

## St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Parish

1910 - 2010

No. 109 of a Series on Our Parish's First 100 Years



During the Easter Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday and at a Mass on Easter Sunday in March 1997, a total of six people – four adults and two youths – received First Holy Communion at St. Charles. In April, 52 children also received Holy Communion for the first time. The 58 first communicants were:

Curtis Bensene	Joshua Harper	Jessie Medrow	Sean Sippel
Brianna Beth	Rebecca Hartmann	James Mehring	Benjamin Smith
Robert Briggs	Margaret Henningfield	Steven Middlecamp	Eddy Stengrevics
Christopher Busch	Breanna Jenkins	Cassandra Nabak	Lisa Sullivan
Aaron Cicon	Kelly Ketterhagen	Cherilyn Nilles	Piper Tess
Ashley Covelli	Matthew Kuchenbecker	Rachel Oldenburg	Christopher Thompsen
Lea David	Lindsey LaBadie	Molly O'Neill	Nicholas Thompsen
Ashley Duplessis	Jacob Lois	Erica Peterson	Molly Urness
Crystal Duran	Kylie Lois	Michael Ploch	Samantha Vogt
Ryan Ebbott	Kelley Lund	Shauna Riggs	Rachel Vos
Kali Elderbrook	Philip Markiewicz	Abigail Robers	Karrie Votry-Kundich
Tanya Galvan	Tauta McCarthy	April Satler	Erin Wasilevich
Sharon Gauger	Andrew McCourt	Jonathan Scherrer	Patrick Weis
Brandon Giebel	Joseph McDonough	Robin Sheldon	Johnathon Wiemer
Kimmarie Giebel	Thomas McDonough		

Also during the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday, St. Charles pastor, Rev. Michael Benham, confirmed five adults. He also confirmed 20 young people in April and one adult in December 1997. The 25 confirmands during the year were:

Michael Brierly	Sharon Gauger	Laura Mamath	April Satter
Christopher Busch	Robert Gauger	Ann Morgan	Eddy Stengrevics
John Colaianni	Edward Hill V	Kelly Pieters	Toni Strickler
Thomas Collins	Tilly Kramer	Joshua Poepping	Nathan Sturycz
Nicole DeGrave	Randall Krizan	Sara Poepping	Randall Vos
Tricia Ehlen	Rebecca Lebak	Timothy Richter	Brian Zabler
Jonathan Evans	Stephanie Lyman		

The St. Charles students of the month for March were Kyle Brown and Bridget Zabler, grade 5; Adam Richter and Elizabeth Dolatowski, grade 6; Suzanne Sippel, grade 7; and Brian Kramer, grade 8. For January, fifth graders Brianna McCarthy and Ryan Reilly, sixth graders Megan Aldrich and Ryan Vos, seventh grader Justin Mueller, and eighth grader Melissa Stoppenbach had been named students of the month. For February, the students of the month had been Stacy Robers and Michael Spiegelhoff, grade 5; Heidi Hegemann and Angela Robers, grade 6; Emily Kaiser, grade 7; and Melissa O'Neill, grade 8.

In March the science projects of three students, who had participated in the St. Charles science fair held during Catholic Schools Week earlier in 1997, were entered in the archdiocesan science fair held at Marquette University. The three students were sixth graders Derek Naber and Elizabeth Middlecamp and eighth grader Victoria Lancour.

Two St. Charles students won first place honors in the Burlington Masterpiece Program's 1997 art contest in which young artists displayed their talents by copying famous works of art. They were second grader Patrick Weis for his copy of Picasso's "Still Life with Pitcher and Apples" and kindergartner Ethan Caliva for his copy of Matisse's "Self-Portrait 47."

During the time the students were working on their art projects, former St. Charles teacher, Mrs. Ruth Oberbruner, volunteered her time to discuss great paintings and their artists with St. Charles students. To show their appreciation, 31 fifth graders from Mrs. Barbara Witt's and Mrs. Mary Hegeman's classes copied their favorite works of art with crayons to make a surprise hand-made quilt for Mrs. Oberbruner. The quilt was pieced together by Mrs. Witt.

The St. Ann Society's spring rummage and bake sale, headed by Mrs. Karen Middlecamp and Mrs. Alice Hockman, was held early in April. Thanks to those who donated items for the sale and the many volunteers who helped set up, staff, and clean up after the event, receipts from the sale amounted to about \$2,050. Photos of volunteers helping at rummage and bake sales at different times are shown below.



In May the parents, students, staff, and friends of St. Charles School held the annual Chocolate Festival pancake breakfast in Andre Hall. In addition to enjoying the breakfast, attendees had the opportunity to take chances on many raffle prizes. Proceeds from the event, which were used for purchasing textbooks and classroom materials, totaled about \$3,900.

