



*Adam and Eve expelled from the garden of Eden*

### *From The Pastor's Desk*

This week I have asked Stephanie Kurvan to share with us. God Bless, Fr. Dennis



It never ceases to amaze me how the Lord uses different circumstances as opportunities to meet us right where we're at, as a means to show that he's been right beside us all along, with open arms, waiting for us to invite Him in. Fr. Carlos' ministry through the sacred relics was definitely no exception, and proved to be a very powerful and humbling experience for me on a personal level in ways I never imagined.

Like so many others, I had been looking forward to the relics display for weeks. But when the day finally arrived, I was anything but excited for that evening. It had been your typical cliché of a Monday- I woke up on the wrong side of the bed and it all went downhill from there. After an exhausting day of one thing going wrong after the next, the last thing I wanted was to try to muster up the energy to go. But I had been so excited and knew I would be kicking myself later if I denied myself such an amazing opportunity. So, I fought the urge to stay home to binge-watch my latest Netflix obsession and forced myself to go.

The presentation itself was nothing short of captivating and inspiring. I had to fight back tears as visual images assaulted my mind's-eye as I sat and listened to Fr. Carlos vividly recount the tragic events leading up to St. Maria Goretti's last

words and final breath. All I could picture was this innocent little girl (close in age to my own daughters) who, on her death bed and in all reality had every reason to hold on to self-pity, pain, anger, etc...chose forgiveness. In those moments, she exuded more strength, courage, and compassion than most people show in daily living (myself included). I couldn't help but feel ashamed as the realization dawned that here I was, blessed with a healthy family, a roof over our heads and food on our table, and I had let such trivial mishaps completely dictate my whole day.

I wish I could say that revelation was all it took to flip a magic switch and it was all uphill from there. But it wasn't. As we made our way to the activity center to view the relics it didn't take long for all those anxious feelings I thought I had left back in the Church pew to come rushing to the surface. Being an introvert by nature and running on a short fuse to begin with that day, it didn't take long for the large crowd, excessive chatter, my bickering girls and whiney 3 year old to completely overwhelm me. On the verge of a panic attack, I decided to walk the kids home and come back myself. Not knowing how late the display would run for, I was in a mad rush to get back, but much to my surprise, my keys had mysteriously disappeared. After about 10 minutes of recklessly searching only to come up empty-handed, I left even more frustrated (slammed door and all) than I was before.

Feeling completely defeated at this point, I started crying. I remember being thankful for the mask of night so passers-by couldn't see what a complete and total mess I was. To top things off, the mental onslaught of verbal attacks started, offering every reason as to why I shouldn't go back to the relics. With each reason more

**From Stephanie Continued . . .**

valid and logical than the next, it would have been easy to just give in to my irrational annoyance that had engulfed that day. Everything was screaming that I should just turn around and go back home to sleep it off. One low-blow in particular almost won that battle: “who are you, with all this anger, to be in a room full of so much goodness?” As if a calmer, more rational 3<sup>rd</sup> party suddenly joined the silent argument raging inside my head, the gentle words “who are you not to be there?” instantly followed that former thought.

Those words stopped me dead in my tracks, and it was exactly what I needed to hear for that ‘magic switch’ to finally flip for me to see things through a different light. It finally sunk in that it’s at our darkest times we need God’s love and mercy the most. It was in that moment that I realized it was the devil that had his grip on me the whole day, feeding me all these lies. All those negative emotions were exactly why I needed to go back to the relics, not why I should stay away. I’m slowly learning that he attacks the hardest when we are on the verge of something good and amazing. He uses our flaws and insecurities against us to make us feel isolated. The more we learn to recognize his tricks, the less we become our own roadblocks to receiving God’s love and the path of healing. So, I took a few minutes and in all of my imperfect, broken, unworthy glory, I did what I should have been doing all along: I prayed. Wholeheartedly. I renounced the darkness that had its hold on me that day. I prayed for the Holy Spirit to fill, heal and replace those parts of me. I prayed for the strength and courage I needed to be able to walk back through those doors and for a clear mind so I could just be present in the moment.

