



# The ADVOCATE

Queen of Peace Quarterly Newsletter

AUTUMN 2007

## Spotlight on...

## Heather Kinney, OLQP Spiritual Life Minister

Editor's note: *The position of the Spiritual Life Minister at Our Lady Queen of Peace evolved over the course of a few days after two very gifted women were interviewed for the position of Director of Religious Education. At the time and for well over a year, Fr. Tuozzolo had been pressing the Parish Advisory Board and Finance Committee to fund an additional staff person to relieve Christina Kozyn, the parish Office Administrator, of the workload associated with managing a vibrant and growing parish. Rather than hire an administrative assistant, Christina felt it would be prudent to separate out several of the major areas of parish work that have fallen her way over the years: Liturgy, Ministry/Volunteer Coordination and oversight responsibilities for many of the parish's programs. Heather Kinney would prove to be perfect for the role of Spiritual Life Minister. Following is a brief autobiography.*

In the spring of 1997, I was a sophomore journalism major at the University of Missouri in Columbia, which is halfway between Kansas City and St. Louis. I was working a general assignment shift at one of the two local newspapers on a Saturday morning when my editor assigned me the obituary of a 15-year-old boy who had died of cancer. I do not remember the boy's name, but I do remember dreading the call I would make to his family for information on their son and brother. I also remember his mother's profound gratitude that I wanted to know about her son whom she loved so dearly. But, I knew this obituary would be like every other obituary in that day's paper, just three inches of text. As I was hanging up after our conversation, I thought to myself, "Everyone deserves more than three inches."

That same semester, I was an RCIA candidate, preparing for the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. I had had very little exposure to the Church while growing up. Although my parents talked

openly about God and being Catholic, we were nominally so. I turned to the Church unintentionally toward the end of my freshman year. Not long after my arrival on the Mizzou campus, my mom suggested that I find the Newman Center, referring to it as "not your typical Catholic Church." But, with my lack of experience with church, I hardly knew what "typical" meant

That spring, my friend Katie asked me a few times to go to the Newman Center with her, and I agreed only after she appealed to my sense of safety. She didn't want to have to walk alone across campus at night. As the story goes, I walked in the door and never looked back! I started going to Mass that summer and responded to an announcement in the Newman Center bulletin about the RCIA in September.

Ten years later, when people ask me why I changed my major from journalism to religious studies, I often share the story of the 15-year-old boy and his mother. At the time, I could not have articulated this experience as confirmation of my call to ministry. But, I know now that the feeling I had when talking with this boy's mother was the feeling of wanting to be the person who sat with her and held her hand when the local reporter called. Situations such as this one define how I want to live out my faith.

During my senior year, I was an intern in campus ministry at the Mizzou Newman Center. Since my graduation in 1999, I have served as a campus minister at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland (from 2000-2002) and the University of San Diego (from 2004-2006). Between these two stints, I com-

pleted coursework for a master's degree in theology at the Washington Theological Union and nurtured my interest in lay preaching. One of my proudest accomplishments came in the summer of 2005 when Megan McKenna, an author of several books on justice and scripture, asked me if she could include a reflection of mine in her book *On Your Mark: Reading Mark in the Shadow of the Cross*. The subject of the homily was an immersion trip in Tijuana, which I helped to supervise while at USD, in light of Mark 8:27-34. ("Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.") I pray for my next proud accomplishment to be finishing my thesis! In "*Giving Voice to the Experience of Grace: A Case for Lay Preaching*," I explore Karl Rahner's theology of grace as a foundation for the contemporary ministry of lay preaching.

I joined the staff of Our Lady Queen of Peace as Spiritual Life Minister in April 2007. Having grown up in Montgomery County, I am happy to have returned home and to be reunited with my family after so many years away. Fr. Kevin Nadolski, with whom I worked during his first year as Director of Vocations for his religious order, was extremely encouraging as I discerned whether to plunge into this new arena of parish ministry. I certainly am grateful to him and to the women and men of this parish who have welcomed and befriended me these past five months. †



**Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church**

2700 19th Street South, Arlington VA 22204, phone: 703-979-5580; fax: 703-979-5590

**ourladyqueenofpeace.org**

## Day-to-Day Reflections by Fred Cain

Demonstrating solidarity with the poor of the world can be difficult in our busy, North American lives. Solidarity requires action, and our attempts at action can become misdirected without proper reflection. The following story outlines a reflection that took place around everyday events. Truly, it is in the events of our daily lives that we encounter the best opportunities to reflect on the vast differences between this land of ours and the majority of our sisters and brothers around the globe. Reflection is the fuel that, if we allow it to, propels us to action in our quest for solidarity.

On a hot and humid Friday afternoon, without warning, my 11-month-old son Scott threw up all of the strained carrots he had eaten an hour before. As a seasoned observer of the bodily functions of infants, I quickly deduced that this was not the typical spit-up one often sees in babies. This was a gut-wrenching, eye-popping, turn-the-face-red type of vomiting that had me slightly worried.

My fears were confirmed when the vomiting, sometimes in the form of dry heaves, occurred every 15 minutes for about 4 hours, without sign of letting up. I called the answering service for Scott's pediatrician—it was after 5:00 pm on a Friday. As I waited for the doctor's return call, I wondered what percentage of the world's population has telephone access to a medical professional. I imagined myself a poor parent in South Asia with no access to medical help. I hoped that my imaginary counterpart would at least have family or friends that would know of an herb or root that might stop the vomiting. Within 30 minutes I was talking on the phone to a real live doctor—almost a miracle based on my earlier reflections. She gave me the name of an over-the-counter infant remedy, warned me of the dangers of dehydration, and told me that if all else failed, it sounded serious enough for a trip to the emergency room.

The weather was drizzly and threatening rain so I got in my car for the 4 block trip to the drug store. I once again imagined myself a poor parent, in a far away, harsh land. This time I was walking a muddy and hilly trail in Central America to get medicine for my boy. In another instant my imagination had me treading

the rocky, high altitude passes of the Andes; or was it Tibet? The contrast between me and my virtual counterparts shamed me as I parked my Buick and entered the local CVS. Aisle after aisle of medicine greeted me and I wondered how many people in the world have access to the resources that quickly overwhelmed me. Lost in the over-abundance, I had to ask the pharmacist to help me find the medicine. At the check-out, I pulled a twenty out of my wallet only to reflect on how little that money meant to me in relation to my son's health. But then I imagined the many other millions for whom money isn't an object either—because they have none. I thought of all the children in the world that die for lack of two dollars worth of medicine.

