

St. Kieran
St. Isidore
St. Lawrence
St. John Vianney
SS. John and Paul
St. Francis-St. Maximilian
St. Clement of Rome
St. Therese of Lisieux
St. Mary Mystical Rose
Capuchin Retreat House

North Maccomb News

Rev. David Buersmeyer, Vicar

January 2011

www.nmvonline.org

What Are Your New Year's Resolutions?

The practice of making New Year's resolutions goes back over 3000 years to the ancient Babylonians. There is just something about the start of a New Year that gives us the feeling of a fresh start and a new beginning. Have you made any kind of resolution for this new year?

Common New Year's resolutions are: to quit smoking, to stop drinking, to manage money better, and spend more time with family. By far the most common New Year's resolution is to lose weight, in conjunction with exercising more and eating healthier. These are all good goals to set. However, the vast majority of New Year's resolutions are in relation to physical things. This should not be.

Many Christians make New Year's resolutions to pray more, to read the Bible every day, and to attend church more regularly. These are fantastic goals. However, these New Year's resolutions fail just as often as the non-spiritual resolutions, because there is no power in a New Year's resolution. Resolving to start or stop doing a certain activity has no value unless you have the proper motivation for stopping or starting that activity. For example, why do you want to read the Bible every day? Is it to honor God and grow spiritually, or is it because you have just heard that it is a good thing to do? Why do you want to lose weight? Is it to honor God with your body, or is it for vanity, to honor yourself?



Philippians 4:13 tells us, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." John 15:5 declares, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." If God is the center of your New Year's resolution, it has chance for success, depending on your commitment to it. If it is God's will for something to be fulfilled, He will enable you to fulfill it.

So, what sort of New Year's resolution should a Christian make? Here are some suggestions:

- (1) Pray to the Lord for wisdom (James 1:5) in regards to what resolutions, if any, He would have you make;
- (2) Pray for wisdom as to how to fulfill the goals God gives you;

- (3) Rely on God's strength to help you;
- (4) Find an accountability partner who will help you and encourage you;
- (5) Don't become discouraged with occasional failures; instead allow them to motivate you further;
- (6) Don't become proud or vain, but give God the glory. Psalm 37:5-6, "Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun."

With God and prayer, may you successfully reach all of your 2011 New Year resolutions!

Vocations Awareness Week - Take a P.I.L.L.

Each year parishes across the country celebrate National Vocations Awareness Week, which begins with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (January 9-15). His Baptism began Jesus' initiation into public ministry. Each of us receives a special vocational calling from God at our Baptism.

Fr. Tim Birney, Director of Priestly Vocations for the Archdiocese of Detroit, has been visiting parishes in our vicariate to encourage us to help each other discern our vocational call from God. He suggests that we take a "Vocation P.I.L.L."

Pray— for vocations. Have the courage to ask, 'Lord, what is my vocation-my calling.' Pray for our seminarians/postulants/novices.

Invite— we must be willing to invite our youth to at least consider a priestly or Religious vocation. If not us, who will? It is a powerful invitation.

Love— embody Christian love for all God's people. Also love for our clergy. 'If we want more to serve us in the future, we must first love the ones we already have.' That love will be returned to you and might just inspire a young person to consider a priestly call.

Live— be willing to live your faith. Young people will watch and follow our example. Show the youth why, as a parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, godparent, they were baptized.

Vicariate Parishes

St. Clement of Rome
(586) 752-9611
www.stclementromeo.org
Rev. Stephen C. Reckker
Rev. John R. "Doc" Ortman

**St. Francis-
St. Maximilian**
(586) 598-3314 (Macomb)
www.stfrancis-stmaximilian.com
Rev. Christopher J. Talbot

St. Isidore
(586) 286-1700
www.stisidoremacomb.org
Rev. Michael G. Hrydziuszkowski
Rev. John Dumas

SS. John and Paul
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www.ssjohnandpaul.org
Rev. David A. Buersmeyer

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(586) 781-6525
http://home.catholicweb.com/
stjohnvianneyshelbytwp
Rev. Tim Mazur
Rev. John R. "Doc" Ortman

