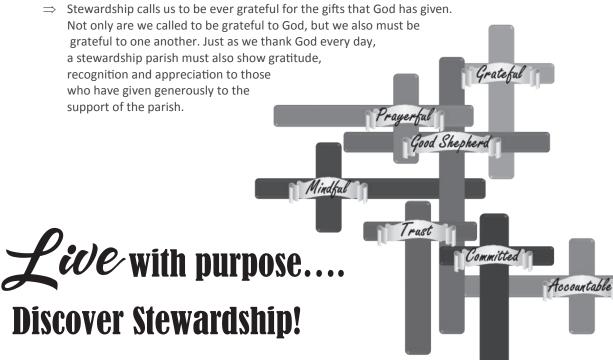
# Stewardship

As in years past, November is our month of Stewardship renewal here at Good Shepherd. As a church, it is important for us to take advantage of this time to reflect on how we respond to God's call to be good stewards of the gifts that are bestowed upon us. Our theme this year is "Live with purpose... Discover Stewardship".

How do we Discover Stewardship?

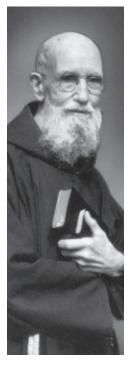
It is difficult to teach or practice stewardship, unless we have a clear understanding of exactly what stewardship is. If we wish to embrace stewardship, we must gradually learn to embrace every definition or aspect of stewardship. Here are 6 aspects of stewardship to reflect upon during our renewal process.

- Mindful Live in the present, without the baggage of the past, and without fear of the future.
  - ⇒ Once we allow God to truly take up residence in our hearts we become so overwhelmed by His abundant love for us that we just naturally feel the need to join our lives with Him and dedicate our time, talent and treasure to daily carrying out God's work here on earth.
- Prayerful See the entire day as an opportunity to be in the presence of God.
  - ⇒ Stewardship involves spending time with God. Recognizing that every day is a gift from God, we strive to spend some of each day with God, through prayer, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, scripture reading, quiet, meditation and other spiritual activities. During this time we ask God how He wants us to use the gifts He has given us.
- Grateful Give thanks, for all of God's blessings, especially the little everyday ones.



## Blessed Solanus Casey: Ministry of Healing

by Fr. Martin Pable, Capuchin



On Nov. 18 of this year, Capuchin Fr. Solanus Casey will be declared "Blessed" by Pope Francis. He was born in a small town in western Wisconsin. His parents were Irish farmers who migrated to this country to escape the famine in their homeland. They married and became parents of 16 children. Fr. Solanus was born in 1870 and baptized Bernard Francis, one of ten brothers who formed their own baseball team.

To help support the family, he left elementary school and went to work. At age 17 he got a job as a streetcar motorman in Superior, WI. One summer evening he saw a crowd of people gathered on the tracks. He stopped the car and got out. On the tracks lay a dying young woman who had been stabbed by a sailor. When young Barney finished his run that

night, he went to a local church and prayed. He became convinced he had to do something about the sin and violence in the world. He felt the call to become a priest.

He entered St. Francis Seminary in Milwaukee. However, he was not able to keep up with the studies and had to leave. He returned home very discouraged.

His new pastor suggested he apply to a Religious Order. He was accepted by the Capuchins in Detroit, arriving there on Christmas Eve, 1896. In those days it was required that the novice change his baptismal name to another saint's name. Bernard chose "Solanus"—after a Spanish friar, St. Francis Solano, who had been a missionary to Latin America.

However, when he had to continue his formal seminary studies with the Capuchins in Milwaukee, he again fell behind. The textbooks were in Latin, and the lectures were in German, neither of which he understood. As a result he was unable to write good exams. When the time came to approve him for ordination, the faculty was divided. So they compromised: they got permission from Rome to ordain him a "simplex" priest: he could offer Mass, but could not hear confessions or preach a doctrinal sermon. Fr. Solanus accepted this without question.

His first assignment was to a Capuchin parish in Yonkers, N.Y. Since he was so limited for ministry, the pastor assigned him as "porter"—sitting at the parish office to answer the phone and receive visitors. Very quickly the people sensed he was a man of compassion and deep faith. Many opened their hearts

to him, sharing their problems, worries, losses and struggles. He would listen, encourage them to "trust in the good God," and give them his priestly blessing. Word soon got around the neighborhood: people and their loved ones are being healed of illnesses, families being reconciled, people returning to church.

