

The Camillus Ministry of Christ The King

By Holly Weinzapfel

Christ The King’s many ministries help meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of parishioners. One such ministry – The Camillus Ministry– visits parishioners who are sick or in nursing homes.

Saint Camillus de Lellis, who founded the servants of the sick in the 16th century, devoted himself to the care of the sick. With the blessings of Monsignor Knapp and the leadership of Deacon Bernardin, the ministry has over 15 new and compassionate volunteers.

Ten years ago, Carol Ahlering put her nursing talents to good use by organizing Christ The King’s Health Ministry. Each week Carol would receive a list of CTK parishioners who were ill or in the hospital. Although her background in nursing helped prepare her for some of her visits, it wasn’t necessary. “My training in nursing helped in a few situations, but overall they just need a hand to hold on to and someone to listen to them,” explained Carol.

Through her visits and by listening to their needs, Carol contacts other CTK ministries who can also help

(with meals, transportation, spiritual guidance and bereavement support). “The ministries work closely together to make sure that their needs are being met,” Carol added.

With each visit with a nursing home patient, Carol and other members of the ministry learn more about that individual and what their needs may be. Some just need someone to talk to, others want to attend church or receive the Sacrament. Each person is unique – each experience is rewarding. “You learn so much about people...you get to know their families...it’s beautiful what you learn about them and yourself.”

Whether you have 30 minutes to spend each week or more, The Camillus Ministry is just one more example of how giving of one’s time can not only make a difference in someone else’s life, but can bring joy to your own life as well. “Participating in this ministry you definitely get more back than you give,” Carol concludes.

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NEWS IN THE PEWS

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Brute Award Winners

By Susan Mortensen

Brute Award winners in the Diocese of Evansville come in all sizes, shapes and colors, towns and parishes, but all seem to have at least one thing in common — the willingness to say “YES.”

This year’s winners at Christ The King are no different. Graziella and Wadieh Hawa, and Becky and Ed Kasha, can be heard and seen throughout the parish and during the years in a multitude of activities and roles. For their commitment to serve and willingness to say “YES” to just about anything, these four were honored with the Simon Brute Medal on October 26 at St. Benedict Cathedral.

Since 1990 the Brute Society has inducted hundreds of Catholic lay people throughout the diocese, recognizing them for being outstanding role models of Christian stewardship. At Christ The King, the parish council selects parishioners who live out the three stewardship T’s depicted on the Simon Brute medal: talent, time and treasure.



It’s not hard to see how the Hawas and Kashas were selected this year.

Computer problem? Questions? Concerns? Who are you going to call? Wadieh. Wadieh almost seems like a fulltime staff person at CTK. He volunteers hours to install and support computer systems in the parish office and school building. He deals with day-to-day issues and repairs, and generally, as he said, “I just try to keep it all going.”

Christ The King has more than 50 computers in the school lab, classrooms, office and parish center. Every three years the systems are updated, and Wadieh oversees that process plus just about every other aspect of school and church technology.

Graziella puts her talents to use in the church, singing in the choir where she has been a member since they married and joined the parish in 1988. She is also active in school where their youngest son, Angelo, is a third grader. The other two Hawa children, Nadine and Marco, also attended CTK School, and are now a Memorial High School senior and

freshman, respectively. Nadine shares her mother’s love of music and is a cantor and sings in the choir. Wadieh and Graziella have worked summer socials, Bingo, and new parishioner dinners.

The Brute Award is an honor, Wadieh and Graziella agree.

“It’s a wonderful recognition for our time and effort,” Wadieh said. “But it’s our obligation. I hope it will be an encouragement for everyone to get an active role in the ministry.”

Becky and Ed Kasha are also hands-on members of Christ The King, where their many talents have benefited both the church and school.

The Kashas have been CTK members since the mid-1990s, and their handiwork can be seen in the remodeled Men’s Club and school meeting/conference rooms. Becky co-chaired the fund drive to totally air condition the school, and was a member of the Rebuild, Rejuvenate and Rejoice Project. Ed worked bingo, and also coached the CTK basketball team for three years. They have organized the Summer Social Baskets for several years. Becky is currently head of the parish Communications Committee and serves as a lector and Eucharistic minister.

Many of Becky’s interests have focused on the management and enrichment of Christ The King School which both Kasha children attended. Andrew is now a junior at Memorial, and Alex a freshman. Becky served two years as the CTK school board president, coached volleyball for four years, was a Girl Scout leader and a speech team judge. She started the Brown Bag Series for 8th graders to explore career areas.