Back home again, the medicine was not working. Scott greedily swallowed the sweet, fruit-flavored syrup, but it quickly came back up. My wife and I got ready for what could possibly be a long night in the ER. I ate a quick supper and she hopped through the shower. Scott mostly slept now, waking only to dry heave or throw up a tablespoon's worth of whatever was left in his stomach. Holding his limp body while waiting in the ER made me wonder how many other parents, at that same moment, were holding their sick children without hope of any medical intervention. I was a poor mother in Africa holding the dehydrated body of my skeletal boy. I hoped that my counterpart at least knew the dangers of dehydration. I grimly remembered some years ago, having heard a statistic of the number of children that die every day from dehydration due to simple diarrhea. Was it 10,000?...20,000? I pushed the thought away. I felt blessed to be in the ER of a first world hospital that specialized in the treatment of children. I also felt ashamed to be part of the elite that finds it so difficult to find the means to help the majority that suffer with so little.

Within fifteen minutes Scott had been triaged and within forty minutes, a bed had opened up and we were in. Suddenly, instead of standing guard by a sterilized hospital bed, I was a worried father looking over my sick boy lying on a hard mat on the desert floor. The nurse's arrival scared away the flies that had quickly

gathered on my son's body. She had arrived to draw blood from the back of Scott's tiny hand, and left the tube in his vein in case intra-venous feeding became necessary. I thought of all the lives that could be saved through this procedure that took less than 5 minutes.

I kept reflecting on all of my counterparts that my imagination had invented over the evening. I wondered how they were doing. I wished I could be there to comfort them....but no!! Things had not gone well for them. I was glad to be far away from them. I wanted all that had happened with me that night to be kept secret. I could never face my mourning counterparts if they knew how much I had—and how easy I had it.

Scott stopped vomiting and was taking grape flavored electrolytic fluid from a syringe every five minutes. The blood tests came back and it was nothing serious. His problem was most likely just a stomach virus that would have to run its course. We could expect a few more days of diarrhea, some more bouts of vomiting, but not to worry. We were given instructions on maintaining hydration and told to contact Scott's doctor if anything else came up.

We need to always be looking for creative ways to lessen the gaps that exist between us and our poor sisters and brothers. Reflections such as this one help us gain perspective, and challenge us to act on behalf of the have-nots. I invite you to reflect on the everyday happenings in your own life. Reflect on your employment situation in relation to the millions who are unemployed, or under-employed, or discriminated against in their employment. Reflect on your education, or your children's education and the stark differences in access to education in our world based on gender, skin color, or social class. Reflect on your leisure expenditures, or the many possessions we can't seem to keep ourselves from accumulating. Reflection leads to life changing action.

We often proclaim that we are blest to live in a country with so many wonderful resources at our fingertips. However, the fact that sacred scripture doesn't often include us among the blessed should bother us. †

# OLQP Religious Education Program 2007-2008

## ◆ Liturgy of the Word

- ◆ For ages 4 through 12; Grades Pre-K through 6th
- ◆ During the 9:30 and 11:15 Masses on Sunday mornings
- ◆ After opening prayer children are lead from church as a group and return at the Offertory.

Liturgy of the Word for children is a worship experience that takes place in the classroom. It is a concerned and sensitive way to enable children to participate in the formal worship experience of the community. Children begin the worship experience with their families. After the greeting, the celebrant calls the children forward to leave with their teachers for an age appropriate gospel lesson. At approximately the time of the Offertory the children return to join their families. The celebration of these liturgies are intended to form children in the liturgical language of the Church, to nourish and guide their spiritual growth, and to immerse them in the Word in ways that are understandable to them.

## ◆ Religious Education Classes

- ◆ 10:30 to 11:15 AM on Sunday mornings
- ◆ Children and teachers are dismissed from Mass after Communion
- ◆ School-aged children through grade six
- ◆ Children meet weekly in classroom setting

This program provides families with a central location for study, and an opportunity for church-based friendships to develop and grow. Leading from and flowing toward Sunday Eucharist, the lectionary-based text "We Believe" encourages involvement in worship, scripture, education, and parish life.

## ◆ Home Supported Program

- ◆ Family-set times, grades 1 - 6

This program is designed for parents who wish to teach religion to their children on an individual basis. Each chapter in every grade of the text book the parish provides covers doctrine, Scripture, morality, prayer, worship and review of concepts. Lessons on Bible skills, Liturgy and Reconciliation for each level are included. Both the parent and child will grow in faith and understanding of the Christian message.

## ◆ Sacramental Preparation Classes

- ◆ First Reconciliation and First Communion Preparation  
Grade 2 (age 7) home-study program  
Children also gather bi-weekly on Saturday afternoons  
Program runs from January through June
- ◆ Confirmation  
Grades 7 and up (age 13 and up)  
*New Class* forming January 2008  
Confirmation is scheduled for the fall of 2009



- ◆ RCIA & Returning Church (please see page 4 for program details)  
Meets each Wednesday 7:15 - 9 p.m. in the Founders Room  
Class begins September 19th, new inquirers are welcome until 12/1/07.  
For information, call Betty Mills, 703-642-1013, or [deusaderit@cox.net](mailto:deusaderit@cox.net).

Director: **Katie Remedios**  
Office Hours: **Mon - Thu, 1 - 5 PM**  
Contact: **703-979-5580. ext. 107**  
**[olqp.re@verizon.net](mailto:olqp.re@verizon.net)**

***Classes begin September 30th***  
***Enrollment is open***  
***through September 21st***

***Program registration forms are available on line at [www.ourladyqueenofpeace.org](http://www.ourladyqueenofpeace.org) (click on Religious Education), in the back of church at the 'registration station' or call to have one mailed by calling the parish office, 703-979-5580.***

***Mark Your Calendars!***

**Family Mass  
& Potluck Supper  
Saturday, October 27th  
4 PM, Bilingual Mass**

Pot-luck supper follows in Fr. Ray Hall  
Please bring a dish to share  
(salad, side, main, dessert)  
enough for your family plus six others.

