



Dear Parish Family,

July 2nd was the second anniversary of my arrival at Little Flower as Pastor. I still get asked if I am happy to be here. I am delighted to be here! You and the staff continue to do so much to make me feel welcome. Last Sunday I talked briefly about Dr. Will Miller's book *Refrigerator Rights*. He emphasizes the importance of deep connections among people. I have always felt connected with Little Flower. Therefore, Little Flower will always be home to me.

Last Sunday, I read a statement to you concerning the Archdiocesan Future Staffing Recommendations. For those who may not have been here or may be unclear about what I was trying to say, I would like to repeat it here:

If you read this week's Criterion or Saturday's Indianapolis Star, you read the Archdiocesan Strategic Planning Committee's parish staffing recommendations for the East Deanery. According to the Criterion, based on priest and population projections, there will be four fewer priests serving the East Deanery by the year 2012. One of the proposals to make this possible is that Little Flower and Lourdes will share one priest, and St. Bernadette will become a chapel.

Thursday evening Tom Costello, Kevin Gawrys, and I attended the meeting where the plan for the East Deanery was presented. The Committee, including the Priest Personnel Director of the Archdiocese, repeatedly stated that the Archbishop does not see the plan as set in stone. The plan will evolve as circumstances change. Likewise, there is no fixed timetable to implement any of these proposals. Again, the plan is based on population and priest projections for the year 2012.

We can summarize what Tom, Kevin, and I heard by saying, "By the year 2012, it is possible that Little Flower and Lourdes will have to share one priest." This change is by no means imminent for at least two reasons. The projections presume one priest for 2500 people. In the current Archdiocesan directory, Little Flower lists 2,400 parishioners and Our Lady of Lourdes lists 2,019. With the 374 St. Bernadette parishioners, this makes almost 2400 parishioners. Second, the Committee stated that the Archbishop sees changing parishes to chapels as a last resort.

What does this mean for us today? To a great extent, future staffing will depend on the size of the parish. To the degree that we remain steadfast in our commitment to Little Flower Parish and find new and effective ways to reach out to the unchurched in our neighborhood, our position will remain strong. You should also know that according to the most recent Archdiocesan Directory, Little Flower remains the fourth largest parish in our eleven-parish deanery, and Little Flower School remains the third largest school in the deanery.

Even if these changes were to happen now, the truth is that the parish feels enough ownership and the parish staff is sufficiently well positioned that should sharing a pastor become necessary much of the parish would function the same. At the same time, as the numbers of priests continue to decline, Catholics will be challenged to exercise more responsibility, more leadership, and more ministry in our parish. From our history, it is clear that Little Flower Parish will be up to the challenge.

Have a great week.
fr. Bob

The parish office will be closed on Monday, July 4th.



MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 04 – JULY 10, 2005

- 04 Jun Monday**
8:30 am Cliff and Kathlyn Anderson
- 05 Jun Tuesday**
8:30 am Mary Jane West by Rebecca Palumbo
5:30 pm Intentions of Dorothy Meier by Art Meier
- 06 Jun Wednesday**
8:30 am Mary C. O'Brien by Selma Merkley
5:30 pm John Murphy by Dennis Murphy
- 07 Jun Thursday**
8:30 am Communion Service
1:30 pm at Rosewalk: Bernice Borton by Marge Renie
5:30 pm Don Nixon by Family
- 08 Jul Friday**
8:30 am Communion Service
5:30 pm Jim Gillin by Gillin Family
- 09 Jul Saturday**
8:30 am Marie K Murphy by Rosemary Canatsey
5:00 pm **Vigil: Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Intentions of the Sweeney Family by Feldhake Family
- 10 Jul Sunday – Sunday in Ordinary Time**
8:30 am John Land by Dorothy Land
10:30 am Anna Haboush by Arvina Fuller
6:00 pm For the People

THIS Week . . . JULY 04 - JULY 10, 2005

DAY	ROOM	TIME	GROUP
Monday	HAPPY	FOURTH	OF JULY!
	Parish	Office	Closed
Tuesday	Parish Center	6:30 pm	Stewardship Commission
Wednesday	St. Patrick	9:00 am	Bible Study
	St Therese	7:00 pm	Respect Life Committee
	St Patrick	7:00 pm	School Commission
Thursday	St. Therese	8:00 pm	AA
Friday	St Therese	6:30 pm	Nicotine Anonymous
Saturday	St. Therese	7:00 am	Mens' Prayer Group
Sunday	Parish Center	8:30 am	Children's Liturgy
	St. Therese	8:30 am	Nursery up to 4 years
	Duffy Hall	9:30 am	Coffee and Donuts

Pray for VOCATIONS

The archbishop has asked that set aside a special time in our parish to pray for vocations. Please consider some time in the adoration chapel on the first Thursday of each month to pray for vocations. Thank You.



