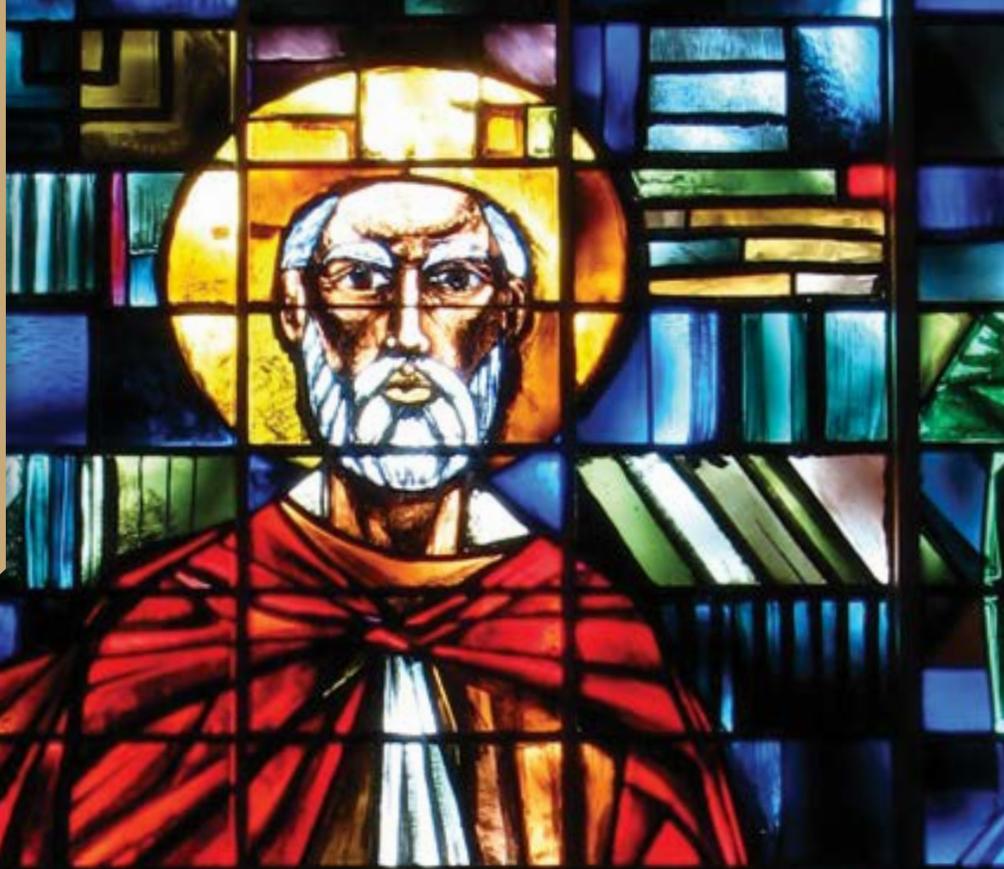


Church of St. Peter, Quincy III

MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER



MEET OUR PARISH NURSE, KATHY HARMAN

Fostering the Stewardship of Health in Our Faith Community

Sometimes, it feels like God opens just the right doors at just the right times. You walk through them, and you feel like you're home. That's what happened to Kathy Harman when she took the position as parish nurse six and a half years ago.

After several decades of working both as a staff nurse and in administration at a large, multi-specialty clinic, Kathy was ready for a change. And it soon became clear that God had a different plan for her, as well. One Sunday, as he read the bulletin, Kathy's husband noticed that the previous parish nurse was retiring and the parish was looking for a replacement.

"My husband jokingly handed me the bulletin and said, 'Look, she's retiring,'" Kathy says. "I called the next day just to see — and after the interview, I came home and I told my husband, 'I think this is what I'm going to do.'

"I think I shocked everybody," she adds with a smile.

As parish nurse, Kathy serves in a number of different capacities — from visiting ill and homebound parishioners, to offering monthly blood pressure checks and sharing compassion through



Kathy Harman loves serving the St. Peter family as our parish nurse.

grief support groups, to bringing Communion to those who cannot attend Mass and, most recently, helping families plan the funeral Masses of their loved ones.

"I feel like I really get close to the family and the person [in planning funerals], because we talk about stories and memories and things like that," Kathy says. "It's a gift to me."

Her favorite moments are when she gets to spend time getting to know parishioners, especially

continued on back cover

ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

ST. CHARLES BORROMEEO:

An Example of Living Completely for the Lord

One important aspect of stewardship — of involvement in parish life and our community — is understanding our own personal vocation. One saint especially embodies this key aspect of stewardship. St. Charles was a model priest, and many priests and clergy-in-training look to his life as an example of how to live completely for the Lord. Let us look to his example as we serve our own faith family and community.

