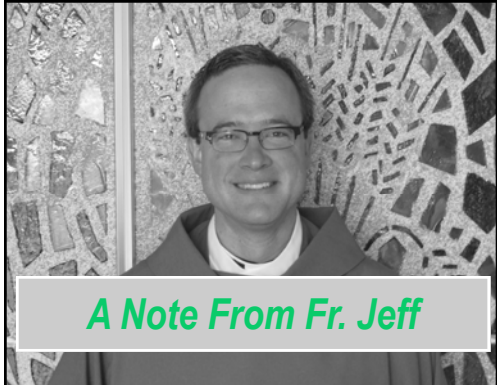




Holy Family-gram

Your Holy Family Catholic Community
Newsletter



A Note From Fr. Jeff

Ten years... Has it really been that long?

When I was first ordained, I can remember speaking to some of the priests who had been ordained for fifteen, twenty, or more years about what it was like to be a priest for so many years. Each one of them remarked on how quickly the time had passed, but I did not completely believe them... until now.

As many of you know, on May 26th I celebrated my tenth anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. Amidst all of the celebrating, well wishes, gifts, visits from friends, family and many of you, I found myself not only feeling a great sense of gratitude for the love, support and prayers at that moment, but also I began to think back to the last ten years and all that

happened. I remembered the wonderful blessings that have been a part of my life as a priest as well as the struggles. I then began to feel an even deeper sense of gratitude for the gift that priesthood has been to me.

Priesthood is more than just what is easily visible, so very much more. But I remember before I entered seminary that I thought, "What do priests do Monday through Friday?" since I would only see them on the weekends or sometimes at our house when my parents would invite them over. However, over the years I have discovered that, as a priest, I was not only to be a minister of the sacraments for the people I serve, but a shepherd, a father, a counselor, a comforter, a listening ear, a leader and even sometimes the one who unplugged the toilets. And it was not just a job for a few days a week but something that I found myself living each and every day, all day. Priesthood was not just what I lived at the church or when I was at hospitals or visiting people; it was something I lived even in the aisles of the grocery store where I would have to kindly explain to some people that I will not hear their confession right by the frozen pizzas and would gladly meet them somewhere else for that. It has been more than I could have ever imagined and more wonderful than can easily be explained.

My first year here at Holy Family has passed by quickly and while writing this I look excitedly into the many years we will have together by the grace of God. I look forward to celebrating with you in the wonderful moments and blessings of life as well as being with you in the difficult and trying moments. I look forward to all that we have the potential to be as a community of faith and to continuing to build on the blessings that have been a part of the wonderful history of our parish.

I am excited about the years ahead and I hope that you are, too.

Father Jeff Poirot was ordained on May 26, 2001.

In honor of his ten year anniversary, a reception was held on Saturday, May 21st at Holy Family.

Congratulations Fr. Jeff!



Those Were The Days. . .

By Terry Strong

Being asked by the Holy Family Gram editors to write a brief synopsis on “Who is Michael Strong?” aka Br. Ambrose Strong, I thought, “Oh gosh, what should I say?” Well, as his mother, here goes....

Michael was baptized at Holy Family on June 26, 1983, by Fr. Spong. Who, you say? Fr. Spong was an Associate Pastor here with Msgr. Wolfe. They seem a lifetime ago.

The grade school years started in Benbrook at Westpark Elementary. When we moved closer to the church, we were lucky enough to enroll at Holy Family School. Thank you, Karen Roach, for opening these doors. Michael began the third grade here. Virginia Phoenix was principal and Pearl Middleton was her secretary. (Ms. Pearl, you’ve been promoted since then!) Michael graduated eighth grade with Mary Ann Wood as his teacher. Mrs. Wood also became his sponsor for Confirmation. Thank you, Mrs. Wood, for being one of his early mentors.