Next weekend Fr. Peter Chinnappan will be with us here at Little Flower to seek our support for work in 11 different dioceses in India. There will be a second collection. Please be as generous as possible.



Youth News

(eighth grade through twelfth grade)

Mark your calendars for the annual bus trip to King's Island on Wednesday July 27th. See your summer youth newsletter or call Tom at the parish center for the permission slip. REGISTER SOON TO GUARANTEE A PLACE ON THE BUS!

Youth room will be open on Sunday July 3rd from 7pm until 9pm.

On Wednesdays, July 6th, July 13th, July 20th, and August 3rd, Katie Lyons will be conducting a youth bible study. Please contact Katie at 352-1129 or mklyons74@yahoo.com for more details. It is not necessary to attend every session if you have a conflict due to vacation.

Cookout/swimming at Tom's house - AGAIN!

Monday, July 11th - Incoming grades 8 and 9

Tuesday, July 12th - Incoming grades 10, 11, and 12

Call 357-8352 or e-mail tom@littleflowerparish.org to say you are coming.

TAKE NOTE: The St. Vincent de Paul warehouse is in need of flat twin sheets. These can be new or used. However they must be flat and NOT fitted. The warehouse has received a large donation of twin dormitory beds and fitted sheets will not fit them. If you have any you may leave them in the SVDP food cart in the gathering area, or at the parish center.

They are also looking for a volunteer to help deliver food to the elderly at the Barton House in downtown Indianapolis. Hours are 5pm until 7pm on Wednesday evenings. If you could help, please call Eva at 631-5947.

PARISH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY - WE NEED YOUR HELP

We reserved some early dates with our photographer for those who wanted to have their pictures taken prior to college students returning to school. **We still have appointments we need to fill for July 11th and 12th. If you are willing to help us by taking an early appointment on one of these days, please call Jeannine at the parish center on Tuesday or Wednesday this week.** After these dates are filled, we will then begin taking appointments for our primary dates in September.



Vacation Bible

School Registration

Plan now to get your summer off to a great start! This year's exciting Vacation Bible School is July 18 - 22nd. Children will love this adventure in the Kingdom of the Son as they learn how to get to know God through prayer. **Registration will continue after Masses on July 9th and 10th,** or you can register by calling the parish office. The cost is \$10 per child for age 4 (pre-school) through fourth grade. Invited your neighborhood friends too! We need many volunteers to make this a fun and successful time for all of the children. Please call Lisa at 357-8352 to volunteer.

IT'S A CONTEST!



Our paper recycling effort is going great! During our second month, Little Flower received over \$90.00 for our effort. Our paper recycler is conducting a contest for churches in the recycling program during the month of July. Churches collecting the most paper will receive prize money. Please drop off your newspaper, magazines, catalogs, and other recyclable paper. Encourage your neighbors and family members to participate as well!

A kickball clinic for girls in grades 4-8 will be held July 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th from 6:00pm - 7:00pm at Little Flower. Questions? Please call Antoinette Burford 351-1190.



Needed Extraordinary Ministers: Are you being called to be an eucharistic minister? Pray and listen. Do you know of a parishioner who you think would be a good eucharistic minister? The requirements are: a belief in the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Jesus Christ in the bread and wine; a respect for the sacred; and a responsibility to a schedule. If you fit these needs, please contact me at giboshihoosier@aol.com or 356-3488. The rewards are beyond this world!

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

Parish Finances



Weekly Budget Goal	\$ 13,200.00
Collection of June 25 th and 26 th	\$ 11,227.23
Electronic Contribution 06/21 to 6/27	\$ 190.25
Year to Date Budget Goal	\$ 686,400.00
Year to Date Collections	\$ 683,899.87
<u>Fiscal Year 04-05 compared to budget</u>	<u>\$ -2,500.61</u>

The above deficit only represents the deficit for the year in Sunday Collections. Complete financials for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005 will be available this fall.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Home Improvement Fund

April contributions	\$ 2,080.00
May Contributions	\$ 2,137.00
June contributions	\$ 1,765.00

Happy 4th of July

Ladies Club News

As a fund-raiser this year, the Ladies Club is going to participate in a few of the Christmas Bazaars in town. The income earned will be from outside the parish. To make this happen we need LOTS of people to help. There are many ways to participate. Be on the committee to organize/ make the items in your own home at your convenience / or meet with a group of women on a need to basis to make items / donate money to supply the material. Watch the Bulletin for more information or call Eileen Walters @ 353-9243.