

Reverend Charles J. Schwartz

January - March 2020

Mission Statement

We are a welcoming Catholic Community, alive in Christ, making present the kingdom of God!

Parish Core Values

Compassion: We lift up one another in compassion—listening to, praying for and walking with those who are in need.

Justice: We promote equality and are called by God to protect human life, to promote human dignity, to advocate for the poor and to be a voice for the voiceless.

Respect: We experience and reveal the living Christ as we embrace the richness we all bring to God's kingdom.

Empowerment: We are empowered to use our God given gifts to serve others and share the good news of God's love.

Mass Schedule

Saturday - 5:00 p.m. Sunday - 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

www.stpatsgh.org

And so begins a new year, 2020! We have celebrated the joyful season of Christmas, a season which reminds us that God desires to be with His people! There are exciting things happening all around us. As a parish we are in the midst of Pastoral Planning! We are also working on a partnership with Ottawa County Recovery Court and NOLA (No one Lives Alone) as a part of our commitment to serve the vulnerable of our community!

I myself am looking for ways to cultivate a deeper spiritual life this year. I'm reading a book, The Reed of God, and the following passage really spoke to me. After describing the lack of time for spiritual things and busyness of life the author mentions how "All the time spent in earning a living, cleaning the home...is regarded as wasted. Yet it is really through ordinary human life and the things of every hour of every day that union with God comes about." I am hoping to see the truth of these words and see God and be with God in the ordinary moments of life. I think that in order to do this, we need space to look at our life and notice the presence of God. One place designed for this is our Adoration Chapel.

Friends, our Adoration Chapel needs volunteers. On the night of his passion Jesus said to his disciples, "can you not watch one hour with me?" (see Mt 26:40/Mk 14:37) As we begin this new year full of hope, we can contemplate on the invitation in these words. Jesus invites us to be with him and pray with him. Families as well as individuals are welcome. Sign up for an hour per week. We understand that a weekly commitment may be difficult in this busy world. There is a solution. Find four friends or families and form a team which reduces the commitment to once a month.

The Chapel is a unique and powerfully sacred place. In the Chapel you will find peace, understanding, love and compassion; in a word, Jesus.

Blessings,

Fr. Chuck

PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY

5 FACTS ABOUT WINTER HEALTH

- 1. You lose most of your body heat through your head. The truth is, any uncovered body part will lose heat, but research has shown that people actually lose no more than 10 percent of their body heat through their heads. So while it's always a good idea to wear a hat when you go outside in the winter to keep warm, a hat alone won't offer sufficient protection from the elements. Dress appropriately from head to toe.
- 2. Green mucus is a sign of a bacterial infection. Not true. People often worry when they cough up green mucus, but most of the time it's normal; in fact, it actually means that whatever illness you have is coming to an end. Yellow mucus, meanwhile, is a sign that your body is still fighting whatever is making you sick, and clear mucus is present at the beginning stages of illness.
- You can get the flu from a flu shot.
 Don't worry: There is no live virus in the shot, so it can't give you the

- flu (however, the nasal spray vaccine may cause mild flu symptoms). Conversely, getting a flu shot does not guarantee that you won't get the flu; no vaccine is 100 percent effective. Neither of these facts should stop you from getting a flu shot. It will protect you from the most common strains of flu, and your symptoms won't be as severe if you do get sick.
- Dry heat from a radiator can cause a cold or the flu. False. Radiator heat can dry out your nasal passages and cause discomfort and nose bleeds, but it can't cause a respiratory infection.



5. Shoveling snow is associated with a higher risk of heart attack. The cold constricts your arteries, increasing the workload on your heart. Sudden, extreme activity, like

shoveling only adds to that demand. It's a more stressful activity than most winter sports. In just two minutes,

your heart rate can reach a dangerous point. Use a small shovel and taking frequent breaks. Healthy, active people should have no trouble shoveling snow. Older than 60 or have questions about your health, see your doctor before participating in any strenuous winter activities, especially shoveling snow.

(https://www.rush.edu)

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINICS

will be on Saturdays 6:00pm and Sundays 10:00am: January 18 & 19, March 14 & 15, May 16 & 17. Mark your calendar. If you are unable to attend, you can make an appointment by calling Parish Nurse office. 842-0001, ext. 119. Thank you! Nancy Megley, RN.

