

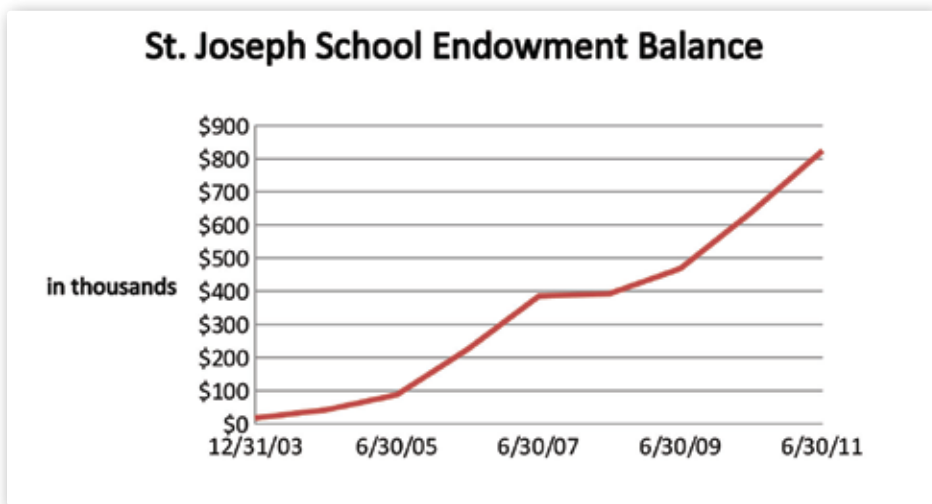


ST. JOSEPH PARISH

LIVING AS DISCIPLES OF JESUS

STEWARDSHIP NEWSLETTER | OCTOBER 2011

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL ENDOWMENT



Jesus is alive in our stewardship at St. Joseph.

The St. Joseph School Endowment has made remarkable strides in growth since 2003 when Msgr. Barr assumed his position as pastor. Despite the economic recession, our parishioners have generously supported the endowment, which has steadily increased since its inception.

In 2003, the St. Joseph Endowment Fund totaled \$17,500.00. Eight years later, it is nearly \$825,000.00. Interestingly, the fund increased almost \$200,000.00 in both 2009 and 2010, at a time when the U.S. was still in the midst of a recession. This is remarkable evidence of the work Jesus Christ performs through St. Joseph.

It is clearly a priority in the Lincoln parishes to perpetuate the commitment established under the

leadership of Bishop Glennon P. Flavin to provide a Catholic education and to keep children rooted in their Catholic faith. Bishop Flavin believed it is the responsibility of the entire Catholic community to provide an education for the youth of the parish.

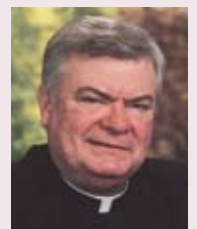
Endowments are powerful tools for passing on the Catholic faith to the next generation. It is an investment in the school's future. At St. Joseph, the goal is to continue to grow the endowment so that each year more money is available to contribute to the school's budget and to ensure that each child receives the Catholic education they deserve.

St. Joseph invests its fund with the Catholic Foundation of the Diocese of Lincoln. The Foundation has a board of directors that guide the investment of its funds, and professional money managers to

handle the day to day investment work. All money donated to the school's endowment fund, strictly benefits St. Joseph School. Only the interest is used; the principal is never touched, so the endowment becomes a perpetual source of support for the school.

If you would like to support the endowment, first and foremost, pray for its success. To make a financial donation, you can make a gift directly to the endowment, name the endowment as a beneficiary in your will, life insurance policy or IRA account, or give stock to the fund. Please visit our website to learn more about the endowment or contact Elizabeth Quigley at 402 483-2288.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE



Fall is upon us and this means our Holiday Fair is right around the corner.

Please mark your calendars for November 6th because I have been told this is going to be a spectacular year! As your Pastor, I am always so proud of the way the parishioners work together to make this such a wonderful event. As Christian stewards, we are building a true community of faith. Thanks to all of you for your generous contributions and for working towards building the Kingdom of God, as a family.

FEATURED STEWARD: PATRICK BARVICK



Father Barvick's Ordination

His face lights up when he sees the children reminiscent of Blessed John Paul II and his devotion to the young. Unknowingly, he is having an impact on future generations, but he would be the last to admit it.

Father Patrick Barvick was born and raised in Kansas City, Missouri, in a family very devoted to the Church. He has fond memories of serving Mass and playing Mass at home with his younger brothers, Joe and G.T. He is the middle child with two older sisters and two younger brothers. His father is a retired police officer, now working at the Salvation Army in human resources and

his mother is enjoying being a grandmother.

Listening to Father Barvick talk about his childhood, one can easily glean he comes from a very close knit family. He has many fond memories of spending time together either on the baseball field they made in their backyard or Saturday morning breakfast with his father in charge. Apparently his father was quite a cook, a skill he admits he did not inherit.

An avid swimmer, Father Barvick specialized in freestyle and butterfly and performed fairly well in both. Growing up, swim team and baseball were his two favorite pastimes. After he completed four years at St. Gregory the Great Seminary in Seward and went on to Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Maryland, he became interested in fishing, a passion he still has today. He has recently taken up golf, a sport he finds both challenging and relaxing.

If he wasn't called to the priesthood, Father Barvick would have liked to become a doctor, as he always had a fascination with medicine. However, beginning around eighth grade he started to seriously consider becoming a priest, something he had toyed with as a child. He always loved being around the altar and serving. Once he felt the calling, he never looked back.

