also makes us members of his body, which is the Church, and participants in its mission in the world." Pope Francis concluded his catechesis saying that the baptismal promises that we renew every year in the Easter Vigil have to be reaffirmed every day, so that baptism "Christifies" whoever has received it, rendering us truly another Christ.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

April 22nd

Let's celebrate:

- Baptismal Call of Holiness
- Consecrated/Religious Life
- Marriages
- Holy Orders (Deaconate, Priesthood, Bishop)



"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"

1st Communion Candidates

Let us remember in our prayers our First Holy Communion candidates who will be receiving Our Lord in the Eucharist on Saturday, May 5th at the 4:30 pm. Mass.

- Jesse Andros
- Kaci Kirvan
- Landon Marvel
- Stevie Miller
- Easton Myers
- Jack O'Hare
- Chevy Phillips
- Myah Rademacher
- Sydney Rehmann
- Caleb Rhynard
- Amber Ruiz

- Isabell Schneider
- Braylee Sillman
- Marianna Simon
- Thomas Spitzley
- Benedict Thelen
- Dalton Thelen
- Ellie Thelen
- Eva Thelen
- Leah Thelen
- Sophia Thelen



**Diocesan Service
Appeal 2018**

"Go and Announce the Gospel of the Lord"

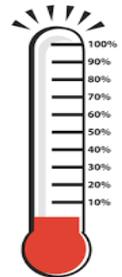
This weekend we officially begin our DSA campaign. You will find envelopes in the bulletin and in the entrances of the church.

You may also go on-line (mhtparish.com) and make your contribution that way.

Please prayerfully consider how you or your family will respond to this call to carry on Christ's work in our community.

**Our Parish Goal
2018**

\$65,625.00



Father and Son Breakfast

**Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus
Sunday, May 6th at 9:30 am.**



**Featured Speaker: Fowler Native Todd Simon
Division 1 basketball coach for
Southern Utah Thunderbirds**

**RSVP Dean Schrauben, 989-640-0341
Good will offering at the door
All fathers and sons are welcome!**



**Faith Fest 2018
Saturday, June 23, 2018
St Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt**

**Featuring Matt Maher and
Unspoken
Plus Sanctus Real, Jason Grey and
JJ Heller**

Click this link to sign up: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080d4baca92ea6ff2-priests>
VIP tickets (\$50.00 value) and parking passes are included for all families who attend

Visit www.faithfest.com to see what we have planned for this year's event

Mark your calendars!



Most Holy Trinity Parish Presents: Sacred Relics of the Saints Treasures of the Church With Fr. Carlos Martins



**Monday, May 7th at 7:30 pm.
(after evening Mass)**

Fr. Carlos Martins of the Community of the Companions of the Cross will be here with his very special ministry to talk about these holy objects. He will bring with him over 150 relics, some as old as 2000 years. Among the treasures will be relics of St. Maria Goretti, St. Therese of Lisieux, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Faustina Kowalska. In addition there will also be present a portion of the veil of Our Blessed Mother, as well as one of the largest remaining pieces of the true Cross in the world.

Those in attendance will be able to examine and venerate each relic. In the Church's history many miracles and healings have been worked in the presence of relics, and many people have been healed through this ministry. Don't miss this opportunity. Bring your devotional articles (rosaries, holy cards, etc.) and photos of friends and family members who are ill which you will be able to touch to the reliquaries as a means of intercession.

Principal of Most Holy Trinity School
Anne Hufnagel—AnneH@mhtparish.com

MHT School – Connecting Faith to Life

By connecting our Catholic faith to life, we at Most Holy Trinity School seek to fulfill Christ's mandate to proclaim the Gospel, restore all things in Him, strive to lead our students to the Truth for the betterment of this world and prepare them for the age to come.

Important Upcoming Dates:

Tuesday, April 24	Mass @ 8:15 a.m.
Tuesday, April 24	Sub Sale
Friday, May 4	Grandparents' Day
Friday, May 4	Mass @ 8:15 a.m./May Crowning
Tuesday, May 8	Mass @ 8:15 a.m.

2018/19 Registration: Most Holy Trinity School is now registering for the 2018/19 school year. Any children eligible for grades 1 through 8 can be registered. You do not have to be Catholic or members of Most Holy Trinity Parish to enroll. If you would like more information about the school please visit our website www.mhtparish.com or call the office to set up a visit (593-2162). You can use the following QR code or the website (<https://goo.gl/forms/zh0s0eKa8wf0UmD42>) to register. A link can also be found on our parish website.



Grandparents' Day: Mark your calendars for Friday, May 4, 2018. We will be celebrating a May crowning and Grandparents' Day beginning with Mass at 8:15 a.m. More details will be coming.