Both feel honored to receive the Brute Award. “It’s an interesting and inspiring group to be included in,” Becky said. “It’s humbling to be part of it.”

Ed, Andrew, and Alex attended the awards ceremony which Becky had to miss because she was out of town. She said it was meaningful that their children attended the event.

“A lot of what I did was because I want my kids to be part of a vibrant parish. Ed, too. Plus, how else do you make friends? Just walking in and out of church won’t do it. And I wish we had even more activities!” Becky said.

Camp Ondessonk

By Michael Vieth

I had a great time while I was at Camp Ondessonk. I made many awesome memories that I will always remember. I also learned many teamwork skills that will help me in my future.

The most enjoyable part of Camp Ondessonk was probably the night hike. The animals were making all sorts of interesting noises. The stars were brighter than I had ever seen them. While on the hike, we walked by a couple buildings, although I did not know they were there because it was so dark. We also played a game where we pretended to be bats and moths and try to find each other without talking. It was a fun and challenging game. We also sat and looked at the beautiful stars and sky for a while. We then played a game where we had to guess what color crayon we had when it was pitch black outside. It was also very difficult. I did not like that game as much as the other one. That is why the night hike was my most enjoyable part at Camp Ondessonk.

On the last day at Camp Ondessonk, we participated in some teamwork activities. One of the things we had to do was to cross a "lava pit" without touching the ground. There was a rope in the middle of the "lava pit" that would help us get across. We were only allowed to use the items that we were wearing to retrieve the rope. After many failed attempts, we finally got the rope to ourselves by tying my sweatpants to Matt's shoe and lassoing the rope. Then we swung across. The first couple of times we touched the "lava" so we had to start over and I had to take off my sweatpants, and Matt had to remove his shoe so that we could get the rope again. On the fourth or fifth try we finally got everyone to successfully swing across the "lava pit". I was very relieved when we completed this task. Another teamwork activity we did was that we had to get through a huge spider web. We could not touch the web. We all had to be touching the whole time. Once a body part left a hole in the web or someone touched the web, the hole was closed. It took us a very long time to figure out how to complete this activity. At first we tried to stand up and walk through the holes, but that did not work. Then after a lot of thinking and talking over strategies, we came up with the idea to bear-crawl through the holes while holding on to each others' ankles. We messed up the first couple of times, but eventually we made it through using that technique. I got a little frustrated with this challenge. Those were the teamwork activities we participated in at Camp Ondessonk.

I learned a couple of things from these teamwork activities. I learned that being patient is a key to being successful when things become challenging. I can use patience when I am older and have a job and someone does not understand something or doesn't like how things are being done. I also learned that you have to be open to new ideas. If you have your mind set on one thing and one thing only, then you won't see things



from another's point of view. You may also miss out on ideas that could help you in whatever you're doing. That is what I learned from the teamwork activities.

Camp Ondessonk was a great experience. I learned many teamwork skills. I wish we could have stayed a little while longer.

BAPTISMS:

Savannah Ray Boardman, daughter of
 Nick & Chris Boardman – 8/24/08
 Andrew Frederick Bishop,
 Nicholas Harris Bishop and
 Maxwell Parker Bishop, children of
 Daniel & Amie Bishop – 9/28/08
 Lucas Glenn Barnett and
 Zachary Daniel Barnett, sons of
 Tristan & Paula Barnett – 10/19/08
 Andrew Michael Minnette, son of
 Andrew & Gina Minnette – 11/16/08
 Quinten Leigh Carter, son of
 Jerrod & Rachel Carter – 11/30/08

DEATHS:

Florence Hargrave – 7/28/08
 Edna Sollman – 9/17/08
 Wilfred Bussing, Jr. – 9/23/08
 Margie Solomon – 9/30/08

NEW PARISHIONERS:

Deacon Vincent & Mary Bernardin
 John & Christina Kozloski
 Scott & Jayma Schmidt & children,
 Jillian & Charlie

MARRIAGES:

Scarlett Lant & Seth Zirkle – 8/16/08
 Shelly McFall & Seth Aull – 11/8/08

What's the Parish Council Up To?

