



St. Eugene's Church Chat

September 2008

Volume 10 Issue 3

The Parish of St. Eugene

Asheville NC 28804

Fourth Eucharistic Congress 2008 (October 3rd - 4th)

With "Alleluia! Praise God—He is Risen!" Dr. Bob grabs our attention. Don't you just love it when he reads the announcements? Oh, to experience his contagious enthusiasm. He is so upbeat that he gets your attention and brings a smile to the faces of the congregation. He wakes us up from our slumber on Sunday mornings.

God also awaits us and His greeting is every bit as enthusiastic. Challenge yourselves to catch that enthusiasm. Dig deep, you know it is there, for the awe and the wonderment of it all. God truly present to us—coming to unite us, one with Him. Isn't that something to get excited about? He desires and draws us to Himself most especially in the Mass through the Eucharist.

We are being offered a wondrous opportunity and blessing in our Diocesan Eucharistic Congress. Let us not fall into a lackadaisical mood. We must not take these opportunities for granted. Bishop Peter is granting us this 4th Eucharistic Congress. It is a time for us to come together as one body, one with the Lord, and with each other. This is an incredible event that brings thousands of Catholics together. We are being offered the bread of our faith.

This congress is a means to strengthen our faith through numerous opportunities. Church choirs join voices together in their melodic praise of God. Speakers come to encourage and enlighten us. Holy time is set aside for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and for Adoration of our Lord. Bishop Peter leads us through the streets of Charlotte in true holiness in a procession with the Most Blessed Sacrament. All culminates with the celebration of the Holy Mass—the miracle of the Eucharist.

Renew your faith. Come and be nourished. Pray that we do not suffer as it is written in Amos 8:11-12 :

“Yes, days are coming, says the Lord God,
When I will send famine upon the land:
Not a famine of bread, or thirst for water,
But for hearing the word of the Lord.
Then shall they wander from sea to sea,
And rove from the north to the east,
In search of the word of the Lord,
But they shall not find it.”

We need not experience this famine while we have been presented with such an opportunity as this. Come and be filled with His Eternal Life present in the Holy Eucharist.

Deborah Wadhams

ST. EUGENE CHURCH CHAT

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CELEBRATING PARISH LIFE

Deaths

Lucy Young
William Moushey
Kelly Kobar
Lois Kica
Adelia Sanderson
Margaret Hardiman
Louise Shillcock
Anne Aiello



Baptisms

Ingrid Solis Guerra
Ilia Nicole Marcano Hernandez
Wendy Magaly Herrera Alamilla
Kimberly Herrera Alamilla
Alejandro Carrillo Belasquez
Cesar Ramirez, Jr.
Joshua Christopher Gonzalez Meneses
Jonathan Jimenez Hernandez
Alexandra Martinez Saldivar
Katie Daniela Rivas-Rodriguez
Yuridiana Rodriguez Jose
Khritzabel Guadalupe Vasquez
Omeira Skarlette Maldonada
Aaron Maldonado-Correa
Rolando Alfonso Garcia
Victor delGadillo
Linda Liliana Zavala Pineda
Cesar Pioquinto Damian
Clara Naomi Pioquinto Damian
Jaime Cruz Damian
Edgard Jovany Leveston-Bugarin
Yoselin Marie Rangel Sotelo
America Michelle Padilla Maldonado
Aileen Alexandra Cardenas Navarrete
Vanessa Cardenas Navarrete
Ella Jane Bazley
Pablo Milan Frank
Andrea Molina-Avalos
Dayana Isabel Mata Martinez
Emely Orianka Guillen Carrillo
Kathelyn Carrillo Beltran
Jose Manuel Rosas Rodriguez
Ian Alexander Torres Vera
Martin Palomo Coronado
Josemaria Palomo Coronado
Vanessa Rojas
Freddy Emiliano Covarrubias
Juan Jose Ramos Cazares
Isabelle Marie Owens
Brandon de Jesus Varillas Rosas
Daniel Elizalde Arroyo
Andres Elizalde Arroyo



Marriages

Donald Silvers and Angelica Godina
Tino Wen Dai and Mary Elizabeth Davis

New Parishioners

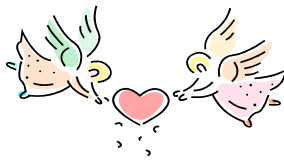
Michael and Jennifer Abshire
Patrick and Diane Castellucci
Marvin and Judith Chapman
Eurgene and Madelyn Edwards
Sandra Hayes
Jerry and Diane Hinz
Donald and Barbara Layden
Donald and Sharon Mills
Mary Perlette
Sean and Crystal Perrow
Nick and Elizabeth Woods



Inspirational Corner

I sought myself, myself I
could not see,
I sought my God and my
God eluded me,
I sought my brother/sister
and I found all three.

Unknown Author



GETTING TO KNOW YOU

What a great morning I had recently! I sat in the gathering space at the church with Bob Charette and his wife Nancy and we talked. I got to know a great guy. He is the subject of this article.

The Charettes have been members of the parish family since 2000. Bob is originally from Detroit, joined the navy in 1956, met and married the love of his life and worked for IBM for 34 years.

Bob and Nancy raised eight children, four boys and four girls.

