

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 Macomb News

Rev. David Buersmeyer, Vicar

February 2010

## Getting Ready For Lent

It is hard to believe but February 17<sup>th</sup> brings us once again into the Lenten season as we celebrate Ash Wednesday. The parishes in our vicariate provide a number of opportunities to more deeply enter into the spirit of this season: extra times for Reconciliation; parish renewal days, missions, and the like; days of adoration, Stations of the Cross and other devotions. We will try to have all of these posted on the North Macomb website ([www.nmvonline.org](http://www.nmvonline.org)). Go there during the season to see what is available in the area parishes. In the meantime, it is good to enter Lent already prepared to embrace the spirit of the season.

Traditionally, we are asked to do a bit more prayer, fasting, and almsgiving (charitable acts). How can each of us add an extra focus on prayer? Fasting takes place formally on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, but where else can we let go of food, TV, Internet, texting, tweeting, and the like so that we take a few extra moments to do some praying, spiritual reading, or simply being quiet before the Lord? The opportunities for charitable acts are countless and life will often provide us with clear signals. Witness the recent and tremendous outpouring of resources for the people of Haiti.

However, in the end, Lent is meant to be primarily a season not for us as individuals, but for us as a whole community of faith. We enter into the fasting, prayer, and almsgiving so that God's grace might form us more deeply, making us more ready to embrace the new members who are in their final stages of preparation for initiation. We are asked to be fully reconciled to God and his people, and so the sacrament of Reconciliation offers a special opportunity during the season ahead. Come either to one of the communal services or to individual times at any parish. Again, we will have these posted on the website.

To encourage such a communal focus, I especially encourage us to take the Fridays of Lent as an opportunity to be in solidarity with one another as Catholics. We are asked to abstain from meat as a common, symbolic penance. But in addition, maybe we can also use the Fridays of Lent for a little extra fasting from some of the things mentioned above and turn a few more moments into prayer for the Church and its work here in northern Macomb County.

Begin your Lenten journey on Ash Wednesday. Come to one of the area parish's Masses or services. Do not to see it as a private devotional day, where we "get" our ashes and move on. No, the whole point of the ashes is to recognize ourselves as the hypocrites we are. And for that we need to hear the words of Jesus and reflect on them together. Jesus says: "Only the hypocrites let others see that they are fasting." In receiving the ashes we are marked as hypocrites and recognize the need for conversion, growth and reconciliation in our lives. We then enter the Lenten season and all that it offers in a spirit of openness so that by the end of Lent, as we celebrate the great days of Holy Week and Easter, we have become a bit less hypocritical; a bit more in tune with the Spirit of God.

Fr. David Buersmeyer  
Vicar

## "The Christian in the 21st Century"

The North Macomb Vicariate, together with the Pontiac Area Vicariate, invite you to an evening presentation with Dominican Friar, renowned speaker, and award winning author, Timothy Radcliffe. His books include: *Sing a New Song*, *The Christian Vocation*, *Seven Last Words*, *What is the Point of Being a Christian?* and more.



**Timothy Radcliffe, OP**  
**Thursday, March 11, 2010**  
**Dinner: 6 PM**  
**Presentation: 7– 9:15 PM**  
**St. Paul Albanian Catholic Church**  
**525 W. Auburn Rd.**  
**Rochester Hills, MI 48307**

This event is free of charge and all are welcome to attend. A dinner (soup, salad, deserts and beverages) will be served starting at 6 PM. If you are planning on attending you must RSVP to:

<http://radcliffe.eventbrite.com> or  
Call St. Paul at 248.844.6201.

## "How to Find Employment in 2010"

*The "Super Bowl" of Career Workshops*  
**Wednesday, February 3rd - 7PM**  
**At St. Therese of Lisieux Church**

- State Representative, **Kim Meltzer**, will speak on what the State of Michigan is doing to help create jobs in 2010.
- **Cheri Wargo**, Human Resource Manager from General Dynamics will present, "**How to Find Employment in 2010.**"
- **Matthew Karrandja**, Career Ministries chairperson, will give a motivation and faith-based presentation on the importance of "**Not Giving Up**" in your career search.
- **Center of Professional Studies** will sign people up for classes sponsored by the "**No Worker Left Behind Program.**"
- **Hired on the Spot and Fox 2** will be present to sign up people on: [www.hiredonthespot.com](http://www.hiredonthespot.com).
- **Free Blood Pressure Screening**
- **RSVP to St. Therese Parish Office, 286.254.4433 to register for this FREE workshop.**

