



**"Faith in the Resurrection of Jesus says that there is a future for every human being; the cry for unending life which is a part of the person is indeed answered." Pope Benedict XVI**

### *From the Pastor's Desk*

This week I have asked Becky Miller to share with us.  
God Bless, Fr. Dennis



My name is Becky Miller, and I am a secretary at MHT. My husband Jack and I have four children. Our twin girls, Carly and Jacklynn, are in heaven; born prematurely in 2003. Our son Damien is 13, and our daughter Holly is 11.

As we remember All Soul's in the month of November, I've been asked to write in memory of my sister, Kerri, who passed away in January 2014 at the age of 35. She was an extraordinary human being. My hope is that knowing her story will encourage you to be a better child of God, and live a life that is worthy of the promise of eternal life.

Our young life was that of most kids growing up in the 80's. We swam, went for walks, watched movies, enjoyed family trips to Florida, and had fun times with friends. Kerri also spent much time cleaning, something she enjoyed her entire life. Of course, there was also lots of time devoted to getting the right "big hair" and listening to the same music

over and over! The songs we loved still take my heart back to those days.

It wasn't until we were older though, that I realized Kerri had something special. She was unique, a breath of fresh air. In a world where people are quick to judge, she had a gift for keeping herself and those around her in check. Everyone was worthy in her eyes and she was usually rooting for the underdog. Kerri was homecoming queen, a loyal and loving mother, sister, daughter, aunt, Godmother, and friend. Her heart was in everything she did, no matter how small the gesture. She made you want to be a better person just by being who she was.

In November of 2006, at age 28, Kerri was diagnosed with breast cancer. This was devastating news to our family. Through the course of her treatments and countless trips to U of M, there was anxiety, tears, tough conversations and even tougher decisions. There were also laughs, stories and memories made that helped us all feel better at the end of the day. Time spent together, we were finding, was precious no matter what form it came in.

Shortly after her treatments were done, Kerri asked my sister Pam and me to attend the RCIA classes with her. We did so without hesitation! It was great to delve deeper into our faith and the healing nature of it, as we had all relied on it to get through the hard times. During those months and ever since, our family has become more comfortable talking about God, what He desires for us, and how He gives many blessings along with the struggles. When I think about how I've grown in my faith, it's clear that Kerri was instrumental in giving me that gift.

Kerri had been cancer free for years, when in April of 2012 we got the call. It had come back in her brain. She had been having symptoms, but did not want to worry anyone and quietly drove herself in for a scan. Her strength and desire to protect others amazed me, and still does. The time that followed was most difficult, with more treatments, testing and waiting. Then the news: Her cancer was terminal and she had 18 months to live.

In the time that followed, we took our last family vacation to Florida and were together every chance we got. We also prayed and prayed for a miracle!! It was during this time that Kerri revealed that she was pregnant with not one baby, but two baby girls. Imagine our surprise as we realized the kind of "miracle" we were receiving! Kerri was not supposed to be able to have children because of the aggressive treatments she had received. The pregnancy was risky for so many reasons, but quite obviously it was God's plan! She was more than happy to carry that out and when Emma & Breeann finally arrived there was so much joy!

Kerri was super busy living life and being her sweet, thoughtful self. We went for walks, did daily tasks together, and talked about everything under the sun! She even signed up to deliver Meals on Wheels, toting the girls around and serving others, even as her own need for help increased. One particular day I had gone to help Kerri with household chores. I'll never forget this day and the effect it had on me. We were folding laundry and the song, "Praise you in This Storm" by Casting Crowns came on. She turned the volume up, saying it was one of her favorite songs. As I listened to the lyrics I was emotional and humbled by her trust in the Lord's plan. The words, and Kerri's life, are an example to live by. I encourage you to listen and remember

**From Becky Continued . . .**

that no matter the storm you are in, He is with you. That song often plays when I am struggling with something or hurting without my sister here. I've heard that loved ones can come through in the form of music, and I firmly believe that Kerri still walks by my side, even if not physically.

Within weeks of that day, Kerri made the difficult decision to go to Hospice House of Lansing. She had been receiving care at home, but it was time. The following days were a blessing and gave me a sense of peace that is nothing short of divine. Family and friends had been visiting regularly for a week when the call came in the middle of the night. It was Saturday, January 4<sup>th</sup>. Kerri didn't have much longer. When we arrived, she was awake and very active, even wanting to stand up. A couple of us had just helped her up when her eyes fixed on a spot in the corner of the room. A look of awe came across her face and she said "I see it!". When asked what she saw, she said again, "I see it!". She sat down on the bed, exhausted, and simply said "If only the world knew." I believe Kerri saw Heaven in that moment. The wonder in her voice is something I'll never forget.