Not surprisingly, his favorite part about being a priest is the influence he is having on the children. Whether he is attending a football game at Pius, building a snowman with a group of teenagers, attending a St. Joseph track meet or letting kids build

an ice cream sundae on his head during Totus Tuus, he just seems like an ordinary guy. However, we know there is nothing ordinary about the effect he is having on the youth. Connecting the children to the clergy clearly brings them in closer union with the Church.



Father Barvick, age 4

Father Barvick loves being Associate Pastor at St. Joseph and working under the direction of Msgr. Barr. In his words, "Msgr. Barr has provided good direction and support, exactly what a new priest needs." He is also very appreciative of all the love and support he has received from the parishioners, and is looking forward to spending one more year here.

Stewardship Committee • 2011-2012 Members

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ROSARY CLUB AND COURTYARD



Marian Garden, St Joseph School

By Jill O'Donnell

In a packed gym at Pius X High School one year ago, St. Joseph's religion teacher Jerry Bixenmann found the idea he had been searching for. After recounting for the rapt audience her miraculous tale of survival during the 1994 Rwandan genocide, Immaculée Ilibagiza offered to give away a copy of her CD of song and prayer to anyone who would teach others how to pray the Seven Sorrows Rosary. Mr. Bixenmann knew immediately that he wanted to do that.

"The Holy Spirit slapped me alongside the head at that moment," he said.

Immaculée gave him the CD. He read her book. On November 28, the Feast Day of Our Lady of Sorrows, he said he was flooded

with the ideas that have now resulted in the Immaculée Rosary Club and a revamped Marian garden in the school courtyard.

The Seven Sorrows Rosary, which first appeared during the Middle Ages, was reintroduced to the world when a young Rwandan schoolgirl, Marie-Claire Mukangango, learned of it during visions of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the early 1980s. According to various accounts, Mary warned Marie-Claire of the impending bloodshed in Rwanda. When the genocide began a few years later, Immaculée prayed the Seven Sorrows Rosary during the 91 days she spent hiding in a tiny bathroom with seven other women.

Now, junior high students pray that same rosary during their lunch recess on Tuesdays and Thursdays from October through May

in the courtyard. Mr. Bixenmann said there have been days when over 100 students have attended. In a true team effort, parents, students, teachers and other parishioners have helped transform the courtyard into a flourishing garden and a comfortable place to pray.

Ken Bond built benches and engineered lighting for the statues of Mary and Joseph that stand in the garden. At the end of the 2010-2011 school year, seventh graders dug a path for a walkway through the courtyard. Joe Grof and Nathan Bond constructed the concrete pathway. Trish Peterson designed 14 artistic stepping stones to decorate the walking path. Each stone depicts a station of the cross. In addition, the Student Council sponsored Stations of the Cross that hang on the walls of the courtyard. Girl Scouts, led by Brenda Sebek, donated funds for flowers and bushes. Ted Koperski advised Mr. Bixenmann on landscaping and vegetation. David Koperski and Mr. Bixenmann planted and watered the plants over the summer. In September, eighth graders planted 130 flower bulbs. Rosary club students continue to help maintain the garden. The courtyard was dedicated by Msgr. Barr on Wednesday, September 14.

The entrance to the courtyard bears a sign that reads, "God Bless All Those Who Walk This Path In Christ's Footsteps Through Their Life." Those fourteen words correspond to the fourteen stepping stones that decorate the walking path as it winds its way through the courtyard. Parents are invited to join students on this journey by praying the Seven Sorrows rosary any Tuesday or Thursday during the lunch recess beginning in October.

Quarterly Report: July - September 2011

PARISH FAMILY

28 new households
1501 total households
3784 total parishioners

SACRAMENTAL REPORT

15 Baptisms
7 Marriages
5 Deaths

OFFERTORY

Weekly/Holy Day Offertory
received: \$425,691.42
*Compare to \$440,017.59 in 2010
and \$416,772.26 in 2009*

Year-to-date (July - Sept.)
Weekly/Holy Day Offertory
received: \$425,691.42
*Compare to \$440,017.59 in 2010
and \$416,772.26 in 2009*

Memorials: \$9,230.00 received

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT LOAN

\$193,806.43 balance remaining

SCHOOL ENDOWMENT

Balance: \$824,057.06
Gifts Received: \$14,031.00

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THAT MAN IS YOU! BECOMING A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART



"That Man Is You!" Meeting

It was still dark out at 4:30am on September 9, 2011, when the alarm clock went off in homes throughout Lincoln and 120 men got out of bed to attend the first session of "That Man is You!" The headlights illuminated the parking lot of St. Joseph Parish and this group of men entered the front doors of the Church

eager to meet each other and see what this program has to offer.

This interactive men's program is divided into two 13 week sessions that follow the typical academic year. The Fall semester is dedicated to developing a vision of man fully alive, while the Spring semester is dedicated to becoming "that man." The Spring semester includes an organized Lenten journey that participants make together.

Men can and are welcome to join the group at any time! The meetings touch on different topics each week that build on each other, but are not prerequisites. Small group discussions allow men to apply the topic to their daily lives, grow spiritually, and enjoy the fellowship of

other men in similar situations.

Breakfast is served and there is plenty of hot coffee! The meeting concludes at 6:30am allowing men to attend Mass after each meeting.

The willingness and openness of the men in our parish to sacrifice sleep in order to become better husbands, fathers and Catholics is truly impressive. These men decided they will no longer sit on the sidelines regarding their faith, but will take on the leadership role in their family that God intended.

A lot of blessings will be showered upon the families of St. Joseph Parish from this dynamic program. We sincerely thank Aaron May and his core group of 20 men for spearheading this program aimed to make Catholic men better leaders of their families which will renew the Church and change the world.