



Presentation Press

Our Lady of the Presentation Church

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Lend A Hand ~ Lift A Heart

Dear Parishioners,

We have chosen to move our Annual Stewardship Renewal to September this year due to the pending renovation of our Worship Space. The theme for our Stewardship Renewal is “Lend a Hand - Lift a Heart.”

I have found that when we reach out to others through the sharing of our gifts, in essence, when we “Lend a Hand” we always have the capacity to “Lift a Heart.” I encourage you to embrace these words as we renew our commitment to our faith community.

As we welcome our new Pastor, as we prepare for the renovation of our Worship Space, as summer turns to fall, I encourage you to discern how you might share your gifts with our faith community. May we celebrate and embrace the changes within our own lives and the life of our faith community during this time of renewal and in the year ahead.

Jane Krawczyk, Stewardship Director



Annual Stewardship Renewal 2011

As we renew our commitment to our faith community we gather to celebrate and embrace the changes within our own lives and the life of our faith community.

September 10-11 ~ Welcome Fr. Tom!

Welcome receptions for Fr. Tom will take place in the Mulligan Room after all Masses.
Stewardship Renewal 2011 begins, Pastor Presentation Weekend

September 17-18 ~ Divine Donuts

Come find out more about how you can share your gifts with our faith community.
Members of the Stewardship Committee will be available at Divine Donuts to answer your questions.

September 24-25 ~ Commitment Weekend

Jane Krawczyk—Stewardship Director

Reflections on Stewardship at Weekend Masses

Bring your commitment card to Mass this weekend and place it in the special Stewardship Renewal collection or mail it to the parish office by Friday, September 30th.

We Give Because We Are Blessed



Dear Parishioners,

This has been an exciting and at times overwhelming two months for me at Our Lady of the Presentation. Thank you for welcoming me as your new pastor and for allowing my transition here to be a smooth one. I look forward to getting to know even more of you and continuing to learn about all the great things happening here at Presentation.

One of the things I recognized very quickly is that there is a lot of activity in the parish. This was certainly intensified with the beginning of school in August and will continue to increase with the start of Children's Faith Formation and various other groups and ministries this fall. Presentation is truly a parish where there is something for everyone. We are blessed to have so many parishioners who share their gifts and talents with the parish. My hope is that everyone will make a commitment to being involved in the life of the parish in some way.

By staying rooted in the sacramental life of the Church we recognize our many blessings from God and are strengthened to go forth and share our blessings with others. There are lots of ministries in need of volunteers, so please prayerfully consider ways you can be of service.

I believe the last newsletter in June indicated the renovation of the worship space would begin in August. Obviously, that did not happen. I want to thank everyone for their patience during this process. There continues to be progress made in moving the project forward. As of the writing of this newsletter, we are looking to begin the renovation and the construction of the new classrooms sometime in October. Please say a prayer that we continue on this timeline. We will keep you updated through the bulletin and announcements at church.

As you may know, we will be using the gym as our temporary worship space during the renovation. We need to remember that this situation is temporary. Although it won't have the same feel and look of a church, our time in the gym will give us an opportunity to remember the importance of community. If we all make the commitment to stay together and worship together during the renovation, our community can become even stronger.

Although there are other Catholic parishes nearby, I want to personally ask you to stay rooted here. We need everyone's support to make this process successful. Please stay involved, continue to share your gifts and talents, pray for our parish and stay current on your financial pledge. Hopefully, we can all look back one day and remember the great time we had together during the renovation. May we be mindful of God's continued blessing upon us.

Join us as we officially welcome Fr. Tom Holder to Presentation Parish at a reception after all Masses September 10 & 11.

Renovation Update

We met with the Diocesan Building Commission on August 18 to present and discuss plans for our worship space renovation. The meeting went well and we expect the bidding process to start in September, and the renovation to start in October. The work is expected to be completed in six months.

The school addition has also been approved by the Diocese and the bidding process will take place at the same time as the church renovation project. The work is also scheduled to start in October and is expected to take four months. The general contractor for both projects is A.L. Huber.

To prepare for the school addition, a water line was moved in the south parking lot. This area is still considered a construction zone as the re-paving of the parking lot will not take place until after construction is completed and heavy machinery is removed from the property.

Join us for a Farewell Reception for Rex Scott Sunday, September 18, after the 10:00 a.m. Mass.

Dear Parishioners,

Our Lady of the Presentation Parish has been my spiritual home since my family and I moved to Lee's Summit in 1985. It has been a privilege to be the Parish Administrator and Business Manager of the parish since September, 2002. And, after nine and a half years in this position, I will be leaving my position soon. It is a decision I have been thinking and praying about for several months. I think it is time for me to go, so I have been working with Fr. Tom on a transition plan. We are not sure yet on a final date of departure...at this time, I expect to be here a couple more months until we get our renovation work started.



During my time at Presentation, I have witnessed firsthand the generosity of our parishioners. Our ministries are able to succeed and grow due to your generosity and giving of time, talent and treasure. At the same time, our parish debt which peaked in 2003 at over \$2.8 million, is now below \$450,000 and continues to decline. Very impressive.