**Program Times**  
**Children Liturgy of the  
Word (CLW)**  
**During 9:30 & 11:15 Masses**

**Religious Education Classes**  
**Sunday Mornings**  
**10:30 – 11:15 AM**

(Leave 9:30 Mass after Communion)

**Religious Education Class**  
**For Spanish Speaking**  
**Families**  
**12 - 12:45 PM**

# Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process for adult women and men interested in inquiring about the Catholic faith and/or preparing for the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. The RCIA emphasizes the Gospel of Jesus Christ as celebrated in the Catholic Church, shares the major concerns and teachings of the Catholic Church, promotes prayer and spiritual growth and invites the parish community to walk with those on this journey. It is celebrated in a series of stages or steps rooted in prayer and discernment:

**Inquiry** You may have a friend who is Catholic. You may be dating, engaged or married to a Catholic. You may have been baptized but never celebrated the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. You may want to become Catholic. Or, you may just be interested in learning more about the Catholic faith. The RCIA may be for you.

The first session of the Inquiry phase of the RCIA will be Wednesday, September 12th. On this Wednesday and for several Wednesdays following, the setting will be informal with conversation and sharing, an introduction to the basics of the Catholic way of life and the opportunity to ask questions. There is no commitment required during this time of Inquiry; we simply invite you to “come and see.”

**Catechumenate** Following the period of Inquiry, the Catechumenate consists of weekly gatherings for those who have made the decision to be baptized in the Catholic faith and for those who have been baptized in a Christian tradition (Catholic or not) and wish to complete their initiation through the celebration of the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.

Beginning in December, the RCIA sessions will focus on the major concerns and teachings of the Catholic Church.

**After the Catechumenate and Beyond** The six weeks of Lent mark a period of intense prayerful reflection before the usual next step of the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil (the Saturday evening before Easter Sunday). The Vigil is not the finish line; it is just the beginning of life as a committed disciple of Christ.

Following the Easter celebration, the weekly sessions of the RCIA will continue until Pentecost, focusing on the beginning of your life as a fully initiated Catholic and ways to become more involved in the life of our parish.

In their 2000 report on the RCIA in parish life, *Journey to the Fullness of Life*, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops affirms that the RCIA has the power to transform parishes. The only way for such transformation to occur is through the involvement of the entire parish! The RCIA is not a class or a program. Rather, it is a journey of conversion and renewal for all of us. We witness to the fact that our search for God is a life-long journey, a journey on which we grow and learn when we walk with one another and with intention.

**The Sponsor** The Inquirer has a Sponsor who serves as a companion, listener and mentor. The Sponsor is an active member of the parish community, a fully initiated Catholic who helps to answer questions of the Inquirer, shares her or his faith with the Inquirer and helps the Inquirer to explore ways to live out the Catholic faith. The Sponsor is the Inquirer’s personal connection to the parish. The RCIA team will pair Sponsors with Inquirers who need them.

**The RCIA Team** The RCIA Team facilitates the RCIA process in a variety of ways. The women and men who comprise the RCIA Team serve as presenters on various aspects of Catholic life and the joys and challenges of living out their faith. They also provide guidance and support throughout the year.

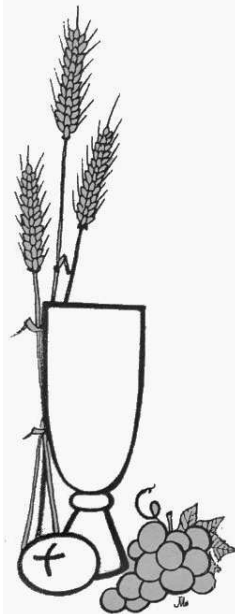
**The Parish Community** The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults clearly states: “[The] people of God, as represented by the local church, should understand and show by their concern that the initiation of adults is the responsibility of all the baptized. Therefore the community must always be fully prepared in pursuit of its apostolic vocation to give help to those who are searching for Christ.”

You, the parish community, comprise the welcoming body that provides the women and men of the RCIA an example of how our Catholic faith is lived and celebrated. By participating in the liturgical rites of initiation that mark the RCIA on various Sundays throughout the year, you recognize and celebrate with them.

You are asked to pray for the women and men of the RCIA, take the time to get to know them and invite them into ministries in which you are involved. You also may be of assistance with hospitality and other behind-the-scenes roles.

**RCIA sessions** will be Wednesday evenings from 7:15-9 PM beginning September 12th in the Ministry Center Founders Room. Attendance and participation are extremely important throughout the year. For further information about the RCIA or being a Sponsor or part of the RCIA Team, please contact Betty Mills at [deusaderit@cox.net](mailto:deusaderit@cox.net).

*Note: We welcome Inquirers at any time, but please know that if you enter into this year's RCIA process after December 1, 2007 with the intention of celebrating the Sacraments of Initiation, you would be preparing for the celebration of the Sacraments at the Easter Vigil in 2009 (not 2008) in order for you to have a full experience of the Catholic faith and community.*



# The Challenge of BAPTISM -- Growing Together in Holiness

by Leise Anslinger

What were you all giggling about at the beginning of this morning's celebration?" our pastor asked a few of us after an early morning Mass during the Easter season last spring. His question started the giggles all over again. "You see," one of us explained, "when the early morning sun shines through the window, and you are dousing us all during the sprinkling rite, we can see the drops of water arching down. They seem to pause for a few moments before landing on the people across the church from us. We were giggling both at the look of some as the water hits them and at the look of joy on your face as you remind us of our baptism." Another continued, "Some people are surprised by the water; others seem puzzled; a few duck when they see you coming; some almost seem to be looking forward to the water's arrival. It seemed especially fitting this morning - baptism is a joyful thing, and a challenging one. And it seems appropriate that we all get wet together since baptism calls us into life together. It isn't just a 'me and Jesus' thing; it's about growing together, being challenged together, and sometimes giggling together!"

My friends told it like it is. Baptism calls us to holiness together. Like the people reacting to the sprinkling of baptismal water, sometimes we seem surprised by the challenges of our baptismal call to discipleship; sometimes our life in Christ is filled with joy. Some of us seem to want to hide from the demands of faith in Christ. We duck away from Christ's call just as we duck from the sprinkled baptismal water. Others seek the support of the people around them in order to stand firm as they face the allure of less-than-Christian responses to the circumstances of their lives. No matter what, baptism draws us into relationship with Christ, which in turn thrusts us into relationship with others.

