



# St. Francis of Assisi Canticle

September/October 2011

TIME · TALENT · TREASURE

## A View from the Caddyshack: Born Again

This fall we enter into our sixth year of stewardship here at Saint Francis. Our focus will turn to the Sacrament of Baptism and what it should mean in the life of a committed Christian. St. John's Gospel tells us the story of Nicodemus, a Pharisee who came to Jesus secretly at night to inquire about his teaching. Jesus told him, "No one can enter the Kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Holy Spirit."

Jesus was speaking about faith and the new life we receive in baptism. Baptism is like a second birth. As we entered the water of baptism the Holy Spirit came upon us and we were "born again." The Fathers of the Church often compared the baptismal font to a mother's womb. Just as we emerged from our mother's womb into the natural world, we were born from the womb of the Church into a new spiritual life in Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. Just as our physical bodies mature into adulthood, so too our spiritual lives ought to mature into an adult faith.



As adults, we shape our lives by the choices we make each day. Hopefully, our choices are more often generous and caring, choices for what is best for us and for others. Each year we have the opportunity to renew our baptismal promises either at an Easter Liturgy or at the baptism of a child. Here is a wonderful occasion to reflect on the direction our lives are taking and to strengthen our resolve to be Christians. The words of the rite are rich and symbolic. They ask us to choose between slavery to sin and the freedom of being God's children, between darkness and light, between the glamour of evil and the simplicity of truth. We then profess our faith in the Creed – our faith in the Holy Catholic Church – our spiritual home.

We put time and effort into maintaining our homes or apartments. After all, we live, eat and sleep there. We learn how to fix things that break and care for our yards. Stewardship is the manual for the care and maintenance of our spiritual home. We learn how to put our time, talent and treasure to work so we can keep this home in tip top shape.

**Some humor to survive by:** Why does the capital have so many one way streets?

So that all the civil servants coming in late for work won't collide with those going home early.

*Fr. Jim Caddy*



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## Who's Church is This Anyway?

Fr. Franz C. Dool

When we think of a home and where people live, we think of mortar, wood, or brick. We think of cities and streets. But our homes say a lot more about who we are and what we are about than the physical structure we live in. Every time I go into a home that's new for me, I enjoy taking in the surroundings. One can learn so much about a family just by seeing where somebody lives. Sometimes I see pictures all over the house when I visit a home. I immediately know that relationships are of great value to that family. Sometimes I see a place that is neat and tidy and I know that they value order and simplicity. For others, the dining room table takes center stage. And I know that the sharing of a family meal is of critical importance.

*It would be like saying to your kids one day: "I'm not going to be the mom or dad anymore. I'm tired of doing that job." I know some day's we might feel that way. But we know that we are always a parent or a spouse.*

Home is more than just a house. It is the choices we make, our decisions, our friends. It is the place where people build and share life together. Our homes are the people we belong to and who they have shaped us to be. Home is where we are renewed.

A similar truth may be said of our Church. The Church has, within itself, a visible structure and hierarchy. There is a physical dimension to the Church. And yet, the Church is much more than buildings and basilicas. It is unlike any other institution in the world because it is the place where we are satisfied, formed, and nourished with the very life of Christ who is its light and life (Catechism of the Catholic Church 771, 790).

The Church is a living community of faith, the people of God set apart from all others to be a light to the world and the salt of the earth. It is a community of faith that points to and has, as its destiny, Jesus Christ (782). The Church is the vehicle for people to find their way home. Our membership, our participation, in the community shapes us into the people we are called to be. It is not about us, but about what God is doing in our midst. It is about Christ who dwells within us and who God has called us to be because of who we are as created in

God's very image and likeness. The Church is the place where we gather at table and are fed with the very life of God so that we might bring the Church to every part of our lives.