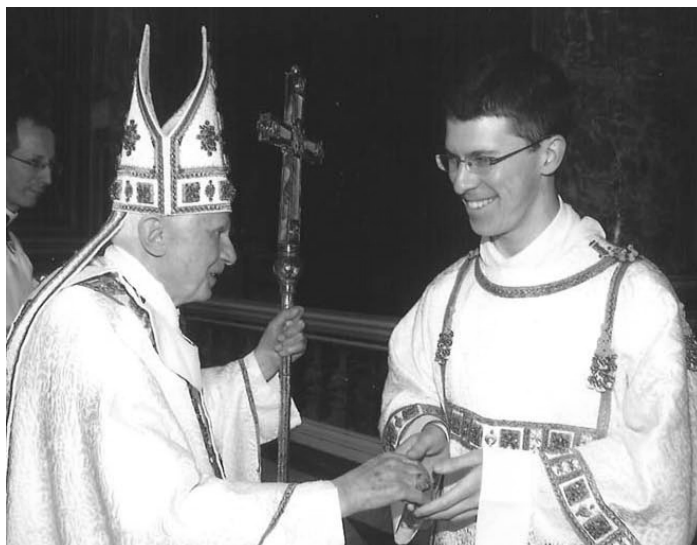
Another main mentor from Holy Family, was Genni Sayers. Genni and her team still lead our young teens and high schoolers through those tough waters. Thank you, Genni, Frank and Tina for your leadership at such an impressionable age.

I can’t leave the Holy Family years without mentioning Fr. Joe Pemberton. He was such a major part of Michael’s youth, from weekly school Masses where Michael learned to become an altar server and lector, to encouraging him to think about the priesthood. Thank you, Fr. Joe, for planting that seed.

Now on to high school at Nolan. It was really a good fit and definitely worth the drive! Brother/Father Oscar was principal at the time and he never met a stranger. He knew every student’s name and the parent’s, too! One class in particular at Nolan that left its mark, was Mr. Rist’s “Great Theological Controversies.” It made such an impression, that Michael went on to major in Theology at the University of Dallas in Irving. It was during Christmas break of his senior year that Michael went on a discernment retreat across the highway at the Cistercian Monastery. So ... during Christmas break in 2005, Michael made the decision to enter the priesthood in the Cistercian Order.

He has traveled many miles since then. Spending these past two years in Rome, the highlight was serving in the Holy Chrism Mass with Pope Benedict XVI this past Easter as one of the main Deacons. The highlight for me was watching the Mass on EWTN the next day! (Of course I have it on tape.) Very memorable!

Well, Michael/Br./Fr. Ambrose has come full circle now. He will celebrate his very first Mass here, at Holy Family, on Saturday, August 20 at 10:30 a.m. Fr. Joe Pemberton and many



Br. Ambrose Strong, serving in the Holy Chrism Mass, 2011.

of the Fathers and Brothers from Cistercian will concelebrate with him. All are welcome to the Mass so please come and share this special day with our family. I will be the one with the empty Kleenex box sitting next to Garland, MaryEllen and Robert.

Garland and I would like to thank all the people from our faith community over these last 28 years of raising kids – we couldn’t have done it without you. Especially thank you Holy Family Church. You are part of the fabric of our lives and we are forever grateful.

☞ An Invitation ☛

Please join

Father Ambrose Strong

As he celebrates his First Mass

Saturday, August 20, 10:30 a.m.

at Holy Family Church.

All parishioners are invited.

Reservations required for reception.

Please call 817.737.6768

Families Invited to Participate in Chalice Program

By Shirley Matzinger

Holy Family Parish started The Chalice Program in June of 2002. Last month marked nine years that the chalice has been passed from one family to another family every Sunday at every Mass, which numbers over 1,870 times. Every day prayers are being said for religious vocations and for all men and women who serve God's church. The only requirement to participate is to attend the same Mass for two weekends in order to pass the chalice to another family the second weekend. Please fill out the Chalice Participation green card (located in the racks at all entrances to the church) and check the Mass time you could attend for two weekends. You are welcome to call the Chalice Captains to sign up or for any information.