Once I regained my composure, I remember taking a deep breath as I opened the doors. I stepped through to see most of the crowd had left and the buzzing chatter was replaced with a soothing silence. As I exhaled in a sigh of relief, I felt this warm, deep, calm wash over me and all of the stuff I was holding onto that day left with it. It felt like I could breathe easy for the first time that day. Aside from that and a strong pull to pray for a few certain individuals as I came up to a couple different relic displays, I didn’t experience anything that felt extraordinary. I didn’t hear Church bells or feel a searing heat exude from any of the reliquaries. My right knee (which has been in chronic pain with swelling for the past several months due to an old injury) almost screamed at me as I knelt down to pray in

front of the veil of Our Blessed Mother, but otherwise, I just felt at peace and found myself lingering until the very end because I didn’t want to leave. I even went home with the euphoric ‘high’ that often comes with adoration. When I got home I was also surprised to find my keys right on the counter, in plain sight, where I originally thought I left them. I think God knew I needed that time to walk back to sort through all the chaos in my head before I could fully experience the healing which came with that night!

The next morning, I woke up for the first time in months with no pain/swelling in my right knee whatsoever (which is what this article’s supposed to be about: my physical healing, because that’s all I shared with anyone). Ironically, I don’t think I realized how much spiritual healing I received that night until I began praying and reflecting to write about my encounter. I’m not generally an open book when it comes to personal matters of the heart like this, but Fr. Dennis recently reminded me that we must give thanks to God for ALL the blessings He gives us. I think it would be a form of injustice if I omitted part of my experience due to fears of letting people see that side of me. It would be a lousy attempt to preserve the façade that I don’t struggle with anger, impatience, and control as much as the next person. Truth is, we all have bad days and we all have struggles, but not one of us can defeat them on our own. What that night taught me more than anything is how important it is to learn to ask God for and be truly open and willing to receive His help and love. God is always there with open arms, waiting to be invited in. And, as Fr. Carlos reminded, we can only hope to experience the graces of His healing touch through true confession of our sins and through forgiveness. Tomorrow is always a fresh start, but you’re never too late in the day to ask for His help and turn things around.

I will be forever grateful to Fr. Carlos for blessing our community through his amazing ministry and introducing us to such an incredible 11 year old little girl who died so tragically over 100 years ago. I never would have guessed what an impact her story would have on me or how often I would find myself turning to her for strength, courage, and guidance since that ‘typical cliché of a Monday. It will always hold a special and positive place in my heart.

“Your worst days are never so bad that you are beyond the reach of God’s grace. And your best days are never so good that you are beyond the need of God’s grace.” –Jerry Bridges

God Bless! -  
Stephanie Kirvan

**DSA 2018**

**“Go and Announce the Gospel of the Lord”**

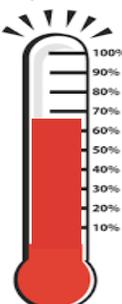
Please prayerfully consider how you or your family will respond to this call to carry on Christ’s work in our community.

**We are at 67.7% of our goal!**

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8



**Our Parish Goal**  
**2018**  
**\$65,625.00**



**Intercessory Prayer**

I am pleased to share with you that we now have every family that is registered at Most Holy Trinity covered in prayer on a daily basis. Thank you to all those who have volunteered to pray!!



*intercessory prayer*



Sunday, June 10, 2018  
Activity Center

Registration – 11:45am  
Lunch Included  
Tournament begins at 12:15pm



-18 and up: \$25  
- Individual tournament  
-Quarter per set  
-Prizes for top 5 places

**Proceeds Benefit MHT Youth Ministry**



**Blackjack Dealers**

If you would like to sign up to be a dealer for the Vegas Tent (Blackjack, Let It Ride, Money Wheel) contact Lyle Simon or Adam at the parish office. The state requires background checks for dealers so we have papers for you to fill out.

**Festival Volunteers Needed**

We are in need of volunteers to chair the following events:

- \*\*\*Three or four people to join the established co-chairs of **food court** (bulk of the work on Sat/Sun of the festival).
- \*\*\*One or two people to chair the **parade** (bulk of the work on Sunday morning of the festival).
- \*\*\*One person to join with two established co-chairs to assist with **electrical set-up or take down** (Thursday before the festival, or Sunday/Monday after the festival).



**VBS 2018**  
**June 19-21**  
Register at:  
[mhtparish.com](http://mhtparish.com) OR 593-2162

**If you would like to volunteer:** We need helpers and leaders, high school and older, to help with the many activities that week. You can help one day or all three. You can help with the kids or behind the scenes. There's something for anyone who wants to help! Contact Paul Fahey ([mhtdre@gmail.com](mailto:mhtdre@gmail.com), 593-3174 x1) if interested. We are asking for a \$5 donation per child to offset our costs.