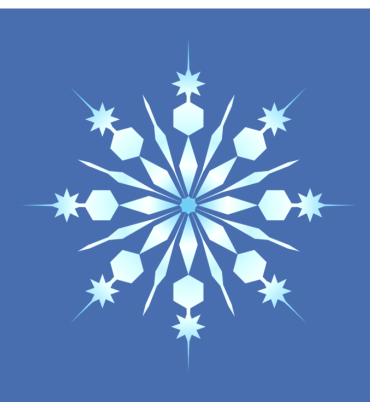


A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give yow peace.



Job Seeker Program

Subject; Trade School Benefits

(excerpt from the Muskegon Chronicle: Oct.27, 2019)

We thought our son would attend a four-year college. Now it's our turn to learn...He announced he has a passion to be a mechanic.

When my husband and I were in high school, you were "college material" or "trade material." There was a sense that going into a trade wasn't a goal that typical college-bound students should have. As time passed, I realized that many who went into a trade were the ones who were consistently employed, often ran their own businesses, and purchased their first home at an early age. The future for them was far brighter and steadier than our old high school guidance counselors had led us to believe. Meanwhile, many four-year college grads were still living at home with mom and dad and often had a pile of student loan debt.

There are many trade and/or certificate programs that allow young adults to enter the work world equipped and ready for success. Or some students may be better served by easing into post-high school education with a two-year degree and then, when they have more time to develop their sense of self, they can attain more education as needed.

Here's what I've learned about the trades, as my son continued his research into his education:

Before too long, we will be reaching a crisis with the lack of tradespeople. Companies like Caterpillar are providing incentives like their ThinkBIG Technician program to get more young people excited about trade careers through education while being paid on the job.

With time, our son thoroughly researched mechanics and realized it is more of a hobby for him. But during the process, he found a program for teens to attend a rigorous boot camp with the Massachusetts State Police at their academy in western Massachusetts. There, he learned a lot about himself and the direction he wants to go. That week clarified his desire to be a first-responder, so he is planning to attend community college next fall for its first-response and para-medicine program, and then he hopes to attend the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy.

What initially freaked me out has now made me so proud. We've fully embraced alternatives to the four-year track and have come to the important self-discovery that as parents, we need to guide but to be open to all options.

For the complete article go to: https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/2019/10/10/we-thought-our-son-would-attend-four-year-college-now-its-our-turn-learn/

A Message from Sister Caroline

Dear brothers & sisters,

First, I would like to thank all of you very much. I received your gift. I am very happy. I promise to pray for the Parish in Mass, prayers, and my work everyday. I wish the Parish be developed in Spiritual and Material life.

Again, thank all of you. May God bless all of you always.

Yours in Christ, Sister Caroline

Collaboration

Serving the community is always a central aspect of our parish life. As we strive for "...making present the kingdom of God" here in Grand Haven, God has blessed us with excellent partners who also have a heart for those most in need.

In 2019 we collaborated with different churches and community organizations. One of the organizations we have always partnered with is **Love In Action**. For years **Love in Action** (formerly Love in the Name of Christ) has coordinated food trucks in the Tri-Cities and because of our location St. Patrick-St. Anthony Parish has played a central role in the distribution of free food. We are glad to say that we

are taking a more welcoming approach to this ministry. Our new facility has allowed us to open the doors of the **Outreach Center** to the families and individuals who come every other Friday to get food from the **Feeding America Truck**.

People can now come in and have a cup of coffee with a cookie while they wait for the food distribution to begin. Furthermore, they can sit down and chat with one another or use the restrooms if needed.

Every Friday when food is distributed **Love In Action** has served from 100 to 140 families. In fact, we have had **25 food trucks** in St. Patrick-St. Anthony Parish parking lot

throughout the year, and approximately **187,500 pounds of food** have been given to these families. In addition to food, we have distributed commodities 4 times a year.

Let us praise God for the difference He is making in our city through St. Patrick-St. Anthony Parish. Let us keep asking God to help us continue to be good **stewards** of his gifts, so we can keep on building **his kingdom of love**, **justice and peace** in our beloved community.