Necessary?: *The smallest things are as absolutely necessary as the great things.* - [Mary Slessor](#)

Director of Youth Ministry
Corey Luna - mhtyouthcorey@gmail.com.

Little Caesar's Pizza Kits: This is another great opportunity to get that Steubenville trip cost down by this summer. Please contact me by email or stop at the Parish Office for a form. **End Date:** May 7th & **Delivery Date:** May 17th

Steubenville Conference: It's that time of year again! Steubenville registration is available!!! This is such a powerful retreat experience that we get to have every year! So please sign up as soon as possible to get your spot! This year we have a google form that will sign you up with our parish. So just follow the link and register with us today! The registration deadline is **APRIL 23rd!** So please sign up ASAP.

Sponsor of the Week

Our thanks to the many businesses that make it possible for the bulletin to be cost-free to our parish.

Rich-Ro Dairy LLC

News & Events From Our Parish & Other Areas

Quilters Needed



Quilters are needed to complete a quilt for the 2018 parish festival. Quilting will begin on Monday, April 23rd at 10:00 am in the Msgr. Esper room. For further information, call Lorraine at 593-2136.

"Returns" for Vocations reminder



Most Holy Trinity Parish is blessed to have so many of our young men and women pursuing religious vocations and we are always looking for ways to continue to show our support for them. If anyone wishes to donate returnables at any time they can be dropped off at the Koenigsknecht Farm or we will arrange to pick them up. Please call Kurt Koenigsknecht 224-4058 or Agnes Koenigsknecht 593-2614 to arrange for pickup.

Note: This year Returns for Vocations drive is: **Saturday July 14th, 2018**



Inviting Young Adults 18+

Join us at the Ark in Westphalia every Saturday evening at 7 pm. Anchored in Christ is not a series, so there is no weekly commitment; we would love to see you there when you can make it! We will watch a video from a Formed presenter and follow it up with small group discussions and social time. Snacks will be provided. The next gathering will be on Saturday, April 28th.

Please join us for an evening of spiritual growth and fellowship! Feel free to invite your friends!



*******Scrip Gift Giving*******

Graduation, Mothers Day, Fathers Day and Summer Vacation are fast approaching. MHT Scrip offers a wide variety of gift cards for all of your gift giving and vacation needs; gas, shopping, dining, entertainment and hotels. Visit shop-withscrip.com for a complete list. A wide range of gift cards is available in the Most Holy Trinity School office during school hours

Extraordinary Ministers needed for Hospital Ministry

Lansing Catholic Hospital Ministry is looking for additional Extraordinary Ministers to distribute Communion to Catholic patients at Sparrow Hospital and McLaren Greater Lansing especially for the weekends. We are grateful for the generous response from Extraordinary ministers at many different parishes that has helped us fill most of our weekday openings. Time commitment is generally one day per month for 2 to 3 hours at Sparrow or 1 to 1-1/2 hour at McLaren. For further information, please contact Cassian Hardie at 364-2902 or cassian.hardie@sparrow.org.

Shared Pregnancy Women's Center Lifesavers Celebration and Fundraiser! Thursday, April 26th from 6:30-8:30pm



free admission

Enjoy **silent auction and ice cream sundaes children's activities & face painting**

Grand Ledge Opera House
121 S. Bridge St. Grand Ledge MI 48837

www.sharedpregnancy.org 517.484.1882
follow our facebook page for auction updates

POSITION OPENING

St. Joseph Church in St. Johns is accepting applications for the Maintenance and Custodial Supervisor position. This position is responsible for all routine, preventative, and operational maintenance on all parish buildings, equipment, and grounds. Applicants should have previous experience in custodial and maintenance duties including safety and reporting procedures. This is a full-time position with benefits. The position description and application forms are available at: www.stjoecatholic.com/forms. Applications and questions can be directed to Susan Mahoney, Business Manager at email: business.stjoseph@gmail.com or phone: 989-224-8994.

Kindergarten Class
St. Joseph School, in Pewamo, is welcoming area kindergarteners to begin their Catholic education at our school beginning in August 2018.
Mr. Ryan Weber has joined the dedicated staff of St. Joseph and will be teaching the kindergarten class.
For further information, please contact the school office at 989-593-3400 or email us at principal@stjosephpewamo.org

Cemetery Foundation Orders

If you would like to have a foundation installed in the cemetery before Memorial Day please contact Adam at the parish office by Monday, May 7.