By Michael Schopmeyer

As my final term on the Parish Council concludes, I've been asked to reflect on what your council is doing. We are charged to act, with our Pastor, as the "guiding body" on policy issues facing the parish. By our bylaws, the Parish Council is to represent the parish community "making known its needs and aspirations." Our parish's day-to-day operations, such as managing our many employees, or maintaining our considerable facilities, do not fall directly on the Parish Council. Rather, those managerial decisions rest with our Pastor, Monsignor Knapp, and Principal, Sandy Lasher. The council focuses on carrying out our parish's long-term mission of stewardship, both spiritually and financially. For example, we have recently initiated greater attention to the regular tithing by our parishioners. Many have responded to those pleas, and that is encouraging. We are initiating additional measures internally to improve on reporting your gifts. This should allow us to enjoy the benefits of a better organized tithing program. We are also looking to other means for more enduring fiscal strength through expanding our parish endowments and planned-giving programs. You will hear more about these efforts in the coming months.

The Parish Council, School Board and Fiscal Planning Committee were pleased to see the approved 2008-2009 budget did not require a revenue increase of 7% or 8%, as was needed while building new facilities. Our budget increase has been held in the 4% range for the coming year, an amount equivalent to inflation.

While a Parish Council's role may seem concentrated on fiscal affairs, we are mindful that Christ The King's mission of spiritual growth stands paramount. Our core mission remains creating an environment where we are nurturing our families through Masses, Baptisms, First Communions, Confirmations, weddings and funerals. Since 2005, our council has focused on a goal of increasing our church's active volunteers by 25%. This goal remains unfulfilled as I depart. I hope its attainment will continue driving us. Volunteering on one of our many vision committees (Facilities, Communications, Sense of Belonging, Hospitality, Fiscal Planning, Staffing or Spiritual Growth) provides the vital point for fostering each parishioner's discovery of a more rewarding church life. Volunteer participation leads to a stronger parish. To en-

courage this, the council has recently helped germinate our new "Why Catholic?" program. This new program's participation levels have been great. These sessions have brought our parish together in new and more personal ways. We believe this will continue to grow under our new Deacon, Vince Bernardin.

Our educational mission, while under the watchful eye of our School Board, also remains a constant subject at Parish Council meetings. Education is at the heart of our mission. Without financial subsidy from our parish, our school and Memorial High School would likely not succeed as they have today. Tuition paid by school families often meets less than 80% of the cost of our schools. We are proud our schools continue to perform according to the high standards we expect. And, thanks to the vision of our Parish Council and the continuing generosity of our parish, our facilities are now among the best.

As we look to the upcoming Parish Council elections and our personal stewardship to the parish, I hope we will reflect on the gifts that have been bestowed by the parish. As S. Truett Cathy, the founder of Chick-fil-A, once said – "Don't just curse the darkness, strike a match...by bringing generosity into your life, you can line up your actions with the lavish heart of God and discover a wealth that continues to flourish the more you give." So, strike a match and get more involved with your time, treasure or talent.

May God bless our Parish Council, your family and Christ The King Church.

Continued from page 3: Deacon Vince...

But, as they say, "hope springs eternal..." Scripture study, intercessory prayer groups and a lecture series on "hot topics" in Christianity are just a few ideas.

And, there's the need to reach out to inactive Catholics and the "unchurched". In my opinion, this is the area where we as the people of God have fallen down the most. How to reach them in a way that is effective and avoids fruitless "wheel-spinning" occupies my thoughts when other things aren't "in my face" (which is nearly always).

Beyond that, I think there is a huge need to do something for the men of our parish, especially the dad's who are bombarded with expectations and typically find themselves without the support and Christian friendships that women seem to form much more naturally. For some reason, I don't think it is coincidental that the dads are getting mentioned last. They are almost always the first persons to be called on but last to be thought of.

So, there you have it. Four months in the life of your new pastoral associate. Keep me in your prayers as you are in mine.

CTK Christmas Mass Schedule:

December 24: 5:00 p.m.

December 25: 12:00 a.m. (Midnight)
9:30 a.m.

Parish Announces “The King's Circle” Planned Giving Society

By Mary-Beth Owen

For many years, you may have volunteered your time and talent at Christ The King to ministries and programs that have touched your life: it may be the Altar Society, the school library, the church music program, or St. Suzanne, our sister parish in Haiti. These specific ministries have become part of your life, and you have a vested interest in their continuation. But have you ever thought about who would carry on your efforts after you are no longer able? Would you like the opportunity to plan for the future needs of the programs that are dear to you long after you are gone? You can do that with the new planned giving society, “The King's Circle.”

