



# ST. PETER'S CATCH

Quarterly newsletter of St. Peter Parish

Spring 2006

CHURCH OF ST. PETER

3655 OBERLIN AVE.

LORAIN, OHIO 44053

282-9103

## Parish sports build team spirit

By Florence Ellis  
St. Peter's Catch Writer

Got game?

Thanks to the efforts of the St. Peter Athletic Association, the youth of St. Peter Parish have plenty of "game."

Of course, the Athletic Association could not do all that it does without the help of dozens of dedicated coaches who head up the various sports offered throughout the school year.

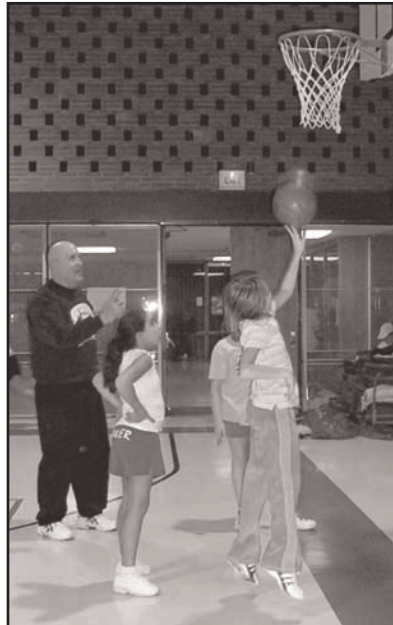
Ken Baughman, who is in his second year as president of the Athletic Association, envisions involvement in athletics as a building block to a better person.

"I see it as not just about athletics," he explained on a recent night as he watched several exuberant basketball practices in the gym. "It's about trying to teach teamwork, working with others in a non-school situation, and competing without the adversarial aspect."

Hopefully, he continued, the youths will also learn the larger lessons in life, like honesty and integrity.

Baughman said there are about 60 coaches involved in the various sports programs in the parish, and about 230 youths are involved in those programs. Since many students play more than one sport, the total figure in all sports is around 350, he added.

St. Peter's offers football, volleyball, basketball and cheerleading to



Coaches Rich Brown, left photo, and Kevin Raab, photo above, practice with their teams.

month in the school library at 7 p.m. Baughman noted that Sister Annamae Murphy, St. Peter administrative assistant, and Emily Fabanich, St. Peter School principal, act as the board's advisors. "We count on their help to guide us along," he said, adding that they add the "voice of stability."

Baughman reported that during the Christmas holidays, St. Peter's just hosted "a very successful girls' basketball tournament, run by Tim Ernst."

The boys' tournament was held at St. Mary Parish at the same time.

Baughman's son, Kyle, is now an eighth grader at St. Peter School and plays on the Boys Eighth Grade basketball team. which Baughman coaches Another son, Cory, is a junior at Clearview High School. And it looks like his involvement will continue for many years to come, as Baughman and his wife, Amy, have a 4-year-old son, Connor, who will be starting kindergarten this fall.

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION BOARD	
<b>Ken Baughman</b> , president	<b>Tony Campana</b> , treasurer
<b>Tim Ernst</b> , girls athletic director	<b>Jamie Chrisman</b> , secretary
<b>Mark Ivancic</b> , boys athletic director	<b>Robin Santos</b> , gym manager
<b>Holly Williams</b> , uniform manager	<b>Michelle Vince</b> , cheerleading director

fourth- through eighth-graders at St. Peter School, as well as the students of the Parish School of Religion.

In addition, under the coaching of parishioner Barry Masin, the Athletic Association offers a high school basketball program to students of any parish in Lorain. Baughman said about 14 or 15 students participate in that program.

The Athletic Association board meets the first Monday of each

## Message from Fr. Ken

There was a picture of a man with cucumber slices on his eyes and a mudpack on his face in a recent news magazine article. The article reported that recently, more women and men are visiting health spas. A day at a spa might include exercise, heat treatments, massages, manicures and pedicures, and facials. A visit to the spa leaves a person refreshed.

The soul also needs special attention, refreshment, and renewal to contribute to the total wellbeing of a person. And the season of Lent, which begins on March 1, affords a period of 40 days to focus on the needs of the soul. The Church recommends prayer, penance, and almsgiving.

St. Francis de Sales, in his "Introduction to the Devout Life," advises: "Our hearts should pick some place each day where they can retire at various times to refresh and renew themselves during their exterior occupations." Five or ten minutes each day, using the Lenten booklet we will provide, would bring about surprising results.

One good resolution for those whose participation in the weekend Mass is occasional, would be to come to worship together at Mass each weekend in Lent.