**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. Hrydziusko

Rev. John Britto Chinnappa

**SS. John and Paul**

(586) 781-9010

www.ssjohnandpaul.org

Rev. David A. Buersmeyer

**St. John Vianney**

(586) 781-6525

http://home.catholicweb.com/  
stjohnvianneyshelbytwp

Rev. Jerome J. Machlik

**St. Kieran**

(586) 781-4901

www.stkieran.org

Rev. H. Thomas Johnson

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& School**

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Rev. Robert J. Fisher

Rev. Philip Ching

**St. Mary Mystical Rose**

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www.stmarymysticalrose.org

Rev. Siasia Patau

**St. Therese of Lisieux**

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www.stthereseparish.ws

Rev. Andrew J. Tomasko

Rev. Jerry Pilus

**Capuchin Retreat**

(248) 651-4826

www.capretreat.org

Rev. Ken Reinhart

**Austin Catholic Academy**

(586) 306-9611

www.austincatholicacademy.org

**Women Mystics Weekend**

February 20th-21st

**Capuchin Retreat House**

62460 Mt. Vernon Rd. Washington, 48094

**Saturday, 10AM - Brunch Sunday****Deposit: \$30 p/p - Balance \$80 p/p****Register before Tuesday, February 9th****Phone 248.651.4826 or email: capretreat.org****or www.capretreat.org***All meals included, bring a journal for notes*

Mysticism is an invitation ~ a birthright to become fully who we are called to be. The mystic is one who awakens to Love, the very source of creation and being itself. The mystic in one who embodies this Holy Mystery and lives it out in relationships marked by compassion, justice, simplicity and joy.

Presenter: Sr. Arlene Kosmatka, OP, a Dominican Sister involved in the ministries of spiritual direction and retreat work. She is committed to introducing 20th century mystics to persons willing to pursue retreat work. Sr. Arlene holds a Masters in Theology and Spirituality from Sacred Heart Major Seminary.

**World Marriage Day****Sunday, February 14th, 3-8PM**

San Marino Club in Troy

**\$55 p/couple for tickets purchased before  
Feb. 6th, \$65 after due date.**

**Dinner, Dancing & Prayer Celebration**

Guest Speakers: **Teresa Tomeo Pastore  
& her husband Dominick**

For more information phone Rich & Fran,  
**586.838.4447** or email Mike & Donna,  
**worldmarrieday@aol.com**

**St. Therese of Lisieux Parish****Lenten Fish Dinners**

- **Ash Wednesday, February 17th, 4-7PM.**
- **Every Friday during Lent, except for Good Friday, from 4-7PM.**
- Carry-outs available, call 586.254.4433 for additional information.

**13th Annual Lenten Symposium****"Charity in Truth"****with Francis Cardinal Arinze****Saturday, March 6th - 8AM****Closing Benediction - 3:45PM****Ss. Cyril & Methodius Church**

41233 Ryan Rd. &amp; 18 Mile Rd.

**Must register by March 5th****www.holytrinityapostolate.com****Or call, Dave, 248.885.1190****\$40 p/p or \$45 at the door****Youth Symposium - \$15 p/p****\$20 per college student**

In addition to **Francis Cardinal Arinze**, the other speakers include: **Msgr. Anthony Figueiredo** (from Rome), **Fr. Ed Fride** (Christ the King Parish), **Doug Keck** (EWTN), **Patrick O'Meara**, and **Sr. Sharon Elizabeth**, VHM (from Toledo, Ohio).

A sneak preview of the movie "**Leoniel**," recently filmed locally in Michigan and Toledo, will be presented. "**Leoniel**," is about the sister of ST. Therese. This film is for every parent who has had to deal with a difficult child.

**What is the real meaning of Lent?****Walking the Journey to Easter****with Jesus**

Come and join many of the men from this parish, as well as other parishes, as we get closer to Christ. The date is **Saturday, February 13th**. The morning will begin with **Mass at 7:30 AM**, followed by breakfast, a presentation by James Kiefer, and a Question & Answer period. **You should be home no later than 10-10:30AM**. We're looking forward to having all of you attend this great event. The cost is only **\$5 p/p**. Hope to see you there.

