

Most Holy Trinity

August 18th,
2019



“I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing.” Luke 12:49

“The fire is Christ’s own Passion of love, a fire that is to be handed on.”

~Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

From The Pastor’s Desk

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



Raising a family is such a gift. To be entrusted to care for five beautiful children is not something I take for granted. Our children’s ages are 9, 8, 6, 4, and almost 2. I try to pray daily for guidance from God to help me raise these children I’ve been given. That I may lead them to God, and I with his grace help them reach heaven on day. We have a family statement we’ve adopted “Become A Saint.” This is our ultimate goal, and so we like to remind our children of this frequently. As parents we have a responsibility to teach our children the faith and help form them. This can seem overwhelming, and very demanding at times. A simple way we can work toward obtaining holiness and teaching our children is to pray with them. Praying as a family is one of the ways we work towards our goal.

When the children were smaller we would bless them each night before bed. We would trace the sign of the cross on their forehead and say “God bless you and keep you safe.” We would pray together before meals as well. As they grew in age we would teach them the formal prayers, like the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be. Along the way came up with our own family prayer that we say each night now before bed. “I love you Jesus. Thank you for today. Thank you for dying on the cross and saving me from my sins. Amen” When the children were young and had short attention spans we really kept things simple. To create a habit of prayer we simply made sure each night before bed we would bless them and say our family prayer. As the kids grew older we would add to our prayer time. I

loved learning new and different ways to share more with the kids. I was always looking for new things to do as a family, different prayers we could teach them. New traditions we could create as a family. I’ve found lots of new and fun ways to teach the kids about the Catholic faith from other moms, by reading blogs, and other media resources.. Here are some things we have done together as a family. Please note I did not come up with all these ideas on my own, I’m not that creative!

Celebrate the faith! All of our children’s middle names were chosen after a Saint. On the feast day of that Saint our children get to pick their favorite meal to have with dinner and a dessert. We use this time to teach them about that Saint and pray for their intercession. We like to highlight other church feast days as well. Having a special meal to highlight feast days or Holy Days of Obligation is so much fun. On the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary we make a rosary out of food. As a family we pray the rosary and the kids get to follow along and eat a yummy snack. Again younger kids have short attention spans, so we like to find ways to make living out the faith fun!

Establish a prayer routine. This is so important. We tried lots of different ways to pray all together as a family. We’ve prayed all together in the living room before bedtime. We’ve prayed in their bedrooms before bed. We’ve tired praying with each kid separately. There is no one way to pray. It looks differently for each family, and ours tends to change based on our season of life. Don’t put pressure on yourself. Start simple, create a habit, and stick with it! Once you have created a habit of prayer, don’t be afraid to try new prayers. Last year for lent we wanted to explore different forms of prayer with the kids and expose them to things we hadn’t done before. We came up with a list of things we wanted to try and each week we focused on that prayer. I’ll share a few of those ideas with you: reading a bible story, divine mercy chaplet, praying a novena, meditation, and

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journaling. Learning different prayer styles was really fun to do together as a family.

What's really been exciting is being able to attend things at the Church and bring the kids along. Taking the older kids with us to the monthly Heart of Jesus Holy Hour and our Holy Spirit Encounters. It has been amazing to share these encounter opportunities with them. Sharing with them God's love is huge and for them to experience His love is so cool!

Our September Heart of Jesus Holy Hour is going to be geared towards families. This is an opportunity to spend time in prayer together as a family. This event is open to everyone, but we are encouraging parents to bring their children. There will be Adoration, music, confession, and prayer teams available. If you have never done this before as a family this is a great time to try it. This will be a great opportunity to start the new school year off together. Spending time before the Lord in Adoration is so powerful. Pray for your spouse, your kids. Pray for guidance, understanding, or courage. Being able to cover your family in prayer is so important, having your children witness you spend time with God is huge. Share your faith, but let your kids see you live it out.