## Lavishness of symbol and grace

Lavishness of ritual enactment such as what my friends and I experienced on that Sunday morning mirrors God's lavish outpouring of grace and calls each of us to overflowing life in response. That is what my friends were really trying to say to our pastor that morning. They, and I, are grateful that he understands that such celebration (and it really is a celebration) works on us over time - if not on one morning during

the Easter season, then through a succession of Easter Sundays; if not during one Lent, then the next; if not in winter Ordinary Time, then in counted time in another year, another moment in life. Living the rhythm of the feasts and seasons of our year together reminds us that we live the paschal mystery together.

I spend time with people of all ages as we minister side by side. The one common element in conversations through the years is the way God's love seems to sneak up on us, often through regular participation in the Sunday Eucharist, celebrated well and with abandon, as we set our hearts to worship and place our lives in God's hands once again. I know you know this, but it bears repeating: when we celebrate the liturgy with the attention and intensity it deserves, people of all ages will respond with their hearts and their lives. We cannot hide from the mystery of God's love when ritual is enacted well. We may duck or squirm, but the love of God in Christ will still be there, staring us in the face, splashing us over the head, waiting for a response.

Young people tell me that when their friends speak of Mass being "boring," what they describe is lackadaisical ritual life. They say the same friends comment about how different the liturgy "feels" when it is prepared with attention to detail and when the people around them really participate. It is not uncommon for people in my parish to speak about how good it "feels" to come home to the parish after time away. For many years, hearing that it "feels" good to be at this particular parish seemed nice, but I began to wonder, "So what?" Does such feeling really make a difference? Is it important that people speak of the power of celebrating in a community in which they feel surrounded by others who sincerely desire to take their faith seriously? It turns out such feelings are terribly important, and speak directly to the ways in which we live out our call to discipleship celebrated in the waters of baptism.

## The importance of belonging

In most cases, belief does not lead to belonging, but rather, belonging leads to belief, according to current research by the Gallup Organization (Albert L. Winseman, *Growing an Engaged Church* [New York: Gallup Press, 2007], 44). "Belonging," as

defined in the study, is a powerful emotional connection to a faith community. Such a feeling of belonging, called "parishioner engagement," leads people to join in events at church, participate in community service, give of their financial resources to the parish, and experience life satisfaction (39--43). In short, feeling that we really belong to our parish makes it more likely that we will express our beliefs in the way we live. What a powerful thing! The specific factors that lead to such a sense of belonging can be explored by those involved in pastoral planning; for the purpose of this article, however, I wish to concentrate simply on this profound concept of engagement in the faith community in light of our Christian faith.

As baptized believers, each of us is called to draw others to holiness, to a life filled with God's grace. Think about it. I don't know about you, but I cannot say I wake up every morning convinced that I will lead someone else to God in the course of my day; yet that is exactly what we are called to do. Being part of the Body of Christ necessitates acting on Christ's behalf in our world. There is certainly nothing more basic about the action of Christ than that of drawing people into and sustaining them in a life of love. Individual to individual, spouses to each other, parents to children, elders and children, and everyone in-between - we are meant to be people who, through the way we live and the words we speak, bring others a step closer to a life of holiness.

Not only that, we do this together! The life of the Christian is a life of communal striving-toward-holiness. That is what is so striking to me about the importance of engagement. Is there anything more fundamental than helping people feel a sense of belonging within our faith community? If we really embrace the idea that we are the Body of Christ, then doesn't it seem to follow that people will come to know Christ through us? Let that sink in for a few moments. Suddenly, fostering powerful parish life takes on new and greater meaning. It means that we must take the responsibility to foster this baptismal belonging in all the ways we are able. It means we must "live a life worthy of the call" so that others will perceive the presence of, and be drawn to, Christ through us.

*Continued on page 12, Baptism*

# OLQP ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD, 2007

1:00 TO 5:00 PM



## Special Mass Schedule

*On Picnic Sunday:*

8 AM, 9:30 AM  
& 11:30 AM bilingual  
(No 11:15 or 1:00 PM Masses)

## Bluemont Park

329 N. Manchester St.,  
corner of N. Manchester  
& N. 4th Sts., off Rt. 50  
1:00 to 5 PM

**BRING A FAVORITE FOOD DISH TO SHARE!  
SALAD, SIDE OR DESSERT  
ENOUGH FOR YOUR FAMILY PLUS SIX MORE  
THE PARISH WILL PROVIDE HOTDOGS, HAMBURGERS,  
SOFT DRINKS AND CONDIMENTS.**

**Volunteers Needed**  
Cooking, Serving, Soft Drink  
Attending, Organize Kid's  
Games, Face Painting, Pop  
Corn Dispensing, Greeters,  
Shuttle Drivers, Volleyball  
Judging, etc.



**Back by popular demand:  
MOON BOUNCE!!!**



**SHUTTLE SERVICE IS  
YOUR BEST BET!  
PARKING IS VERY  
LIMITED!!**



**GAMES, PRIZES,  
FACE PAINTING  
AND MORE!!**



**NEW This Year  
No Mass at Picnic  
Bilingual Mass  
at Church at 11:30 AM**



**SHUTTLE SERVICE  
BETWEEN CHURCH AND PARK FROM 1:00 TO 5:00 PM**

*Parking in the picnic lot is very limited. There is some street parking.*

*We strongly encourage shuttle use.*

## Fr. Ed Kelly Discussion Series 2007-2008

In last fall's issue of "The Advocate," Fr. Joe Nangle, OFM described the Preferential Option for the Poor as "a mindset, an outlook, a stance that considers the poor in every decision or initiative. How does what we are doing affect the poor is the hallmark of this Option." While not a new topic of concern for the Our Lady Queen of Peace community, it touches on all aspects of our ecclesial life. This fifth year of the Fr. Ed Kelly Discussion Series will focus on the Preferential Option for the Poor: What is it? What are the scriptural and theological roots? What is the liturgical connection? How does it touch our lives? How can it influence our choices?

Mark your calendars for the first two installments of this year's series:

**7-9 PM, Friday, October 19th: including Fr. Joe Nangle, OFM**

**3-5 PM, Sunday, December 2nd: including Fr. Kevin Nadolski, OSFS**

Questions and answers will follow each presentation.

Refreshments will be served.

Fr. Ed served Our Lady Queen of Peace as assistant pastor for more than a decade and was parish administrator for a year. His knowledge of Scripture and unwavering commitment to peace and justice was singular. This series honors his memory.