On May 19, eighth grader Victoria Lancour, daughter of parishioners Eugene and Theresa Lancour, was honored as one of Wisconsin's top-scoring students in grades 6 through 8 at a ceremony sponsored by the Wisconsin Center for Academically Talented Youth (WCATY) in Madison. Ms. Lancour received a Lamp of Knowledge medal and a certificate. The talent-

search program was sponsored by Northwestern University. Mrs. Susan Holman, St. Charles' gifted and talented advisor, helped get eligible, interested students involved in the voluntary program. Depending on how middle school students scored on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills, some who had chosen to participate in the program were allowed to take the ACT or SAT college-entrance examination. Ms. Lancour took the ACT, and her scores put her in the top 1 percent of students in the nation. In addition to taking the tests, the students could also participate in learning activities sponsored by WCATY.

Named students of the month for April were Kara Brehm and Jessica Ehlen, grade 5; Kimberly Johnston and Tara Vos, grade 6; Sara Holman, grade 7; and Kim Halbach, grade 8. For May, the students of the month were Erin O'Dea and Laura Cramer, grade 5; Rachel Brandes and Matthew Stoppenbach, grade 6; Jill Hancock, grade 7; and Meghan O'Neill, grade 8.

Another successful school year concluded on June 4. The 20 members of the graduating class are shown in the following photo.



CLASS OF 1997

Row 1 (l to r): Melissa O'Neill, Nicholas Ehlen, Brian Cramer, Katie Collins, Carrie Giebel, Melissa Stoppenbach, and Victoria Lancour.

Row 2: Melissa Hegemann, Karen Mamath, Jillian Baird, Andrew Brierly, Iain Harper, and Meghan O'Neill.

Row 3: Joseph Schmaling, Gregory Bartels, Kim Halbach, Jon Held, Bradley LaBadie, Joshua Siehoff, and Justin Reilly.

The conclusion of the school year also marked the final school bell for second grade teacher Mrs. Patricia Finley, who retired on June 4 after teaching at St. Charles for 26 years. She had previously taught for 14 years at other schools before coming to St. Charles in August 1971.

Mrs. Finley had been a positive influence on roughly 650 St. Charles students over the years. During those years, Mrs. Finley had put an emphasis on preparing children for First Communion and Reconciliation, and teaching them three-digit math and cursive penmanship. She had also taught her students the lifelong lessons of compatibility, sharing, honesty, and being responsible for one's own actions.

During a farewell party at the school on May 30, students from the past and present, many of whom Mrs. Finley knew "after all those years," were on hand to pay tribute to their teacher. At the ceremony, the students of 12 classrooms, the school staff, and the lunch staff signed an all-American quilt that fellow teacher Mrs. Barbara Witt had made. Symbolically, 26 buttons were sewn on the handmade quilt to represent Mrs. Finley's years of teaching at St. Charles. Mrs. Finley also received a signed director's chair from her current second grade students, and the staff and students placed complimentary sayings for Mrs. Finley into a memory jar as a keepsake item as well.

St. Charles fourth quarter honor roll, announced in June, showed seventh grader Jamie Behrens on the "A" roll with a grade point average of 4.0. Nine students earned High Honors with grade point averages of 3.8 to 3.99. They were eighth graders Carrie Giebel and Kim Halbach; seventh graders Lisa Cawley, Marcus Gebauer, Jason Reich, Angela Robers, and Suzanne Sippel; and sixth graders Heidi Hegemann and Elizabeth Middlecamp. An additional 44 students in grades 5 through 8 earned Honors with grade point averages of 3.0 to 3.79.

June also marked a change in the parish's Sunday Mass schedule, with the two Masses previously held at 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. being combined into a 10 a.m. Mass. The 8 a.m. Mass was continued. The change from three to two Masses was necessitated primarily by a change in the responsibilities of Rev. Joachim "Kim" Studwell of the Franciscan monastery who, along with fellow friar Rev. Dacian Bluma, had assisted at St. Charles on the weekends as their schedules allowed. Father Kim was assuming responsibility for the sacramental and liturgical needs of the Spanish-speaking members of the community and was being called upon more often to travel on behalf of his order. As a result, it was the consensus of the parish council to try the revised schedule during the summer.

Changes had also taken place in the parish council as Bruce Bauman had been appointed to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Karen Niedzialkowski, who had resigned due to a job change and a desire to share her free time with her children. Robert LaBadie had also resigned from the council after devoting considerable time and effort to council and parish affairs.

Also during the summer,

- Franciscan friar Rev. Jesse Zajac, who had assisted at St. Charles for several years, died. He was buried from the Franciscan Friary at Pulaski, Wisconsin.
- Sister Mary Theresine Brophy, who had taught religion to fifth graders at St. Charles from 1987 to 1994 and taught in the religious education program and helped with other parish activities at St. Joseph's in Lyons from 1983 to 1987, celebrated her 60th jubilee as a Sister of St. Francis of Assisi. A Eucharistic Liturgy in Sister Theresine's honor was held at St. John's Cathedral in Milwaukee and was followed by a reception.
- Kerry and Sandy Jenkins again hosted St. Charles' summer bible program, "Country Christians," for children in kindergarten through fourth grade, at their farm near Lyons.

(to be continued)