

PARISH HAPPENINGS

Farewell Denny!

This weekend we bid farewell to our Director of Music and Liturgy, Denny Di Paolo, who has resigned for personal and professional reasons.

In his short time with us, he has planted many seeds of quality and faith-filled liturgical music and practice. I know that these seeds will be nurtured and will grow and bear much fruit.

There will be an informal reception for Denny, immediately following the 10:30AM Liturgy. Please take a moment to stop by and extend your thanks and best wishes to him.

Denny, God speed!

A Selection Committee will soon be created to interview candidates and assist me in the hiring of a new Director of Music and Liturgy. Please keep this process in your prayers.

In the interim, Kathy Santy will oversee the Choir and the music for our weekend liturgies. I will oversee the liturgical aspects of the weekend Masses and I will be the Staff Liaison to the Liturgy and Spiritual Life Committee and the Interior Design Committee.

Welcome Karen!

We welcome to our Parish and to the Parish Staff, Karen Oshinski. On Monday, October 11th, Karen becomes the new Parish Receptionist and "Front Desk" person.

Karen was chosen from 13 applicants and was the unanimous choice of the Interview Committee consisting of Patt Goeltz, Genevieve Green, Patti Meade, Charles Salter, and me.

Karen replaces Natalie Provinse who now takes on a part-time position of Parish Bookkeeper.

Thank You Natalie!

For the last eight years, Natalie has overseen the "Front Desk" of the Parish through much growth and transition. Her duties were many and they were all fulfilled generously with love and great dedication to our Faith Community.

Recently, Mike, her husband, has retired. Natalie and Mike would like to begin to spend more time together in these days. Also at this time, as the Parish continues to grow, the responsibilities of Staff Members continues to expand and diversify.

Fortunately, Natalie wanted to continue with us on a part-time basis. With Karen Oshinski taking on the full-time responsibilities of the front desk, Natalie will now, in a part-time position, oversee all of the bookkeeping of the Parish, including the new Capital Campaign.

Natalie begins the "Bookkeeper" position on Monday, October 11th.

Our New Website

The address is the same – www.stmoside.org - but the site has been totally reformatted. Please take a look. Hopefully, you will find it much more user-friendly and containing much more information.

There is still more to come, as we are still "under construction." If you have any thoughts or ideas, please pass them on to Karen in the Parish Office.

Special thanks to Staff Members, Lorraine Doering and Chris Smith, for all their work in bringing this project to fruition.

Improved Sound in our Worship Space

Thanks to the expertise and help of Parishioner, Jim Treat, we are doing a number of things that should help the overall sound quality in our Worship Space. This includes some new microphones, new equipment in the sound system itself, and some mounted wall panels that will assist with sound absorption.

Hopefully this will help in the overall liturgical environment and assist us in praising God better.

Parish Retreat

Our Parish Retreat begins this week. I will be leading the Parish in this Retreat. Sessions will be held in the morning and evening on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 9AM and 7PM. The morning session will be repeated in the evening.

"Being Catholic in a Global Village" will provide opportunities for us to look at the ways in which we can profess our Catholicism and yet participate faithfully in the world with others of different Christian Traditions and Faiths.

More details can be found in today's Bulletin.

Hope to see you there!

The Language of the Community

I share these words from Fr. Henri Nouwen, taken from his book, "Reaching Out – The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life," as we all continue our participation in the life of the Church of St. Thomas More:

"Prayer is the language of the Christian Community. In prayer the nature of the community becomes visible because in prayer we direct ourselves to the one who forms the community. We do not pray to each other, but together we pray to God, who calls us and makes us into a new people. Praying is not one of the many things the community does. Rather, it is its very being. Many discussions about prayer do not take this very seriously. Sometimes it seems as if the Christian community is 'so busy' with its projects and plans that there is neither the time nor the mood to pray. But when prayer is no longer its primary concern, and when its many activities are no longer seen and experienced as part of prayer itself, the community quickly degenerates into a club with a common cause but no common vocation."