When St. Charles Borromeo died at the age of 46, he had accomplished more than most clergy twice his age. St. Charles is credited with the continuation and completion of the Council of Trent in 1562, extensive reformation within the Archdiocese of Milan and beyond, and the creation of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine — the forerunner of the modern Religious Education system. St. Charles possessed a fierce love for the Church, especially for the people under his spiritual care — the Archdiocese of Milan.

He was born in 1538 to the powerful noble family Borromeo. But rather than live the life of a noble, St. Charles chose instead to serve the Church.

As a young man, St. Charles received the clerical tonsure — a hairstyle where the top of

the head is shaved, common among religious orders — and studied at a Benedictine abbey near his hometown of Arona, Italy. His uncle, Cardinal Giovanni Angelo de' Medici, was elected Pope in 1559, and took the name Pius IV. Shortly after becoming pope, Pius IV appointed St. Charles to serve as secretary of state, as well as cardinal and administrator of the Archdiocese of Milan. At the time, St. Charles was still a layperson. While serving in these positions, he encouraged the pope to reconvene the Council of Trent, an ecumenical gathering during which Church leaders corrected various abuses and sought to more clearly define elements of Catholic doctrine.

In 1563, St. Charles was ordained to the priesthood during a secret ordination ceremony. Following the death of his older brother, Count Federico Borromeo, St. Charles' family had urged him to marry and carry on the Borromeo name. However, St. Charles felt that God was calling him to serve the Church, and continued to fulfill his vocation.

Shortly after becoming a priest, St. Charles was appointed by Pope Pius IV as Archbishop of Milan. Historians say the people of Milan rejoiced under St. Charles' leadership

and spiritual guidance — he was the first bishop in 80 years to actually live in Milan and minister to its people himself. Under his rule, Milan became a model diocese that was revered throughout the Catholic world.

Due to his great intellect, St. Charles was often called away from Milan to help the pope in various ways. However, despite his busy life, St. Charles continued to push reformation among clergy and sought to continually improve the ministry of the Church. He often encouraged clergy to spend time educating and spiritually renewing themselves. During a homily at a diocesan synod, St. Charles addressed the priests saying, "Are you in charge of a parish? If so, do not neglect the parish of your own soul, do not give yourself to others so completely that you have nothing left for yourself. You have to be mindful of your people without becoming forgetful of yourself."

St. Charles was a true servant of the people. As the plague of 1576 ravaged much of Milan, he remained with his people, serving the sick and dying in hospitals throughout the archdiocese.

St. Charles Borromeo died Nov. 3, 1584. He was canonized in 1610, and his feast day is celebrated each year on Nov. 4.



A Letter from Our Pastor

A MONTH FILLED WITH GRATITUDE

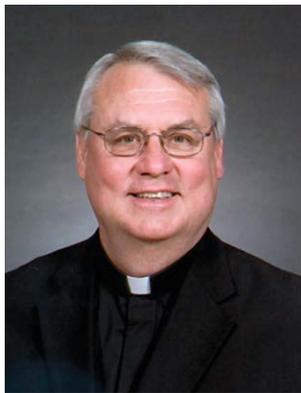
Dear Parishioners,

The month of November of course brings to mind thoughts of thanksgiving. These aren't just thoughts about Thanksgiving Day — although I look forward to it with happy anticipation — but thoughts regarding the many reasons we should be thankful.

We begin the month with a Holy Day of Obligation, the Solemnity of All Saints, on Nov. 1. It is a stewardship feast in so many ways, instituted to honor all saints, known and unknown. The communion of saints — the sharing of spiritual goods by those in heaven to us who are still in our pilgrimage — is a great cause for thanksgiving. We read about the lives of the saints to be encouraged and inspired by their examples. Plus, we are strengthened by their fellowship in the Body of Christ, and their prayers aid us.

We follow All Saints' Day with All Souls Day on Nov. 2 so we can honor and commemorate all those others who may have been "saints" in our lives. It may have been a mother or father, sister or brother, son or daughter, next-door neighbor, good friend, grandparent, uncle or aunt, cousin, teacher, or student — the list is endless. We have been blessed in our lives with people who have shown us what it means to be a good Christian, what it means to be a good steward. During this month of November, we need to thank God for those people in our lives. In fact, we need to thank God period, which is another important element of this month.

Toward the end of the month we celebrate what is mainly a secular holiday, Thanksgiving, but this national holiday is so grounded in our Christian stewardship tradition. This year



is the 156th anniversary of the first official Thanksgiving in the U.S., as proclaimed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863, during the horrors of the Civil War. In the beginning of that proclamation, President Lincoln stated, *"To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that*

they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God." Lincoln takes great care to recognize God's presence in all of the "thanks."

Couldn't we say those words of Lincoln about our lives, about the life of our parish this year? In fact, we could say it every month. Stewardship is the appreciation of our many, many blessings, both personally and as a faith family.

