



ST. PETER'S CATCH

Quarterly newsletter of St. Peter Parish

Summer 2007

CHURCH OF ST. PETER 3655 OBERLIN AVE. LORAIN, OHIO 44053 282-9103

Seniors share special moments

By Florence Ellis
Catch Writer

Ever have a "Senior Moment?"

There are lots of them around St. Peter's cafeteria the last Monday of every month.

Oh, not the kind where you find yourself in the kitchen and can't for the life of you remember why you went in there.

We're talking about those great times older people share with each other when the Senior Citizens Club of St. Peter gets together, whether it's hearing a talk about safety in the home or just playing bingo and having fun.

The Senior Citizens Club was organized back in 1975, when the late Rev. Joseph Step was pastor, recalled Lu DeGenaro, current president of the group. First president of the club was Blanche Krupp, the late mother of the Rev. Ralph Krupp, St. Peter's deacon.

The purpose of the club, according to a pamphlet published a few years ago is, "to create an atmosphere that will contribute to a personal well-being among seniors in the parish and surrounding area."

"Members have a genuine interest in the activities and growth of the parish and desire a spiritual growth through active membership in the parish and club," it concludes.

Every last Monday of the month, the club members meet at 1 p.m. at the St. Peter cafeteria. There is a luncheon, followed by a business meeting, and usually a program



Enjoying the anniversary luncheon of the Senior Citizens Club of St. Peter are, seated (from left): Fr. Charles Henkle, associate pastor; Joan Wohlever, treasurer; Fr. Ken Wolnowski, pastor; and John Bruno, trustee. Standing, from left, are: Marge DiFrancesco, trustee; Marino DiFrancesco, secretary; Darlene Bruno, trustee; and Lu DeGenaro, president.

geared toward seniors' interests. Some recent programs included an assistant fire chief talking about fire safety in the home, a therapist who emphasized safety on stairs and in bathtubs, an antiques dealer, and a vocalist.

There are also some annual events, which include an anniversary dinner – this year held in April at Rosebud Party Center in Lorain – and a tureen lunch in February and a picnic in July.

Ms. DeGenaro, who has served as president for the past four years, emphasized that the group would welcome new members.

"The club is open to anyone" age 55 or older, she noted, adding that members "do not have to be a member of St. Peter's, or even Catholic" to join. Annual fees are \$4, and the luncheons cost \$1.25. Anyone wishing to join the club can

just come to one of the meetings, where there is a sign-up table for new members.

Ms. DeGenaro said there are about 75 to 85 members in the club, but that it has lost a few members lately through death and illness. A member herself for

about eight years, Ms. DeGenaro commented she loves getting together with old friends, some of whom go back as far as the old days when St. Peter Church was located at 17th Street.

Current officers of the Senior Citizens Club, besides Ms. DeGenaro, are, Audrey Marcucci, vice president; Marino DiFrancesco, secretary, and Joan Wohlever, treasurer. Trustees are, Steve DiFrancesco, Stanley and Bernadine Kowalski, John and Darlene Bruno, Elvira Bylicki, and Marge DiFrancesco.

Committee members are: Joe Montalto, publicity; Josephine McFadden, sunshine; Elvira Bylicki, membership; Marge Uszak, chaplain, and Joe Montalto and Tom Yannetti, advisory committee. Ellen Gerber does all the baking for the club.

Thank you

St. Peter's 50/50 Matching Fundraiser, which raised a total of \$20,000, turned out to be a real blessing to many people in the area.

This unique fundraiser came about last November when an anonymous parishioner offered to match money donated by other St. Peter parishioners. A total of \$10,000 was donated by parishioners, meaning that the anonymous donor also gave \$10,000.

St. Peter Parish received thank-you notes from the four charitable organizations which benefited from the generosity of the 50/50 fundraiser:

The Overnight Shelter at St. Joseph Church in Lorain was at a point of possibly closing during the winter months, when it received \$5,000 from the fundraiser. The Rev. Luis Maldonado, deacon at St. Joseph's, noted the donation was instrumental in keeping the shelter open.

The Catholic Charities Family Center, Eighth Street, Lorain, which also received \$5,000 from the fundraiser, reported that the donation will help feed the great increase in the number of children it serves when schools are closed for the summer.