Chalice Captains for each Mass:

5:00 p.m. Saturday Mass - Mike Eder 817-246-1802

7:45 a.m. Mass - Nancy Garcia 817-244-5955

9:15 a.m. Mass - Jim Roach 817-244-0116

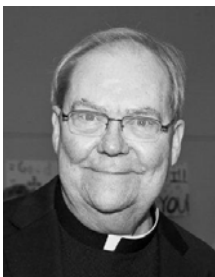
12:00 p.m. Mass - Sharon Werlinger 817-763-0064



We have been blessed with many vocations in our parish:

- Most Reverend Anthony B. Taylor, Bishop of Little Rock, Arkansas, was ordained priest, August 2, 1980 and ordained bishop, June 5, 2008.
- Rev. D. Timothy Thompson was ordained July 16, 1982 and is presently serving as Pastor of Immaculate Conception in Denton.
- Fr. Leo Joseph Fisher, CFR (Community of Franciscan Friars of the Renewal), was ordained May 14, 2005 and is currently at St. Michael Friary in Paterson, New Jersey.
- Father John Pacheco was ordained May 23, 2009. At present, he is the Parochial Administrator at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Wichita Falls, and also serves as chaplain for Retroville.
- Brother Michael Endres, OSB (Order of Saint Benedict), is a monk at The Subiaco Abby in Subiaco, Arkansas.
- Brother Ambrose Strong, O. Cist. (Michael Strong) will be ordained Sunday, August 14, 2011 and will celebrate his first Mass on August 20, 2011 at Holy Family.

We are grateful for all of our men and women who have answered God's call to serve as priests, deacons, brothers, sisters and lay ministers. Take time and participate, you will truly enjoy taking the blessed chalice home for a week.



Welcome Wishes!

We extend a warm welcome to Monsignor Phillip Johnson, who came to us from St. Michael's in Bedford. He is now retired in residence at Holy Family and we are very blessed to have him!

Catholic Charities

Invites you to join them for CC101, a complimentary lunch and tour of their new facilities with a quick overview of their wonderful accomplishments. Come and see their mission in action!

Tour dates: August 11, August 25, September 8 and September 22.

Time: 12 noon - 1 p.m.

Please RSVP to Kristy Brown, 817-413-3924 or kbrown@ccdofw.org.

Holy Family Parish is a community of faith committed to proclaiming and living the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We accept our calling received in Baptism to be members of the Body of Christ. Living in the Spirit of Jesus, we love and serve each other on our journey of faith.

— *Holy Family Catholic Church Mission Statement*

Holy Family Couple Honored by Knights of Columbus

By Barbara Skipper

Knights of Columbus Council 2813 named Bob and Teddi Huttmeier "Family of the Year" for fraternal year 2010-2011.

The Huttmeyers have been actively involved with the Knights of Columbus since September 2002. Bob has served as an inside guard and is now serving as an outside guard. They both spend many hours performing KC duties.

Each month, they work in the bingo kitchen, preparing the kitchen, cooking/serving the food, and always helping clean up afterwards. They have worked on many Family Nites, setting up, decorating, cooking, serving, and cleaning up.

While Bob attends meetings, Teddi prepares bingo papers for the bingo program. Bob helps cook for the Fish Fries held during Lent. Teddi helps set up the tables, serve the food, and collect the money. They both help with the never ending clean up.

Teddi and Bob both help produce Cana Night, a major event at the hall. Cana Night begins with a Mass and renewal of marriage vows, followed by dinner (again cooking, serving, and cleaning up) with dancing following. Of course, the hall has to be decorated for Cana Night and undecorated afterwards.

You will find them helping fill boxes for the hall's Christmas baskets. Bob and Teddi also go to the DFW Airport to welcome home a hero for the KC's. They can always be called upon to help anytime there is a need for more workers.

The Huttmeyers are also active in Holy Family Catholic Church. They are in Small Church, All Young at Heart, and can often be



Teddi and Bob Huttmeier, KOC members since 2002

seen working on various projects. They also serve on the Arts and Environment Committee and both work in RCIA. Teddi is a Eucharistic minister, plays bells in the Bell choir, serves in the library, and previously served on the Pastoral Council. Both help prepare the Holy Family-Gram for distribution.

Being honored as Family of the Year is a well-deserved recognition of all the work that the Huttmeier's have done for the Knights of Columbus. Council 2813 looks forward to their continued involvement in all the KC Activities. It is because of people like Bob and Teddi Huttmeier that the Knights of Columbus continue to be a positive force for everyone.