St. Kieran
(586) 781-4901
www.stkieran.org
Rev. H. Thomas Johnson

**St. Lawrence Church
& School**
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www.stlawrenceparish.com
Rev. Robert J. Fisher
Rev. Philip Ching

St. Mary Mystical Rose
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www.stmarymysticalrose.org
Rev. Siao Si Patau

St. Therese of Lisieux
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www.stthereseparish.ws
Rev. Andrew J. Tomasko
Rev. Matthew Ellis

Capuchin Retreat
(248) 651-4826
www.capretreat.org
Rev. Ken Reinhart

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Academy**
(586) 306-9611
www.austincatholicacademy.org

**Macomb Catholic
Services**
347 S. Main Romeo, MI
586.336.6844

Attention Married Couples

Get your best friend back and regain the intimacy that you may be missing!

NOW... Two great options from World Wide Marriage Encounter to revitalize your marriage! Enjoy a weekend with your spouse in one of our two different settings:

Parish Weekend Encounter: No overnight stay. Friday evening through Sunday afternoon. Leave each night to return home.

Overnight Weekend Encounter: A complete get away at a hotel/retreat house. Friday evening through Sunday afternoon.

The Marriage Encounter weekend is a positive and personal experience offering married couples an opportunity to learn a technique of loving communication that they can use for the rest of their lives. It's a chance to look deeply into their relationship with each other and with God. It's a time to share their feelings, hopes and dreams with each other.

It's not a retreat, marriage clinic, group sensitivity, or a substitute for counseling. It's a unique approach aimed at revitalizing Marriage. Make your good marriage, great!

Upcoming 2011 In Parish Weekend Encounter

Jan. 28-30th at St. Mary's of the Hills, Rochester Hills
October 7th-9th at St. Isidore, Macomb

Upcoming 2011 Overnight Weekend Encounters

Feb. 11th-13th, April 1st-3rd, June 24th-26th,
Sept. 16th-18th, or Nov. 4th-6th

Register at: <http://www-detroit.org> or contact Bill & Carol Higgins 248-528-2512. Financial assistance is available, please ask!

Habitat For Humanity Benefit Euchre Tournament

Friday, January 21st
6:30 PM

St. Therese of Lisieux
Social Hall

Pizza, beer/pop, Euchre and Fun!
Call 586.254.4433 for more info.

Welcome Home Catholics

The North Macomb Vicariate, through its Catholic parishes wants to welcome you home....

Welcome Home Catholics is a program, with a no pressure approach, to welcome those who have been away from the faith "back home" to our Catholic Community. The program is only 6 weeks long and will be held on Thursday evenings from 7 to 8 PM. It begins January 27th and runs through March 3, 2011. All meetings will be held at St. Kieran Catholic Church @ 53600 Mound Rd. Shelby Twp. (between 24 & 25 Mile Rds.) The following are the scheduled meeting topics:

- Jan. 27th - Welcome - Why do Catholics leave and why they return.
- Feb. 3rd - Explanation of the Mass
- Feb. 10th - Eucharist and Reconciliation
- Feb. 17th - What do Catholics believe and why do Catholics do that.
- Feb. 24th - Where do we go from here; Prayer the first step.
- Mar. 3rd - Marriage and Annulments

For more information contact Roy Attard at 586.295.9387, attardfelix@att.net or Pat Berg at 586.206.4486 patriciamberg@gmail.comor just show up on Thursdays and follow the signs.



Onward to the Kingdom

North Macomb Vicariate Mission

March 25th - David Haas Concert

March 27th - Teen Event

March 28-31st - Shared daily liturgies and evening programs

Concert tickets will be available at all parishes beginning Jan. 9th, 2011

Articles for the North Macomb Vicariate's **February issue are due by Friday, January 14th.**

Please email your article to NMVNews@yahoo.com or admin@stthereseparish.ws.

Reach out



in love

AGAPE is LOVE

The Greek word **AGAPE** is "Love which is of and from God". God's love is displayed most clearly at the cross where Christ died for us. In the same way, we are to love others sacrificially.