Faith House, Lorain, wrote to say the \$5,000 it received will help "give homeless families with multiple special needs the time, space and help they need to reclaim their lives."

The Furniture Bank of Lorain County also received \$5,000. Sharon Kleppel, director of the Catholic Action Office of Lorain County, wrote to say the donation met a truly critical need to the very poor.

We are so blessed in having so many people aware that the CHURCH is not contained within our walls. Our love and faith give hope to many. That is the people of St. Peter's. Today we hold our colors high.

— **Father Ken Wolnowski, pastor**
— **Rev. Ralph Krupp, deacon**

Looking back, looking ahead

By Emily Fabanich, Principal

Our school year is winding down as we wind up for next year.

For the students and teachers there is a well-deserved vacation on the horizon, a time to relax and enjoy the summer. Mrs. Karpinski, Sister Annamae, and I are moving students and their records to new home rooms and, for the eighth graders, to new schools. It's an exciting time for us all.

We thank you for your involvement in your parish school by supporting our events and activities throughout the year. You have attended our Masses, participated in food drives and the Giving Tree Project, and PTO events (like Night at the Races and the Kidz Extravaganza Sale), and encouraged our students in various ways.

We also thank you for your donations to our school. You have



supported us by purchasing Market Day foods and other items sold by our students throughout the year or by getting into the habit of buying Gift Cards, and donated money to the Walk-a-thon.

Looking forward to the 2007-2008 school year, we ask that you continue to spread the good news about our school. Many of you have had children and grandchildren go through St. Peter School and know first-hand the benefits we provide. Please talk about it. If those of you who are less familiar with the school, call and make an appointment to visit us or stop in and introduce yourself. We'd love to meet you and show you around.

Deacons called to serve God's people

By Rev. Jay Ogan, Deacon

Editor's Note: Jay Ogan, a St. Peter parishioner, was ordained a deacon of the Catholic Church on May 5.

The word "deacon" comes from the Greek word "diakonos," which means servant or helper. A deacon is an ordained minister of the Church through the conferring of the Sacrament of Holy Orders by the bishop. He is called by the Church to serve God and all of God's people.

The ministry of the deacon lies in three principal areas of service: the ministry of the Word, the ministry of liturgy, and the ministry of charity. In his service to the Word, the deacon proclaims the Gospel and preaches and teaches the Gospel message.

Liturgically, the deacon assists at the Eucharistic celebration and distributes Holy Eucharist. He celebrates the Sacrament of Baptism, witnesses and blesses marriages, and officiates at the Rite of Christian Burial. The deacon presides at the Liturgy of the Hours and Eucharistic devotions, concluding with Benediction. He leads prayer services and prepares the faithful to receive and celebrate the sacraments.

In his service of charity, the deacon is sensitive to the needs of all and ready to give generously of himself. The deacon serves the homebound, the handicapped, and the alienated. As a caring person himself, the deacon brings the Gospel to those in need.

Sr. Jeanne Marie celebrates Golden Jubilee

By Florence Ellis
Catch Writer



If there is a constant thread running through the fabric of Sr. Jeanne Marie Glorioso's

life, it would have to be children.

Children have always been the main focus of Sr. Jeanne Marie's 50-year vocation as a nun. And although that vision was sometimes interrupted by other duties, Sr. Jeanne Marie's focus never blurred for a second.

"I've always loved children," she noted on a recent spring afternoon at her house on Lorain's west side.

Sr. Jeanne Marie celebrated her golden jubilee as a sister in the Humility of Mary order on May 19, with a Liturgy of Thanksgiving at Magnificat Chapel in Villa Maria, Pa. Seven other Humility of Mary sisters also marked their golden jubilees that day.

St. Peter Parish will honor Sr. Jeanne Marie on June 24, with a Mass of Thanksgiving at noon on June 24, followed by a reception.

Sr. Jeanne Marie was born in Lorain to the late Vincent and Rose Glorioso, well-known throughout the parish and the city. One of three children, Sr. Jeanne Marie grew up in St. Peter Parish and entered the order of Holy Humility of Mary, as it was known then, in 1957. She took the name Sister Vincent Rose after professing her perpetual vows, but now uses her Christian name.

After spending the last 50 years in a wide variety of ministries in various locations, Sr. Jeanne Marie has, in a way, come back home to St. Peter's.

