

October 2010

Respect Life
Month



Dawn of a New Era

Hope for the Future A Parish Mission

Our new pastor, Rev. Gregory Sakowicz, presents:

A Parish Mission to set a vision and direction for the future of our parish.

Father Greg will preach at all the Masses on the weekends

October 16/17 and October 23/24

Saturdays at 5 p.m. ~ Sundays at 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m.

Mass schedule stays the same

Mass length will be the same!



What has been your experience of Church?
What do you want your experience of Church to be?
We absolutely need you to effect this!



School pictures
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Month of the
Rosary

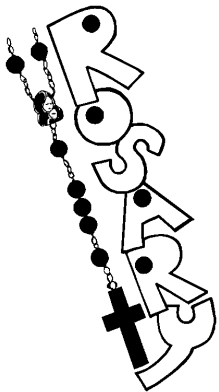
New Resident – Fr. Ken

Our Lady of the Rosary and Respect Life

The Church commemorates Mary as Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7, in the month designated as Respect Life Month. This is an opportunity for us to consider Mary as our model for saying "yes" to life. Her courage in saying "yes" to the miracle of life and the way she lived a life of discipleship, can inspire us to live lives that respect, love, and care for life.

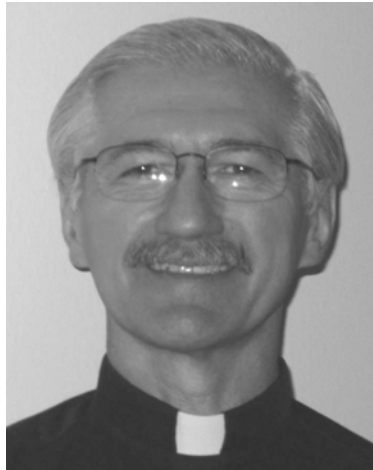
Visit the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops website to download meditations on the mysteries of the rosary and pray for all life, from conception to natural death.
<http://www.nccbuscc.org/prolife/liturgy/rosariesforlife.shtml>

— Karie Ferrell



Parishioners might have been startled when Fr. Ken Budzickowski waved his arms expansively at the congregation during his first homily and said "You are my treasure!" Our new resident priest wanted us to know that he would be using weekend liturgies at St. Mary's as a way to renew and strengthen his faith after a tough week of work. He took his reference from Luke's Gospel, which was read that Sunday: "For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be."

Fr. Ken will be living at the rectory and participating in weekend parish activities and liturgies. During the week, he is one of two Vicars for Priests in the Archdiocese. This job is part of the support system for the 500+ priests in the Chicago area. His duties include being of assistance to the priests whenever needed, sometimes involuntarily, in cases of alcoholism, substance dependency, or illness.



Fr. Ken grew up on the South Side of Chicago (St. Roman) and no doubt traces his roots as a White Sox fan to living a short bus ride from the old Comiskey Park. He settled on a vocation to the priesthood in second grade and persevered through the traditional courses of study at Quigley and Mundelein. He was ordained in 1980 and served at a variety of parishes in the Archdiocese. Most recently, he was the pastor of St. Thecla before Cardinal George tapped him to be the Vicar of Priests.

How does he come to live at St. Mary's? He and Fr. Greg often crossed paths during their ministries and became good friends. When Fr. Greg accepted his assignment here, he offered his huge, under-tenanted house as a residence to his friend. The parish will benefit by having an extra weekend presider, especially one who welcomes the advantage of being Father to a warm and loving family – a treasure.

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Truth: Why We Serve

As St. Mary's Respect Life coordinators, we sometimes ask ourselves why we devote so much time to studying Church teaching on life issues; presenting it in bulletins, newsletters, petitions and talks; raising funds for causes like pregnancy centers; praying at abortion mills; and witnessing publicly in marches and conversations in defense of human life. Motivation is always a complex matter, but Cardinal George's new book, *The Difference God Makes*, touches an important element of motivation which can be applied to us – the effect of truth. The Cardinal talks about mission in the context of evangelization. He says it is the Church's vocation, and so the vocation of each faithful Catholic, to tell the world about Christ and in that way to convert not only individuals but also cultures.

For us, this has meant striving to learn what truths Christ has revealed about the dignity of the human person and what the

current culture has to say about those truths. Two things have become clear to us: the incomparable worth of the human person, made in the image of God, and the adversity posed against that worth by today's cultural elite through the promotion of abortion, the trivializing of human sexuality, the deconstruction of marriage, and destructive experimentation with human embryos, to name a few practices.

These truths are great motivators. They tell us not only about the culture's leanings but also about our own need for conversion and, precisely because of our confidence in human worth, hold out promise for a better tomorrow *for everyone*. Irrepressibly, they cry out for proclamation and action.

That's at least one reason we can say "yes" when pastors have asked us to stay the course.

—Jane and Don Colleton



Pet Blessing

In honor of the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, Deacon Dennis Robak will bestow a special blessing on the parish pets, both live and stuffed, on October 2, at 8:45 A.M., in the parish center garden. Make an effort to get up early and participate in this annual, fall event. Bring your pets on a leash or in their carriers and meet other pet lovers.

Concert Rescheduled for October 22



Parishioners have a second chance to hear the duo piano team of Claire Aebersold and Ralph Neiweem on October 22, at 8:00 P.M., in the church. The concert was postponed last May after Claire's fractured wrist made her unable to play. Season ticket holders may redeem their tickets at the concert, and others may pay at the door. Admission is \$50. All proceeds will go toward reducing the parish deficit.

On this occasion, we will formally dedicate the beautiful Estonia piano that was generously donated by Frank Carlton. Claire and Ralph, co-founders of the Pitten-Classics International Music Festival in Austria, are sure to make glorious music with our piano. They are well known on the North Shore for their annual Chicago Duo Piano Festival, founded 21 years ago.

Mark your calendar for this October 22 concert, which will include a pre-concert reception. It is a chance to hear Loop-quality music in your own backyard with no parking hassles.

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