## A Mini-Retreat

**Sponsored by Minkisi Ministry**

**Saturday, November 17, 2007**

**9:00 AM - lunch**

**OLQP Church and**

**Ministry Center Founders Room**

**Retreat Director:**

**Msgr. Ray East**

**Continental breakfast:**

**9 AM**

**Prayer and Session:**

**begin at 9:30 AM**

**Lunch provided.**

**Freewill offering.**

**To register contact:**

**[jisaac3@verizon.net](mailto:jisaac3@verizon.net)**

**703-979-5389**

**or the parish 703-979-5580.**



## Peace Camp 2007

*"And they shall study war no more." (Micah 4:3)*

Twenty-two young people (ages 5 – 11) gathered at the end of August to explore ways they can become peacemakers in their homes, schools, and communities.

"Little Friends for Peace" camp has conducted camps throughout the country for nearly three decades. This is the fourth successive year for Peace Camp at Queen of Peace. Campers began each day in prayer, thanking God for giving them the gift of Peace, calling them to be peacemakers rather than peace breakers and to spread the Good News of Peace and care for all of God's creation. Part of daily prayer was reciting the Peace Building Pledge:

***I am a Peace Builder***

***I pledge to:***

***Talk nicely with other;***

***Treat people with care;***

***Make Peace, not break Peace;***

***Build Peace at home, at school and in my neighborhood each day.***

Through drama, art, cooperative games, music, yoga and interactive presentations, campers were empowered to see Peace as a powerful instrument that can help the world to come together and live with respect, love, equality and Peace for all. The youth were reminded that Jesus repeatedly called his disciples to nonviolence, offering them his gift of Peace. Mother Teresa, Gandhi, Dorothy Day, Martin Luther King and many others responded to this call, providing examples that all of us can use to accept Jesus' call to use our many gifts to help one another and to live peacefully. The Peace Campers hopped on board a 'Peace Train' that carried only instruments of Peace, reminding us to LOVE OUR ENEMIES, and to work to find solutions in which both sides can win. When conflicts popped up, Campers learned to "go into stop" (take time alone to reflect on the problem) and to come up with win-win solutions. Then they would meet at the 'Peace Table' to share their solutions and resolve the issue peacefully.

Little Friends for Peace began coming to Queen of Peace eleven years ago. Plans are already underway for camp next year, August 18 – 22. Meanwhile, the Parks, program developers, are sponsoring two family-oriented "Peace Oases," one to be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington (Route 50 and George Mason Drive) Sunday, October 21st from 5 – 7:30 PM, with the second taking place at Queen of Peace on Saturday, February 23rd, also from 5 – 7:30 PM. Both events will explore ways that all family members can work for peace in their daily activities. For more information, contact Gene Betit, (703) 979-5580 or [olqp.sjom@verizon.net](mailto:olqp.sjom@verizon.net). †



**JustFAITH – Now in its third year at OLQP**  
**Program begins September 18th with weekly meetings through May 2008.**

**WHAT is JustFAITH?** A rapidly expanding program sponsored by Catholic Charities, with well over 300 parishes and 3,000 individuals across the US participated in this justice oriented formation process. JustFAITH integrates personal spirituality with social ministry and is similar to a college course. JustFAITH allows participants to study and be formed by the justice tradition articulated by Jesus and early Church leaders in Scripture, the Church's historical witness and Catholic social teaching. Topics range from poverty, both at home and globally, to nonviolent solutions for world crises.

**HOW DOES JustFAITH WORK?** Participants in groups up to 15 meet once a week for 30 weeks to discuss extensive readings, view videos, listen to guest speakers, and participate in a few weekend service projects and retreats. Our group meets Tuesday evenings for 2 hours in the Ministry Center. While this course is very similar to a college course with a lot of reading, there are no exams this time around!

**WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?** This program is open to adult members of OLQP. There is a fee of \$150 to cover books and other course materials. The fee is payable in two installments, half on registration, and half at the start of the second semester. If the fee poses a problem, contact Heather Kinney (703-979-5580 or [olqp.slm@verizon.net](mailto:olqp.slm@verizon.net)) so an alternative source of funding can be identified.

**WHEN DOES JustFAITH START/END?** Class will start September 18th and end in mid May. There are generally no meetings on the week of a major holiday. A calendar is provided on the first day of class.

**INTERESTED TO ENROLL?** First, determine whether you are able to commit to a 30 week program. An occasional trip, late night at work, etc. is not a problem, but regular and faithful participation is needed. *At the time of publication, this year's class was almost full.* Please contact Heather Kinney, [olqp.slm@verizon.net](mailto:olqp.slm@verizon.net), for information on remaining availability.



**OLQP's Just\$ Ministry**

Although Queen of Peace parishioners contribute significant funds each year to a wide range of ministries at home and abroad, two years ago the Social Justice Committee launched the *Just\$* program to raise funds to add to our support of two parish ministries: OLQP's Early Learning Center (ELC), and the Orphans of AIDS Ministry.

The concept and operation of the *Just\$* program has been simple: Giant gift cards and Shoppers certificates are sold after weekend Masses and at the Credit Union – at NO additional cost to you. You can do good simply by eating! The church gets 4 or 5 percent, respectively, from each card you buy. In two years, this has provided roughly \$6,000 for each ministry. This might not sound like much, but to folks in need, it has made a colossal difference!! Of course, we would like to be able to do more, and support a wider range of causes.

Part of the *Just\$* funds were sent to the St. Joseph HIV/AIDS Self-Help Group (Brother David) in Mweiga, Kenya, which supports about 140 orphans and vulnerable children (including child commercial sex workers), people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHAS) and care givers (generally the elderly whose social security was to have been the care provided by their children and grand-children).

Our support helps Brother David and his group to:

- distribute food, medicine,
- conduct home visits,
- counsel those affected with, and impacted by, the virus,
- run a voluntary testing center,
- hold group therapy sessions to enable the HIV/AIDS community handle the stigma and discrimination associated with the virus, and
- identify and contact orphans and vulnerable children at the grass roots level.

*Support OLQP's  
Early Learning Center  
and Orphan's of  
AIDS Ministry  
with Just\$\$*

The Early Learning Center has made good use of the \$6,000 as well. The Director, Floretta Ramsuer, used the funds to upgrade the computer lab -- now with six computers -- and to purchase educational computer programs which teach the children a range of

*Continued on page 9, Just\$*

## Breakfast Discipleship

By Alan Smigielski

One of my favorite passages from the Gospel of John is the mystical and transcendent concluding chapter, Chapter 21. This chapter has an interesting and somewhat elusive history. Scripture scholars tell us that another writer probably added it to the gospel after the original author had finished. The concluding lines of Chapter 20 certainly suggest that the author known through tradition as “John” had indeed finished his account of the life and ministry of Jesus: “Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of (his) disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may (come to) believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.” (John 20:30-31)

That’s what makes Chapter 21 of John’s Gospel so intriguing and mysterious; it is as if there was something more the early Christian community wanted us to know about Jesus and the meaning of discipleship. Every known manuscript version of the Gospel of John contains Chapter 21, so it’s clear that it was accepted from the start as inspired and canonical.