“The King's Circle” is a way to recognize parishioners, former parishioners and friends who have chosen to support Christ The King, either by making a donation to a new or current endowment; or by naming Christ The King in their will or as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy, IRA, or annuity. The manner of the gift doesn't matter, nor does the AMOUNT of the gift; what does matter is that each of us considers how we might contribute. Members of “The King's Circle” will be invited to an annual recognition Mass and dinner; receive “The King's Circle” membership pin;

receive recognition in the parish newsletter and on a permanent plaque in the church narthex; and have the assurance that their investments will be carefully managed as a perpetual gift by the Catholic Foundation of Southwestern Indiana.

So, how do you become a member of this society? Very soon you will receive a membership brochure in the mail. Simply designate how you wish to contribute, whether it is a current gift to an existing CTK endowment or be a future gift that is made either during your lifetime or after your death. You don't have to give a large amount to join the society, nor do you need to state a specific amount— you simply need to notify the parish office of your intention by returning the information card. Gifts can be made at any time. Information about the inaugural Mass and recognition dinner will be announced at a later date.

A planned gift assures that the ministries and other areas that have touched your family's life will continue in perpetuity and touch the lives of Christ The King families to come.

If you would like more information on how to make such a gift and would like to discuss your options, feel free to also contact the Parish Office for more information at 476-3061.



Spanish Class at CTK

By Sandy Lasher

Students in the Learning Tree plus students in kindergarten through fifth grade are learning to speak Spanish through the efforts of Mrs. Glarycelis Hernández, mother of first grader Sofia. Classes meet for once a week and

Miss Vogt – Kindergarten



Miss Jarboe – 1st Grade



range from 15 minutes for the Learning Tree children and up to 30 minutes for the older students.

Students who had the opportunity to take Spanish last year have been reviewing material learned last year, while adding new skills and vocabulary. The new Spanish students have adapted very well to the course, and they all seem to be enjoying the class and learning at a very good pace.

Mr. Oberst – 3rd Grade



The Learning Tree students have been like “little sponges” learning the Spanish greetings, the colors and numbers. They have even already learned to sing a Spanish song!

In addition to learning Spanish, the students in 3rd, 4th and 5th grades have been learning about Spanish speaking countries. Every week one-two students present to

Mrs. Ball – 4th Grade



Mrs. Wolf – 5th Grade



the class a brief presentation about a Spanish speaking country, and the rest of the class writes in their ‘mini-passports’ what they have learned about that country. The students have enjoyed this activity, and it has helped them to have more appreciation of other people and the different cultures of the world.

Gracias to Mrs. Hernandez for sharing her knowledge, time, and expertise with the students of Christ The King School!

So, What's Deacon Vince Been Doing?

By Vince Bernardin

It has been a whirlwind of faces, places to go, people to meet, and goals to achieve since arriving here at Christ The King in July. I'm still a little overwhelmed with everything that's involved in being a pastoral associate, deacon, and de facto DRE rolled into one.... Oh yeah, add to that list husband, dad, grandfather and engineering consultant. There's a church billboard I've been driving by everyday lately. It reads: "Don't let the urgent preempt the important." I'm still trying to figure out which is which. Anyway, here's the CTK list...

- **Organizational Activities.** Two major efforts here: organizing/facilitating the fall session of *Why Catholic* and a daily hospital/nursing home ministry that we've named The Camillus Ministry after St. Camillus de Lellis, patron of doctors, nurses, and hospitals. An additional "fuzzy" goal is to improve youth ministry, probably in concert with some of the surrounding parishes that are already doing it pretty well. There have been lots of meetings, but not too much forward progress yet.

- **Catechetical and Pastoral Ministries.** Something that has turned into a bigger job than I expected – but a pleasant one – has been baptismal prep. This involves meeting with parents, and in several cases, the children themselves who are to be baptized. We begin with a "heart prayer" and then spend some time reviewing some literature and talking about the huge step that Baptism really is and the responsibility that parents take on when they present their child for Baptism.

On the horizon are a couple of young couples that I'll be preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. Not much work yet, but it's coming.

RCIA has been another involvement, although thanks to Mike Vogel and the RCIA team, all I've had to do is show up and throw in my two cents worth.

The most significant area of catechetical ministry for me these days is Confirmation prep. We have 30 candidates for Confirmation this year, and I find myself thinking of these kids a lot. My hope is to assist in the cultivation of a deep faith in these high school freshmen. They're our hope for the future.

I've also been helping Gayla Whitney, our second grade teacher, prepare the little ones for First Reconciliation and First Communion. Whoever said that deacons can't hear confessions don't know what they're talking about. I've been hearing a bunch of 7-year-old "practice confessions" lately and I can tell you it's been the highlight of my month.

You may have already read about the renewed interest in Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction at Christ The King. We had our first such service for the school kids on the first Friday of November and will be continuing this practice on future first Fridays.