-Andrea Schneider

6:30 - 8:00 PM

HEART OF JESUS

CONFESSION- ADORATION
PRAYER TEAMS

Family Night
September 5



THURSDAYS BEFORE FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

WHERE THERE IS LOVE, THERE IS GOD



ATTN 6TH-8TH GRADE STUDENTS!!!!

This year we will be attending Holy Fire, which is a day long conference for middle school students on **October 13th, 2019**. This conference will be like a small Steubenville encounter. There will be speakers, Reconciliation, Adoration, and lots of fun activities! If your child is interested, please contact **Corey Luna** directly at mhtyouthcorey@gmail.com or visit our website and find the **Holy Fire** tab to sign your child up!



Nationally known speaker
Fr. Tad Pacholczyk
Director National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia

Tuesday, October 8, 2019
St. Thomas Aquinas, East Lansing

Fr. Tad will give two presentations:
1:00-3:00 pm. End of Life Decision Making
Physician Assisted Suicide, Euthanasia, Pain Management and Hospice"
7:00-9:00 pm. Beginning of Life Issues
In Vitro Fertilization and Assisted Reproductive Technologies and Human Embryos"



Welcome

I've been working with Bob Ayles to prepare him to be received into the Catholic faith. Bob made his profession of faith and received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist at the Monday evening Mass this past week.

Congratulations Bob and welcome to our parish family and the Catholic Church.

-Fr. Dennis

Teaching Position

MHT School is accepting applications for a middle school teacher. Applicants must hold either an elementary or secondary teaching certificate from the State of Michigan. We are looking for applicants who are qualified in language arts, reading, & social studies. Candidates with certification in other subjects will be considered. Applications accepted through August 19, 2019. Resumes should be sent to the following address

Most Holy Trinity School
Attn: Anne Hufnagel
545 N. Maple St., Fowler, MI, 48835
or via email: principal@mhtparish.com

Savannah Boak shares with us about her mission trip to Uganda.



Last fall I began to feel many nudges from the Holy Spirit. One of these nudges led me to apply for a 3-week medical mission trip in July to Uganda, Africa through an organization called FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students). After being accepted, I was excited to serve the Ugandan people in body, mind, and spirit. After months and months of anticipation and preparation to travel to Uganda, an outbreak of Ebola occurred just weeks before we were scheduled to leave, making it unsafe

to serve on mission there. It was a humbling experience to let go of control and allow the Holy Spirit to choose where to send me to be His servant. While bummed I wasn't able to go to Africa, I had a surprising sense of peace with this news and confidence that the Lord had great things in store for us at our new mission location. Two weeks before our departure date, we were informed that we would be traveling to Belize and I was excited to find out just why the Lord was sending us there. Because of the last-minute location change, I entered the trip without any expectations. I honestly had no idea what we would be doing, where we would be staying, or who would be serving! This allowed me to be fully present during the trip and open to whatever God was asking of me.

During our mission, we stayed in the heart of Belize City at Divine Mercy Parish. When we arrived there at 3 pm (the hour of Divine Mercy), we had great confidence that the Lord had placed us right where we needed to be. Little did we know at that time how much of a theme Divine Mercy would be over the course of the entire mission.

While on mission, our main task was serving alongside the only hospice and palliative care organization in the entire country of Belize. Nearly every day we went on home visits with either the doctor or nurse to visit many of the patients receiving their care. While we could only provide them basic medical care, we were able to pray with them and get to know a piece of their heart. The home visits remained difficult throughout the entire trip. It was painful to see the conditions that the patients were living in, the abandonment they experienced, and the lack of medical care they were able to receive. As a person who likes to fix things, it was difficult to accept that I couldn't change their situation or make them better. However, as the mission went on, I realized that I wasn't called to fix the patients, I was just called to love them. When I shifted my focus from fixing to serving, I was able to see the patients as more than just a medical condition and was able to see them as who the person God created them as. Despite the conditions they lived in and the illnesses they suffered from, the patients expressed a contagious amount of joy. Their trust and faith in the Lord was truly incredible and touched my heart profoundly. Never have I seen so much joy alongside so much suffering.

