

Solemnity of All Saints

ST. HEDWIG CHURCH

PARISH PRAYER

November 4 thru November 8, 2009

Wednesday 7:00 PM Florian Pawlak
Saturday 5:00 PM Parish Family
Sunday 10:00 AM Harold Middleton
Worship Aid Dedication: In Memory of
Edward Keit

IN THE LORD'S SERVICE

Saturday, November 7, 5:00 PM Mass

Mass Server: Susan Kendall
Lector: Kathy Bigelow
E. Ministers: Joan Petcher
Martha Rex
Greeters: Jim & Eleanor Horner

Sunday, November 8, 10:00 AM Mass

Mass Servers: Seth Taylor
Tom Schultz
Lectors: Jennifer Swiecicki
Tom Schultz
E. Ministers: Autumn Dabrowski
Bob Kienbaum
Greg & Re Marciniak
Greeters: Ray & Kathy Brown
Jack Padget
Keleen Marciniak
Shut-in- Minister: Bob Kienbaum

Last Week's Collection.....\$ 3,385.50

-30% Bay Area Catholic Schools
Assessment . . . 1,017.00
-1% Tithing 34.00

Parish Total \$2,334.50

Children's Collection . . 22.50

Recent Expense: GIA Publications \$37.66

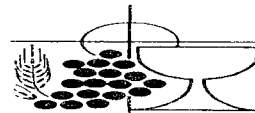
Sponsor of the Week

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3660 Patterson Rd. (989) 686-8350
Bay City Terry Laskowski, President

Liturgies for the Week

St. Mary's -Tue. - Fri. Mass 8:00 AM, Sat. 4:00
PM Sun. 8:30 AM & 11:00AM
St. Hedwig -Wed. 7:00 PM, Sat. 5:00 PM &
Sun. 10AM
Holy Trinity -Sat. 4:30 PM, Sun. 8:30 & 10:30AM



Stewardship Thought: Today's psalm makes clear that we and everything we think we own actually belong to God instead: "The Lord's are the earth and its fullness, the world and those who dwell in it." We are stewards, not owners, of our lives and all we possess!

Today's Reading

Solemnity of All Saints

Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12a

Thirtieth-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 17:10-16
Hebrews 9:24-28
Mark 12:38-44 or 12: 41-44

Special prayers or intentions:
Rose 684-1052

This Week in the Parish

Monday, Nov. 2- NO Faith Formation or
Good Shepherd
Catechist Planning 6:30 PM
All Soul's Prayer Service 7:00 PM
Tuesday, Nov. 3- Rosary/ Altar Mtg. 6:00 PM
Wednesday, Nov. 4- Mass 7:00 PM
Saturday, Nov. 7- Private Reconciliation
2-2:30 PM

From Sr. Joann, Today we celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints remembering examples of faithful discipleship. We not only recall those officially declared saints by the Church like John the Baptist, Elizabeth Ann Seton and Dominic but also others. All Saints is about the countless saints without names "whose faith is known to you alone," as Eucharistic Prayer IV expresses it. This solemnity is a reminder that we are *all* called to be saints, and that heaven is full of souls whose names we don't know. We are grateful for the example and inspiration that they have given us.

Monday is the feast of All Souls. The belief that our prayers can be of assistance to the dead is a treasured tenet of our Catholic faith. With this in mind on Monday evening at 7 PM, we will have an All Souls Prayer Service. During the service the faithful departed will be remembered, especially those that have been buried from St. Hedwig in the past year. Please consider joining us and supporting the family members and friends, who have recently lost a loved one.

During the next three weekends of November we will have a special look at our stewardship of time, talent and treasure. More details to follow.

We offer our prayers and sympathy to the family of Eleanore Adamczyk. Eleanore was one of our shut-ins and a member of St. Hedwig's all her life. She was baptized at St. Hedwig's 84 years ago, attended St. Hedwig School and was married in our church. Eleanore is the sister of Phyllis Davidson. May she and all the souls of the faithful departed be granted eternal life.