Another way to allow Lent to affect the soul is to attend the Stations of the Cross combined with a guest speaker, on Friday evenings at 7 p.m.

The practice of penance in Lent is really meant to give greater freedom to the spirit, releasing us from habits, addictions, faults that restrict our experience of being joyfully, fully alive. A great way to delve into the spirit of Lent would be to approach the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

These efforts all lead up to the Triduum, the three sacred days of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday/Easter Sunday. Set these days aside as the top priority. They celebrate not only what happened historically to Jesus, but "what is now happening among us as a people called to conversion, gathered in faith, and gifted with the Spirit of holiness."

May the Easter season find our souls refreshed, renewed, breathing freely, and joyful in our relationships with our risen Lord and loving God.



**A view from above the sanctuary reflects the generosity of our parishioners.**

## Giving Tree still growing

By Patti Betka  
Giving Tree Project Coordinator

It is said that Christmas comes only once a year, but the heartwarming memories of your generosity will last a lifetime.

For the past 14 years a very special tree has been growing here at St. Peter's. The Giving Tree project began in 1991 and continues to grow stronger and more successful each year. For some families the only gifts under the tree are from our generous parishioners! This year 875 children's requests were received and our response was about 1,800 gifts for children in need.

This project has become a labor of love for the children and parishioners of St. Peter Parish.

Volunteers spend an afternoon recording names and requests on the ornaments, which are hung on trees. St. Peter parishioners select angels from the Giving Tree to purchase gifts for needy children. Eighth grade students of St. Peter School help the committee with the sorting of gifts for distribution.

Our parish has been a wonderful example for others in our community. It is terrific to have CURVES® involved in our project for the past two years. St. Stanislaus Parish asked for training to start a project such as ours at their church. We trained one of their members and they now have a Giving Tree project, too. How wonderful that our parish project has inspired others to help the needy!

Thanks for participating again this year.

### GIVING TREE AGENCIES 2005

- Oberlin Early Childhood Center Family Outreach Center
- El Centro Blessing House
- Joining Forces Program
- Children's Services

# Youth Ministry celebrates faith

By Jim Pipik  
Youth Ministry Coordinator

**T**wice a month, the high school-age youth have the opportunity to gather, socialize, explore their faith, and celebrate the Eucharist together.

The program is called "First and Third Sundays with Interparish Youth Ministry," and youths meet the first Sunday of each month at St. Joseph Parish in Amherst, and on the third Sunday at St. Peter Parish.

It starts at 10 a.m. with "Real Life Faith," an hour and a half program that gives youth a chance to meet, talk, play and pray. It's not so much a class, but more of a discussion group. The object is to take the teachings and beliefs of our Catholic faith and see how they work in the

## YOUTH MASS SCHEDULE

**Feb. 19 at St. Peter**

March 5 at St. Joseph

**March 19 at St. Peter**

April 2 at St. Joseph  
(No program on Easter  
Sunday, April 16)

May 7 at St. Joseph

**May 21 at St. Peter.**

There will be only one Real Life Faith-Youth Mass per month from June to September.

real world of teen life in the 21st Century. And along the way, we have some fun, eat some donuts, meet some new friends, and once in a while, maybe even learn something!

Afterwards, the youths go over to church for the Youth Mass at noon. For this liturgy, we try to connect to the special energy of youth by letting them take over some of the key roles as lectors, ushers, and when possible, as Eucharist ministers. And the music has a youthful spirit, taking familiar songs from our hymnals and giving them a dynamic spin.

Even though it's called a "Youth Mass," people of any age can attend. It's great to see the youth take over once in a while, and getting young people involved in the liturgy is a way for any parish to create vibrant life. And, it's a great way for youth to connect with one another, their church and their God.

*For more information, connect to the Youth Ministry Line at 282-9451, or e-mail at [jrpipik@saintpeter.com](mailto:jrpipik@saintpeter.com)*

## School accreditation progress report

By Emily Fabanich  
Principal, St. Peter School

Saint Peter School achieved accreditation through Ohio Catholic Schools Accrediting Association in May 2004. As a part of that process, we completed a self-study, verified OCSAA standards, and submitted our school improvement plan containing three goals to be accomplished by 2008. Since our progress report is due in Columbus this coming May, I thought this would be an opportunity to update our parish.

The first target area in our school improvement plan is our Catholic Identity and our goal is to develop and witness knowledge and practice of the Catholic faith. We are meeting that goal through inservicing our staff in the faith, inviting school members to lead prayer services and the liturgy, and by promoting peace by developing conflict management skills.

Our second target area is student learning, the goal of which is to improve math competency. We are meeting that goal by identifying specific weaknesses in math and partnering with other schools to collect data and analyze gaps in performance data. We have also initiated the use of a publication

called Simple Solutions that provides daily review.