From the beginning of the month, when we thank God for the example of the saints and for the example of the "saints" in our lives, to the end of the month, when we thank God for basically everything we have and everything we are, November is a time to remember and to approach the Lord with a grateful heart. That is what stewardship really is — approaching God; approaching each day; approaching all those with whom we come in contact — with grateful and loving hearts.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Msgr. Leo J. Enlow". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Msgr. Leo J. Enlow
Pastor

CELEBRATING THE GIFT OF FAMILY THROUGH QUINCY NOTRE DAME

Any present or past student knows that family is the core theme of Quincy Notre Dame [QND] High School. It's at the heart of every event and endeavor of the school — be it educational, spiritual, social or academic — drawing the students and their parents into a community larger than themselves. And Quincy Notre Dame's annual Extravaganza is a tangible way to celebrate the gift of this school family, drawing us all together in support of our beloved Catholic high school.

"The word 'family' is a big word at Notre Dame," says St. Peter parishioner and QND parent Jennifer Dyer. "This fundraiser is a way for our parents, alumni and community to also come together as a family. And in the process, we're able to supply Notre Dame students not only with some extras but also with some of the must-haves of the budget without raising tuition."

An alumna of the school herself, Jennifer

is now blessed to see her sons benefit from the same phenomenal Catholic education that she received 30 years ago. In fact, Jennifer says that the school has only gotten better over the years, possessing amazing technological and curriculum advancements while also maintaining an unashamedly Catholic philosophy.

"It's a progressive school that really makes Catholic education a priority," Jennifer says. "I've been particularly impressed with our campus ministry program, which is really flourishing and developing. We have a full-time youth minister on campus, as well as lots of Catholic-specific groups like Raiders for Life, for instance, which support pro-life activities. The school has weekly youth groups that meet on campus so students can learn more about the Catholic faith in addition to their Catholic religion classes. Through them, kids are really growing in their faith and developing a true relationship with Jesus."

continued on page 5



Saturday, November 23, 2019

NOTRE DAME'S *Annual Extravaganza*

This and so much more ensures that Quincy Notre Dame continues to successfully build up our Church by forming young leaders. That's why, Jennifer says, it's so important that we Catholics — whether we have children at the school or not — continue to do our part to support and assist this essential ministry.

"Our largest ministry as a parish — really any parish's largest ministry — is always its school," Jennifer says. "Well, Notre Dame doesn't have any specific parish associated with it. Instead, there are four local parishes that support it, including St. Peter's. Our parishioners need to know that by supporting our high school, they are supporting Catholic education for the future. Everyone wants to see our faith flourish, and by supporting Quincy Notre Dame we are supporting the future leaders of our Church and community."

The Extravaganza is an easy way for parishioners to do this while also having a great time. Scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 23, at the Ambiance, the Extravaganza will include delicious catered food inspired by this year's luau theme, live entertainment and an open bar. There will also be raffles, a silent auction with over 300 items to bid on, and a live auction including large items like vacation packages and tickets to popular sporting events.

All funds generated from the event go directly to the school, helping with normal operational expenses as well as special projects. For example, thanks to the success of past Extravaganzas, the school was able to purchase one full-size school bus and two activity buses, costing over \$160,000.

"When significant projects can be funded in this manner, it allows the school to keep tuition increases as reasonable as possible," says school principal Mark McDowell.

Perhaps equally important, however, are the relationships and overall sense of community that is formed through this event each year. Bringing multiple generations of parents, alumni and community members together, it allows everyone to experience the family spirit that characterizes Quincy Notre Dame High School. It is also a wonderful opportunity to ensure that future generations can enjoy the tremendous gift of this Catholic high school.

"The Extravaganza is certainly important to our school financially," Mr. McDowell says. "However, it's also very important as a community endeavor. This event gives our supporters the opportunity to spend a fun evening with one another in celebration of our school. The generosity we experience each year is a testament to our mission and the people who sacrifice on behalf of it."

Tickets for the 2019 QND Extravaganza are \$60 per person until Nov. 1. After this date, ticket prices will increase to \$65. They can be purchased through the QND website at www.quincynotredame.org or at the Gene Grawe Office located at St. Peter Church. For more information about the Extravaganza and ways to support it, please contact Jennifer Dyer at 2jdyers@gmail.com or 217-440-9766.

ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

MEET PARISHIONER/STEWARDSHIP ASSOCIATE

LYN STRIEKER : *Taking the Leap of Faith*

The more involved Lyn Strieker has become in parish life, the more she sees how truly blessed St. Peter's is with people who love Jesus and want to know Him better.

"Each person's stewardship journey is different, but each is important to our parish family," says Lyn, Stewardship Associate. "Our parishioners are people who want to serve quietly, generously and abundantly. They want to lead and are willing to help others outside our parish community."