### Scrip ordering schedule for the summer:

Scrip kept in stock will be available at the school from 8:00 – 3:00 thru June 15<sup>th</sup>. Beginning June 18<sup>th</sup>, scrip will be available at the parish office from 8:00 – 3:00. Scrip orders will continue to be placed on the following Mondays; **June 11, June 25, July 9, July 23, Aug. 6 and Aug. 20.**

Great Lakes Scrip has made changes to the order and payment process to make your experience with scrip easier. If you would like to learn more about the program and how you can use it to help defray the cost of a Catholic Education, visit the MHT Parish website or contact the school. Anyone can purchase gift cards, you do not have to have a student at MHT School to use scrip.

Principal of Most Holy Trinity School  
Anne Hufnagel—[AnneH@mhtparish.com](mailto: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.*

**Volunteer needed:** Due to IRS regulations we can no longer have a school employee place the scrip orders. So, we are looking for a volunteer who could come in to the school and place orders and sort them when they come in. Once trained this would be a 2-3 hour commitment per week. Days and time are flexible. Call the office (593-2616) if you are interested in learning more.

**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](http://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.



**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Awards:** On Monday, June 4, Most Holy Trinity School presented awards to the 2018 graduating class. The *Father Ray Rademacher Award For Kindness to Others* was given to Savannah Martin, daughter of Gary and Shelly Martin. The *Msgr. Albert Koenigsnecht Christian Service Award* was presented to Mary Beth Wohlfert, daughter of Jerry and Catherine Wohlfert. Savannah and Mary Beth have been great role models of faith, service, kindness, and love to other students. Congratulations to both of them!



**Prayer:** *Prayer is a choice. For us to pray to give thanks or to voice our questions and doubts shows that we are choosing to leave an opening in our spirits. Without this opening, there is no vessel, no place into which God can breathe. – Joanna Lauffer*

### Welcome Hannah Vincent



Hello everyone! As most of you know, I'm Hannah Vincent, and I was hired as the new part time secretary. I'm so excited and blessed to have this opportunity and to play a bigger role in the parish family. I've been wanting to become more involved in our parish for some time now, and this was definitely an answer to prayer. Working with Father Dennis, Adam, Lori, and Becky is bringing me joy because I know they're dedicated to MHT just like me. I look forward to serving everyone in whatever way I can, and I hope you'll take the time to come by and say hi or feel free to talk to me outside the office. God bless!

**2018 Made for Happiness Diocesan Assembly**

Our third Diocesan Assembly, "Made for Happiness" is going to be at the Breslin Center in East Lansing on Saturday, September 22. The day will feature a Eucharistic Procession from the Cathedral to the Breslin Center, and conclude with Mass. Many other activities are also

planned for the day including talks by Fr. Mike Schmitz and Jennifer Fulwiller. 15,000 people are expected to attend! To register or find out more information go to <https://madeforhappiness.org/>. Contact Adam at the parish office if you are interested in being on the planning committee to help promote this event in our parish.

**Fr. Bill's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ordination**

On Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup> Fr. Bill will celebrate with his family and our parish his 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination.



The Mass will be at 2:00pm.  
Reception following at the Activity Center  
All are welcome!

**Christian Mother News**

The Christian Mother (CM) Officers would like to invite current members, as well as those who would like to become Christian Mothers, to share their

gifts and time to support current CM activities. Also, we would like to know other ways you feel the Christian Mothers could help you grow in faith, service, and fellowship. To help us gather this information we would appreciate your time in filling out a two-part survey so that we can identify how the Christian Mother organization can best support you and the parish. The online survey can be found here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdB7SFxA9zfo-C0jdcWOiKpW50tn3nDpkECDI7R4GQYDTDIGQ/viewform>

Hard copies are located in the back of the church and can be returned to the parish office or weekly collection basket. Thanks for your time and input.

If you would like to join the Christian Mother organization please contact [nickiethelen@yahoo.com](mailto:nickiethelen@yahoo.com) or 989.640.2393. There will be a small initiation ceremony on Monday June 25th following the 7:00 pm mass for all those who are interested in becoming a Christian Mother.

**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  
VIP tickets (\$50.00 value) and parking passes are included for all families who attend

Visit [www.faithfest.com](http://www.faithfest.com) to see what we have planned for this year's event

**St. Mary Festival News**

The Parade Committee of St. Mary Church in Westphalia invites you to participate in this year's festival parade on July 4th. The theme will be "Board Games". Prizes of \$100, \$75, and \$50 will be awarded for the floats or entries using the theme. Line-Up begins the day of the parade at 10:30 AM at Union Bank, with the parade beginning at noon after the flag raising. If you have any questions, please contact Bruce and Amy Cook at 989-640-1208 or Bill and Maria Willard at 517-256-7430.