Today is an interesting time for the Church in the world. There are many people in our world that are displaced. Not that they do not have a physical place to live, but there are far too many people who have lost their sense of direction in life. There are many people who have no one to love or care for them. There are too many people that seek the way to life through other avenues rather than by Christ and the Church. Today, only two-thirds of the people come to Church sometimes, or hardly at all. There are far too many who say "I don't need to go to church. I can have a relationship with God on my own. I don't have time for Church." And there are a million excuses for why this is the case. But that isn't the point. Of course we can have a relationship with God on our own. We all are called to have an intimate friendship with Jesus that is nourished by a life of regular prayer. But it would be the same if we were to say one day: "well I'm never going home to my family again after work or school. From here, I'm on my own. I don't need to see my family again. I lived with them for a few years. And they're always a part of me even if I never see them again." Well, that is ridiculous. Yes, we always are a part of our families even if we are separated from them. But God also calls us to be a part of a community that will shape and nourish us. We are communal beings by our very nature. We have been created in the image of God who is a Trinity of Persons. This is who we are. We long for relationship and community. We cannot live life on our own. We need one another. And we need the Church. Yes, all families have problems, as does the Church. The Church is imperfect because we are imperfect. But the Church is holy because Christ dwells in her. In the end, we all need to be part of a family more than we do not.

In years gone by, when someone asked where you were from, your home was based on where you went to church. Instead of saying you lived in Gates Mills for instance, you said you were from St. Francis of Assisi. Or in my case, I came from St. Christopher Church. You learned churches before you learned there were cities.

*(Continued on page 3)*

*(Continued from page 2)*

What am I driving at? In saying the Church is our home, our family, and our community, I am trying to say that we all take an active role as we do in every family. I have been trying very hard to invite people to become involved in ministries. We need servers, especially high school age servers. We need lectors. And we desperately need people to assist as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Finally, we need those who are in ministry to realize their importance and value and to continue in their capacity as best they can. I have been hearing this message too often (especially with servers): "Well I've done that ministry for a few years now, it's time to be done." My response to that would be: Ok, thank you. You have served for a few years in a given ministry, but this is your home. This is your family. And you should be active with your family and participate. It would be like saying to your kids one day: "I'm not going to be the mom or dad anymore. I'm tired of doing that job. I know some day's we might feel that way. But we know that we are always a parent or a spouse. For the kids, you cannot simply stop being a brother or sister, a son or a daughter. That is who you are.

Families are the places where you grow and are formed to be Christ for a world that desperately needs Him. Home is where we are formed so that we can bring the Christ we encounter here in Church to others. Each of us has the presence of God. And each of us has unique gifts and ways of communicating that presence. It is not about us, but what we allow God to do in and through us; how we allow God to live within us. Through the sacraments, we strive to become what and who we receive. This journey of formation begins here at home, in our Church. Sometimes in our families, we are asked to do things that maybe we never thought of ourselves having to. I was talking to a young dad the other day and he told me the one thing he never thought of himself having to take on was checking up on his newborn every few hours at night. Another example: What about a young person having to take on the responsibility of caring for a sick parent or sibling? Here too, in Church, this is our family where disciples are formed, where we are formed from the heart of what we celebrate in the Eucharist. We too are called to be active members. When someone comes up to us in church and says, "Did you ever think about doing that?" The person who extended that question is not trying to give you work to do or make your life more complicated. It is not even about giving you a compliment. It is more than that.

The Church is about discerning all the gifts of its members and where we might be able to contribute. Gifts are seen in a people that are meant for the buildup of the larger family. We need to use our gifts and talents to help others since we are all on a journey to Christ who is our way home. We are called to participate in that journey. Please, use your gifts to aid the community in finding their way to Christ.

There is a story about a seven year old girl that got lost one day in the large city she lived in. She began to run frantically up and down streets. As she looked around, she could not recognize any of the landmarks. She was frightened and confused. Eventually, she was found by a policeman who realized she was lost. He took her in his car and told her he would help her find her way home. They drove around until finally, she saw her church. She got all excited and told him: "You can let me out now. This is my Church. And I can always find my way home from here!"

