

St. Brendan's

Navigator

Volume 1, #1 December 2010

Welcome to the inaugural edition of our parish newsletter!

The Parish Pastoral Council has organized a new group, the Communications Committee, with the following purpose: to engage the parish members in learning about our many events, successes, and personal faith journeys with the goal of parish unity, engagement in parish life, and a deepened spirituality. This newsletter is the committee's first step to begin to meet the goal.

We welcome your ideas, your information, and your stories. We will feature the parish committees and the events that they sponsor. We hope that you will join those that might interest you! Send your information to office@stbrendanonthelake.org or call 778-9822.

Meet the St. Brendan Pastoral Council

The purpose of the Pastoral Council is to assist Father Rob with planning and implementing the spiritual, physical and social life of our parish. This is accomplished through the hard work of many committees and volunteers. Three of our targeted activities are:

1. Improve our liturgy, the summit of who we are, through our music and active involvement of all parishioners.

2. Invest in our youth through the religious education program and other youth ministries.
3. Generate more involvement in parish life and parish unity.

Planning and communications with the parish committees take place through a liaison, as each Council member chooses a committee to work with. The Council has term limits so that new voices and expertise is brought to the parish. The Council will be welcoming new members for 2011.

Parish committees, chairs and contact information is



Linda Moran, Judy Willard, Carol Nochajski, Phil Russell, Jane Beilein, Meg Thompson, Herb Ward, Father Rob, Council President Mike Seeley, Tom Mocarski, Clancy Burkwit, Jim Cantella, John Phillips Missing : Wayne Brubaker, Deacon Dave

Building & Grounds	Wayne Brubaker office@stbrendanonthelake.org
Parish Life	Suzanne Haselbauer mrshasebauer@hotmail.com
Liturgy	Jean Kovach jdak4853@verizon.net
Religious Education	Bill Smith religioused@stbrendanonthelake.org
Finance	Mike Kearns Michael.m.kearns@gmail.com
Council & Youth	Mike Seeley mseeley@glynnngroup.com

Advent Intergenerational Faith Formation

Sunday November 21, 2010

Last Sunday the parish celebrated Advent through a unique method: sharing traditions, songs, and food with children and adults of all ages. There were four areas of activity:

- Making an Advent Wreath
- Christmas Caroling
- Project of making presents - charity - sharing
- Refreshments - sharing with each other

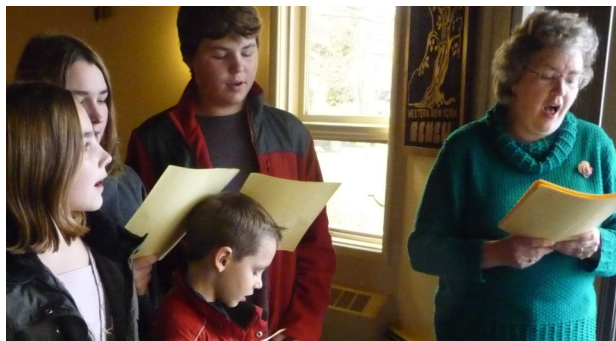
And even a special visit from St. Nicholas and St. Lucy!

Advent Reflection

Did you ever have the feeling on Christmas day that somehow; even with all the preparation - cookies and baking, shopping and wrapping gifts, cleaning and decorating - you missed Christmas? Well, you are not alone. Would you like to have a deep and long lasting Christmas experience? Then we need to delve into Advent. Advent is the beginning of the church year and a time to help us get ready to be citizens of the Kingdom of God.

During Advent we hear from the prophet Isaiah as he describes the kingdom of God 700 years before the birth of Christ. It was the promise that would become reality when the Messiah came. So what happened? Jesus the Savior was born as promised, preached the Kingdom, died for our sins, rose again, putting an end to death itself and now sits at the right hand of the Father in glory. Why can't we see it? Why can't we find it? The answer, which I suspect you already know, is that the kingdom is a matter of the heart.

This year, let's use Advent to become a "fellow citizen with the holy ones" of the Kingdom. I invite you to create an Advent wreath in your heart, each week light an inner candle so that when Christmas arrives you



may be ready to take your place in the Kingdom, filled with light, love, joy, kindness, peace, and good will.
— Father Rob

There is a different message each week of Advent helping us make the vision a reality.

Advent 2010 Meditations.....

First Week of Advent - November 28th

Stay Awake or Be Aware - Let the first candle in the Advent wreath shine a light on the dark places of our hearts, the places that are the source of our struggles and keep us from being members of God's household.

Second Week of Advent - December 5th

Repent, the Kingdom of God is at hand. There are two candles now, shedding more light; showing us the way to repent, to make a change.

Third Week of Advent - December 12th

Rejoice! Be Strong, Fear Not, do not lose heart. Three candles show us that the goal is in sight. Did you know that the words "do not be afraid" occur 365 times in scripture?

Fourth Week of Advent - December 19th

We hear how completely Mary and Joseph trusted God and the result - Emmanuel - God is with us. Four candles are lit now; we have travelled from darkness to light. We are ready for our own "Silent Night" - the wonder, peace, joy of that moment when God himself is born in our hearts.