The building on St. Clement of Rome Parish property operated by Catholic Services of Macomb, houses the North Macomb Christian Service Office and Hispanic Ministry. It is the place from which we, as a parish community, reach out to the needy. The essence of AGAPE LOVE is self-sacrifice. This essential trait of AGAPE is experienced daily as volunteers spend hours to serve others with their time and talent, as farmers share their harvest, as persons from St. Clement and Vicariate Parishes donate food for the needy. The North Macomb Vicariate Pantry cares for hundreds of persons who are unemployed or underemployed. Emergency food and personal items are provided.

AGAPE Center offers the following programs for those in need:

- **North Macomb Vicariate Pantry Schedule of Service**
Monday & Wednesday: 9:30 AM - 1 PM
Thursday: 9:30 AM - 1 PM and 5:30 - 7 PM
- **Forgotten Harvest** - Tuesday: Noon - 6 PM. Forgotten Harvest works to relieve hunger by rescuing surplus food from stores and restaurants and donating it to emergency food providers.
- **Commodity Program** - Income eligible individuals and families receive monthly food at no cost through the emergency food providers.
- **Mt. Clemens Medical Outreach Clinic** - 2nd Thursday of each month: 8 AM - Noon. The mobile clinic provides medical care for residents of Macomb and St. Clair Counties who are without medical insurance benefits and do not have the financial resources to pay for service.
- **Hispanic Ministry** - Coordinator, Sister Valerie Knoche, IHM. Ministry to spiritual and material needs of the Hispanic Community, (586)336-6842 or (810)656-3282
- **Translation of Documents** - Tuesday and Thursday: 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM. A team certified by the State of Michigan translate official documents from Spanish to English and English to Spanish.
- **Recovery, Inc. Support Group** - Thursday: Noon - 1:30 PM. People from all walks of life come to recovery meetings because they share a common problem - nervous symptoms and fears. Contact: Kay Maniscalco (586)623-2717
- **Romeo Alcoholics Anonymous Groups** - Meet each Wednesday from 7:30 - 9 PM. Contacts: John (810)459-0315 and Jeff (586)383-0991.

To volunteer, give a donation, or help in any way, call Nancy Kaspari at (586)336-6842 or (586)752-6419 or Sister Val at (810)656-3282

St. Lawrence School Open House and Registration Dates

St. Lawrence School of Utica will be hosting an Open House for prospective students and parents on Sunday, January 30, 2011 from 1 - 3 PM. Families who are interested in 3-year old Nursery School, 4-year old Preschool, half-day or full-day Kindergarten through Eighth grade are encouraged to attend. Administrators, teachers, current parents and students will be available to answer questions. Tours will be offered for new families as well.

Registration for the 2011-2012 school year will be from February 7-18, 2011. Registration application forms for Nursery School - Grade 8 will be available in the school office at Open House and the following week. If you are interested in sending your child/ren to St. Lawrence School, please complete an application and return it to the school office between the above registration dates. New family applications will be taken on a first come, first serve basis beginning at 8 AM on February 7, 2011.

St. Lawrence School is located at 44429 Utica Rd., just south of M-59/Hall Rd. in Utica. The school is the only Catholic grade school in the North Macomb Vicariate.

Bussing is provided to all in the Utica Community School District. Latchkey is available before and after school to Kindergarteners through eighth graders. For more information, contact the school at 586.731.0135.

Vocation Awareness Events

January 10th, 7 PM at St. Lawrence Parish, Fr. Tim Birney will speak on what it means to have a vocation. Fr. Birney is a humorous and inspiring speaker, all are welcome to attend.

January 15th, at St. Therese of Lisieux Parish, Msgr. Jeff Monforton, Rector/President of Sacred Heart Seminary will celebrate Mass at 4:30 PM and following Mass there will be a **Vocation's Pasta Dinner**. This annual event is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and the Vocations Awareness Ministry.

All you can eat pasta, a great presentation by Msgr. Monforton, and meet some of our seminarians who are studying to be our future priests.

A free-will Offering will be accepted to help support seminarians/and others studying for Religious life with their educational costs.

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