In 1924 he was transferred to St. Bonaventure Monastery in Detroit. His reputation quickly spread, and people again sought him out. He would often be in the office from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Again the stories of healing and remarkable answers to prayer continued. One day the mayor of Detroit came to talk to him and ask his prayers. Another time it was the governor of Michigan.

Father Solanus also received a large volume of mail and phone calls. In one of his letters he wrote: "I have two great loves: the sick and the poor." When the Great Depression hit Detroit in the 1930s', people flocked to the friary to ask for food. Father Solanus realized: we are not able to help all of them. So he and another friar sought the help of the Secular Franciscans (formerly the Third Order of St. Francis). They turned their meeting hall into a Soup Kitchen and began serving a thick soup and loaves of home-made bread to the hungry people. The Soup Kitchen continues today at three different sites, including the original, and is strongly supported by the people of Detroit.

For most of his life Fr. Solanus suffered from his own illnesses, including "weeping eczema" (bleeding) on both legs. As he grew weaker, the superiors decided it was time for him to retire. So he was transferred to St. Felix Friary in Huntington, IN in 1946. People continued to write and call him on the phone. Every day he would receive a stack of mail, and another friar was assigned to help him answer it.

As his health declined, the superiors brought him back to Detroit. The night before he died, his provincial superior came to visit. When he saw the pain in his face, he asked," Where does it hurt?" Fr. Solanus: "My whole body hurts. Thanks be to God! I am offering my sufferings that all may be one. Oh, if only I could live to see the conversion of the whole world!" The next morning around 11:00 a nurse came to check on him. Suddenly he sat up, stretched out his arms and said, "I give my soul to Jesus Christ!" and then fell back dead.

The news spread rapidly through the Detroit area. An estimated 20,000 people filed by the casket. His tomb is in the St. Bonaventure friary chapel. Every day people from all over, including foreign countries, come to visit.

What are some of the lessons we can learn from the life of Fr. Solanus Casey? First would be his profound faith. For him, God's presence and loving care for each one of us was crystal-clear. He saw God in the beauties of nature and especially in every person. Then there was his deep compassion for the sufferings and hardships of the people he encountered. And finally, Fr. Solanus had a profound devotion to the sufferings of Jesus for love of us. Interestingly, he would never pray for healing of the friars. "We religious are called to bear the Cross," he would say.

We are grateful to honor him as "Blessed" Solanus Casey.

### Youth Update

by Corinna Ramsey

As the school year begins and kids go back to school, we also start a new year of youth group activities. When we had our pizza planning party back in May, our teens made a list of things they wanted to do and the lists of both the middle and high schoolers matched so we combined the two youth groups. We suspected this would provide more vibrancy, bigger attendance and fun for all at the same time and so far, that is exactly what has happened. On a hot (90 degrees!) but very cool night of Friday, September 22 we gathered the best youth group ever at Good Shepherd. We played kickball, games, ate pizza, and just had fun with awesome middle and high schoolers from St. James, Good Shepherd, St. Mary, St. Agnes and friends.

We have many more fabulous events coming up. On Saturday, October 28th we are invited all middle and high school youth to join us for Game Night at Good Shepherd. Then, on Sunday,





October 29th we had Mass and a bonfire at St. James for all middle and high schoolers.

To keep up on all of our youth group events this year, keep an eye on the bulletin, bulletin boards, website and parish app. Here's to the biggest and best youth group ever!!

## Good Shepherd Reaching Out with Compassion

by Jane Clare Ishiguro

This is the latest report from the Deacon Gene Outreach Committee about our support of various ministries which work for and with the poor or marginalized:

To Caring Hands for Tanzania – (recommended by parishioner Carol Deming) - \$750 –

for the welfare of some 18,000 children orphaned due to the death of their parents from AIDS in the Matamba Parish of the Njombe Diocese in the Southwest Highlands of Tanzania. The donation will go directly to help to feed and clothe these orphans, provide health care and support their educational needs. For more information go to **www.acts2help.com** 

To the Franciscan Peacemakers Street Ministry – long a ministry supported by Good Shepherd - \$1000 - to support the expansion of their Clare Community – housing and programming to help women of the street in need live safely and self-sufficiently. The plan is to offer 9 units to women in need (currently there are only 3 units available.) www.franciscanpeacemakers.com

And to the Interfaith Committee for Detained Immigrants - \$1000. ICDI responds to the needs and the suffering of all individuals and communities affected by immigration detention, deportation and post-detention through pastoral care, advocacy and public witness. **www.icdichicao.org** 

If you have any question or suggestions for the committee's consideration, please contact parishioner Barb Messerknecht – jandb@wi.rr.com or Jane Clare – ishiguroj@archmil.org.