In this chapter we encounter an ordinary scene turned extraordinary, placed seemingly some time after Jesus’ death and resurrection. A number of the disciples, including Peter, Thomas, Nathaniel, James and John have apparently returned to their previous jobs as fishermen and are having no luck at all after having been out in their boat all night. It has likely been some time since the disciples have seen the risen Jesus, because at first they don’t recognize him standing on the

shore, or his voice as he directs them to cast their net over the right side of their boat. Imagine a bunch of rough and burly fishermen in a boat taking advice from a “know it all” stranger on the shore who addresses them as “children”! They must have been tired and desperate because they follow Jesus’ advice and are soon struggling with more fish in their net than they can pull aboard.

Finally it dawns on the “disciple that Jesus loved” (possibly James) that he does know this stranger, that somewhere before he had encountered such kindness, compassion and mercy. “It is the Lord,” he tells Peter. Without so much as a glance ashore, Peter tucks in his garment and jumps into the sea to swim towards Jesus. The rest of the disciples follow in the boat, dragging the net engorged with flailing fish along behind them.

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*True discipleship does not end with telling Jesus that we love him, but in serving others, just as Jesus directed Peter.*

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Although on the surface this might seem like a scene from an absurdist comedy, like every Gospel passage this part of the story has many deeper meanings. We are just like the disciples. We don’t recognize Jesus in the stranger or his voice speaking to us and directing our hearts.

Often times we need someone to tell us “it is the Lord.” Our response may be to leap into the waters of faith as Peter did, or slowly approach like the rest of the disciples, dragging our own nets behind us.

What happens next in the story is truly extraordinary. After Peter has pulled the net ashore, Jesus invites the disciples to “Come, have breakfast” around the charcoal fire that he has lit and serves them fish and bread. What an astounding vision of the boundless love, grace and mercy of God! The Resurrected One invites us to his table and serves us the very bread of life!

But the story does not end there. After breakfast Jesus asks Peter a most pointed question three times: “Do you love me?” Peter is distressed by the third time the question is put to him. Each time he answers in the affirmative, Jesus replies with a new directive to “feed my lambs,” “tend my sheep” and “feed my sheep.” Like Peter we are distressed when Jesus asks this question of us, and perhaps even more disturbed at the directives Jesus gives to us. But that is the essence of discipleship as revealed in this passage. True discipleship does not end with telling Jesus that we love him, but in serving others, just as Jesus directed Peter.

Peter, being as human as the rest of us, almost completely misses the point of discipleship. He is concerned not with his own calling, but with the status of another (the disciple Jesus loved). “Lord, what about him?”, Peter asks. Jesus’ response is a direct challenge to our own obsession with enforcing our narrow judgments and perspectives on others: “What concern is it of yours? You follow me.” †

*Just\$, Continued from page 10*

That’s where each of us comes in. We all eat, and paying for groceries with a Giant or Shoppers card is easy. If you don’t shop at Giant or Shoppers, but perhaps Safeway, you can register your e-scrip card to support the Early Learning Center -- they received more than \$1,400 in e-script rebates last year!. Under the e-scrip program, between 1-3 percent of your purchases will go directly to the ELC. We also are looking into Harris Teeter and other programs.

Naturally, we can use more folks to sell after each Mass, and -- donations are always welcome!! This might be in the form of cash for OLQP’s outreach and emergency assistance programs, cards or certificates for wounded service members at Walter Reed and Bethesda (their and their families’ needs are year-round). If you are buying for a party or meeting at home, at church or at the office, we urge you to use a Giant card, Shoppers certificate or the Safeway e-scrip card and, at the same time, help the ELC provide enrichment programs to benefit local children, and support those children whose lives are devastated by AIDS/HIV. †

# OLQP FALL 2007 CALENDAR

## September

- Wed. 9/12... RCIA Begins, 7:15 PM, MC Founders Room  
 Thu. 9/13... Parish Advisory Board Meeting, 7:30 PM, MC FR  
 Sat. 9/15... Confirmation Retreat (off site)  
     Matt 25 Cleanup Day, 9 AM, MC Founders Room  
     Detail Committee, 12:30 PM, Church  
 Sun. 9/16... Confirmation Retreat (off site)  
     Young Adult Ministry Planning, 12:30 PM, MC Peace R  
 Mon. 9/17... Haiti Committee, 7:30 PM, MC Founders Room  
 Tue. 9/18... Voice of the Faithful (VOTF), 7 PM, MC Founders Room  
     JustFaith Begins, 7:30 PM, MC Classroom 3/4  
 Thu. 9/20... Carpenter's Shelter Supper  
     OLQP Book Group, 7 PM, MC Peace Room  
 Sat. 9/22... Worship Committee Meeting, 10 AM, MC Founders Rm  
 Sun. 9/23... Parish Picnic at Bluemont Park, 1 PM  
     *Special Mass Schedule:*  
     8 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM bilingual  
     (no 11:15 AM or 1 PM)  
 Wed. 9/26... Seasoned Christians, 3 PM, POB Discussion Room  
     Thanksgiving Eve Committee Meeting, 3 PM, MC FR  
 Thu. 9/27... Pax Christi Pentagon Area, 7:30 PM, MC Founders Rm  
     Fri. 9/28... Water into Wine, 6 PM, Ministry Center  
     Sat. 9/29... Water into Wine, 9 AM, Ministry Center  
     Altar Server Training, 10 AM, Church  
 Sun. 9/30... Catholic University 2nd Collection  
     Children's Liturgy of the Word Begins, 9:30 & 11:15 MC  
     Children's Religious Education Begins, 10:30 AM, MC