A week into the mission, our group was blessed with another component to the trip. Fr. Scott, the priest at Divine Mercy, introduced us to a project the church was hoping to begin in the upcoming months if they received enough funding. The parish had purchased a home that they were going to transform into the first hospice home in Belize. Because of the extra funds we had from our original trip to Uganda, we were



able to take on this project and complete it during our time there. It was a beautiful experience to renovate and fully furnish the home with the intentions of knowing that it will be the last place that individuals will spend their lives before they go onto the next life. The home consisted of the kitchen, the patient's room, the nurse's room, and the chapel. The theme for the home was redemptive suffering and divine mercy. I was able to help paint the chapel, build a ramp, and paint 'Jesus, I trust in You' in the entryway. It was beautiful to see how the Lord used all of our individual gifts and talents to contribute to the remodeling of the home.

While I enjoyed remodeling and decorating the home, my favorite part of the trip was the blessing of the home and the celebration of mass we had in it. On our final day in Belize, we all crammed into the home to first sing the Divine Mercy Chaplet and pray for all of the patients that would one day enter into the home. We then celebrated mass in the home and Fr. Scott blessed all of the rooms. The mass we celebrated there was the most beautiful and moving mass I have ever attended. Reflecting on Christ's suffering and the sacrifice Christ made on the cross became very powerful as I envisioned those who would offer their suffering to Christ in the home. Christ convicted my heart during that mass and it was such a beautiful way to end our time in Belize and reflect on the time we spent there.

After recently returning home from the trip, I have had some time to reflect on God's working in my heart over the three weeks I spent on mission. I went on mission because I felt a call to serve others. However, I never expected to receive so much during my time in Belize. Through daily mass and holy hour, our home visits, and working on the hospice home, I encountered Christ in ways I never have before. Being surrounded by such a faithful community of



people on mission and detaching myself from worldly comforts brought me some of the greatest joy, peace, and hope I have ever experienced.

Fasting from our phones, among many other things, allowed me to encounter Jesus, to be present to those around me,

and to give and receive love in an authentic and vulnerable way. I am extremely blessed to have taken part in such a beautiful adventure with some of the most Christ-like people I have ever met. Thank you to everyone who supported me and prayed for me on this journey. It was a trip that awakened and transformed my heart and an experience that I am extremely grateful for. I am looking forward to seeing the fruits of this trip continue to flourish in my heart and translate into my everyday life.

God bless you always,
Savannah Boak

The Pro-Life Holy Hour is held every Monday and Wednesday from 9 AM to 10 AM in the church. If you have small children or are unable to come to the church you can join us at home.

**PRO
LIFE**

Director of Religious Education
Paul Fahey—mhtdre@gmail.com—593-3174

For the past few months Corey Luna, our Director of Youth Ministry, and I have been discerning and planning some changes to high school ministry this upcoming school year that include Monday night religious education, Confirmation preparation, and youth group. We wanted to take the time to explain our proposed changes, our reasons for making these changes, and then invite you to share your questions and feedback.

Back in the spring, Corey and I were looking ahead to next year and praying about the direction the Lord wants to take high school ministry here at MHT. As we discerned these things we came to focus on two key points. The first is that our two ministries, religious ed and youth ministry, have not been collaborating as much we think they could be. Corey and I bring different gifts and talents to the table and each of our ministries will be better off with the other person more involved. Second, we know students are being pulled in many directions with many responsibilities. So we want to focus our ministry on what we know has been fruitful for the students and make sure that the events we offer will be impactful rather than just simply adding to the commitments they already have. So with those things in mind here are the proposed changes to high school ministry.