In preparation for these services, I've been visiting

each grade discussing the meaning of the Blessed Sacrament – why we believe in the True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist as well as some of the fundamentals, such as how to genuflect. The kids and teachers alike have been extremely receptive.

Altar servers fall under my purview as well – both the scheduling and the training. We have a new, fresh, batch of 6th graders I'm working with who will start serving in February.

Then, there is the occasional religion class on the topic de jour. The last such class was with the 8th graders on All Souls Day who were interested in the Church's teachings about ghosts, spirits, heaven and hell, and a variety of other mystical phenomena. It was a very interesting hour, indeed.

- **Liturgy.** To date, liturgy hasn't been a major focus of attention, although I'm sure that will change next spring as we approach Holy Week, First Communion and Confirmation. In the meantime, the Liturgy Subcommittee of the Spiritual Growth Committee will be gearing up to update the training of all our liturgical ministers – Eucharistic ministers, lectors, ushers and servers.

- **Diaconal Ministry.** It's difficult to separate many of the above areas of ministry from my role as deacon, but there are several things that are specific to my ordination and these do occupy quite a bit of time and attention. I suppose the most obvious is preaching, something I do at all the Masses every third weekend. Baptisms also fall under the diaconal heading. So far, I've had eight baptisms since arriving in July and expect two more in the next couple weeks. And then, there are the occasional hospital or nursing home calls for the Rite of Viaticum to the dying. I also assist Msgr. Knapp at funerals. Once in awhile, I find myself in counseling situations, usually to the hurting and confused. While this isn't strictly a diaconal ministry, when it happens it seems to be because I am a deacon.

Activities outside of Christ The King that relate to my diaconal ministry include fairly active involvement with the Cursillo movement; I was a spiritual director on the last men's weekend (an exciting, but exhausting job). I also consider my role as president of the board of the Evansville Christian Life Center an extension of my diaconate, because of a deacon's specific calling to ministries of justice and compassion. This is a job that occupies several hours a month – sometimes more.

- **Spiritual Life.** Probably the aspect of my ministry that represents the greatest frustration, but also holds out the greatest potential for our parish, is in the area of spiritual life. There is a never-ending list of things that is begging to be done, but there don't appear to be enough hours in the day to do them.

Continued on page 9

CTK's Jingle Mingle Mart Sets Records

By Holly Weinzapfel

On November 7, nearly 400 shoppers got a jump on the holiday season at Christ The King's Jingle Mingle Mart. Christmas spirit was in the air as CTK's gymnasium and cafeteria were transformed into a winter wonderland of 51 merchants.

Kim Ossenberg and Christy Williams co-chaired the Mart this year. Their hardworking and dedicated committee members included: Nancy Folz, Karen Cain, Wendy McCool, Stacy Gries, Lisa Reising, Jenny Rhoutsong and Jane Parsley. It took even more volunteers to make and serve food, set up and tear down tables, run the auction and man tables, in order to insure the evening was a success. "I get so excited about how it has all grown to something so fabulous. Raising money for our school is an awesome feeling, but even better is working with such wonderful people at CTK to pull off something like this," Christy remarked.



The Jingle Mingle Mart began as a way to offset lost concession stand revenue when the gymnasium was being used for church services during the church renovation. "That year we had 27 vendors and a little over 100 paid people come to the event," Christy remembers. "To see the attendance grow by over 250 people in two years and almost double in vendors is amazing. I love hearing how people look forward to coming to this event. Vendors love coming and participating. People love to come and kick off their holiday shopping season with the Jingle Mingle Mart."



The committee is still figuring out the final net revenue,

but Christy believes that the Jingle Mingle Mart raised almost \$9,000 for the school this year. But, almost as important as the revenue, Jingle Mingle Mart provides the opportunity to families who are not members of the school and/or parish to see what Christ The King is all about. "For any of those 400 shoppers who are not members of CTK, I am sure they got a sense of what is so special about belonging here. The great atmosphere was not just the trees, lights and sounds of the upcoming season, but from the genuine relationships built here," Christy concluded.

Because of the Jingle Mingle Mart's success and growth, the committee hopes to add new members and begin work on next year's event shortly after the holidays. Anyone who is interested in joining the fun should contact Christy Williams (491-7791) or Kim Ossenberg (475-1021).