Kerri's condition stabilized, but we were warned that it could be anytime. Days went by, and it was hard not to wonder why Kerri hadn't passed yet. I asked the nurse about this and her answer surprised me. She said this was Kerri's journey with God, and that things were happening on a spiritual level that was in *their* time, not ours. The explanation was simple, but so comforting.

During the next few days, Kerri was not responsive. Some good friends of ours sat with her and prayed the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. They told us when the prayer was finished, Kerri sat up and a tear rolled down her cheek. Even without a word being said, that response speaks volumes.

Kerri died on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the age of 35. She had lived her short life for God and was ready to return to Him. Don't get me wrong -- she did not want to die, but she accepted His plan with dignity and humility. I like to think of her keeping her "internal house" like she did her physical house -- always cared for and tidy. Confession and the Eucharist were received regularly, prayers were said, she loved and served God, was humble and forgiving, and those close to her knew they were loved by her.

We have experienced much loss in our lives, including grandparents, our twins, Kerri, and also my dad. Trust me when I say that those losses are so much easier to bear when your faith allows you the hope of seeing your loved ones again!

Take this month of the Holy Souls to remember all those who have gone before you. Allow the Holy Trinity to heal you -- we ourselves are the barrier between feeling only the pain of loss or the joy of knowing our loved ones are free and happy! Be that better person, love God above all else, and let your goal be sitting at that heavenly table enjoying the gift of eternal life. It's there for us all. I am certain of that because of what I experienced through my sister's journey. We only need to take advantage of the healing, forgiving nature of our faith and be ready when that day comes for each of us.

God bless, **Becky**



**Book of the Deceased**

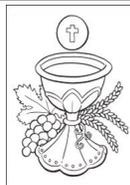
By the side altar of St. Joseph, there will be a book on a stand where you can write down the names of all the deceased, family, friends, co-workers and acquaintances who have died. We will remember them at our daily Masses during the month of November.



***Eternal Rest***

*Remembrance of the Holy Souls during the month of November*

**Announcements**



**Meeting for Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

On **Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>** after the **10:30 am. Mass** and on **Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup>** after the evening Mass there will be a Training for all Extraordinary Ministers and Readers.

These meetings are for ALL Extraordinary ministers and readers, not just for new ministers.

Please call the office and let us know which date you can attend. If you cannot attend either, you will need to set up a time with Fr. Dennis individually.



**RCIA**

Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Haven't practiced your faith but would like to come back to the Church? Did you not receive Confirmation as a child but would like to now? Do you have a friend or family member who is interested in becoming Catholic?

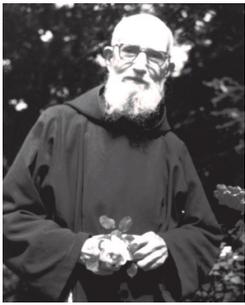
Please contact Paul Fahey at [\(989\) 593-3174](tel:989-593-3174) or via email at [mhtdre@gmail.com](mailto:mhtdre@gmail.com). We would love to talk with you about the process to become Catholic and help you grow in your faith!

**Evening Retreat**



- 4:30 Mass
- 5:30 Doors Open
- 6:00 Dinner
- 7:00 Talk -- "The Father's Love"
- 8:00 Adoration

**Saturday, December 9**



**Novena to  
Blessed Fr. Solanus Casey**

On November 9<sup>th</sup> we will begin a Novena in preparation for the Beatification of Blessed Fr. Solanus Casey. I have put the Novena below so that you can pray it at home and share it with our shut-in's so that they can join us as well.

**Novena Prayer**

**Father, I adore You. I give myself to You.  
May I be the person You want me to be  
and may Your will be done in my life today.  
I thank You for the gifts You gave  
to Father Solanus**

**May we imitate and carry on his love for all the  
poor and suffering of our world.  
As he joyfully accepted Your divine plan,  
I ask You, according to Your will,  
to hear my prayer for..... (your intention)  
through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.**

**Director of Youth Ministry  
Corey Luna - [mhtyouthcorey@gmail.com](mailto:mhtyouthcorey@gmail.com).**

**Bible Study:** There is now a high school bible study Sundays at 7:30 pm in the youth center! Any high school student who is interested in learning more about the faith and about God in scripture is welcome to come!!