Whose Church is this? Well, this is Christ's Church. But it is also our Church! We are called to be a people, a community, and a family where people can find their way home from here. Church is not just a place, but a relationship in the heart of God, a place where we know who we are, a place where we are formed, missioned, and where we are cherished. It is the place where we learn and become a dwelling place for God.

This is our Church. This is where we become who we are called to be for the world, a world that so desperately needs the light of Christ.



## Catechetical Sunday: September 18th

### “Do This In Remembrance of Me”

*Sr. Julianne McCauley*

Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect upon the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. It is an opportunity for all of us to rededicate ourselves to this mission as a community of faith. At each Mass on the weekend of Catechetical Sunday we will acknowledge and bless as special ministers of the Word and the Faith Tradition of the Church all those involved in catechetical ministry of any type: teachers of religion in the school, catechists in our Parish School of Religion, LifeTeen Core Members, RCIA Team, Leaders of Children’s Liturgy of the Word, anyone involved in preparing people for reception of sacraments.

Catechesis is an ecclesial activity integral to the process of evangelization. When the Church reflects upon her mission, she understands herself as a catechizing community that lives in intimate relationship with Jesus Christ, a relationship that is fully expressed in the mystery of the Eucharist.

We are firmly rooted and sustained by an unwavering belief that Jesus Christ is truly present IN Eucharist; and we celebrate that Jesus Christ IS our Eucharist. Through the action of the Holy Spirit we are enabled to believe and to become what we were called to be, God’s people, the Body of Christ. We are the visible expression of church: a Eucharistic, catechetical community of faith and service.

*From an article in the June edition of NCCL’s magazine, Catechetical Leader, entitled, “The Eucharist: Source and Fulfillment of Catechetical Teaching” by Hosffman Ospino*

As a spin-off from the Bishops’ catechetical theme, the school, the PSR program and Life Teen will all proclaim:

**“We Are One Body.”**

### **We Are the Body of Christ!**

**Our Church is not a building.  
It’s a body, a body of people,  
The Body of Christ.**

**It will be holy if I am holy,  
faithful if I am faithful,  
hopeful if I am hopeful,  
loving if I am loving,  
peaceful if I am peaceful.**

**It will be a community of hospitality  
if I recognize members and guests,  
if I greet them with a smile,  
if I extend a handshake,  
if I speak a kind word.**

**It will do great things  
if I offer my talents and skills,  
if I contribute my time,  
if I share my ideas and enthusiasm,  
if I am a generous giver.**

**It will be filled with others like me  
if I fill it with my family and friends,  
if I invite a non-practicing member,  
if I reach out to a new neighbor,  
if I welcome a stranger.**

**My church will be the Body of Christ,  
if I am a Christ-centered person,  
if I am a faith-filled Christian,  
if I am Spirit-driven,  
if I am grounded in Eucharist.**

**I commit myself to  
building God’s Kingdom  
by becoming all the things  
I want my church to be.**

We will create some new opportunities to help build community and to develop relationships within each group as well as among us all and with the greater parish community.

Watch for details of some adult-oriented events that are planned:

### **Come & See Programs**

October 24<sup>th</sup>  
Who Is Jesus for You?

November 21<sup>st</sup>  
Where Is God In Pain  
and Suffering?

February 13<sup>th</sup>  
What Is the Catholic  
Understanding of  
Communion?

**The dates for the following  
programs will be announced  
in the bulletin:**

**Inservice events on the New  
Roman Missal**

**Small Group Sessions on  
Eucharist**

**Parish Mission**

## We Are Not Ourselves By Ourselves

Meg Zetzer

Be  
God's  
Love



What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas.  
What happens at Notre Dame Vision  
Changes the World!