## Enhance Your Soul With Musings by Maggie Brooks

Mechthild of Magdeburg said "Justice demands that we seek and find the stranger, the broken, the prisoner and comfort them and offer them our help."

Who have you comforted lately?

What do you think?





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
8:30 AM & 11:00 AM Liturgy 5:30 PM Youth Group - Mass & Bonfire	9:00 AM Sleeping Bags & More 11:00 AM Faith Sharing Group	7:00 PM Mass of Anticipation - Feast of All Saints	7:00 PM Doubters Seekers
8:30 AM & 11:00 AM Liturgy 9:30 AM Welcome Weekend 9:30 AM & Noon Blood Pressure Checks 9:45 AM In the Spotlight 6:00 PM Cathedral Center Meal	9:00 AM Sleeping Bags & More 11:00 AM Faith Sharing Group 7:00 PM Pastoral Council Meeting	7 8:30 AM Liturgy 7:00 PM Choir Practice	9:00 AM Book Gro 7:00 PM Choir Pra
12 College Care Collection 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM Liturgy 8:30 AM Generations of Faith 7:00 PM Gay & Straight in Christ	9:00 AM Sleeping Bags & More 11:00 AM Faith Sharing Group 7:00 PM Commissions Meeting	8:30 AM Liturgy 7:00 PM Choir Practice	St. Ben's Drop-off to - Teams 2, 3, & 4 10:30 AM Healing 7:00 PM Choir Pra 7:00 PM Men's Dis
19 College Care Collection Commitment Weekend 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM Liturgy 9:45 AM Growing Faith 12:00 PM Pack College Care boxes	9:00 AM Sleeping Bags & More 11:00 AM Faith Sharing Group 7:00 PM Finance Council Committee	8:30 AM Liturgy 7:00 PM Choir Practice	22
8:30 AM & 11:00 AM Liturgy 9:45 AM In the Spotlight	9:00 AM Sleeping Bags & More 11:00 AM Faith Sharing Group 6:30 PM Building & Grounds Committee	8:30 AM Liturgy 7:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Readers Prep at Good Shepherd	9:00 AM Book Gro 7:00 PM Choir Pra

### Good Shepherd Parish Calendar

	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
, Thinkers,	10:30 AM Communion Service at Menomonee Place	8:30 AM Liturgy 6:00 PM Confirmation Retreat at Camp Whitcomb Mason (through Sat. Nov. 4)	4 9:30 AM Children's Choir 2:00 PM First Reconciliation 3:30 PM Reconciliation 4:30 PM Liturgy 5:30 PM Blood Pressure Checks 5:30 PM Welcome Weekend
up ctice	10:30 AM Communion Service at MFHCC	8:30 AM Liturgy 11:15 AM Brown Bag Lunch at Repairers of the Breach	11 College Care Collection 3:30 PM Reconciliation 4:30 PM Liturgy 9:30 AM Children's Choir 5:40 PM Generations of Faith
until 3:30 PM  Prayer  ctice scussion Group	16	8:30 AM Liturgy	18 College Care Collection  Commitment Weekend  9:30 AM Children's Choir  3:30 PM Reconciliation  4:30 PM Liturgy
	23 Offices Closed 9:00 AM Thanksgiving Mass 6:30 PM Stewardship Committee	24 Offices Closed	9:30 AM Children's Choir 8:00 AM Readers Prep at St. James 3:30 PM Reconciliation 4:30 PM Liturgy
up ctice	30	8:30 AM Liturgy	9:30 AM Children's Choir 12:00 PM 10th Grade Retreat 3:30 PM Reconciliation 4:30 PM Liturgy 5:30 PM Blood Pressure Checks



#### **MONTHLY REPORTS:**

Finance Council - Tim Nolan is no longer an "at large" member of the FC, but will continue as Enhanced Offertory Committee chairperson reporting to the Finance Council.

Catholic Stewardship Appeal continues through November

60th Anniversary contributions approximately \$11,000

Loose Change campaign target is \$10,500

2016/2017 fiscal year-end report will be finalized in September

Buildings and Grounds needs new members. Landscaping and Hartfel House foundation are current projects

New Archdiocese assessment has been proposed to raise from 4% to 6% over four years

Nov. 18/19 will be Commitment weekend

Our current financial advisor has left Ziegler. Investment options and direction under review.