**High School Retreat:** This year's retreat will be December 1-3 at Camp Roger in Rockford, MI. The retreat is open to all high school students and will be a time to encounter who God is and what he wants for your life. We will have talks, small groups, adoration, and confession throughout the weekend along with some other activities. The amount is \$65.00 for the weekend and forms are available on the parish website. Any questions or concerns can be answered by Corey Luna at [mhtyouthcorey@gmail.com](mailto:mhtyouthcorey@gmail.com)

**Jr. High/Middle School Youth Group:** We are excited to start the school year with some meetings for the Junior High and Middle School Youth Groups! The groups will meet on alternating Thursdays after school until 4:15pm in the Youth Center. Here is the schedule for the first semester:

**Jr. High**  
November 9th  
November 30th

**Middle School**  
November 16th

**Holy Hour to End Abortion**

Please join us in church on Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:00 am. for a holy hour to pray for women thinking about having an abortion.



**Thank You!!!**

We would like to thank everyone for their well wishes, cards and visits to Hazel Findlay to celebrate Regina Martin's 100th birthday. Thanks also to Hazel Findlay and Hospice for the beautiful family blanket, cake and refreshments.

**The Martin Family**

# Witness to HOPE

**Update**

To date we have received 327 pledges totaling \$828,020 for the Witness to Hope Diocesan Campaign. Our parish portion of that money is an estimated \$341,634. Pledges are made over a five year period with the Diocese distributing the money it receives on a quarterly basis. We have just received the second disbursement, raising our total from \$34,722 to \$91,112.

**Parking Lot**

The next step is for us to begin planning our parish projects. We're currently waiting on a quote from a second company on the parking lot per Diocesan policy before we schedule to have it redone. The first quote came in at \$72,000. Once we get the second quote and choose a company to do the job, we will have to decide whether to do it in the spring of 2018 or wait until after the Parish Festival when we will once again have to drill holes in it for the tent.

**Activity Center**

We would like to form a committee to make recommendations on what should be done with the Activity Center. A wide variety of improvements have been discussed, including expanding the facility, redoing the floor, improving the acoustics for sound quality, upgrading our speaker system, upgrading our kitchen equipment and getting new tables and chairs. Our hope is to present a few different options to the parish before making any plans. The cost will depend on how much we decide to do at this time. We will also communicate any timeline with couples who are planning on using the Activity Center for their wedding. Please contact Adam at the parish office if you would like to be on this committee and be a part of this conversation.

**Parish Office**

We will soon be meeting with contractors who are interested in redoing the parish office space for us. Plans will be communicated with the parish before any work begins.

**Stained Glass Windows**

This will be the last of the projects to be completed because we were told that they had another ten years until we needed to think about having them restored. Our initial thought was to use money from the campaign to do one or two of the bigger windows, which would get the project started and give people an idea of what needs to be done. Then we could start another campaign in the future to raise the addition funds as needed. Of course, if we opt to do a smaller project with the Activity Center that would free up more money to use on the stained glass windows. We still need to get a second estimate on what restoring the windows will cost, but the first one came in at around \$84,000.

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

**MHT School – Connecting Faith to Life**

**Important Upcoming Dates:**

Tues., Nov. 7 8:15 a.m. Mass  
 Mon., Nov. 13 P/T Conferences 2:00 – 5:00  
 Tues., Nov. 14 P/T Conferences 2:00 – 5:00, 6:00–8:00  
 Tues., Nov. 14 Veterans' Celebration  
 Weds., Nov. 15 No School  
 Thurs., Nov. 16 Picture Retakes

**Thank You:** I want to extend a huge thank you to all of the people involved in putting on our annual Dinner Raffle/Auction. This is such a big undertaking and I so appreciate all of their efforts. I could not possibly mention them all by name without forgetting someone so you know you are – THANK YOU!

**Attention Veterans, Spouses and Ladies' Auxiliary members:** MHT School's annual Veterans' Celebration will take place on Tuesday, November 14, 2017. We will begin with Mass at 8:15 a.m. for those who wish to celebrate the Eucharist with us. Opening ceremony and breakfast will follow Mass in the Activity Center. Please RSVP to the school office at 593-2616

**Parent/Teacher Conferences:** Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for November 13 and November 14. Parents should have received an invitation to sign up for a conference time. If you did not, please contact Anne Hufnagel to schedule a time.