**“God is Calling You. How Will You Answer?”** This is the central question of Notre Dame Vision. Colleen Niebauer, Maggie Zetzer, Nico Zullo, Christina Reid and Meg Zetzer joined two hundred teens and fifty adults from across the country who gathered in South Bend Indiana for what must have been the hottest week of 2011. Despite the heat, we spent five days fully engaged with the question, “If God is calling, how will I answer?” We played and prayed and played again and prayed some more. We were privileged to hear nationally recognized speakers and to attend Mass and Reconciliation at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. The teens were guided by "Mentors in Faith"- college students from the university, who model lives inspired by the Saints. We also came to realize that our Catholic faith should be lived as part of a community and that, "we are not ourselves by ourselves." It takes the whole Catholic Community to grow us into the person God is calling us to be. We plan to attend again next year and we hope that more teens will discover that "God is calling".

### Recent Marriages

*Nicholas Orlando and Katherine Saporito*  
May 24, 2011

*Peter Velotta and Jennifer Moody*  
May 24, 2011

*William Lamont III and Jillian Kopinsky*  
July 2, 2011

*Thomas Spencer and Bridgette DeClemente*  
July 23, 2011

*Thomas McCauley and Maureen Williams*  
July 27, 2011

*David Tennant and Shannon Williams*  
July 30, 2011

*Christian Langmark and Ghazal Khandel*  
August 5, 2011

*Adam Stypula and Courtenay Miller*  
August 6, 2011

### Stewardship Campaign 2011-2012

In a few weeks you will be receiving a Commitment Card to renew your vow to share your Time, Talent and Treasure with your parish. Please take the time to fill this out and return it. Your commitment means a lot to your Parish community!

### Faith Direct

Did you ever wonder why so many people are not dropping their collections in the basket on Sunday? They are using Faith Direct to automatically withdraw their monthly contributions from their checking account or credit card.

If you would like more information, go to [info@faithdirect.net](mailto:info@faithdirect.net). Or you may register online at [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) using our Church Code OH307 or calling 1-866-8757.



## Rooted in Faith Forward in Hope

Strengthening the Catholic Church in Northeast Ohio

**Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope** is a faith-based initiative that launched this year and runs through 2012. With the goal of raising \$125 million through contributions from parishioners in the diocese, “Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope” is an ambitious attempt to raise funds with the best interests of all in mind.

The funds will be distributed in five key areas of development in the diocese:

- Revitalizing and affirming parish life as the center of our collective faith.
- Strengthening faith through evangelization and lay faith formation.
- Ensuring access to high-quality Catholic education for all parishioners.
- Investing in clergy formation and care for our retired clergymen.
- Ministering to the needs of the less fortunate through health and human services.

Each of the 174 parishes in the diocese will be given a goal for contributions and will receive a percentage of the donated funds for use in the parish. Of the nine parishes that participated in the early stages of the program, all of them have met or exceeded their goals without causing a drop in parish donations during the tenure. This initiative is an investment in the future of our church and the Catholic diocese as a whole, giving us an opportunity to become a positive influence in people’s lives. St. Francis parishioners will be receiving more information about the campaign later this year. For more immediate information please visit the website: [www.CatholicCommunity.org/campaign](http://www.CatholicCommunity.org/campaign).

### Recent Baptisms

*Dominic Michael Nerone*  
Son of Richard and Nichol

*Paige Marie Groff*  
Daughter of Timothy and Michelle

*Myah Michelle Marvaldi*  
Daughter of Mark and Renee

*Nina Capri Liebel*  
Daughter of Shawn and Julie

*Madelyn Elizabeth Grano*  
Daughter of Salvatore and Jill

*Mack Adrian Buell*  
Son of Derek and Mary

*Martin Emerson Klang*  
Son of Mark and Maureen

*Jacob Stephen Sosland*  
Son of Joshua and Mariana

*Annemarie Lyles Fuerst*  
Daughter of Daniel and Marianne

*Kennedy Rose Stenger*  
Daughter of Patrick and Marissa

*Alessa Kathleen DiCioccio*  
Daughter of Nicholas and Valerie

*Salina Adelle Culotta*  
Daughter of Salvatore and Nora

*Brook Frances Barna*  
Daughter of Craig and Denise

*Christina Dianne Souers*  
Daughter of Dustin and Elizabeth

*Ander Nunez Cerrillo*  
Son of Anders and Andrea

*Julianna Marie Reginelli*  
Daughter of James and Jacqueline



## UPCOMING EVENTS *September*

**13 - Tuesday Club Membership Drive**  
11:30 am - 1:30 pm Ron Sluga will perform great hits from the past. Box lunch is provided with membership fee of \$12.00.