All ladies of the parish are invited to celebrate the beginning of the holidays with cocktails, dinner and a fun time. Bring along a lady friend if you wish. The Rosary Altar Sodality's Christmas Party is December 1. Cost is \$9.00 per person. Call Jan @ 893-3245 or Kathy at 894-4719 to make reservations.

Kiesel's Pearls Christmas Party will be held on Tuesday, December 15. Refreshments at 1 o'clock and dinner will be served at 2 o'clock. Please make your reservations at the November 10 meeting or call Virginia at 892-8193. Cost is \$8.50. All are welcome.

A Felician Sisters Auxiliary Meeting on will be held on Sunday, November 8th @ 1:30 PM in St. Hyacinth's Field House.

Faith Formation

Reminder! November 2 there will **not** be a Faith Formation or Good Shepherd Class. All are encouraged to attend the All Souls Prayer Service that evening in church at 7:00 PM.

Family Session #1 for Reconciliation will be held on Sunday, November 8 after the 10:00 AM Mass.

The Jr. High will meet on Sunday, November 8 from 1:30-7:00 PM for their annual "**Rake and Run**" event.

BACS Fast Fact

SCRIP is sold at all of the Bay Area Catholic schools. Purchasing SCRIP means buying gift cards at face value that were sold to Bay Area Catholic Schools at a discount. This discount is used for tuition assistance.

The winners of the BACSlapper drawing were Sue Wisniewski who won \$10,000 and Brad Walraven, Curt Bannigan, Lee Sujkowski, Carol LaLonde and Frank Cieszlak who won \$1,000 each.

Come and walk with your God this Lent . . .
Learn to Live Gospel Values that will
Transform the World !!

Food Baskets

The food that we collect now thru mid December will be used to fill food baskets for those in need. If you know of someone from our parish that could use a little help this year please call the parish office. All calls are confidential.

United Way of Bay County's Tuesday Toolmen Program offers free minor home maintenance for qualifying Bay County residents. For information call 893-7508 ext. 18.

Cluster Corner

Holy Trinity - Booster Blast Saturday, Nov. 7 at Lumber Barons. Tickets are \$50 each. For information call Mike at 225-1993

St. Mary's - Benefit Tailgate Party for Jolene (Ayotte) Bellsmith in St. Patrick's Hall, November 8 from noon til 5:00 PM. Come join the fun! There will be games, food and Big Screen TV's to watch your favorite game. \$15 will get you an afternoon of fun, food, raffles and games.

FLU SEASON APPROACHING – HOW CAN WE BEST PREPARE!

Being knowledgeable is important to staying healthy. Flu and cold viruses (including H1N1) are transmitted when someone who is infected sneezes or coughs and sends infected droplets flying into the air. Anyone nearby can inhale these droplets and become ill. These droplets are so small we can't even see them. If we cough or sneeze into our hands, we can then infect every surface we touch. If we shake someone's hand after coughing or sneezing into our own hand we have just passed on the virus to another person who might become sick if they touch their face, nose, eyes or mouth. Now is a great time to start practicing the "Elbow Sneeze." Our school children have learned this technique and you can too. Feel a sneeze or cough coming on ??? Bring your arm to your face and sneeze or cough into the bend of your arm at the elbow - we call it Flu Season Etiquette.

WHAT OTHER THINGS ARE WE DOING?

St. Hedwig Parish will be taking some extra preventative steps this Flu Season to help decrease the chances of spreading viruses. Beginning this week, we will be sanitizing the church door handles on a weekly basis. We have also placed alcohol- based sanitizer containers at each entrance of the church. Feel free to use it when you enter church and before blessing yourself with Holy Water. A dime-sized amount of the solution is all you need. Rub it quickly all over your hands and in between your fingers to get the best results- be sure to air dry. When used properly alcohol-based sanitizers are 99.9% effective!

WHAT IF YOU ARE SICK?

If you have a cough and /or fever, consider staying home from Mass until you recover. Avoid consuming the Precious Blood if you have a cough or a respiratory infection. Consider refraining from shaking hands at the Sign of Peace and substitute *a polite nod with a warm smile* – everyone will understand and appreciate this gesture!