Special Needs Mass - Summer Dates

Please join us for the Special Needs Mass this summer. The Special Needs Mass is for families with members who have special needs, friends and all who love and support someone with special needs. Everyone is invited to attend and celebrate together. It is a time to rejoice in the beauty God has created in each of us.

The Special Needs Masses for the summer will be **Saturday, August 13th** and **Saturday, September 10th**. Mass starts at 7:00 p.m. in the chapel.

Please call or email Robyn Flores (817.441.6991 / rlh0655@hotmail.com) or Rose Unkefer (817.377.2966 / unkefer97@sbcglobal.net) with any questions.

Holy Family Men's Club Event

When: Wednesday, September 14th, at 7 p.m.
Speaker: Father Jeff Poirot
Topic: *"On the Brewer's Art"*

Everyone is invited!



Get to Know The Goosens

By Christine Snider

When you walk into the home of Stella and Al Goosens, you are immediately greeted by beautiful pots of African violets with blooms of every color. The home, like its inhabitants, is full of love, spirit, and many wonderful memories. Nestled in far north-west Fort Worth, it is a stone's throw from the Joint Reserve Base and a close commute to Holy Family.

Stella was born in Bermuda, which, she told me, is a nineteen-square-mile British island in the north Atlantic (not in the Caribbean, as many people think). Her parents emigrated there from the Dutch West Indies. Her parents were both very active in their church and the children learned that same commitment.

Al is a native of Lawrence, Massachusetts, where he spoke only French until he was six years old. His mother's parents were French Canadians from Quebec and his father's parents were from France and Belgium. Both spoke very little English. Al joined the Naval Reserve in 1947 and active duty in 1949. After completing boot camp and the Seabees builder school, he was sent to Bermuda in January of 1950.

The pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Bermuda was also the naval chaplain to the sailors who were stationed there. Al was his altar server and the priest encouraged the young man to join the choir at St. Joseph's, where Al and Stella met. The rest, as Stella says, is history. On August 2, 1951, less than two years after their first encounter, they were married by that same parish priest.

Al was in the Seabees, a construction battalion that could build anything and everything the Navy required. Al learned all phases of construction, including carpentry, masonry, steel work, concrete work, plumbing and electrical. The work was in high demand so, after the birth of their first child, Jeanne, Al and his family were sent back to Massachusetts where their second child, Donald, was born. From there, it was off to Rhode Island, where Stella had their third child, Arthur. In 1958, they were sent to another island – Oahu, Hawaii. In 1960, the year their daughter, Anne, was born, Hawaii joined the Union and Stella recalls the huge celebration, with dancing in the streets.

Finally, in 1962, the Goosens family arrived in Texas, where their daughter, Mary, was born and they became members of St. Paul's Church in River Oaks. There was a Seabee Reserve battalion in a building on the corner of Rosedale and Forest Park where Al trained Seabee reservists. In 1965, Al was sent to Vietnam, where he served for thirteen months. He was then sent to Gulfport, Mississippi, where he only spent two-and-a-half months before he was sent back to Vietnam for another nine months.

Needless to say, Al's absence was very hard on Stella, who



Al and Stella Goosens, parishioners since 1987.

was taking care of five children, one of whom was blind from birth. The children, except for Donald, attended St. Paul's Catholic School. Donald attended Lilly B. Clayton School, which could attend to his special needs.

"When you have a child with special needs, you either fight it, or you adjust to it," Stella said. "So we adjusted. I'm a different person because of Donald." Donald received a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's in education and is now a counselor for the blind for the state of Missouri. Stella and Al are quite proud of all of their children and their accomplishments.

After being in St. Paul's Parish for twenty-five years, where Stella was the CCD coordinator for seven years, the Goosens family joined Holy Family Parish in 1987. Al joined the choir and became a cantor. Stella joined the RCIA team, which she did for ten years, then took over training for infant baptisms, which she oversaw for twelve years along with her neighbor, Joe Simeroth. In 1991, Fr. Joe Scantlin asked Al to be the project coordinator for building the Family Life Center.