Finance is our third target area. Our goal is to increase and sustain enrollment in order to ensure financial stability. We wish to achieve this goal in three ways. First we are encouraging enrollment from preschool by planning opportunities for preschoolers to attend Art, Computer, and Gym classes and by expanding morning care and extended day care. We are communicating more with PSR parents about the value and availability of Catholic education. The third way is by developing a marketing plan. We will eventually have an up-to-date marketing package that will tie in with our website. (Please view our website [www.stpeterschoollorain.com](http://www.stpeterschoollorain.com).)

We wish to maintain our strong enrollment and increase it with new families, and hope to assist them so that financial matters are not obstacles to a Catholic education. We hope families are aware that PSAS Financial Aid Forms are available in the school office. These forms are to be completed by March 1 in order for families to be considered for financial aid for the 2006-2007 school year. We wish to encourage our parish families to make Catholic education a priority.



### Support school with gift cards

Purchase gift cards when you buy groceries, when you buy gas for your car, when you go out to eat, and when you purchase appliances or make repairs at home.

You can purchase gift cards after each weekend mass as well as at the parish center during the week and at the school office..

St. Peter purchases certificates at a reduced percentage rate. You purchase the gift card at face value. St. Peter's accumulates percentages earned over time and uses this amount for the school scholarship fund.

## Opportunities for spiritual growth

**By Emily Markutsa  
Member, Spiritual Life  
Commission**

The parish's Spiritual Life Commission was recently revived, after Fr. Ken Wolnowski, Fr. Chuck Henkle and the pastoral staff decided there was a definite need for it in the church today.

The purpose of the commission is to examine a variety of approaches to spirituality, so that the parish can offer vitality, nourishment and sustenance to all parishioners.

The parish will have Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings during Lent, as has been done in the past. There will be a speaker for each Friday evening. Three of the speakers are Jeff Campbell, Sharon Kleppel, and Barbara Goebel. .

Lenten Topics this year will be: "Spirituality – A Time for Change;" "Promise of the Spirit – The Gift of Insight;" "Spiritual Discipline – A Passion for Humility;" "Spiritual Challenges – A Time to Choose;" "Faith Spirituality – Inheriting the Promise," and "Rejoicing in Spiritual Fullness – The Time of Redemption."

Father Chuck has obtained — free of charge — rosaries and booklets entitled "Pray the Rosary." These have been provided by the Dominican Friars. They will be available in baskets around the church.

St. Peter School initiated a "Choose Life" program this year at no additional cost to the school. The class was taught in grades six, seven, and eight in the context of their religion class. It was well received by the students and the parents. It was made possible by funds received from anonymous donors. Both of these donations will be continued in the future.

The Women's Cursillo Weekend Retreat is being held March 2 – 5. Retreatants will depart from Sacred Heart Chapel, Lorain, at 6 p.m. on Thursday, and will leave St. Augustine's at approximately 4 p.m. on Sunday. Anyone interested in attending, or needing further information, is invited to call Carl or Catherine Niedzwiecki at 244-0537.

Another one of the many opportunities for spiritual growth is the Mother of Perpetual Help Novena with Holy Communion on

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 1 – Ash Wednesday

March 2 - 5 — Women's Cursillo Week-end Retreat

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 — Stations of the Cross

April 10 – Communal Repentance Service at 7:30 p.m.

April 10, 11 12 – 7 a.m. Mass (as usual)

April 13 — School Prayer Service 1:30 p.m., Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30 p.m.

April 14 – Friday – Stations of the Cross at noon, Liturgy of Passion at 3 p.m.

April 15 - Saturday – 2 p.m. Blessing of Food, Mass at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday Masses 7 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12 noon. Weekday Masses every morning at 7 a.m.

Every Tuesday Mother of Perpetual Help Novena with Holy Communion at 8 a.m.

Tuesday mornings at 8 a.m.

Father Chuck and Father Ken will be reviewing and updating some parts of the liturgy.



3655 Oberlin Ave.  
Lorain, Ohio 44053

February 6, 2006

Diocesan Publications  
6161 Wilcox Road  
Dublin, Ohio 43016  
Attention: Rita Fortier

Dear Rita Fortier,

Enclosed please find pages for St. Peter's Catch, the Church of St. Peter newsletter.

Please contact me before printing if this format is not acceptable and I will try make adjustments as needed. If you have any questions, you may contact me at the following numbers:

Carol Hayward  
(440) 984-3676  
or (440) 320-8674

St. Peter's account is No. 135. We would like 2,000 copies.

Thank you,

Carol Hayward