



SPIRIT OF ST. ISAAC'S

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Read the Sunday Bulletin on the Web!

St. Isaac's Website:

*WWW.
stisaac.org*

New Mass Schedule to be Introduced in '09

Change. A lot of people are for it, everyone is talking about it, the presidential hopefuls promised it, but here at St. Isaac's we are actually doing something about it. Changes are coming to St. Isaac Jogues in the form of a **new Mass Schedule**.

Starting January 1, 2009, due to difficulties in scheduling priests and because

of declining attendance at certain Masses, the schedule will change as follows: **Saturday's vigil Mass remains at 5:00 p.m. Sunday Masses will change to 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon. We will add a new 5:00 p.m. Sunday evening Mass for the Youth Ministry** which everyone is invited to attend. This Mass will feature contemporary music. **Weekday Masses: Monday thru Friday Mass at 12:05 p.m. remains unchanged.** However, the **8:00 a.m. Mass in the Chapel will be celebrated on Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday. Saturday's 8:00 a.m. Mass will include prayers for the Miraculous Medal Novena thereby eliminating the 7:30 p.m. Monday evening Mass.** We will have a Eucharistic Prayer Service on Wednesday and Thursday at 8:00 a.m. in the Chapel provided there is sufficient interest and volunteers. **Holydays of Obligation will remain the same with the exception of dropping the 7:30 p.m. vigil Mass on the night before the Holyday.** Saturday's confessions schedule will be 3:45 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Schedule Changes

<u>Old</u>	<u>New</u>
Saturday Vigil	
5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Sunday	
7:30 a.m.	8:00 a.m.
9:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m.	12 Noon.
12 Noon	5:00 p.m.
Weekdays	
8:00 a.m. (m-sat.)	8:00 a.m. (m,tue.,f,s)
12:05 p.m. mon-fri.	12:05 p.m.
Mondays	
7:30 p.m.	eliminated
Holydays of Obligation	
No change except 7:30 p.m. vigil Mass is eliminated.	
Saturday Confessions	
4:00–5:00 p.m.	3:45–4:45 p.m.

Impact on CCD Schedule

In light of this new Mass schedule, a Religious Education Task Force has been created to study the feasibility of CCD class time changes.

Spirit of St. Isaac's



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Book Club News

By Mary Bard

*Reading is to the mind, what exercise
is to the body.* - Addison

St. Isaac's Jolly Jogues Book Club began in March, 2001 with the reading and discussion of *Samurai's Garden*, by Gail Tsukigama. **Anne McAssey** and **Helen Shields** were the first moderators and gradually other members volunteered to research and develop leading questions for discussion.

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every other month (next is November) in the rectory meeting room. We have coffee at 10AM and discussion until 11:45AM. We choose which book to read next as we go and take suggestions from all members. Five books are chosen per year; with a holiday choice for the January meeting (e.g., *Diary of a City Priest*, by Father John P. McNamee) and light reading over the summer for the September meeting (like Sue Monk Kidd's, *The Secret Life of Bees*.)

Over the years we've sampled such fiction and non-fiction books as: *Galileo's Daughter* by Dava Sobel, David McCullough's *John Adams* and *Truman* and Edith Wharton's *Age of Innocence*. We've also enjoyed introductions to other cultures with books by Khaled Hosseini (*Kite Runner* and *A Thousand Splendid Suns*), Barbara Kingsolver's *Poisonwood Bible* and *Prodigal Summer*, and Lisa See's *Snow*

(Continued on page 3)

Preschool is Alive, Well....and Growing!!

By Anna Pawlewicz

The children and staff at St. Isaac Jogues Preschool are off and running! This year we have 43 Pre-K children and 30 Three-Year-Old children. Even as we start this year, we begin planning for next year with the idea of starting a Two-Year-Old's class. We have many people ask for it, and we have the space. So if we find that very patient teacher, we could be in business.....

The children have already had a visit from Officer Friendly of the Tredyfrin Police Department and Mr. Piggy Bank of the local Commerce Bank. The Berwyn Fire Department paid a visit in October, and in November we begin science lessons with Professor Bob. New to St. Isaac Jogues Preschool is **Isabella Coloia-Gambone** who teaches Spanish once a week to our Pre-K children. It is amazing what they have learned so far and funny to hear them – on their own – break into Spanish song!