High School Religious Education

We will be replacing weekly Monday night religious ed with five High School Encounter evenings throughout the year. These events would be on Sunday evenings from 6:30-9:00pm and will include large group catechesis, individual prayer time, and small group discussion. These evenings would then end with a Holy Spirit Encounter for the students that includes Eucharistic Adoration and prayer teams. While these evenings will be focused on catechesis they will very much have a retreat feel to them. The catechetical topics throughout the year will be on the sacraments, prayer, the Mass, the moral life, and evangelization. High School Encounter evenings this year will be on September 22, December 8, January 19, March 8, and May 3rd. Because These events are replacing what used to be a weekly class it will be important that students attend each of these evenings. I coordinated these dates with Kris Ernst, the Athletic Director at the High School, so that there will be no required athletic events that will conflict with these evenings. The registration and fee for high school religious ed will remain the same as we have been doing for the past several years.

Confirmation Preparation

For the past several years I have been tweaking Confirmation preparation to try and shift how we see this sacrament. For a long time Confirmation has been seen as a rite of passage for when a student reaches a particular grade. However, Confirmation is not a sign of now being an adult in the faith, rather, it's the completion of a person's baptism. Confirmation is something that personally discerned depending on the desire and disposition of the individual wanting to receive it. So anytime after a student finishes 8th grade, if they desire to be Confirmed, they will meet with Corey or I for an initial interview. At that interview we will discern that students desire and disposition for this sacrament based on the Church's guidelines that include a candidate's prayer life, sacramental life, parish life, moral life, and their ongoing catechesis. Based on that interview we will give each student a preparation program tailored to them that will include recommendations for daily prayer, retreats, catechesis, Mass, Confession, etc. We will follow up with each student throughout the year and when they are ready for Confirmation they will attend a two-day Confirmation retreat and will be able to be Confirmed at the next Confirmation Mass with the bishop. These changes will impact students going into 9th grade this year, the students currently in 10th grade will continue with the preparation process they began last year.

High School Prayer Nights

Over the past couple of years it's become clear that Adoration and prayer teams have been an incredibly fruitful part of high school ministry. These events are usually the highlight of a student's retreat experience. But with that growth in prayer ministry, Corey and I have seen an increasing need and desire from the students for spiritual formation. So every other Tuesday evening youth group throughout the year will be a High School Prayer Night from 7:30-9:00pm. These events will include a short catechesis about some aspect of the spiritual life, a group prayer, small groups, and large group discussion. Your questions and feedback on these changes, or on any aspect of high school ministry, is very important. Please don't hesitate to call or email us, or we would love to set up a time to meet if you would prefer that. We will also have two parent information nights coming up specifically to answer any of your questions about high school ministry. Those will be on Tuesday, August 27th and Thursday, September 5th. Both meetings will be at 7:00pm in the Youth Center.

 **Blood Drive**
Red Cross Blood Drive will be held **Monday, August 26th** at the MHT Activity Center. Donate anytime from 1-7p.m. Thank you for your generous support!

 The Rosary is prayed before the 8:15 a.m. weekday Mass. The intention for this week is to pray for peace for all who feel the Holy Spirit has left or forsaken them.

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

Knights of Columbus Insurance

 **Scrip** can be picked up 9 - 2 in the school office beginning next week. Because there are meetings, training, etc., scheduled, call first to make sure someone is in the office. 593-2616

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

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.

Upcoming Events:
Thurs., Aug. 22 Meet & Greet the Teachers @ TBD
Tues., Aug 27 First Day of School

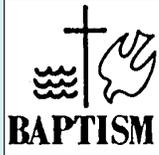
2019/20 School Supply List: The list can be found on the school website at www.mhtparish.com. There is a school supply icon on the school's page.

2019 Spring NWEA Results: As usual MHT School students did very well showing much growth and/or high achievement compared to other schools in the country and the diocese. For graphs of the results, please visit the school website.