"When it was completed, Msgr. Schumacher told me that it was the only project in the diocese that was completed on time and in budget," Al stated proudly. Then Fr. Joe Pemberton asked Al to build the parish library, which he did with the help of Jim Roach and Tom Murnane.

Al retired in 1974 as a Master Chief Petty Officer and went to work for contractors until he retired in 1991. Since then, the couple has traveled extensively to many countries. In 2001, Stella had a pulmonary embolism on a flight back from the Bavarian Alps, which forced her to discontinue coordinating the infant baptism ministry at Holy Family. She says that it took about three years to regain her energy. Now they are back to traveling, while Stella also enjoys knitting, gardening and sewing. She knits caps for Catholic Charities to distribute to the homeless and has made hats and booties for John Peter Smith Hospital.

We are so blessed to have such wonderful stewards like Al and Stella in our parish. We wish them the best on their 60th anniversary and pray that they will have many more!

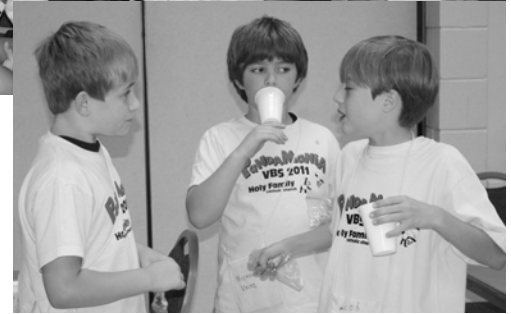
Parish Youth Experience “Panda Mania”!

By Pam Sapienza, Children’s Ministry Coordinator

This June many of the younger members of our parish, along with our wonderful adult and teen volunteers, enjoyed a week of Panda Mania – this year’s Vacation Bible School program.

We began our mornings with the theme of the day, given to us by our phenomenal panda leader, Cam Ryan, and a new song led by Laura Lennarson and our own Bamboo Blast Band!

During the week, we learned that not only did God make us and give us wonderful gifts to share, but He also listens, watches over us, and loves us. These lessons were reinforced by the many activities the children completed throughout the week. They sat in the belly of a whale and learned, just as Jonah did, that God always gives you another chance. They created paper plate portraits of themselves, enjoyed making and eating a Cross of Life, and found out how difficult it is to shake off a sticky cotton ball from their nose. The children were also treated to a skit showing us how Jesus forgives us and loves us, led by Cam Ryan, Jim Roach, and Joe Rodriguez. Along with all of that, the children paid-it-forward by collecting school supplies and decorating book bags for the needy (which were a great hit at Catholic Charities). We ended each day with a Rowdy Round-up as we gathered again in song joined by the children’s parents.



All of our adult and teen volunteers did an awesome job creating an enthusiastic and loving

environment for our young children to learn about God. It was a great week that was topped off with water balloons and snow-cones from Mancuso’s.

Thanks to all our volunteers and participants! We are looking forward to next year!

Mark Your Calendar!

Please make note of the following upcoming events. For more information, please contact the Pastoral Office at 817-737-6768.



- ◆ Saturday, August 13 & September 10
Special Needs Mass, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Weekends of August 20-21 and 27-28 (After all Masses)
Whole Community Catechesis (WCC) Registration
Religious formation for all ages!
- ◆ Saturday, August 27
Catholic Charities Noche de Fiesta Fund Raiser
- ◆ Sunday, September 11
Whole Community Catechesis Begins
- ◆ Monday, September 12
Newcomer’s Gathering, 7:30 p.m.
- ◆ Tuesday, September 13
Divorced & Separated Information Night, 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Sunday, September 18, after 7:45 a.m. & 9:15 a.m. Masses
Men’s Club Pancake Breakfast
\$3/person (6 and under are free)
- ◆ Tuesday, September 20
Love & Logic: the Early Years, 5-Week Session Begins
- ◆ Monday, September 26
Women of Holy Family Pot Luck Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

NEWS

HFCS Students Help Those in Need

In May, HFCS eighth graders presented a \$1,500 check to the Assessment Center at Catholic Charities. The children from the Assessment Center visit HFCS once a month and work with our eighth graders in our computer lab. Over the last three years, HFCS has donated \$10,000 to Catholic Charities through a school-wide service project, Casual for a Cause. For a \$2 donation, students may attend school in non-uniform dress. HFCS is proud of our students for helping those in need in our own community.