IF FLU BECOMES WIDESPREAD

We may be instructed by the Diocese to implement other measures such as a complete ban on shaking hands at the Sign of Peace. We will keep you updated through the bulletin.

VACCINE INFORMATION

The Bay County Health Department still has the Seasonal Flu Vaccine available. They will also be receiving shipments of the H1N1 Vaccine on a weekly basis. For a schedule of dates and sites for administration of the vaccines, please call 895-4006 or visit www.baycounty-mi.gov/Health/InfluenzaUpdates.aspx for updated press releases and information.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

November 2009

St. Hedwig Parish

Sr. Joann Plumpe, Pastoral Administrator

One Minute Meditations

All Saints Day

In the early Church, each saint and martyr had a feast day. Later persecution of Christians created so many martyrs that there weren't enough days on the calendar for individual commemorations. Eventually Pope Gregory IV designated Nov. 1 as All Saints Day.

All Souls Day

Names of those who died were posted in the early days of the Church so that they could be remembered in prayer. In the 11th century, the Cluniac monasteries, the Benedictines and Carthusians all started commemorating the Feast of All Souls on Nov. 2, the day after All Saints Day. Now the entire Church remembers all the dead on this day, especially our loved ones and souls in Purgatory.

Advent is coming

On November 29th, we start a new liturgical year and begin the season of Advent. We get ready by going to Confession, trying for greater holiness, and counting down the days until our Savior comes.



Be not afraid

When someone we love is dying, our emotions collide. We want to help, but don't know what to do. We want to offer comfort, but can be overwhelmed with grief. Yet, helping others transition from this life to the next is so important, the Church made visiting the sick and burying the dead two Corporal Works of Mercy. Here is what you can bring to a loved one who is dying:

Bring love. Jesus never turned away from the sick and dying. He always had a loving hand to comfort them and their families. Sometimes even just holding a hand or stroking a shoulder says more about love than words.

Bring attention. Ask him stories

about his life and listen carefully. Let him know how much he has inspired you. You'll treasure these moments after he is gone.

Bring comfort. Remind her how much God loves her and is waiting to welcome her. He is kind, merciful, and forgiving. Encourage her to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Anointing of the Sick.

Bring peace. Although someone may lose his ability to speak, he can still hear. Pray out loud, read from scripture, or sing a favorite hymn.

Bring strength. When someone is leaving this world to enter the next, fear can be overwhelming. Remind her of Jesus' words, "Be not afraid."



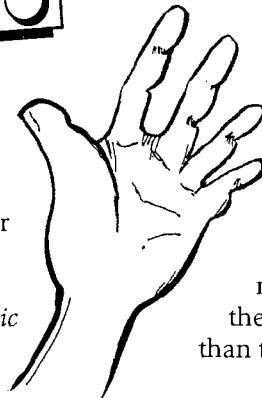
Why Do Catholics Do That?

When we die in God's friendship we know that we'll eventually go to Heaven. However, if we haven't properly atoned for certain sins, we have to be purified in Purgatory first. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* calls it, "a final

Why do we pray for souls in Purgatory?

cleansing of human imperfection before one is able to enter the joy of heaven."

We pray for the souls in Purgatory, especially during the month of November, to help them pass through to Heaven faster than they would on their own.



What's so great about being Catholic?

Our Mother. Mary, the mother of God, is also our mother. **It's dependable.** Our religion hasn't changed since Jesus started it.

You can sing badly and no one cares. All voices are welcome in the Church.

We have a shepherd. Jesus knew we would need looking after. Pope Benedict XVI can trace his spiritual ancestry straight back to the first pope, St. Peter, who was appointed by Jesus.

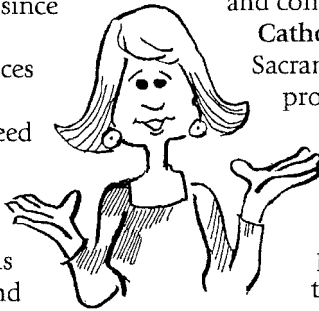
The ceremonies can't be beat. Through rituals we express devotion, hope, love, and respect. And

because we repeat them often, they bring a sense of stability and comfort.