Lifelong parishioners, Lyn and her husband attended grade school at St. Peter's and went to Quincy Notre Dame. After being away for about 10 years, they returned to Quincy in 1993, and their three daughters also attended St. Peter's grade school.

"St. Peter's is our home!" says Lyn.

Lyn and her husband



Mark and Lyn Strieker

volunteered to help with the parish directory in the spring of 2018, and then Lyn started her position as the Stewardship Associate about a year ago.

"The primary goal of this position is to avoid adding

more supervisory duties to our parish priests and to coordinate with Catholic Stewardship Consultants," Lyn says. "Our parish has embraced stewardship for the past 10 years, and I am here to simply provide support to

continued on page 7

"You may choose to improve your prayer life, volunteer your time, join a new ministry group, reach out to someone in need, invite a friend to Mass or share a talent you have. Pray and listen to where God is calling you. Be willing to take that first step. You will never regret time spent growing closer to Him and doing His will." — Lyn Strieker

and Embracing a Stewardship Way of Life

our current ministries, help with communication between staff and the ministries and encourage collaboration within the ministries.”

She works closely with the Stewardship Committee and Catholic Stewardship Consultants to support the activities of the parish, especially during the Retreat and the Renewal.

“I also assist with communication through the monthly newsletters and social media,” Lyn says. “I meet with our Director of Religious Education and our ministry leaders to help support their needs. As new ministries have formed, I have tried to support them and

help get them off the ground.”

Lyn most enjoys supporting new ministries, such as the Young Adult Group, an outreach ministry with Chaddock and a Bereavement Support group.

“In each case, someone saw a need, communicated their desires, and then with some encouragement and support, they were able to start a ministry that fills a need for some of our parishioners and the community,” Lyn says.

After working closely with the Stewardship Committee this past year, Lyn understands more the importance of the Four Pillars of Stewardship — Hospitality, Prayer, Formation and Service.

We’re called to embrace all four pillars because like the support walls of a roof, each is important to maintaining a stable stewardship community.

“For example, if we show up to pray at Mass, but are not kind to the person sitting next us, we’re missing something!” Lyn says. “Or if we get too busy with projects and parish activities, we may forget to spend time in prayer and listening to God’s call to us.”

As we approach the upcoming Stewardship Renewal, we have an opportunity to reflect on our own personal stewardship journey. Lyn encourages everyone to reflect prayerfully on the past year and commit to making at least one small step in improving your faith life or getting more involved.

“You may choose to improve your prayer life, volunteer your time, join a new ministry group, reach out to someone in need, invite a friend to Mass or share a talent you have,” Lyn says. “Pray and listen to where God is calling you. Be willing to take that first step. You will never regret time spent growing closer to Him and doing His will.”



The Strieker family — (from left) Sydney Strieker; Michael, Kailyn and Charlotte Rieger; and Mark, Lyn and Ashley Strieker

ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

2600 Maine Street
Quincy, Illinois 62301



Return Service Requested

MASS & RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

Sunday Masses

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.,

Sunday: 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses

Mon-Sat: 8:00 a.m., except for

Wednesdays: 8:30 a.m.

Reconciliation

Saturday: 7:30-7:50 a.m.,

3:30-4:30 p.m. or by appointment

MEET OUR PARISH NURSE, KATHY HARMAN *continued from front cover*

those who are ill or homebound, and may not have as many opportunities to participate in the life of the parish. She enjoys the time she gets to spend chatting with them and offering support in whatever ways she is able.

“I like to see how they’re doing, and ask if there’s anything I can do to help, or say a prayer with them,” Kathy says. “I probably get to know them a little better than I would otherwise and that’s my favorite part.

“I hope they feel we truly are a loving and caring parish family,” she adds. “I hope they feel God’s love is with them and they truly are a part of that family and are important to everything we do here.”

To Kathy, the parish has truly become her family; a group of people she cares deeply about and wants to do everything she can to serve.

“They are my family, I want them to be healthy and well and to do what I can do,” she

says. “It’s not medical. Most of what I do is spiritual — I take Communion, I’ll say a prayer with you, or sit and hold your hand. I cry with people when that loss happens or when people get bad news — this is my family.”

As the years have gone on, Kathy has become even more grateful for the opportunity to serve the parish community.

“This is a wonderful place to be, it’s probably the best job I’ve ever had,” Kathy says. “I’m so thankful for Fr. Leo and St. Peter’s for allowing me to be here. It is a wonderful position and I get so much out of it, through everybody that I see and talk to.”

If you would like more information on our Parish Nursing Ministry, or if you or a loved one are homebound and need to schedule a visit with parish nurse Kathy Harman, please contact her at 217-222-3155.