**18 - Welcoming Breakfast**  
11 am in the Activity Room for those who would like to register to become parishioners.

**20 - PSR Begins**  
6:30 pm - Students and their families are invited to a prayer service focusing on our theme: "We Are One Body."

## *October*

**8 - Boosters Clambake**  
Keep this date open for a great time! Watch our website for more information.

**8th and 9th - Anointing of the Sick**  
After all of the Masses this weekend.

**24 - - Come and See**  
7 pm at St. Francis,

**30 - Pancake Breakfast**  
Come join your parish family for a wonderful all-you-can-eat breakfast.

## *Welcome New Members of St. Francis of Assisi Parish*

**Matt Lichko**  
**The Rojas Family**  
**The Grabski Family**  
**The Gundling Family**  
**The Mike Withrow Family**  
**John and Elaine Mellody**  
**The Jamie Landis Family**  
**The Joseph Cirino Family**  
**The Mike Melaragno Family**  
**The Anthony Migliorini Family**  
**Jason Siringer and Valerie Williams**

*Welcome*

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Saturday,**  
**October 8th, 2011**



The SFA Booster Club  
will be hosting the

## **2nd ANNUAL COUGAR CLAMBAKE**

**Catered Clambake Dinner**  
**Great Prizes**  
**Cornhole Tournament**

Please contact:  
Rick Gisondo at 216-870-6637  
[rgisondo@roadrunner.com](mailto:rgisondo@roadrunner.com)  
or Ken DiPippo at 216-509-2611

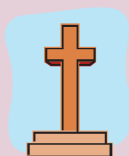
*Sponsored by:*



## *From Death to New Life*

*Andrew Andrews*  
*Gloria DeMarco*  
*Alma Syracuse*  
*Adeline Nocente*  
*Elizabeth Herrick*  
*Jeanne Murphy*  
*Faye Virzi*  
*Irene Meden*  
*Florence Horrigan*  
*Jerome Cangelosi*

*Dorothy Roesch*  
*Margaret Yusko*  
*Victoria Gurney*  
*Theodore Betley*  
*Charles Gallo*  
*Henrietta Schauer*  
*John DiCicco*  
*Helen Kopinsky*  
*Patrick Brino, Sr.*



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## Contact Us!

### St. Francis of Assisi Parish Staff

Rev. James L. Caddy, *Pastor*  
Rev. Franz C. Dool, *Associate Pastor*  
Rev. Mr. Leo McNulty, *Deacon*  
Rev. Mr. William T. Elwood, *Deacon*  
Ms. Martha Stewart, *Pastoral Associate*  
Sr. Julianne McCauley, O.S.U., *DRE*  
Mrs. Adrienne Publicover, *School Principal*  
Ms. Meg Zetzer, *Youth Minister*  
Mr. Kevin Audin, *Business Manager*  
Mr. Steve Fedor, *Pastoral Council Chairperson*

### Phone Numbers

Parish Office: (440) 461-0066  
School: (440) 442-7450  
Religious Education Office: (440) 449-7880  
Pastoral Associate: (440) 461-1494

### Parish Email Address

[www.stfrancisgm.org](http://www.stfrancisgm.org)

### Website:

[www.stfrancisgm.org](http://www.stfrancisgm.org)

### Mass Schedule

Monday-Friday: 6:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.  
Saturday: 8:15 a.m.  
Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.,  
12:00 noon, and 6:00 p.m.

### Holy Days:

Vigil: 7:00 p.m.  
Holy Day: 6:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

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