THANK YOU ST. MARY'S SCHOOL: St. Mary's 5th and 6th graders led by their wonderful teachers Rachel Dirk and Elizabeth Rhine again adopted a St. Patrick-St. Anthony family in need for Christmas. The children worked with heart and true joy to provide wonderful gifts with beautiful wrapping and intentional prayers. As the children paraded the gifts to my car, every one of them said "thank you" to me as I held the door! We are very grateful to the students, their families and teachers!

ROSARY FOR HAITI: The Haiti Committee of St. Patrick-St. Anthony proposes a time of more intense, regular prayer for the conversion of Haiti and peace in the country. The problems there are greater than any efforts that we as a parish or local forces can overcome. The rosary has been a unique powerful but gentle weapon in spiritual warfare and is especially suited in praying for peace. The children of elementary faith formation have been leading the rosary in our weekly sessions, and we hope you will join us and the entire parish in this plea for peace and conversion.

TOOTH BRUSHES AND TOOTH PASTE FOR HAITI: Elementary faith formation is collecting toothbrushes and toothpaste for Haiti, and we would love you to join us in this effort. Donations are accepted in the Haiti box in the narthex of the church or at the elementary faith formation greeter table (next to the nursery). Please label your donations "for Haiti" - Thank you so much! We will collect through April.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: First Holy Communion will be celebrated with the parish community on Saturday, May 2, 2020 at the 5:00 P.M. Mass.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SAVE THE DATE: June 15-19, 2020! We've got the ticket for YOU!! Climb aboard for mountains of FUN at Rocky Railway where Jesus' power pulls us through! Children entering 1st-6th grades in fall 2020 will come aboard. Pre-K and kindergarten children OF VOLUNTEERS will arrive at "Little Kids Depot." Volunteers prior to and during the week are welcome and appreciated!!



MIDDLESCHOOLMINISTRY

6th—8th Grade SHINE RALLY March 21 | Reg. Due Feb 21

All 6th - 8th graders are invited to join us at Shine Rally 2020 at West Catholic High School! Cost is \$25.00. Register by Feb 21! Payment due with registration to secure your spot.

Shine Rally High School Leadership Team (Young Apostles)

Young Apostles is open to all teens in grades 10-12 (preference is given to juniors and seniors). This is a team of servant-leaders who host the day's events, helping make the middle school youth feel involved in the rally. Team members lead games, skits, organized activities and share testimonies. **To apply to be a Young Apostle**, visit https://shinerally.wordpress.com/young-apostles-team/

Text Notifications for WEATHER & OTHER UPDATES

Text the group code to the number **81010** to sign up for that group:

5th Grade ROCK Code: @rock5thgr
7th Grade EDGE Code: @edge7thgr

6th Grade ROCK Code: @rock6thgr
8th Grade EDGE Code: @edge8thgr

Important Reminder for 5th—8th Grade Parents:

It's the time of year when schedules are busy, people are coming down with various illnesses, and leaders are sometimes unable to attend ROCK/EDGE. Asking another leader to fill in when they are not needed due to low attendance does not respect their time! Please help respect other's time by updating when your child will not be at ROCK/EDGE ASAP on the Youth Ministry page of the parish website. If your child is registered, but will not be attending ROCK/EDGE this year, please contact Teesie to update information.

ROCK Tuesdays 7:00 - 8:15pm EDGE Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:15pm

5th/6th Grade ROCK

JANUARY	FEBRUARY
7: ROCK Night	4: ROCK Night
14: ROCK Night	11: ROCK Night
21: ROCK Night	18: ROCK Night
28: ROCK Night	25: ROCK Night
MARCH	<u>APRIL</u>
MARCH 3: ROCK Night	APRIL 7: NO ROCK
	
3: ROCK Night	7: NO ROCK

31: ROCK Night

7th/8th Grade EDGE

Teesie Fritsch | Middle School Ministry | tfritsch@stpatsgh.org | 616.842.0001 ext 124

28: LAST ROCK NIGHT!









St. Patrick - St. Anthony Parish Grant Wyatt - Coordinator of High School Ministry Phone: 616.842.0001 ext. 123.

grantwyatt@stpatsgh.org



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