## October -- Stewardship Month

- Mon. 10/1... GLFF Meeting, 7 PM, Peace Room  
     Minkisi, 7:15 PM, Discussion Rm  
 Tue. 10/2... L'Arche, 7 PM, Founders Rm  
 Thu. 10/4... Credit Union evening hours  
     Social Justice Cmte., 7:30 PM, FR  
 Sun. 10/7... OLQP Cap Improv Fund 2nd Coll  
 Mon. 10/8... Office Closed - Columbus Day  
     Pax Christi - Founders Rm  
     Tue. 10/9... Nauck CAG, 7:30 PM, Discussion Rm  
 Thu. 10/11... Confirmation Mass, 7:30 PM  
     Confirmation Reception, 9 PM, Founders Rm  
 Fri. 10/12... MOMS Club, 9:30 AM, Founders Rm  
 Sat. 10/13... Saturday morning Baptisms, 10:30 AM  
     Sacred Hrt Faternity, 12:30 PM DR  
 Sun. 10/14... Baptisms at 11:15 Mass  
     Welcome Committee at all Masses  
     Ujamaa, 10:45 AM, Discussion Rm  
     Tue. 10/16... VOTF, 7:30 PM, Founders Rm  
 Thu. 10/18... Carpenter's Shelter Supper  
     OLQP Book Group, 7 PM, Peace Room  
     Fri. 10/19... Fr. Kelly Series, 7:30 PM, Founders Rm  
 Sun. 10/21... World Miss 2nd Coll  
 Thu. 10/25... Pax Christi, 7:30 PM, Founders Rm  
     Peace Steering Cmte, 7:30 PM, Peace Room  
     Sat. 10/27... Family Mass, 4 PM  
     Family Mass Supper, 5 PM, Fr. Ray Hall  
 Wed. 10/31... Seasoned Christians, 3PM, Discussion RM

## November -- Black Catholic History Month

- Thu. 11/1... All Saints Day Masses: 8 AM & 7 PM  
     Credit Union evening hours, 7:30 - 9 PM  
     Social Justice Cmte, 7:30 PM, Founders Rm

- Sun. 11/4... Retired Fund 2nd Coll  
 Mon. 11/5... GLFF Meeting, 7 PM, Peace Room  
     Minkisi, 7:15 PM, Discussion Rm  
     Tue. 11/6... L'Arche, 7 PM, Founders Rm  
     Thu. 11/8... Advisory Board Meeting, 7:30 PM, FR  
     Fri. 11/9... MOMS Club, 9:30 AM, Founders Rm  
     Sat. 11/10... Saturday morning Baptisms, 10:30 AM  
     Baptisms at 6 PM Mass  
     Sacred Hrt Faternity, 12:30 PM, DR  
 Sun. 11/11... Welcome Committee at all Masses  
     Ujamaa, 10:45 AM, Discussion Rm  
     Diocesan CCHD/CRS, 12:30 PM, Peace Rm  
     Black Catholic History Program, 4 PM  
     Reception, 5 PM, Founders Rm  
 Mon. 11/12... Office Closed - Veterans Day (Observed)  
     Pax Christi, 7:30 PM, Founders Rm  
     Tue. 11/13... Nauck CAG, 7 PM, Discussion Rm  
     Thu. 11/15... Carpenter's Shelter Supper  
     OLQP Book Group, 7 PM, Peace Room  
     Sat. 11/17... Minkisi Retreat, 9 AM, Church & FR  
     Sun. 11/18... Camp Human Dev 2nd Coll  
     Tue. 11/20... VOTF, 7 PM, Founders Rm  
     Wed. 11/21... Thanksgiving Eve Program, 7 PM, Hall  
     Thu. 11/22... Thanksgiving Day Mass at 11 AM  
     Wed. 11/28... Seasoned Christians, 3 PM, Discussion Rm  
     Finance Committee Meeting, 7:30 PM PR

## On Going Events

### Saturdays

- Share the Word Bible Study, 9:30 AM, POB (1st & 3rd)  
 Detail Committee, 12:30 PM, Church (1st & 3rd)

### Sundays

- 9:30 & 11:15 Nursery, POB Board Room  
 Children's Liturgy of the Word, during 9:30 & 11:15 Masses  
 Children's Religious Education, 10:25 - 11:15  
 Toastmasters, 11:30 AM, PR  
 Matthew 25 Bazaar, 9 AM - 12 Noon

### Tuesdays

- 9:30 Choir Practice, 6:45 PM  
 11:15 Choir Practice, 7:30 PM  
 JustFAITH, 7:30 PM, MC Classrooms

### Wednesdays

- 6 PM Choir Practice, 7:30 PM  
 RCIA, 7:30 PM, Founders Rm

### Thursdays

- 1 PM Choir Practice, 7:30 PM, POB

**Daily Mass** Monday - Friday at 12 Noon

**Weekend Mass** 6 PM Saturday Vigil  
 8 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:15 AM & 1 PM Spanish

### Plan Ahead -- Holiday Mass Schedule

- Mon., 12/17... Advent Reconciliation Service, 7 PM  
 Mon., 12/24... Christmas Eve Mass Schedule  
     Family Mass at 4 PM  
     Family Mass at 6 PM  
     Family Mass in Spanish at 8 PM  
     Midnight Mass  
 Tue., 12/25... Christmas Day Mass at 11 AM

## Baptism Ministry at OLQP

The Our Lady Queen of Peace parish family is growing! In order to accommodate the increasing number of baptisms each year, we have modified our schedule for the celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism during our weekend Masses. Beginning the first weekend in September, there will be one Mass each week during which baptisms may be celebrated. The schedule will rotate among the 6 PM, 9:30 AM and 11:15 AM Masses. No more than three baptisms will be scheduled during a Mass. The September-November schedule follows:

SEPTEMBER 2007	OCTOBER 2007	NOVEMBER 2007
Saturday, September 1st – 6 PM	Sunday, October 7th – 11:15 AM	Saturday, November 3rd – 6 PM
Sunday, September 9th – 9:30 AM	Saturday, October 13th – 6 PM	Sunday, November 11th – 9:30 AM
Sunday, September 16th – 11:15 AM	Sunday, October 21st – 9:30 AM	Sunday, November 18th – 11:15 AM
Saturday, September 22nd – 6 PM	Sunday, October 28th – 11:15 AM	Saturday, November 24th – 6 PM
Sunday, September 30th – 9:30 AM		

There will be one fixed time each month for the celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism outside Mass: 10 AM the second Saturday of the month (September 8th, October 13th and November 10th). These celebrations may include more than one baptism.