Make no mistake, though. This energetic nun has not come back to retire — a word from which she visibly recoils — but to keep working. She is heading up two ministries, with her base at St. Peter's.

In the first ministry, Sr. Jeanne Marie is offering her services as a certified spiritual director for women; in the second ministry, she is offering her expertise as a newborn massage instructor, as well as a bereavement counselor. Sr. Jeanne Marie is well qualified for both ministries, having headed both an infant death support group and a newborn massage program at the Family Outreach Center of Community Health Partners. She still continues to volunteer at Community Health Partners.

Anyone who would like to make use of these ministries may call the Parish Office at 282-9103.

"I'm very grateful to God, that He has led me back to my hometown, to minister to my hometown, and to help people I knew and grew up with," she added.

Sr. Jeanne Marie has, over the past half-century, worked at the Rosemary Center in Cleveland, a home for physically handicapped and mentally retarded children; worked as a bereavement counselor; served as chaplain at St. Joseph Hospital in Lorain and at a hospital in Warren; served as a pastoral minister in New Bedford, Pa., and, most recently at St. Joseph Parish in Amherst. At the beginning of her career, she and another sister were the first two nuns from the Humility of Mary



order to become licensed practical nurses.

In 1994, after her parents died within 27 days of each other, Sr. Jeanne Marie decided she needed to step away from hospice work, which she had been doing, and go back to her first love, children. She also wanted to help those who had lost a loved one.

She began working as a bereavement counselor then, ministering to families whose babies had died.

It was also about this time that the Rev. Lawrence Martello, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Amherst, came to her with a family who needed a childcare provider. Sr. Jeanne Marie began working for Victor and Denise Nardini, a St. Peter family who had one child and were expecting another. She soon became like a family member, and was asked to be the godmother of their second child. Today, 11 years later, she still works for the Nardinis, and when she mentions them, she glows, as if speaking of her own family.

Sr. Jeanne Marie also is very involved with a group of 14 women she lovingly refers to as the "Church Ladies." These women, from St. Joseph in Amherst, have met every week for the past 17 years. The group has a prayer intention book, and the women pray every day for those whose names are placed in the book.

"I really love what I'm doing," Sr. Jeanne Marie said. "It comes down to, 'What do you believe God is calling you to do at this time?'"

"God leads, directs and guides me. I let Him do the leading."

It's that time of year again – festival time

**By Ed Klimczak,
Parish Comptroller**

Can you smell the food cooking in the pavilion kitchen? Can you taste the cabbage and noodles, the Italian sausage and all the other wonderful food?

Then you know it's getting to be time for St. Peter's "event of the year," the Parish Festival.

As always, featured food items on Friday will be shrimp dinners; on Saturday, a spaghetti dinner, and on Sunday afternoon, the famous Holy Name Society chicken and corn roast dinner. And of course, every day the favorites such as cabbage and noodles, pierogies, roast beef sandwiches and Italian sausage sandwiches, will be offered.

The Grand Prize drawing for the festival will be a chance to win either a 2007 Ford Fusion or

\$15,000 cash. This is the first year a cash alternative is being offered, thanks in part to Mike Bass Ford. Raffle tickets for the Grand Prize will be the same price as last year: \$1 per ticket, or 6 tickets for \$5. Tickets will be available at the Parish Center, and on the festival grounds the entire weekend of the festival.

There will also again be a drawing for a 37-inch flat screen LCD HDTV, an iPod and other prizes. These drawings are especially attractive to the younger festival-goers, as well as the audiophiles.

The drawings for the Grand Prize and the audio prizes will take place on Sunday night, at the end of the festival.

In addition, there will be rides for the kids and children's games, including some new and exciting

games. Watch the church bulletin for details.

On Sunday at noon, an outdoor Mass will be celebrated, weather permitting.

The festival is a great time to see some old friends and meet some new ones. Entertainment will be provided by Al Battistelli, Ed Klimczak and others throughout the weekend.

If you would like to help out, please call the Parish Office at 282-9103 and ask for Ed. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated. We are looking for people to help cook, and for set-up and clean-up.

So, mark your calendars for Aug, 3rd, 4th and 5th for this fabulous weekend. Profits from the festival go to support of the school.

See you there!

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