Congratulations to Our 8th-Grade Graduates

On Wednesday, May 25, HFCS recognized our eighth grade class at their Promotion Mass. Please join us in congratulating our students: Samantha Alfaro, Daniel Balderas, Anthony Castellarin, Grace Castellarin, Adrienne Conley, Kayla Cook, Matt Cook, Grant Damico, Salina DuClos, Jack Fitzsimons, Courtney Guajardo, Micaela Hannah, Piper Head, Douglas Hoang, Daniel Kaminski, Abby Sandusky, Isabelle Sapienza, Jacie Shreve, Josie Skero, and George Tregue. Good luck to each of you as you embark upon high school.

7th-Grade Students Receive Honors

Congratulations to our seventh graders who were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society on Thursday, May 12.



Please join us in applauding the following students: Catherine Arnett, Eddie Bickett, Gracie Cook, Lyra Durr, Paige Fisher, Delaney Fleming, Alex Hecht, Patrick Hoffacker, Samuel Marquardt, Molly McCabe, Hunter McCans, Michael Neff, Thomas Park, Victoria Strickland, and Dean Wade.

Parents/Parishioners Swing Big for Our Kids

The Holy Family School Dad's Club held their sixth annual fund-raising golf tournament May 31 at Hawks Creek Golf Club. The moms and dads did a wonderful job of volunteering in many, many ways to make the tourney the biggest fund-raiser for the Dad's Club. Over 100 golfers and sponsors raised over \$10,000.

Our dads worked tirelessly all year long to plan the event and to

find donors and sponsors. Their work included hosting a web site, many planning meetings, cooking food, serving food, soliciting sponsors and players, coordinating volunteers, hosting an awards ceremony, and playing harassing segments of Caddy Shack to golfers on the 18th hole!

These past few years, the Dad's club has done a outstanding job of helping our kids explore sports and fine arts by building sports fields, sprinkler systems, backstops, goals, bleachers, etc. They have bought sound and light systems for plays and musical events. They have cleaned the school grounds a number of times, and, of course, hosted the "Holy Smoke Grill" at the annual fall festival.

We sincerely extend our gratitude to all those parents who help make our children's lives better.

Thanks and Good Wishes to Dr. John Shreve

For many of us, our favorite memory of Dr. Shreve will be his warm, welcoming enthusiasm for us and our children as we arrived at school each day. John is a great example to us all, making such a consistent effort to have a positive smile and make his part of the world a much better place.

John grew up in Louisiana and still loves his beloved LSU Tigers! He proudly served our country in the US Navy and then began his career in education. John has degrees from University of North Texas (BSE), Tarleton State University (M.Ed.), and California Coast University (Ed.D.). Dr. Shreve has served for over thirty years in education roles.

These past six years have seen many changes and improvements to our school. We have updated our technology in an effort to keep pace with the changing world, we have "smart" boards in our classrooms and this summer our teachers are learning the applications available on the iPad to share with our children next year. Our Dad's Club has dramatically enhanced our sports facilities and equipment. This past year, we expanded our band and fine arts offering to include instructive dance classes. Dr. Shreve has led us well in striving to provide a well-rounded education for our children.

To Joanie and Jacie, thank you both for sharing your husband and father with us for these many years of service, from parent to Advisory Council Chair to principal. John has defined of motto of "Teaching the way of Jesus Christ."

Most importantly, Dr. Shreve has led by example in inspiring our children to be good, universal, Catholic stewards in their family and community. John encourages the children by recognizing them each Monday morning through the school assembly and prayer session. Thursday morning each week was a special time to celebrate Mass together and strengthen the caring Catholic example we all hope for our children to emulate.

*- Contributed by Lisa Griffith, Development Director
Holy Family Catholic School*



Holy Family-gram is the publication of Holy Family Catholic Community, 6150 Pershing Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76107. Individuals wishing to submit articles should call the Pastoral Office or email one of our editors. Any material submitted for publication may be subject to editing by the staff. The deadline for our next issue is September 30, 2011.

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