Many of our children are staying for *Lunch Bunch*. While we are not a Day Care, and children do not stay every day, they enjoy having lunch with their friends from time to time. Also in the afternoon, Miss Patty has started *Enrichment Classes*. On Mondays those children who choose to are “*Cooking Through the Alphabet*” in the afternoon or studying evaporation and mixing, in *Thursday Science* classes.

Through prayer, stories, and by example the children are always being taught about the love that God, Jesus, their families, and their teachers have for them. St. Isaac Jogues Preschool is a very busy place with many different opportunities for children to learn, but there is also enough structure and predictability within the classroom to allow our children to feel safe and “at home” when they are at school.



Confirmation Preparation

Confirmation to be Celebrated in the Fall of 2009

Confirmation preparation will begin in the Spring of 2009 for **students in current grades 5 and 6 who are registered in the St. Isaac Jogues CCD program.** Also included are **students in grades 5, 6, 7, and above who are in parochial, private, or public schools (not registered in CCD),** who have not been confirmed and would like to be.

Ongoing information will be posted in the Sunday Bulletin. Please contact the Office of Religious Education with any questions. (610) 687-2481, ext. 2.

Pre-Jordan Program

The Pre-Jordan program is for prospective parents and Godparents prior to the child's baptism. **It is to instruct and prepare them for the baptism of their child/Godchild and the responsibility and commitment that is contained therein in raising the child.** The class is conducted once a month on the last Thursday before the last Sunday of the month. Please call the Office of Religious Education to register. (610) 687-2481, ext. 2.



Book Club...

(Continued from page 2)

Flower and the Secret Fan.

On Tues., November 18, 2008, **Joan Corbett** and **Helen Shields** will be our facilitators for Ron Hansen's *Exiles*. Hansen's book is a fascinating blend of fiction and non-fiction. It is an historical fiction based on the life of poet, Oxford scholar and then Jesuit seminarian, Gerard Manley Hopkins, and how a shipwreck which took the lives of 5 young nuns fleeing religious persecution in 1875 Germany affected his spiritual life and writings.

Another chance for fellowship with other 'book-lovers' is **St. Isaac's Adult Religious Education**, which meets for two monthly series per year

(Thursdays, 7 - 8:30 PM, Religious Ed. Bldg. Consult the church bulletin for dates this year.)

Currently we are celebrating the 2000th Anniversary of the birth of St. Paul. We are studying the *Ignatius Catholic Study Bible, The Letters of St. Paul to the Romans*, and in the spring we will begin *The Letters to the Corinthians* with introduction, commentary and notes by Scott Hahn and Curtis Mitch with study questions by Dennis Walters.

Come read with us! It's social, sometimes serious and thought provoking and always friendly fun.

Welcome to Our Parish Community

The following have registered in the parish since the previous issue

Gregory & Andrea Brennan

Paul Calobrisi

Barbara Carroll

Karen Cox

Richard & Susan Douglas

Brian Fink

Charles Fletcher

Maureen Fluehr

Jessica Hadfield

Mindy Howe

Tracey Logan

Steven Logue

Ryan McCreesh

Daniel Metzger

Daniel & Marian Petrarca

Samantha Pope

Robert & Jacqueline Reinhart

Nicole Rittenhouse

Donald & Rose Ann Roeder

Christine Scodari

Theresa Silva

James Sorg

Gary & Michele Stright

Anna Strzempek

Joseph Valencia



Recommended Readings

Our library contains such a great wealth of information and great reading hidden between the covers of our books, that it is very difficult to limit our selection of recommended readings. The following is a brief glance at some that stand out as particularly timely today.

TRIUMPH- THE POWER AND THE GLORY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, by H.W. Crocker, III. This 2000-year history is neither stuffy nor boring, but rather leads one through an absorbing story of men and women living out events during an exciting and glorious history of the Church. This “is a brawling, colorful history full of inspiring pageantry and spirited polemic.”

THE CURE DARS, by Abbe Francis Trochu. This autobiography of St. Jean-Marie-Baptiste Vianney is about the astonishing life of the French priest known as the patron saint of parish priests. This account is based on the actual facts derived from the *Acts of the Process of Canonization* and thus can be very believable, contrary to other biographies of a more pious sentimentality. This book allows us to see its namesake as he lived, thought, and spoke. It allows the reader to feel the “reality of the supernatural and a reverence for the mysterious power of the Catholic priesthood.”