Catholics know when our sins are forgiven. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we get to hear the priest pronounce Jesus' words of absolution and forgiveness.

We have friends in high places. The saints intercede for us and help us to get to Heaven.

Where else can you meet Jesus in the flesh? In the Eucharist Jesus is literally and wholly present—body and blood, soul and divinity—under the appearances of bread and wine.

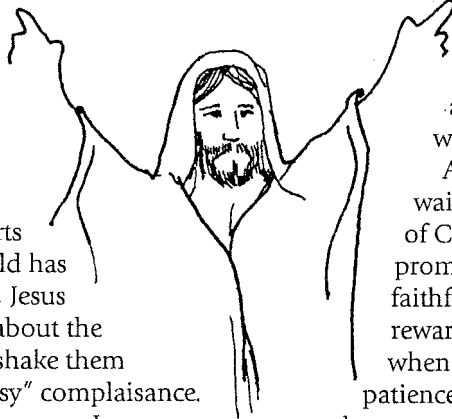


from Scripture

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36, the Advent of hope

The virtues of patience and perseverance aren't strengths for most of us. Often the concerns of daily life overshadow our pursuit of holiness. We can even get lured into sin by the comforts and pleasures the world has to offer. Knowing this, Jesus warned his followers about the end times, hoping to shake them (and us) out of "drowsy" complaisance.

Imagine the terrifying scene Jesus described – the shaking of the earth, sea, and sky and people dying of fright. In the midst of that terror, though,

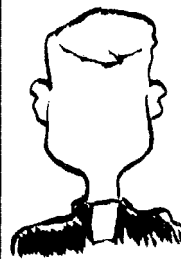


people in God's friendship will have no reason to fear. The key is, he said, to stay on guard against sin and worldly pleasure.

Advent is a time of waiting for the coming of Christ. God has promised us that if we are faithful to him, we will be rewarded. This is a time when we must pray for patience and perseverance to keep us ready for the arrival of our Savior. Then we can hold our heads high and stand confident expecting our promised reward.

Q & A What can I do about the shortage of priests?

In the Catholic Church, the number of priests increases every year. However, in the United States, Canada, and parts of Europe, fewer men are entering discernment and formation for the priesthood.



It's not that God is calling fewer men here than elsewhere. It may be that fewer act on their call due to lack of information or encouragement. Start by praying for more men to recognize their call to the priesthood.

Then, look for a Catholic who has integrity and a strong relationship with God, has an ability to work with a variety of people, and has good friends and healthy relationships. Perhaps you know someone like this who already serves the Church as an altar server, a lector, Eucharistic minister, or a teacher.

Then, tell him why you think he will make a good priest and suggest he contact the vocation director in your diocese. Studies show that nine out of ten priests in the U.S. are happy in their ministry and would choose it again given the chance.

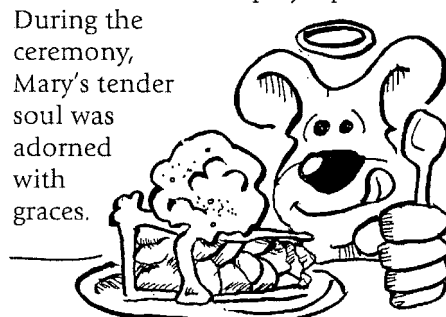
Feasts & Celebrations

November 11 – St. Martin of Tours (397). At 15, Martin became a Roman soldier, but he knew killing was wrong and he wanted to become a Christian. A beggar in France made it so. Martin saw the man cold and hungry and decided to rip in half his cloak to warm him. That night he dreamed the beggar was Jesus, wearing his cloak and surrounded by angels. Martin left the army and became a priest.

November 12 – St. Josaphat (1623). Josaphat, the first Saint of the Eastern Church, is known for his generosity toward the needy and his

instruction and teaching of the faith. He died trying to bring the Orthodox and Catholic churches back together.

November 21 – The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. As an infant, Mary was offered to God in the temple. It was Jewish custom to either consecrate a child to divine service or have them offered up by a priest. During the ceremony, Mary's tender soul was adorned with graces.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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