Pastoral Council Formation – Future events include Council retreat Oct 13-14 and Formation on Stewardship Monday, Nov 27th.

**Christian Formation** – 3 youth are attending the upcoming National Catholic Youth Conference. There has been good participation in youth camp and other cluster activities.

Pastoral Care - Commission is working on Winter Farmers Market. Pastoral Care is done, not only by a committee, but by staff as well (communion to homebound, visiting sick and dying, etc.)

**Stewardship** – Plans to showcase one ministry per quarter in the narthex.

<u>Additional Council business</u> – Council Discernment committee needs newer members to participate so they know how to do it going forward when the current team is off council.

#### **PARISH DIRECTOR REPORT:**

Deacon Sandy Sites Reported on Deacon/ Lay Ministry Day

Idea for consideration and future discussion: GS/SJ Joint gathering, formation, discernment, etc.?

There appears to be an angry and negative trend in communications generally and at the parish. As parish leaders, we need to be patient, respectful, and always willing to listen.

Propose a parish Town Hall sometime before the end of the year

#### Oct. 2, 2017

#### PARISH DIRECTOR REPORT:

**Deacon Sandy Sites Reported** 

New data points for Good Shepherd are available from the Archdiocese. This is a snapshot of all the data accumulated since 2002. Total number of households are down 59%. Members age 65+ are up 16%, all other age demographics are down for the 15 year period. Percent of parishioners who attend Mass is in the 40% range, above the archdiocesan average. Questions should be directed to Deacon Sandy.

Sandy reported that an archdiocesan increase in parish assessment to 6% of parish income will be gradually implemented over time. First increase of 1/2% will happen soonest 2018-19 fiscal year.

Council has been asked to consider focus on fewer priorities for the year. Challenge to leadership (staff and both

councils) and Sandy is to identify what the focus should be.

#### MONTHLY REPORTS:

Prayer & Worship - Items were added to the worship space "wish list". Christmas mass schedule was finalized, in coordination with St. James.

Finance Council – Finance Council will be evaluating our current financial advisor and others for comparison and possible change.

Loose change challenge and 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary contributions have had a positive impact.

Pledge process and commitment kick-off is 10/28-29; commitment weekend is 11/18-19.

Human Concerns - Members of the Human Concerns Commission will attend a retreat at the Sienna Center "Facing Our Power and Privilege". The process for obtaining speakers for the combined collection presentations were clarified. Monica Schultz made a presentation

regarding the Human Trafficking Task Force.

**Christian Formation** – First GOF meeting was held with 76.2% attendance.

Proposal for use of Faith in our Future funds for replacement of AV equipment in youth rooms was approved.

Pastoral Care – Farmers' Market will be held 12/3 this year.

Weekend Mass Schedule - Motion was made and seconded, that there be one mass at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays beginning June 2018 and continuing until such time as the parish has grown to necessitate a second Sunday mass. This has already been discussed by staff and Christian Formation. Discussion was held regarding impact on parish/mass vibrancy and financial impact. Motion passed by unanimous vote. Sandy will take this recommendation to the staff.

## Meet the Ministry

By Ann Castiglione

While we have been around for a while, there are many here at Good Shepherd who do not know us. Who are we? We are Gay and Straight in Christ – a support group founded in 2004 at Good Shepherd. We are gay and straight joining together in faith and fellowship to practice what we preach; that our church welcomes all. We are gay, lesbian, parent, friend who wish to show support for the LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning) community. We provide a safe, confidential environment where our life stories can be exchanged without judgement or fear. We offer support for those coming out or those struggling with a loved one who has come out. We share our faith together and educate each other and the community about the issues that affect the LGBT community. We believe that God's love is inclusive and

our Catholic Social Teaching tells us that every person must be treated with respect and dignity. We do not teach public or private policy that is contrary to church teaching.

Wow! That's a lot of "We"! We hope **you** will come visit us and find out what we are all about. Our gatherings are from 7:00 to 8:30 the second Sunday of each month in the Mary of Magdala Chapel at Good Shepherd. You are welcome if you are a member of the LGBTQ community. You are welcome if you are a parent or other relative of someone who is LGBT or Q. You are welcome if you have a friend in the LGBTQ community. You are welcome if you want to learn more about who we are.

That's a lot of "You"! As a matter of fact that's ALL of you.