Our presenter, James Kiefer, has worked in many capacities for the Archdiocese of Detroit during most of his career. Jim has taught classes at Sacred Heart Major Seminary and Catholic High Schools, and has facilitated retreats.

For more information or tickets call, **Larry Kozak, 248.672.0182**.

### For Those Suffering the Loss of a Child

Join us at Capuchin Retreat on Wednesday, February 10th at 7PM. This gathering invites those who grieve to join others in sharing the uniqueness of grieving a child. The evening guides participants in developing a support network that will reduce the fears in facing the future. The network of support starts here with the invitation to bring your story. This will be a safe environment to ask questions, contribute insights and encounter hope. Mr. Peter Wolf will facilitate the gathering. He holds a Master degree in Social Work and a Master of Divinity degree. For more information, check our website or call during business hours: 248.651.4826. Cost is \$25 per person and \$40 per couple.

### St. Isidore Parish Mission

**Sunday, Feb. 21st - Wednesday, Feb. 24th**

Coming soon! We have planned a parish Mission, "*Called and Chosen*," with Fr. John Graden, OSFS and Mrs. Jeanne Hunt as our facilitators and preachers. It is a major spiritual event in the life of the parish and promises to be moving, intriguing, and a great opportunity for spiritual enrichment.

- So how **IS your** relationship with God?
- How do you see yourself?
- What are your hungers and thirsts?
- Do you know what it means to be a Catholic Christian?

You're definitely invited, encouraged, welcomed and hoped for. Do yourself a favor and check it out. Sessions are at 7PM in the church with hospitality afterward, Monday evening includes a communal penance service.

### St. Clement of Rome Grief Support Seminar

For those suffering grief from the loss of a loved one, a Grief Support Seminar will be presented by Deborah Kokoszka, In-house Hospice, at **St. Clement Church**, 343 South Main Street in Romeo, from **2-3:30PM**. This 6-week program will run consecutively on Tuesdays beginning **Feb. 23rd - Mar. 30th**. There is **NO Charge**.

Topics include:

- Understanding the tasks of grief
- Understanding the mourning process
- Exploring common reactions
- Embracing the uniqueness of your grief
- Recognizing the signs of complicated grief
- Reinvesting emotional energy after a loss
- Appreciating your transformation through grief

**To register call the parish office, 586.752.9611.**

SS. John & Paul Special Needs Ministry Presents:

### God's Shadow Falls Upon Us All Puppet Show

featuring SS. John & Paul Puppet Ministry

**Saturday, February 6th - 1PM**

**Food, Fun, Prayer, Friends, Fellowship**

SS. John & Paul is located on 7777 W. 28 Mile Road  
Please phone **586.781.9010** to **RSVP by February 3rd**.

For more information contact Deacon John,  
**586.781.9010**

### Job Network Ministry Presentation

You are invited to a job network presentation to be held at St. Francis/St. Maximillian, located on New Haven Road at North Avenue. This presentation will be conducted by "**Michigan Works!**" on **February 23rd from 10AM-Noon**. Representative will outline their services. There will also be opportunities to review any job postings received, and to network with others looking for employment opportunities. A luncheon will be served. To register, please call **586.598.3314 x 305**.

**"We are really called to participate."**

St. Isidore is hosting;

### "Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship"

A special presentation on the eloquent USCCB Document

**Saturday, February 27th from 9AM-Noon**

**Registration begins at 8:30AM.**

This presentation is opened to any one who is a member of the Assembly at Mass; priests, liturgical ministers, and assembly members. Suggested donation is \$10, no pre-payment. Contact Amy Righi, **586.286.1700 x 210** or email: **stiliturgy@sbcglobal.net**

Area Church Choirs, mark your calendars for:



**Choir Festival**



**Sunday, March 14th, 4PM at St. Isidore**

Come and share two of your favorite pieces, appropriate for Lent. Participation is open to contemporary ensembles as well as traditional choirs. Light refreshments, free-will offering. RSVP by March 1st to Amy Righi; **stiliturgy@sbcglobal.net**

### Upcoming Blood Drive

SS. John & Paul is sponsoring an American Red Cross Blood Drive on **Sunday, February 28th from 8AM-2PM**. Please call **586.781.9010** for an appointment or go to **www.givelife.org**. Walk-ins are always welcome!



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