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY FOR BEGINNERS, by Christopher West. This basic introduction to Pope John Paul II’s position on marriage, sexual-

The Library Corner

By Mary Condon



ity, and the whole of human life is a “must read.” In the book’s eight chapters, the author has skillfully attempted to outline the dense material of John Paul’s thoughts on the teaching of the body and sexual love. Mr. West has also included a glossary of key words and phrases for quick referencing for further reading. Since much is currently written and spoken on John Paul’s message (and will be in the future), this easy but knowledgeable book provides us a perfect opportunity to be in on the “know.”

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY EXPLAINED, by Christopher West. Mr. West has also written an extensive 500-page commentary on John Paul II’s *Gospel of the Body*, that is suitable for the more academic readership. This is an intelligent and accurate explanation of the thought of Pope John Paul II on the subject in more accessible language.

CROWN OF GLORY, by Alden Hatch and Seamus Walsh. This warmly sympathetic story on the life of Pope Pius XII reveals the truth of how he helped the Jews during the holocaust financially and by providing sanctuary to thousands who were attempting to escape. This belies the lies and distortions currently being promulgated by the media and others that the Pope did nothing to help. Much research has gone into this interesting book, making it one of the most knowledgeable on Pius XII.

GREAT LION OF GOD, by Taylor Caldwell. In this year of St. Paul, this fictional novel is a light and pleasant way

to get acquainted with Saul of Tarsus and the times in which he lived. This exciting novel gives an insight into what might have been the actual personality and life of Paul. Ms. Caldwell is well-known for her thorough research before writing. It is indeed a major novel about this saint.

PAUL THE APOSTLE, by Giuseppe Ricciotti. The following quotes have been cited on this story of Paul: “...No hesitation in acclaiming *Paul the Apostle* the best general study of St. Paul ever published in the English language.” “...A work of definitive scholarship and magnificent writing...This book makes rewarding study and reading for everybody.” “...This is a worthwhile book by all standards, and contributes much to a better understanding of St. Paul and his life’s work.”

A STILL SMALL VOICE, by Benedict Groeschel, C.F.R. During this time, much is heard about private apparitions, leaving one to wonder: Should we believe them? How can we judge their reliability, or should we? Father Groeschel gives us this practical guide book on reported revelations. He advises us to keep a perspective and leads us through the complexity of the subject. He gently cautions those who truly believe they have had an apparition, yet does not deny the possibilities of such revelations. Fr. Groeschel directs his readers toward the ordinary “religious experience” of prayer, scripture and the sacraments. As an example, he quotes St. Therese of Lisieux: “To ecstasy, I prefer the monotony of sacrifice.” This is a book that is hard to put down!

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 2 & 16—Youth Presence Mass, Noon
Youth Night, 6:00 p.m.
- 10, 17 & 24—Youth Ministry Praise and Worship
- 11—Jolly Jogues Meeting
- 12—Loss Meeting with Dr. Linda Copel
- 18—Book Club Meeting
- 20—Pre-Jordan
- 20—BUNCO
- 21 & 22—St. Malachy Thanksgiving Dinner Collection
- 23—Procession for Feast of Christ the King
- 24—Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

DECEMBER

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29—Youth Ministry Praise and Worship
- 2—Parish Christmas Trip to Lancaster
- 5—Night of Reparation
- 6—Children's Adoration
- 7 & 21—Youth Presence Mass, Noon
Youth Night, 6:00 p.m.
- 8—Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Holy Day of Obligation
- 9—Jolly Jogues Christmas Luncheon
- 10—Loss Meeting with Dr. Linda Copel
- 14—Children's Choir Concert
- 18—Pre-Jordan

December (cont'd.)

- 19—Advent Penance Service
- 19 & 20—St. Malachy Christmas Dinner Collection
- 22—Preschool Christmas Pageant
- 25—Christmas Day
- 29—St. John Hospice Casserole Collection

JANUARY

- 1—Happy New Year
- 4 & 18—Youth Presence Mass, 5:00 p.m.
Youth Night, 6:00 p.m.
- 13—Jolly Jogues Meeting
- 14—Bereavement Meeting
- 15—BUNCO
- 22—March for Life Bus Trip, Washington, DC,
Including Youth Group

FEBRUARY

- 1 & 15—Youth Presence Mass, 5:00 p.m.
Youth Night, 6:00 p.m.
- 11—Bereavement Meeting
- 17—Jolly Jogues Meeting
- 25—Ash Wednesday

Keep Christ in Christmas



May you have a Happy and Blessed Christmas
and a Prosperous New Year

Youth Group Activities Abound

By Joe Aquilante

The motto of our Youth Group here at Saint Isaac's is, ***To grow spiritually and socially with the Lord!*** This past summer was quite an eventful one for our Youth Group when we learned about the treasures of our Faith while enjoying the company of one another and other local and national Youth Groups.