Something Old and Something New on First Fridays

By Vince Bernardin

A number of years ago, the Bishop asked the parishes of the Diocese of Evansville to commit to a monthly day of prayer for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Christ The King chose the first Friday of each month and the prayer has been going on faithfully ever since under the good-natured stewardship of Mary Lou Schmidt. Prayer begins at about 8:15 a.m. in the Eucharistic Chapel and continues non-stop until 7:00 p.m. During these "holy hours" the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for public adoration. At 7 p.m., Deacon Francis Hillenbrand closes the day of prayer with Benediction, the blessing of the people with the Eucharist.

The practice of Eucharistic Exposition followed by Benediction has been a devotion of the Catholic Church for at least 600 years. Question: So, what's new? Answer: The children of Christ The King School.

Christ The King's principal, Sandy Lasher, has scheduled a block of time every first Friday for the formal "Rite of Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction". The first of these services took place on Friday morning, November 7. Promptly at 9:15, I, flanked by 8th grade servers with candles and incense, solemnly processed into church carrying the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance. With Jeff Holden as cantor and Gail Wolking on piano, the 5th through 8th graders heard English versions of such ancient Latin hymns as O Salutaris Hostia and Tantum Ergo. The service included short periods of silent prayer and adoration, a liturgy of the Word, and the traditional "smells and bells". Following this first experience, Mrs. Lasher is considering the addition of some of the earlier grades to the congregation on future first Fridays.

In preparation for the Rite of Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction, I have been busy teaching a class to each grade on the subject of "Why the Catholic Church believes in the True Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament". The 8th grade servers have been especially excited. They have been a little in awe of double genuflections, swinging a censer, incense, smoke, humeral veils, and the monstrance itself. I try to convince them that while all this is really cool, it pales in comparison to the miracle of the Mass where we do a lot more than pray to Jesus in the monstrance. We actually get to receive him into our bodies.

All parishioners – especially parents – are welcome at future services. Just find the first Friday of each month on your calendar when school is in session and pencil in: "9:15 – CTK Benediction." Mary Lou Schmidt would also love to add some parents to her roster of first Friday "prayer warriors" for vocations. Give her a call at 476-9741 and sign-up for an hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. The Lord is there waiting every first Friday from 8:15 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

PTO NEWS

There Are Many EASY Ways to Support CTK School

By Michelle Weisman

So you don't have children or grandchildren at Christ The King School anymore, but would like to continue supporting the school? There are still many ways to help!

Campbell's Soup labels. Campbell's has been giving back to schools for over 30 years. UPC's from Campbell's Soup®, Pepperidge Farms®, SpaghettiO's®, Swanson®, and Prego® products and lids from V8® beverages are eligible for points. Christ The King has banked thousands of points every year for many years. Last school year, there were enough points to purchase 4 digital cameras for use at school. To view all eligible products for this program go to www.labelsforeducation.com.

Box Tops for Education. This program gives Cash back to our school. We receive cash back for every box top we collect. Last school year, Christ The King earned \$1166.00. Since 2002, we have received over \$5500.00. The participating products for Box Tops are General Mills® cereals, Betty Crocker®, Bisquick®, Ziploc®, Pillsbury®, Scott®, Viva®, Cottonelle®, Totino's®, Green Giant®, Hefty®, Yoplait®, Nature Valley®, Chex Mix®, Fiber One®, Fruit By The Foot®, Fruit Roll-Ups®, Goodnites®, Pull-Ups® and Huggies® Diapers. A complete list of eligible products can be found at www.boxtops4education.com. Look for those blue and purple labels, clip them and bring them in. Collection buckets are located in the church kitchen and school office.

Pop can tabs. We are collecting pop can tabs to help support the local "Ronald McDonald House." This has been a very successful program. It gives us the chance to serve our community and has been a great lesson for our children who have been collecting the tabs. One pound of tabs is worth 57 cents, and one gallon of pop tabs (4,175 tabs) is worth \$1.49. Christ The King has collected between 85-90 lbs of tabs. A very large collection bucket is located in the school office.

The PTO has arranged **Christ The King "Nights"** at various local restaurants throughout the year. This is very profitable for our school. Participating restaurants give back between 20% and 25% of sales, some for allotted times, others for an entire day. Since August, Christ The King has earned over \$1000.00 from just two restaurants – Los Bravos and McDonald's.