**Stronger together:** *Snowflakes are the most amazing things, but just look at what they can do when they stick together.* – Vesta Kelly

**News & Events From Our Parish & Other Areas**

**International Holiday Bake Sale & Coffee House**

Enjoy Middle Eastern Foods, Soup and Salad! Stock Up for the Holidays! Thursday-Friday, Nov. 9-10<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am till 6:00 pm, St Joseph Melkite Catholic Church, 725 W. Mt. Hope at Rundle, Lansing, MI. Middle Eastern, American & European Sweets, Meat Pies, Spinach Pies, Labneh Pies, Manaesh. Also serving soup and salad

Everything Homemade -- 10% goes to charity



**Catholic Order of Foresters**  
 Catholic Order of Foresters court #2257 will be having a catered lunch in the Activity Center immediately following the 10:30 am Mass on November 12th. Cost is \$5.00 per person, kids 10 & under are free. Come on down and enjoy.

**Sponsor of the Week**

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

**Keck-Coleman**

**Blood Drive**



There will be a Red Cross blood drive sponsored by the Christian Mothers & Women's Guild and the Knights of Columbus at St. Mary Parish Hall in Westphalia on Monday, November 6, 2017 from 1-7 p.m. We hope to see you there!

**Feather Bingo - Pewamo**

St. Joseph's of Pewamo Hosting Feather Bingo Sunday, November 12th at 6:30 in the Parish Center  
 Turkeys & Cash Prizes for Bingos.  
 Refreshments will be available.  
 Doors open at 5:30 and Bingo starts at 6:30.

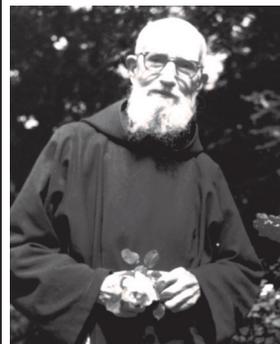
**Married Couples Weekend December 1-3, 2017 at St. Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt, MI**

Spend a weekend away with your spouse to connect with God's Grace as a couple. There is ample time to spend with your spouse and with others including a social hour, special dinner, and bonfire. Register online at [www.stfrancis.ws](http://www.stfrancis.ws) or call 517-669-8321. Registration fee is \$300 per couple with a \$50 deposit. Refer another couple, and receive \$50 off your weekend fee if they attend.

**Knights of Columbus Can Drive**



Fowler Knights of Columbus raised \$10,000 from the can drive this summer. The funds were split evenly between the four local seminarians and religious persons. Thank you to all the volunteers, and donations to make this a successful event.



**Fr. Solanus Casey Beatification Mass Update**

We have three buses going to the beatification Mass on Saturday, November 18th at Ford Field! Below are some things to take note of as the date approaches:

~ Tickets will be handed out as you are leaving the bus. If you are not taking the bus, please call or stop by the parish office to arrange getting them before hand.

~The buses will leave at 12:00 PM on November 18th and return at approx. 8:00 PM.

~ Each person is responsible for their own food on the trip. Ford Field will have a limited number of concession stands open for people before the event.

~ Ford Field has strict policies on what can and cannot be brought into the stadium for their events. Purses, for example, have to be smaller than 8 1/2 x 14 x 10. Please check their website at [www.fordfield.com](http://www.fordfield.com) and look for the image of Fr. Solanus for more information. There is also informational sheet at all of the entrances of church.

~ Seats on the bus are \$20 each. Please turn money in at the parish office by **Monday, November 13th** if you are planning on riding the bus to the event.

 **Newly Baptized**

**Harper Charley Ernst**, daughter of Kris & Gillian (Raden) Ernst  
**Ashlyn Marie Rehmman**, daughter of Ken & Kathryn (Smith) Rehmman  
 We welcome Harper & Ashlyn to our parish family.

**Please pray for our friends and relatives who are sick or recovering especially:** Frieda Gallagher, Regina Martin, Sean Dush, Evan Pung, Charlene Thelen, Davison Curtin, Jeffrey Lee Thelen, Luke Martin, Sara Sanchez, Melissa Schulte, Kenny Briganti, Theresa Fox, Marie Hengesbach, Edward Wohlscheid, Linda Rogala, Sarah Weber, Jean Schafer, Julie Wieber Schafer, Irene (Luttig) Weber, Bill Barns, Bob Marshall, Dennis Smith, Sandy Herta, Dick Rehmman, Janet Simmon, Scott Kus, Steve Thelen, Tracy Schmitt, Gregg Platte, Frank Hufnagel, Norman Goerge, Lynda Esch, Jim O. Koenigsknecht, Mindy Simon, Janet Armbrustmacher (Allan), Marie Weber, Jenine Kloeckner, Jennifer Ledger, Josiah Ledger, Adam Pohl, Jordy Wohlscheid, Sharon Becker, Jennifer Grace Schrauben, Marian Halfman, Janet Simon, Dale Young 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 those who have died, and for those who mourn, may God's love shine on them.