Wedding Banns

First Publication:

Andrew Koenigsknecht; son of Daniel & Janet Koenigsknecht

Catherine Fox; daughter of the late Thomas & Susan Fox

Please pray for our friends and relatives who are sick or recovering especially: Regina Martin, Sean Dush, Charlene Thelen, Davison Curtin, Jeffrey Lee Thelen, Luke Martin, Sara Sanchez, Melissa Schulte, Marie Hengesbach, Edward Wohlscheid, Linda Rogala, Sarah Weber, Julie Wieber Schafer, Irene (Luttig) Weber, Bill Barns, Bob Marshall, Dennis Smith, Sandy Herta, Dick Rehmann, Janet Simmon, Scott Kus, Steve Thelen, Tracy Schmitt, Gregg Platte, Frank Hufnagel, Lynda Esch, Janet Armbrustmacher (Allan), Marie Weber, Jenine Kloeckner, Jennifer Ledger, Josiah Ledger, Adam Pohl, Jordy Wohlscheid, Sharon Becker, Jennifer Grace Schrauben, Janet Simon, Dale Young, Brent Baese, Shane Grinnell, Richard Bushamp, Janet (Ray) Armbrustmacher, Alan & Therese Kramer, Christopher Martin, and a special intention.

Please contact the parish office to inform us when we can add or remove a person's name from the list. Thank you.

Let us also keep in our prayers all those from the Parish Community who are in the Armed Services.

 **The Rosary** is prayed before the 8:15 a.m. weekday Mass. The intention for this week is to pray for our parish community, may we become more knowledgeable of Jesus' sacred word that we may better defend our beliefs.

Our Parish Stewardship
God's Treasure at Most Holy Trinity
April 14 & 15 Collection.....\$9,501.96

Special Collections

Easter Offering 10.00
Cemetery..... 70.00
ETF.....50.00

 The winner picked by blind draw for the Stihl Chainsaw is **Keith A. Weber**, a Knight for 32 years. Congratulations Keith!

Readings for the Week of April 22, 2018

Monday Acts 11:1-18; Psalms 42:2-3; 43:3-4; John 10:1-10
Tuesday Acts 11:19-26; Psalms 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7; John 10:22-30
Wednesday 1 Peter 5:5b-14; Psalms 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mark 16:15-20
Thursday Acts 13:13-25; Psalms 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27; John 13:16-20
Friday Acts 13:26-33; Psalms 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab; John 14:1-6
Saturday Acts 13:44-52; Psalms 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; John 14:7-14

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday - April 23
7:00 p.m. + Marvin Simon, Including Don

Tuesday - April 24
8:15 a.m. + Julius & Martha Schmitt & Living & Deceased Members of the Family

Wednesday - April 25
6:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
7:00 p.m. + Edgar & Eleanor VanElls & Living & Deceased Members of the Family

Thursday - April 26
8:15 a.m.. + Mark Thelen & Living & Deceased Members of the Family

Friday - April 27
8:15 a.m. + John & Eleonor Goerge & Living & Deceased Members of the Family

Saturday - April 28
4:30 p.m. For the Intentions of Fr. Dennis on the occasion of his 28th Anniversary of Ordination

Sunday - April 29
8:30 a.m. + Leon Schafer (10th Anniversary)
10:30 a.m. People of the Parish

Ushers for Saturday & Sunday, April 28 & 29
4:30 p.m. - Gary Weber, Keith Weber, Jerome Klein, Clare M. Thelen
8:30 a.m. - Gerry Schomisch, Philip Schmitt, Ralph Feldpausch, Volunteer
10:30 a.m.- Dan Pung, Duane Pung, Volunteers

Mass Servers for Saturday & Sunday, April 28 & 29
4:30 p.m. - Jack, Anna, & Sam Vanneste, Volunteer
8:30 a.m. - Tricia & Amy Feldpausch, Kylie & Macy Spicer
10:30 a.m. - McKenzie Feldpausch, Hudson Phillips, Tristan & Quentin Smith

Mass Servers During This Week
Mon., 7:00 p.m. - Braeden & Carly Andros, Jonah Thelen
Tues., 8:15 a.m.- MHT School Volunteers
Wed., 7:00 p.m.- Faith Phillips, Paige & Carter Thelen
Thurs., 8:15 a.m.- Adult Volunteer
Fri., 8:15 a.m. - Adult Volunteer

 Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the prayers, cards, and well wishes done for me during my recovery. May God bless my parish family.
Shirley Stump

April 22, 2018
Pastor - Fr. Dennis Howard
Parish Office Hours
8am-12pm & 1pm-3pm

To Contact Us:
Parish Office: 593-2162
Fax: 593-2171
E-Mail: office@mhtparish.com
Website: mhtparish.com

MHT School - 593-2616