The 2004 visioning meetings helped to identify our parish priorities and focus our needs and wishes as a faith community. The top three priorities identified at these meetings were increasing a sense of parish community; reducing the parish debt, and increasing time, talent and treasure by getting more families involved.

Thank you to all who have helped and supported me along the way.

God Bless, Rex Scott

Youth Mission Trip to Red Lake

There is more happiness in giving than receiving.
 "Yes I am the vine and you are the branches. Those
 who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much
 fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing."
 John 5:15

The mission trip team, consisting of 23 teens and adults from Presentation parish, began preparing for this summer's mission trip long before we pulled up in our over-stuffed vans on July 16th in the unusually warm summer weather of Red Lake, Minnesota. We worked the Annual Parish Fish Fries together, we had meetings in May and June to plan our trip, we prayed about the adventure God had called us to—and of course, we planned our mission trip t-shirts. This year the team voted for TYE DYE! The back of the shirts read: "There is more happiness in giving than receiving." Acts 20:35

We stopped at the Mall of America near Minneapolis on the way to Red Lake for a few hours of fun. Then we went to Lowe's to purchase our work supplies. We bought paint brushes, hammers, measuring tapes, etc., which we used on home repair projects on the Native American reservation and then donated to the Red Lake Housing Authority at the end of the week.

Once we arrived in Red Lake, we first visited St. Mary's Mission—an old Catholic church on the reservation built before the Civil War. Father Jerry, St. Mary's pastor, and his staff graciously welcomed us and hosted us for the night. We attended Mass on Sunday morning at St. Mary's then checked in at Red Lake Middle School for our week-long service experience with Group Work-camps. We weren't the only youth group checking in, there were a total of 374 teen and adult campers from Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Missouri, among others.

We were each placed into a work crew of five or six, each member from a different state, and were given the details of a project on which we would work throughout the week. Project sites were homes of elderly Native Americans living on the reservation. We built decks, wheelchair ramps, and painted the inside and outside of dilapidated homes. We would work all day, taking time for lunch and shared prayer and devotions with the people we just met. In the evenings, we had some activities followed by a program with the theme based on the scripture John 5:15.

It was a privilege to serve the people of the Chippewa Indian Reservation. They are resilient and strong despite extreme poverty and high unemployment rates. We are honored to have met some of the Chippewa and are grateful for the time spent at Red Lake. Our mission trip team would also like to thank Our Lady of the Presentation for the continued support of such wonderful service and learning experiences for our youth. The mission trip team returned home safely, closer to God and closer to one another.

-Christy Gruenbaum, Director of Youth Ministry



Pictured from top left to right: picking up supplies at Lowe's; having some fun bowling and riding the indoor roller coaster at Mall of America; arrival at St. Mary's Mission; the handicapped ramp is completed; the sun sets in Red Lake.



**Our Lady of the
Presentation Church**
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Vision Statement

Our Lady of the Presentation is a vibrant, Eucharist-centered community offering all Catholics participation in sacraments, social action and Christian education.

Mission Statement

To share our gifts by providing opportunities for spiritual growth in worship, service, education and community activities, is our mission.

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Fall Grief Support Groups Begin

Presentation's Pastoral Care office offers Mutual-Help Grief Support Groups for adults who are grieving the death of a loved one. The groups meet for six weeks with a different theme presented each week. This is not an ongoing support group and participants are asked to commit to the entire six weeks. Pre-registration is required by calling 251-1102. The Fall 2011 session dates are Thursday mornings: Sept. 29, Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27, Nov. 3, 10 or evenings: Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27, Nov. 3, 10.



"If we really understood the Mass, we would die of joy." —St. John Vianney

In 2008, we presented "A Walk Through the Mass" to gain a deeper appreciation of the Mass. In 2011, new changes will affect how we participate in the Mass beginning Nov. 27th, the First Sunday of Advent. In an effort to gain a better understanding as to why changes are being made and what the changes mean, we invite you and your family to:

"Getting Behind the Texts"

A Workshop on the Roman Missal with Fr. Paul Turner
Monday, September 26th
7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium

Fr. Turner will "walk us through" the principal changes to the people's part of the Mass and explain the reason for the revised translation. We will also take a closer look at some of the collects and one of the Eucharistic prayers. Don't miss this opportunity to deepen your appreciation of the Mass and get up to date with the changes that are coming!



Paul Turner is pastor of St. Munchin parish in Cameron, MO and its mission, St. Aloysius in Maysville. A priest of the diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, he holds a doctorate in sacred theology from Sant' Alselmo in Rome. He has authored several books on the catechumenate, sacraments and liturgy.

SAVE THE DATE!



*Joe Cool hopes to see
you at Presentation's
Quarter Raffle
October 8th!*

*Tickets on sale at the Parish Office Sept. 19th
⊕ after Masses Sept. 24-25 ⊕ Oct. 1-2*