**Our Parish Stewardship  
 God's Treasure at Most Holy Trinity**

<b>October 28 &amp; 29 Collection.....</b>	<b>\$8,692.45</b>
<b>Special Collections</b>	
<b>Newspapers.....</b>	<b>36.00</b>
<b>All Saints Day.....</b>	<b>50.00</b>
<b>World Mission.....</b>	<b>385.00</b>
<b>ETF.....</b>	<b>5.00</b>
<b>MHT School.....</b>	<b>250.00</b>

**Readings for the Week of November 5, 2017**

<b>Monday</b>	Romans 11:29-36; Psalms 69:30-31, 33-34, 36; Luke 14:12-14
<b>Tuesday</b>	Romans 12:5-16b; Psalms 131:1bcde, 2, 3; Luke 14:15-24
<b>Wednesday</b>	Romans 13:8-10; Psalms 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9; Luke 14:25-33
<b>Thursday</b>	Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Psalms 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; 1 Corinthians 3:9c-11, 16-17; John 2:13-22
<b>Friday</b>	Romans 15:14-21; Psalms 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Luke 16:1-8
<b>Saturday</b>	Romans 16:3-9, 16, 22-27; Psalms 145:2-3, 4-5, 10-11; Luke 16:9-15

**Blessed Mother Statue**



The statue of Mary is available to take home on the weekends. Take this opportunity to enter into prayer and closeness with our Blessed Mother. Use the sign up sheet in the back of church.

 **Masses For The Week**

- Monday - November 6**  
7:00 p.m. + Ray & Armella Feldpausch, Including Agatha Epkey
- Tuesday - November 7**  
8:15 a.m. In Thanksgiving for all those that supported the 2017 MHT Dinner Raffle
- Wednesday - November 8**  
6:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration for Vocations  
7:00 p.m. + Julius J. Thelen, Including Barbara & Diane & Living & Deceased Members of the Family
- Thursday - November 9**  
8:15 a.m. + Elizabeth Spitzley
- Friday - November 10**  
8:15 a.m. + Herb Thelen
- Saturday - November 11**  
8:15 a.m. + For the Deceased Clergy of the Diocese of Lansing  
4:30 p.m. + Susan Bertram
- Sunday - November 12**  
8:30 a.m. People of the Parish  
10:30 a.m. For the Living & Deceased Members of the Catholic Order of Foresters

- Ushers for Saturday & Sunday, November 11 & 12**  
 4:30 p.m. - Tony Schafer, Jerome R. Thelen, Lonnie Schueller, Volunteer  
 8:30 a.m. - Tim Koenigsknecht, Paul Pung, Ryan Pung, Kurt Koenigsknecht  
 10:30 a.m.- Dan Pung, Duane Pung, Volunteers

- Mass Servers for Saturday & Sunday, November 11 & 12**  
 4:30 p.m. - Brooke & Emily Epkey, Chloe Hyland, Volunteer  
 8:30 a.m. - Tricia & Amy Feldpausch, Kylie & Macy Spicer  
 10:30 a.m. - Christi, Mary & Augustine Spitzley, Tony Piggott

- Mass Servers During This Week**  
 Mon., 7:00 p.m. - Amber Epkey, Paige & Carter Thelen, Elizabeth Epkey  
 Tues., 8:15 a.m.- MHT School Volunteers  
 Wed., 7:00 p.m. - Aaron & Josie Simon, Jonah Thelen  
 Thur., 8:15 a.m. - John & Andrew Irrer  
 Fri., 8:15 a.m. - Adult Volunteer  
 Sat., 8:15 a.m. - Alexander Warnke, Taylor Weber, Karstyn Lackscheide

**November 5, 2017**  
**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](mailto:office@mhtparish.com)**  
**Website: [mhtparish.com](http://mhtparish.com)**  
**Most Holy Trinity School: 593-2616**