**Volleyball Tournament**

St. Mary Parish, Westphalia, 4th of July: Outdoor of grass, 4 on 4 coed. Ages high school and above. \$80 per team. 8 AM start. Competitive & recreational divisions. Register by July 2nd by filling out a Google form using the link or QR code.

**Support the Faith Raffle**

The Knights of Columbus are excited about our annual '50/50 Support the Faith Club' fundraiser. This raffle has various cash prizes, and the proceeds will provide scholarships for children who attend MHT School. Tickets for the raffle are \$20 and can be purchased at

MHT School, the rectory, and from any officer. **The Knights will be selling tickets after all Masses the weekends of June 16th, 23rd and 30th.** Feel free to drop off your tickets if you have not already mailed them in. First of 20 drawings is July 9, 2018. Each ticket will be included in ALL 20 drawings.

**Lansing Lugnuts**

Please join the Knights of Columbus as we celebrate vocations family night at Cooley Law Stadium! Mark your calendars for Friday, August 10 at 7:00 pm.





**Second Publication:** Ben Frechen and Cami Miller,

**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, 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.

**Sponsor of the Week**

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

**Simon Brothers Inc.**

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

June 2 \$ 3 Collection.....	\$12,773.00
<b>Special Collections</b>	
Newspapers.....	\$5.00
Solemnity of Mary.....	\$20.00

**Readings for the Week of June 10, 2018**

<b>Monday</b>	Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3; Psalms 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6; Matthew 5:1-12
<b>Tuesday</b>	1 Kings 17:7-16; Psalms 4:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8; Matthew 5:13-16
<b>Wednesday</b>	1 Kings 18:20-39; Psalms 16:1b-2ab, 4, 5ab & 8, 11; Matthew 5:17-19
<b>Thursday</b>	1 Kings 18:41-46; Psalms 65:10, 11, 12-13; Matthew 5:20-26
<b>Friday</b>	1 Kings 19:9a, 11-16; Psalms 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14; Matthew 5:27-32
<b>Saturday</b>	1 Kings 19:19-21; Psalms 16:1b-2a & 5, 7-8, 9-10; Matthew 5:33-37

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

- Monday - June 11**  
7:00 p.m. + Sally Williams
- Tuesday - June 12**  
8:15 a.m. + Ann Thelen including Emily Goerge, Ted Thelen, & Robert Goerge
- Wednesday - June 13**  
6:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration  
7:00 p.m. + Linda Myers
- Thursday - June 14**  
8:15 a.m. + Julius Thelen including Barb Skowneski & Diane Thelen & the Living & Deceased Members of the Family
- Friday - June 15**  
8:15 a.m. + Louis Schneider & the Living & Deceased Members of the Family
- Saturday - June 16**  
4:30 p.m. People of the Parish
- Sunday - June 17**  
8:30 a.m. + Maynard Wirth and Michele Cook & the Living & Deceased Members of the Family  
10:30 a.m. + Marvin Simon including Don

**Ushers for Saturday & Sunday, June 16 & 17**  
 4:30 p.m. - Tony Schafer, Jerome R. Thelen, Lonnie Schueller, Volunteer  
 8:30 a.m. - Dean Platte, Gregg Platte, Nick Platte, Adam Platte  
 10:30 a.m. - Stan Weber, Gene Messer, Leon Schneider, Brian Thelen

**Mass Servers for Saturday & Sunday, June 16 & 17**  
 4:30 p.m. - Collin & Olivia Feldpausch, Volunteers  
 8:30 a.m. - Tricia & Amy Feldpausch, Kylie & Macy Spicer  
 10:30 a.m. - Christi, Mary, & Augustine Spitzley, Volunteer

**Mass Servers During This Week**  
 Mon, 7:00 p.m. - Allysa Feldpausch, Olivia & Isaac Thelen  
 Tues., 8:15 a.m. - Gavin Klein, Paige & Carter Thelen  
 Wed., 7:00 p.m. - Zoe & Trinity Kramer  
 Thurs., 8:15 a.m. - Andrew & John Irrer  
 Fri., 8:15 a.m. - Emma & Zachary Halfmann



The Rosary is prayed before the 8:15 a.m. weekday Mass. The intention for this week is to pray for each of us that we do not lose sight of the importance of Mass, daily prayer, and the need to make God the priority of our lives.

**June 10, 2018**  
**Pastor - Fr. Dennis Howard**  
**Parish Office Hours -- 8am-noon, 1pm-3pm**  
**To Contact Us:**  
**Parish Office: 593-2162**  
**Email: [office@mhtparish.com](mailto:office@mhtparish.com)**  
**Website: [mhtparish.com](http://mhtparish.com)**  
**MHT School - 593-2616**