Our next gathering is Sunday October 8th at 7:00pm month in the Mary of Magdala Chapel at Good Shepherd. WE look forward to meeting YOU!

For further info contact Ann Castiglione at 262-502-0437.

## **Heart Song Threshold Singing**

by Meg Latus

About 8 years ago, a dear friend asked me to consider joining Threshold Singers. I was clueless as to what it was but decided to give it a try because I like to sing. Since then, I have been blessed to sing at the bedsides of many people moving on to a new adventure. One time, I helped to sing at the birth of a newborn. Singing both to the mother and to the newborn child. It was so beautiful. Most of the time though, we sing at the bedside of someone transitioning to everlasting

life. It may sound creepy but until you give it a try, you will never understand the wonder of seeing someone draw comfort and peace from the presence of music as they sometimes struggle to let go. The songs are simple. Sung acapella. 3-5 people blending voices.

Heart Song Threshold Singers is the name of our local Threshold Singing chapter. We practice at Redeemer UCC, W220 N4915 Townline Rd, Sussex, the first Wednesday of each month from 11am to 12:30pm. If you like to sing, and if this ministry of song sounds like something you might like to explore, please join us for a practice and find out more about what we do. For more information, you can talk with Meg Latus, meglatus@yahoo.com or consult our website at heartsong@thresholdchoir.org. We hope to see you soon!

### **Archbishop Listecki** Responds to DACA Decision

submitted by the Immigration Study Group

Last January, Pope Francis addressed the world with these words: "Among migrants, children constitute the most vulnerable group, because as they face the life ahead of them, they are invisible and voiceless: their precarious situation deprives them of documentation, hiding them from the world's eyes; the absence of adults to accompany them prevents their voices from being raised and heard. In this way, migrant children easily end up at the lowest levels of human degradation, where illegality and violence destroy the future of too many innocents, while the network of child abuse is difficult to break up" (World Day of Migrants 2017). I am saddened to see our nation joining in the unjust treatment of thousands of young men and women when Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced the Trump administration is "rescinding" the Deferred

Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, program that protects hundreds of thousands of immigrants who came to the U.S. illegally as young children. This decision will bring frustration to many young people who dream with truly making our country great again; they play in our schools; they pray in our churches with us; they walk in our malls; they enjoy a good football game or a Sunday cookout with us; and they also dream with us in an America where justice and peace are our flag.

We offer our support to all those affected by this decision, and urge the members of Congress to act immediately in defense of human rights and the "invisible and voiceless" among us. I trust that our constant prayers and ongoing dialogue will bring us to a better time, when these young men and women could finally come out of the shadows; a time when our law-makers come together to protect human dignity and justice; we pledge to work with legislators to fashion a law that promotes justice for all.

In Christ, The Most Reverend Jerome E. Listecki



#### Spirituality and Health

No matter how you experience it, spirituality can help you find a sense of purpose and meaning within yourself and in your relationships with others. It can offer hope and peace during times of struggle or personal crisis. It can help lead to positive changes and improve your quality of life.

Spirituality and health is a growing field of study in medical education.

This field of study is focused on the principles of service, compassion, dignity and interconnectedness. Aiding a patients search for meaning has become a focus in medical education and patient care with an increasing number of health and spirituality courses, as well as research in the field.

To find out just how spiritual you are and how it can help your health, stay tuned.

source: Mayo Clinic Guide to Integrative Medicine





#### OOP'S OOP'S OOP'S

SO many good uses for Vinegar, but do not interchange PLAIN REGULAR VINEGAR for CLEANING VINEGAR.

CLEANING VINEGAR HAS ACETIC ACID, ALCHOL ETHOXYLATE, BUTL CARBITOL, CITRUS OIL.

Every month, I use 2 cups of vinegar in my dishwasher in the rinse cycle to keep the dishwasher parts clean.

This month, I accidentally used cleaning vinegar and OH MY WHAT A MESSS, suds all over the floor.

I'm sure there are good uses for CLEANING VINEGAR, BUT WHY EXPERIMENT.

#### SECOND OOPS:

I have been tossing ALUMINUM AEROSOLS as in deodorants , hair sprays, cooking sprays in the regular garbage.

Something bothered me about this and I LOOKED on the can and found out these where RECYCLABLE.

If you have come across any of your own OOP'S, please email me at marykult@gmail.com, so I can share these in future articles.



#### Welcome to Our New Members....

- ♣ Rich and Eileen Laven
- Jessica and Michael Eckert, Levi 7 & Oliver 5

### BREAKING BREAD

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