In addition to our meetings every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month, we took advantage of what the summer months had to offer! To kick the season off we attended our annual ***Phillies Night Out*** on May 23rd. The evening starts with a stop in South Philly at Pat's or Gino's Steaks and then head over to the game around 7 p.m. Over 20 members attended and the icing on the cake was a sweet victory by the Phillies!

In June, we took our annual ***Whitewater Rafting Trip*** to Jim Thorpe where we joined other local Youth Group members for an unforgettable time on the Lehigh River where you couldn't help but get soaking wet! After getting cleaned up and having dinner at Mary Immaculate Center, the Youth Group enjoyed an evening of Mass, praise, and worship. We concluded the trip with an awesome bonfire under the stars! We also attended the ever popular ***Steubenville Youth Retreats*** in Steubenville, Ohio with over 250 youth from all over the Archdiocese!

In July, we had some members attend ***World Youth Day*** in Sydney Australia with over 500,000 youth from around the globe to celebrate their faith with Pope Benedict XVI! It was truly an event that will be remembered for a lifetime!

In August, we took a day trip to the Brandywine Canoe Company where we canoed down the Brandywine River enjoying the last lazy days of

summer! Before you knew it, September was here and we ended summer with our ***Youth Group BBQ and Bonfire*** on the back lawn. Over 50 current and new members were in attendance!

As a way of celebrating the Phillies awesome performance over the summer we attended one more ***Phillies Night Out*** on September 23! We also had another reason for attending the game, our own ***Marybeth Devenney*** who leads our Youth Music Ministry Team and a junior at Immaculata University, performed with the University Choral Members in leading everyone in the National Anthem!

As the Fall season got underway, the Youth Group attended ***Harvest Fest*** at the Wachovia Center in Philadelphia during the first weekend in October. The festival of Praise and Worship and Faith Witnessing was performed by national Christian artists, Jeremy Camp, Toby Mac and Mercy Me, and the family group, The Katina's. We also participated in the parish ***Living Rosary*** in the prayer garden on October 5th and then headed up to Paoli the same day to participate in the national ***Respect Life Chain*** where we peacefully and prayerfully witnessed with hundreds of others the message of respecting life!

In November we plan on attending the ***Fan the Fire Youth Rally*** in York, PA with close to 1000 youth led by Bishop Rhoades of Harrisburg! On November 23 we will join over 1400 participants in the annual ***Stand Up for Life Dinner*** in Philadelphia with national speaker, Dr. Elvada King! She is the niece of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who travels the internationally speaking on behalf of the Pro-Life Movement with Fr. Frank Pavone. December will bring our annual trip to Philadelphia with ***Operation Santa Claus***, where hundreds of teens will help wrap

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Jolly Joggles

December 2, 2008—American Music Theater Christmas Show and Visit to the Christmas Museum

December 9, 2008— Christmas Luncheon

February 9th thru 11th, 2009— Trip to Golden Inn

April 20th thru 24th, 2009—Trip to Pinegrove Resort

Contact Parish Office at 610-687-3366, ext. 26

An editorial

I Am Proud to be a Catholic!!

(In the last issue of the Spirit of St. Isaac's, Sam Miller, a non-Catholic, challenged Catholics to be proud. The following is one response.)

I'm very proud and very happy to be a Catholic. I've been a Catholic since birth, I was raised in a good Catholic home, and I received 16 wonderful years of Catholic education. My memories of those years of Catholic education, especially grammar and high school, are of nurturing teachers, strict but not cruel. I've never had my knuckles cracked by a crazed ruler-wielding nun, nor did I ever witness anyone else being subjected to it.

On the other hand, I learned that Catholicism is a way of life to be lived in a way which is pleasing to my Creator. That meant that I should love God above all else because He gave me my life through loving parents and He wants me to be happy with Him for all eternity. It meant that I should give back to Him by respecting His day, the Sabbath.

