



**DEAR PARISH FAMILY,**

On Saturday, November 20, we celebrated Little Flower School's annual all-class reunion. The evening began with Mass at 5 p.m. followed by a social hour and dinner. The evening was very festive. Our children's choir, under the direction of Teresa Eckrich, sang at Mass. The alumni were very impressed with their singing. Before dinner, we recognized the 1944, 1949, and 1954 classes. Two former

teachers of the Class of 1949 and three former teachers of the class of 1954 were present: Sister Michael Ann and Sister Veronica taught both classes; the former Sister Charlotte Marie taught the class of 1954.

At the end of dinner, awards were presented. Sister Rosita Purler, O.S.F., principal, superior, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher from 1958 to 1964, was presented a plaque honoring her as Little Flower's last full-time teaching principal. A plaque of gratitude to all the Sisters of St. Francis who served at Little Flower from 1926 to 2000 was presented to Sister Jean Marie Cleveland, herself an alumna and the current Congregational Minister of the Sisters of St. Francis. This plaque has been hung in the upstairs hallway of school.

Bob Kiley then presented Andrea Fleak, an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student and the daughter of Bill and Laura Fleak, the Bob Kiley Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded for service. Andrea's mother is one of our pre-school teachers.

The program culminated with the presentation of this year's outstanding alumni awards to George Binder from the Class of 1940, Sister Jean Marie Cleveland, O.S.F., from the Class of 1955, Barbara Gallagher Riley from the Class of 1949, Tom Costello from the Class of 1967, and me from the Class of 1963. During all the planning for this evening, I was insistent that Tom Costello not know that he was being honored. I think we largely succeeded. After the presentation to Tom, Bill Beikes, Peg Costello Beikes' husband, announced the establishment of an annual Tom and Eileen Costello Memorial Scholarship. Finally, much to my chagrin, the committee chose not to let me know that I, too, was being honored. To use a phrase that I have used often in homilies, I am humbly grateful.

This annual dinner is to thank our alumni for their generous contribution of time, talent, and treasure to Little Flower School. Since our annual alumni appeal began, alumni have contributed approximately \$250,000 to Little Flower School. Of course, the dinner and program would not be possible without the hard work of many people. Special thanks go to Carol Collins Routh, Renee Conder, Frank Lee, Caitlin Routh, Tom and Mary Martha Costello, and Kevin Gawrys.

Today is the First Sunday of Advent. As I mentioned last week, *The Little Blue Book: Advent and Christmas Seasons 2004-2005*, "six-minute reflections on the Infancy Narratives according to Matthew," is available today at the doors of church. Also, the Advent Penance Service will be this Thursday, December 2, at 7 p.m. Parishioners from Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Bernadette will join us. Several priests will be available for confessions. In some ways, Advent is the most challenging season of the Liturgical Year because it is so counter cultural. During the entire season of Advent, we are celebrating Christmas. When we are celebrating Christmas as a church, we often are feeling the post-Christmas blues. To make Advent more meaningful, I would suggest that we set aside a few minutes each day for quiet prayer and reflection on the meaning of Christ in our lives.

Finally, we extend our condolences to the Pfau family on the death of their mother Josephine, a former parishioner, who was buried from Little Flower this past Wednesday. Her daughter Theresa Slaton has taught at Little Flower for thirty-one years. Her youngest daughter Peggy has coached kickball and volleyball for many years.

Have a blessed week.  
fr. bob



**MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF NOV 29 – DEC 05, 2004**

- 29 November Monday**  
8:30 am Mary C. O'Brien by Al and Maureen Merkley & Family  
5:30 pm Loualma Gauss Moon by Charles and Linda Loker
- 30 November Tuesday**  
8:30 am Evelyn F. Whitworth by John and Margaret Miller  
5:30 pm Communion Service
- 01 December Wednesday**  
8:30 am Poor Souls in Purgatory by Ron and Diane Sharp  
1:00 pm **at Rosewalk** – Emmett Pierce by Janetta Ford  
5:30 pm Margaret Meno by Little Flower Ladies Club
- 02 December Thursday**  
8:30 am Julia McNally  
5:30 pm Communion Service
- 03 December Friday**  
8:30 am Kathleen Gawrys by Kathleen White  
5:30 pm Grace Stites by The Hudson & Hannigan Families
- 04 December Saturday**  
8:30 am Katie Eaton by Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hutchinson  
**Vigil - Second Sunday of Advent**  
5:00 pm Evelyn F. Whitworth by John & Margaret Miller
- 05 December Sunday**  
**Second Sunday of Advent**  
8:30 am Deceased members of the Withem Family by Charley Withem  
10:30 am Teophil & Bertha Klyszewski by Ed & Madeline Kleese  
6:00 pm For the Parish

**THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

NOVEMBER 29 – DECEMBER 05

DAY	ROOM	TIME	GROUP
<b>Monday</b>	St. Therese	6:30 p.m.	Women's Prayer Group
	St. Patrick	7:00 pm	Baptismal Preparation
<b>Tuesday</b>	Parish Center	7:00 p.m.	RCIA
	Church	7:30 p.m.	Adult Choir
<b>Wednesday</b>	St. Patrick	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	St. Therese	7:00 pm	Respect Life
	St. Patrick	7:00 pm	School Commission
<b>Thursday</b>	St. Jerome	7:00 pm	Arts and Environment
	St. Therese	7:00 p.m.	AA
	Church	7:00 pm	Penance Service and First Reconciliation
	Social Hall	7:00 pm	Ladies Club Christmas Party
	<b>Friday</b>	Social Hall	5 – 6 pm
	St. Therese	6:30 p.m.	Nicotine Anonymous
<b>Saturday</b>	St. Therese	7:00 a.m.	Men's Prayer Group
	St. Therese	2:00 pm	Blue Army
<b>Sunday</b>	St. Therese	8:30 a.m.	Nursery – Up to Age 4
	St. Patrick	8:30 mass	Children's Liturgy
	School	9:30 am	Sunday Religious Ed



Please welcome into our Christian Community Morgan Rae McNulty daughter of Cory McNulty and Carissa Schneider baptized on November 21, 2004.

## First Sunday of Advent

The next Baptism Preparation Class is Monday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center. This class is required for parents who are requesting baptism for their child and have not previously attended a preparation class. Please call the parish center at 357-8352 to let us know you plan to attend. Plan ahead, as the next class will not take place until the end of January.

**PARISH PENANCE SERVICE FOR LITTLE FLOWER, OUR LADY OF LOURDES AND ST. BERNADETTE AND FIRST RECONCILIATION FOR OUR PARISH SECOND GRADERS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> AT 7:00 PM**  
Please Join Us

On December 11 and 12, the Retirement Fund for Religious will conduct its annual appeal in this diocese. Please share in the care and be as generous as you can. You may use the envelope in our regular envelope packet and place it in the regular collection.

### STEWARDSHIP OF TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND PARISH

Weekly Budget Goal for new fiscal year	\$ 13,200.00
Collection of November 20 <sup>th</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup>	\$ 12,453.30
Year to Date Budget Goal	\$ 277,200.00
Year to Date Collections	\$ 266,787.19
Current Fiscal Year to Date	\$ (-10,412.81)

#### Home Improvement Fund

July Contributions	\$ 1,909.50
August Contributions	\$ 1,817.00
September Contributions	\$ 1,716.00
October Contributions	\$ 1,993.75
November Contributions to date	\$ 1,264.00

### School News

Poinsettias that you may have ordered for personal use may be picked up in the Parish Center on Thursday, December 2, from 8:30-5:00. Orders for church decoration may be placed through Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup>.

The Little Flower School Band Christmas program will be held on Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, at 7:45 P.M.

The children's Christmas program will be held on Wednesday, December 15, at 7:00 P.M. More information will follow.

#### News from Scecina Memorial High School

**CLASS OF 2009 PLACEMENT TEST**  
Saturday, December 4, 2004 8 – 11:30 a.m.

**REVERSE RAFFLE**  
Saturday, December 4, 2004 6 p.m.

The grand prize is \$15,000 and all proceeds benefit the Athletic Program. For additional information or ticket information, please contact Athletic Director Ott Hurrle at 322-4286 or email at [ohurrle@scecina.org](mailto:ohurrle@scecina.org).

**We may not want to think about it**, but snow could be right around the corner. We are looking for volunteers who live nearby and would be willing to be called to come over and help shovel snow, especially on the weekends prior to masses. If you would help with this, please call Joe at the parish center at 357-8352, or at home at 375-1044.

On the weekend of December 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> lectors, servers, music ministers, greeters, ushers, and arts and environment ministers will be commissioned at all masses. (Because of their special role, Eucharistic ministers will be commissioned next spring at the Holy Thursday liturgy.) All of those involved in these ministries will be invited to come forward at the appropriate time during mass.

#### Stewardship Card Update

As of 11/22/04 we have received 337 Stewardship cards. This represents ONLY 32% of our registered households.

#### Totals from Stewardship cards so far

Estimated weekly contributions to Little Flower  
\$ 8,226.59 compared to \$13,200 budget goal  
Annual contributions to United Catholic Appeal  
\$34,042.96 compared to \$57,000 goal

Our return rate should be much higher. Reminders will be sent out this week and phone follow up will begin shortly thereafter. **ATTENTION FAMILIES RECEIVING CATHOLIC TUITION RATES AT LITTLE FLOWER AND SCECINA** – Having your stewardship card on file is one of the requirements for continuing to receive that rate. If you have not already done so, you must return your completed card

#### Ladies Club News

Our annual Christmas Party will be Thursday December 2<sup>nd</sup> starting at 7 pm. We will have a visit from Santa, goodies to snack on and entertainment. There will be a \$5.00 gift exchange. Join us for a fun evening!

On December 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> our Christmas Bake Sale along with a table of homemade crafts items will be for sale in the gathering area of Church.

On December 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> the Ladies Club will be at all church doors after Mass to collect for Christmas decorations.

### YOUTH NEWS

#### ATTENTION PARISH YOUTH (eighth grade through twelfth grade)

Join us in the youth room Sunday, November 28th after 6:00 Mass until 9:30 for movie night. We will have pizza, popcorn and the movie.

The youth room will be open on Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> after the 6pm mass until 8:30 pm. Come drop in!



**Adventuresome Group mark your calendar for our Christmas Party on Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. Watch next weeks bulletin for more details!**