 **Wedding Banns**

Second Publication

Lindsey Hufnagel & Michael Schober



Cooper Wayne Farley, son of Kenneth and Amanda (Schafer) Farley

Kolbe Gene Thelen, son of Ethan and Haley (Pline) Thelen

We welcome **Cooper** and **Kolbe** to our parish family.

Please pray for our friends and relatives who are sick or recovering, especially: Ardith Graham, 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, Frank Hufnagel, Marie Weber, Jenine Kloeckner, Jennifer Ledger, Josiah Ledger, Jordy Wohlscheid, Jennifer Grace Schrauben, Janet Simon, Dale Young, Brent Baese, Shane Grinnell, Richard Bushamp, Alan & Therese Kramer, Christopher Martin, Theresa Heeg, Bev Nurenberg, Jeff Wadell, Charles Wadell, Chuck Welch, Jeanne Alaga, Milo Platte, Timothy D. Thelen, Marilyn Dixon, Richard Rodgers, Carolee Smith, Charles Miller, Joyce George, Father Den Morrow, Gary Schueller, Dan Fedewa, Dolores LaFave, Ralph Feldpausch and a special intention.

Please contact the office to add or remove a 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.



50/50 Support the Faith Raffle

Thank you to all who took part in the Knights of Columbus 50/50 raffle. This week is three \$100 winners. Congratulations to: **Frank Hufnagel, Gerald Wieber, and Gary Wieber**

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

August 10 & 11 Collection \$8,661.25

Special Collections

Peter's Pence Collection..... \$428.00

Readings for the Week of August 18, 2019

Monday	Jgs 2:11-19; Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab and 44; Mt 19:16-22
Tuesday	Jgs 6:11-24a; Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14; Mt 19:23-30
Wednesday	Jgs 9:6-15; Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Mt 20:1-16
Thursday	Jgs 11:29-39a; Ps 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Mt 22:1-14
Friday	Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10; Mt 22:34-40

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday - August 19

7:00 p.m. + Rosalyn Weber and Living & Deceased Members of the Family

Tuesday - August 20

8:15 a.m. + Gerald & Helen Pohl and Living & Deceased Members of the Family

Wednesday - August 21

6:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
7:00 p.m. + Philip Simon

Thursday - August 22

8:15 a.m. + Deceased Clergy of the Diocese of Lansing

Friday - August 23

8:15 a.m. + Duane Mussell

Saturday - August 24

4:30 p.m. For the Intentions of Jim & Bernadette Fox on the 50th Anniversary of their Wedding

Sunday - August 25

8:30 a.m. + Roy N. Pung
10:30 a.m. People of the Parish

Ushers for August 24 & 25

4:30 p.m. - Gary Weber, Jerome Klein, Clare M. Thelen, Volunteer
8:30 a.m. - Tim Koenigsknecht, Paul Pung, Ryan Pung, Kurt Koenigsknecht
10:30 a.m. - Brent McCarty, Roy Witgen, Neil Feldpausch, Volunteer

Servers for this week

Mon., 7:00 p.m. - Braxton Myers, Madelyn Sillman
Tues., 8:15 a.m. - Roman & Nicholai Schafer
Weds., 7:00 p.m. - Quinten & Nate Esch
Thurs., 8:15 a.m. - Nolan & Selena Stump
Fri., 8:15 a.m. - Bryce Ward, Jonathan Fowler

Servers for August 24 & 25

4:30 p.m. - Brooke, Emily, & Amber Epkey, Volunteer
8:30 a.m. - Tricia & Amy Feldpausch, Joseph Epkey, Alexander Warnke
10:30 a.m. - Dominic Horak, Braeden Andros, Tristan & Quentin Smith

August 18, 2019

Pastor - Fr. Dennis Howard

**Summer Parish Office Hours
Monday through Thursday - 8am-noon, 1-3pm**

Parish Office: 593-2162
Email: office@mhtparish.com
Website: mhtparish.com

MHT School - 593-2616