As a Catholic, I was taught that I should attend Mass every Sunday and holy day, not because if I didn't, it was a sin, but because it was my way of showing how much I love God. It meant that I should love others as myself; I should not be mean; I should be kind, helpful, understanding, and compassionate. I should not be bigoted nor self-righteous. It meant that I should

obey and be respectful to my parents and others in authority.

I was taught that life was sacred, a gift from God, and it is very wrong to take a life. I was taught that it was wrong to lie, to steal, or to be dishonest in any way. I was taught to be courteous and respectful of others, never taking the name of the Lord in vain or cursing others. I was taught that I should live by a moral code; that sex was not a hedonistic pleasure in and of itself, but a beautiful and sacred expression of love between a man and a woman and a means of procreation through marriage.

I was also taught that as a human being with a God-given free will and the many temptations that surround us, I would probably not always live the way I was taught. God recognizes the frailty of human nature and He knows that we will falter. But He also wants us to know that He is a forgiving God and has provided us, through the Catholic Church, a reconciliation opportunity in the Sacrament of Penance. Yet another reason that I am happy and thankful that I am a Catholic! Rather than wrestle with pangs of conscience which lead to stress and psychological despair, I know with assurance that with real sorrow for my wrongdoing and an honest intent to repent, God forgives me in the confessional of the Catholic

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Youth Group...

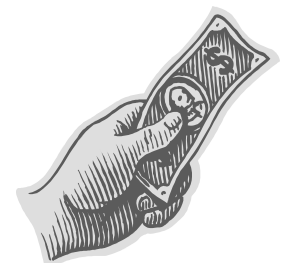
(Continued from page 6)

thousands of gifts for the needy in the city and then deliver them on Christmas Eve! Our group will also perform the 2nd **Live Nativity** on December 21 at 7 p.m. in the Church.

The Youth Group is open to all youth between the grades of 8 - 12! We look forward to seeing you around at one or all the events coming up! If you have any questions, please contact the Youth Ministry Office at 610-687-2481 ext. 5, or visit St. Isaac's website and click on Youth Ministry.

Dig a Little Deeper!.. Please

As you know, the financial statement for the fiscal year was mailed to all parishioners in October. Thanks to your generosity in the past, the parish has remained fiscally solvent. However, with costs skyrocketing in almost every area, the fiscal outlook is bleak. While many parishioners contribute generously, many do not contribute at all. Please use your weekly envelopes to contribute to the support of your church. Every little bit helps!!



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Pray
for
Peace
and
the
Family



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MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m., 12:00
noon
Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. & 12:05
p.m.
Saturday: 8:00 a.m.
National Holidays: 9:00 a.m.
Holy Day: 7:30 p.m. Vigil (the evening
before) 8:00 a.m., 12:05, and
7:30 p.m. (Holy Day); Christ-
mas & New Year's follow the
Sunday schedule.
Miraculous Medal Novena Mass:
Monday: 7:30 p.m.
Legion of Mary: Monday, 1:00 p.m.;
Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Cenacle, Marian Movement of Priests:
Tuesday 1:30 p.m.
Holy Hour: Thursdays 8:00 p.m.
Night of Reparation: 1st Friday 7:30
p.m.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 15 minutes before most
Masses
Sacrament of the Sick: Please call
the Rectory.

I Am Proud...

(Continued from page 7)

Church! What a gift!!

By being a Catholic, I have even more. Actually I have the greatest gift of all through the Catholic Church. I have the opportunity, daily if I choose, to receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ Himself in the Holy Eucharist. There is nothing symbolic about the Eucharist, it is in fact the true Presence of God Himself and it is only in the Catholic Church that I can receive such a supernatural gift. Why would I not want to be a Catholic??

Jesus Christ instituted the Catholic Church here on earth as a gift to humankind to help us attain the eternal reward He so wants us to enjoy. He left His church in the hands of St. Peter and the other apostles, mere humans with all the faults that go with humanity. He instituted the seven sacraments as the basis of His Church and fortunately those gifts are divine and are immutable. The human beings that lead the Church, from the Pope down to the parish priest, are vulnerable and, yes, sinful...just like the rest of us. The sins of the clergy in no way shake my faith in the Catholic Church. The Eucharist, the essence of Catholicism, is untainted and timeless as are the other gifts and sacraments that Christ left to us. This is why I am a Catholic and why I will always be a Catholic. Scandals rooted in human weakness will come and go but these are faults of those who are mere instruments. The Divinity of the Church is perfect and cannot change.