Volunteer Opportunities. On December 13th and 14th, the school children had an opportunity to purchase gifts for their families at our "Santa Shopper" event. This is not a school fundraiser, but merely

a fun activity for the kids, who feel great pride in choosing gifts for their families. Volunteers enjoy the many precious explanations by our 3 and 4 year olds as they thoughtfully select their gifts. Approximately 15 volunteer are needed for each of the four shopping sessions on these two days. Plus, volunteers are always needed for set-up and tear down. Last year, the table of wrapping Grandmas was very popular. Not only are wrappers needed, so are cashiers and some of the younger grades need shopping assistance. If you would like this opportunity to spread Christmas joy, please contact Michelle Weisman at 476-6443 or email at hares@wowway.com.

Our School Hospitality Committee delivers treats to our fantastic teachers and staff on a monthly basis.

If you would like to share some goodies with these fine folks contact Kathleen Luebbe at 401-5107 or Mary Rock at 303-7656.

Catholic Schools Week will be the January 25th thru 31st. The PTO is planning a pancake breakfast to kick-off this celebration and the Scholastic Book Fair will coincide.

There are volunteer opportunities to help cook, serve and clean-up. Cashiers and shopping assistants will also be needed. Laurie Schopmeyer will be happy to talk to anyone willing to help – 477-9079.

Other volunteer opportunities are available throughout the year. Contact the school office at 476-1792 to help with school nurse assistance, cafeteria servers; library; Step-Up club on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; stuffing Friday Folders; concession stand duty, or landscaping.

Scrip cards. Scrip cards is another way of contributing to our school. Scrip is "substitute money" or gift certificates that are used just like cash. Choose from hundreds of department stores, gas stations, super discount stores, local specialty stores, restaurants or national hotels and a percentage will come back to CTK Church and school. Percentages returned range from 1% to 20%. By planning ahead for one family, every \$100 trip to the grocery store at 2% times 52 weeks would bring back \$104. If 25 families did that every week, \$2600 would be returned to CTK from just one store. Scrip is available to purchase after every Mass and is usually available for pick-up on the Friday after purchase. For a list of participating Scrip retailers go to www.glscrip.com. Don't start your holiday shopping until you order your SCRIPT cards – it's an effortless way to give back to CTK!



A Letter from the Principal

By Sandy Lasher

The 2008-2009 school year opened with 201 students and all faculty members returning. It certainly didn't take much time for the school year to be in full swing!

Faculty members actually got a jump start on the school year by attending a week-long training session on differentiated instruction (DI). The goal of DI is for teachers to consistently offer a variety of ways through which students can master content and skills, and demonstrate their learning. Teachers were trained in a variety of strategies to utilize in their classroom instruction that are standards-based, student-centered, and rooted in assessment. This training was the first leg of our journey as one of the six diocesan schools to participate in the Welborn/MEO Project Outreach Phase Two.

In order to prepare students to function well in the technological world as well as to improve curriculum instruction and critical thinking skills, our Board of Education has adopted as one of its goals for the 2008-09 school year to integrate technology more effectively throughout all areas of the curriculum. To achieve this goal, CTK has ordered five interactive boards to be placed in core curricular upper grade classrooms. These are possible due to the generous support of several donors. These boards will enhance student learning by giving teachers the tools to create energizing lessons that will appeal to and motivate students. We look forward to the installation of this new technology by the end of first semester.

While wonderful things are taking place in our classrooms, our extracurricular activities are also thriving because of the efforts of so many. Our 5th / 6th grade volleyball team ended their season 5-1, clinching the league championship, while the 7/8 grade girls' soccer team earned the title of regular season and tournament champions. A special Thank You to Jane Parsley, (Athletic Director) our coaches, parents, and athletes on a wonderful fall sports season!

In other activities, Mr. Holden once again produced a hit with the 8th grade play, *The Royal Bachelor*. Mrs. Basham coached 42 sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students in four diocesan speech meets plus the tournament. The spellbowl team led by Mr. Oberst and Mrs. Hillenbrand competed on November 20 at Central High School.

Students will be taking part in Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction every first Friday at 9:15 a.m. in the church. Deacon Bernardin spoke to individual classrooms explaining Benediction to the students so they would be able to more fully understand its significance. We invite the parish community to join us for this traditional worship experience.

Congratulations to our PTO for being listed in the national magazine *PTO Today* as their Editors Choice for top Parent Teacher Organizations in the country.

Our CTK PTO was the only school in the state of Indiana to receive this honor. In addition, our fall school fundraiser raised over \$7,000 for our school.

The current economy makes us appreciate more than ever the sacrifice of every parish member and school family to make our school a reality. On behalf of the entire faculty and staff, I thank you for sharing your time, talents, and treasure. We truly appreciate being able to teach in a school that promotes strong academics and Catholic values through a community of faith, service, and love.