To schedule the baptism of your child, please first contact Heather Kinney, Spiritual Life Minister, in the parish office or at [olqp.slm@verizon.net](mailto:olqp.slm@verizon.net). Ann Felker and Rebecca Jenkins will continue to coordinate the preparation sessions for parents and godparents.

### Holiday Events -- Mark Your Calendars!

#### Christmas Bazaar

Sunday, December 2, 2007

10:30 AM to 1:30 PM in Fr. Ray Hall

Sponsored by the Seasoned Christians



#### Christmas Eve Pageants

Monday, December 24, 2007

4:00 PM Family Mass and

6:00 PM Family Mass

The Seasoned Christians warmly invite you to do a little holiday shopping at their annual Christmas Bazaar to be held Sunday, December 2nd in Fr. Ray Hall.

Vendor tables are available for \$20 each.

The Seasoned Christians are also accepting donations of white elephant items to be sold at their table as a fund raiser to pay down the debt on the Ministry Center.

Contact Thaddenia West, 703-387-0928, for details.

Children of OLQP's Religious Education Program are invited to participate in the Christmas Eve Pageant at either the 4 PM or 6 PM Mass on December 24th. Rehearsals will be scheduled on Saturdays in December (1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd).

Additional children will be invited to participate in the Choir on Christmas Eve. Please encourage your child to participate in either the pageant or the choir. Information will be distributed in class during November and published in the parish bulletin.

#### Pastoral Staff:

Rev. Leonard Tuozzolo, C.S.Sp., Pastor  
Rev. Simon Lobon, C.S.Sp., Associate Pastor  
Rev. Joseph Nangle, OFM, Ministerio Latino  
Gene Betit, Deacon and Social Justice & Outreach Ministry Director  
Christina Kozyn, Parish Office Administrator  
Katie Remedios, Religious Education Director  
Heather Kinney, Spiritual Life Minister  
Carleton "CC" Jenkins, Plant Manager  
Floretta Ramsuer, Director Queen of Peace Early Learning Center

#### Email Addresses:

Pastor/Fr. Tuozzolo: [leonardtuz@aol.com](mailto:leonardtuz@aol.com)  
Assoc. Pastor/Fr. Simon:  
Fr. Joe Nangle: [jnangleofm@yahoo.com](mailto:jnangleofm@yahoo.com)  
Parish Office/Christina: [olqp.office@verizon.net](mailto:olqp.office@verizon.net)  
Social Justice & Outreach/Gene: [olqp.sjom@verizon.net](mailto:olqp.sjom@verizon.net)  
Religious Education/Katie: [olqp.re@verizon.net](mailto:olqp.re@verizon.net)  
Spiritual Life Minister/Heather: [olqp.slm@verizon.net](mailto:olqp.slm@verizon.net)  
Plant Manager/CC:

#### Marriage Preparation:

Orientation scheduled periodically throughout the month. Please contact Heatehr at least six months prior to your wedding date.

#### *Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church*

*Arlington, Virginia*



#### Mass Schedule:

Weekday Monday through Friday - 12 Noon  
Saturday - 6 PM Vigil  
Sunday - 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:15 AM & 1:00 PM (Spanish)

#### Baptism:

*New this fall...Now scheduled weekly*  
*Please see page 11 (above) for the upcoming schedule.*

#### Reconciliation:

Saturdays - 5:30 PM and by appointment

#### Advocate Staff:

Pastor, Editor  
Christina Kozyn, Layout  
Paula Cruickshank & Sally Harrs, Feature Writers  
Stella Foster, Distribution

**Our Lady Queen of Peace Church**  
**2700 S. 19th Street**  
**Arlington VA 22204**

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***The ADVOCATE***  
***Autumn 2007***

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*Baptism, Continued from page 5*

**Navigating moments of life  
and stages of faith together**

One of the factors that leads people to that powerful sense of belonging is finding in the parish a place in which one's spiritual needs are met. Again, this seems fundamental, and yet I wonder just how often we seek ways to support each other as spiritual beings through the moments of our lives and the stages of our faith. Beyond Mass, do we regularly find ways to pray together or to explore various prayer forms, both communal and individual? Do we help each other to find good spiritual reading or to learn from holy people before us and around us? Do we reflect on the gospel mandate to serve the Lord with glad and generous hearts and to help each other celebrate Christ's presence among us as we wash the feet of those most in need through selfless service?

Parishes throughout the United States are finding ways to foster lifelong growth in faith through adult and intergenerational catechesis. It seems to me this is an area in which each of us can meaningfully contribute to meeting the spiritual needs of all. Pastors, pastoral musicians, liturgists, parishioner leaders, catechists - together, we can create a climate in which people are invited

to grow spiritually, rooted in Christ, within a caring faith community. Sit with a group of parish leaders in a variety of roles. Find a few moments in the course of the coming liturgical year to provide opportunities for people to learn and grow spiritually. Take care to create an atmosphere of hospitality, and plan simple activities that help folks make connections between their faith and the rest of their lives. Publicize the gatherings well in advance and as creatively as you are able, and make room for the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to transform the gathering into a moment of grace for those who attend. Intentionally setting aside time throughout the year to foster spiritual growth will have lasting impact in the lives of individuals and in the life of the community.

**Growing together in holiness**

We are each unique and singularly graced, and none of us is exempt from the demands of baptism. In fact, the Gospels report that Jesus showed favor to those who were low in the eyes of the world and that he witnessed with word and deed the demands that would be placed on those who are held in others' esteem. Our relationship with Christ draws us toward one another, without regard

for our own wants, desires, or preferences. Baptismal belonging supersedes any spark of individualism while valuing and celebrating the individuals that make up the community.

As I have reflected on the importance of belonging, I have found myself time and again returning to the Gospel. Everyone who encountered Jesus felt he or she belonged. No one was left out; sinners were especially welcome! I wonder if the same could be said of the people who come to our parishes? Through our communities, do they encounter Christ, in whom everyone belongs? Do they sense in us a recognition that none of us is worthy of the grace that is found in Christ even though each of us is the recipient of that lavish love? Do they experience us giggling or ducking or squirming as we meet yet again the demands of our baptism, and do they see us inviting them to be challenged along with us? It seems to me that is what "growing together in holiness" looks like. †

*Leisa Anslinger is pastoral associate for evangelization, catechesis, and stewardship at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Cincinnati. [www.ministryandliturgy.com](http://www.ministryandliturgy.com)*

**MINISTRY & LITURGY**  
**September 2007**