Home for Thanksgiving

By Ginny Cook

With the completion of the required sweat equity and the final touches on the house, Heather Zeller and her two daughters were able to move into their new Habitat home in the New Haven Subdivision in time for a Thanksgiving celebration. The Zeller's home was



built by the Catholics for Habitat in September 2008.

Sixteen parishes were represented in the 5th Annual Catholic Build. Parishioners con-

tributed financially toward the \$50,000 needed to build the Habitat house and in the construction. Christ The King contributed \$2,350 and helped in the construction.

A barbeque benefit was held September 20, 2008 to help with the funding. The BBQers for Charity (Tim Nalin, Charlie Wilhite and



crew) smoked about 325 slabs of pork ribs and 125 pork butts. The proceeds from the sale totaled \$5,450.

Mark your calendars—the Catholics for Habitat will hold their 6th Annual build in September 2009. Another BBQ Benefit is scheduled for September 26, 2009.

CTK Teams Up With HBHH To Help St. Suzanne

By Ginny Cook

In the petitions of the weekend Masses, we pray for our sister parish in Haiti, Saint Suzanne. But many CTK parishioners may not realize what the connection is and how the relationship developed.

The plight of the Haitians has long been a known fact. In 1982, parishioners John and Marian Witting, along with then CTK pastor, Father Raymond Kuper, answered the call for an "adoption" of a parish in Haiti.

The three of them visited St. Suzanne in 1984. CTK committed to provide a certain amount of funding each



month to help pay for teacher salaries and fund various parish needs and their pastor would send a report on the usage of funds.

Over the years there were pastor changes, political conflicts in Haiti, lack of communication and difficulties in safely getting money to St. Suzanne. The original agreements were broken and interest in helping the Haiti Parish declined. In the late 1990's, the CTK Parish Council decided to continue the Twinning Program with St. Suzanne and added the blue envelope to the packet of church envelopes.

Fr. Dick Wildeman, a former priest in the Diocese of Evansville, spent some time in Haiti. He shared his experiences with CTK parishioners – speaking at Mass one weekend – and generated a great interest in our renewed relationship with St. Suzanne. Some of the funds collected helped to purchase a pickup truck, a generator and other critical needs of St. Suzanne.

Recently, CTK has teamed up with an organization started by a few members of the CTK Parish in Tampa, Florida – Hope Brings Help for Haiti (HBHH). A Haitian priest, Fr. Desinord Jean, was the catalyst behind the origination of HBHH when he brought the scholarship needs of several Port-au-Prince children to the attention of friends in Tampa. Patricia Eddy is the Executive Director and Treasurer of HBHH. Ron Hobgood, formerly from Evansville, is an attorney and member of the Advisory Council. Ron has attended a school to learn about well digging and devotes his free time to this task. He helped to successfully get three working wells in St. Suzanne.

Within Haiti, HBHH focuses its efforts in several main areas: school sponsorships, drinking wells, new schools, agriculture programs, medical clinics and mis-

sion trips in the Ft. Liberte area (where St. Suzanne resides).

HBHH is devoting a lot of resources to making St. Suzanne a model parish to which other Haitian parishes can look to for ideas and hope in developing their parishes. We at Christ The King, with the approval of the Parish Council and working through the Spiritual Growth Committee, are now partnering with HBHH in developing St. Suzanne.

Patricia Eddy visits St. Suzanne several times each year and is in close communication with Fr. Medenal Angrand, the pastor. The Spiritual Growth Committee reviews a list of needs and decides which projects to fund. CTK sends the money to HBHH and Patricia oversees the projects and pays out the needed funding.

Recent projects that CTK has helped fund include: the purchase of a power source (generator / solar system), the hook up of electricity to the clinic, school and other buildings, and the repair to the repair and upgrade of the church and school (including the purchase of 70 school desks).

The people of St. Suzanne are very grateful to CTK for our contributions and include us in their petitions every Mass. Hopefully, with the generosity of CTK members, we can continue to give our support to our sister parish.



Patricia Eddy has invited members of our parish (along with members of the CTK parish in Tampa) to further our involvement in supporting St. Suzanne through a mission trip coordinated with one of her many trips to Haiti. If anyone is interested in visiting our sister parish or would like to get more involved, please contact Ginny Cook (477-9160).

Let us all continue to pray and support the people of Haiti. The recent storms have caused heavy crop loss and much starvation. Let us do what we can to help the people of our sister parish, St. Suzanne. If you would like more information on HBHH, please visit their website and blog: www.hbhh.org and www.helpbringhopeforhaiti.blogspot.com