Bob is a very active member of our parish family. One can say that Bob jumped in with both feet as soon as he registered in the parish. He is active in RCIA, he serves on the Hospitality Committee, he is a Reader and Eucharistic Minister.

I would like to end this article with something Bob told me which I found very moving. When he was born, his father's boss presented the family with a baptismal garment in which Bob was baptized. Since that day that *same baptismal outfit* was used for all eight of Bob and Nancy's children and, you won't believe this, all thirteen grandchildren have worn it as well! Bob confided to me that after each use, he himself washes the garment and stores it carefully. Perhaps his first great-grandchild will also wear it! By now it is undoubtedly a treasured heirloom!

Flora Sipes

In case you haven't heard yet.....

Ladies Out to Lunch Bunch is a group of gals who get together to meet, eat (and chat) at various restaurants around town! It's a great way to get acquainted for new parishioners or to keep up with the news for our regulars. We enjoy delicious food and get a chance to check out new eating places in the area!

We're always looking for new faces to join the group. Watch for notices in the Sunday bulletin for our next outing (usually every six weeks or so) and do plan to give us a try.

For information, call Carole Horvath, at 645-7015.

ROOM IN THE INN As this article is being written our next week at Room In The Inn is six weeks away. St. Eugene will be working with Asbury Methodist Church to host the homeless women September 28 - October 4. New volunteers are always welcome to participate as innkeepers, help with dinners or provide four bag lunches or breakfast. This is a very worthwhile, rewarding outreach to the community.

If you have been keeping up with the overview of parish commissions running in the weekly bulletins this summer Room In The Inn fits in perfectly with the Community Ministries Commission. How about that for a "two for one deal"! For information call Marilyn Krug, 684-7475.

Garden Plots



Smile!

It's the good ole Summer time.
The lazy, hazy, crazy days of Summer.

Why does a person enjoy gardening?

A touch of creation.

A feeling of faith.

Plant a seed.

Cross your fingers

Water. Sunshine. Time

Look for those tiny green leaves.

Where does that new life come from?

A dried husk of a seed.

Are we dried husks?

What about Our new life? Our New Growth?

Are we reaching out

To learn.

To encourage others.

To see God smile over our meager efforts.

Hey, God, send us gentle rain for growth.

We need your blessing.

Your grace.

Your love.

Your smile!

We have two plots that need your attention, your smiles.

Interested? Call Rosey Bily 252-1210

FAITHFUL SERVANT CLASS

Faithful Servant is a weeklong class in June, that's held at Ridgecrest. Faithful Servant is a leadership class for Catholic teens. You can learn skills like how to organize something, how to act in a group, and how to speak in a more understanding and outgoing way.

I attended Faithful Servant as a representative for St. Eugene's youth so that I would be able to help with our youth group. At Faithful Servant we would split up into communities, and each community would have to do morning prayer, evening prayer, mass, or set-up for that day.

When we had a break from all the classes, we could do things like hiking, playing with a Wii, basketball, volleyball, or mini golf. This helped us get to know each other better and was fun !

Everyone was so nice and friendly, it was easy to learn how to be a better leader and make new friends. I hope to put this knowledge to use in our parish activities and as I prepare to represent our Parish on the Diocesan Youth Council. If you are a High School student, watch the bulletin for more information coming up about DYC (Diocesan Youth Conference.) The council will be held April 24-26, 2009. I attended this last year and you are sure to have a lot of fun and make new friends.

Claire Wadhams

WINGS (Women in God's Spirit)

We will reconvene Tuesday, the 16th of September at 10 a.m. in room 2. This will be a planning session for the year. We will also meet the 30th of September.

Meetings will be the 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesdays of the month. At the meeting we will plan for the whole year, working in pairs so as to finish the material.

Mary Marsh

Small Church Communities

Though we won't be starting the next "Why Catholic" book until Lent 2009, there is an exciting opportunity to continue (or start!) your faith-sharing journey this Fall.

Small groups will again be forming to use the QUEST booklet as a guide to explore the Mass readings for the upcoming Sundays. Sign-up for the groups will be after Masses on the weekend of September 13 -14.

Join a group and share your faith !

Ellen Kaczmarek

Ministry to the Home-Bound

As I reflect on "lay ministry", I can't help but feel deep gratitude for the movement of the Holy Spirit that moved the "Church" to the reality that all of us, God's sons and daughters, are called to reach out to others in all forms of ministry. Prior to Vatican II, only a priest could bring communion to the home-bound and hospitalized. What a blessing for our parish that we now have the privilege, as lay people, to participate in this ministry, as well as all other out-reach services that help us to follow the directives so clearly stated in the "Living Word of God" - - "LOVE OTHERS AS I HAVE LOVED YOU".

Thank God, thank God, thank God for You...all of us together as God's sons and daughters as we grow in the awareness that we are the Body of Christ in this world. All the good we do in His name comes back to us as, with joy in our hearts, we journey together as His family.

Sister Anita Sheerin, RSM

Director, Ministry to the Home-Bound

WOMEN'S GUILD

The ladies of the Women's Guild are having a fun filled summer. We come together on the second Wednesday of each month for good food, a great program and outstanding fellowship. This doesn't happen magically. It happens because of the hard work of a small group of women who plan these meetings. We want them to know we appreciate all their hard work. An example of all their hard work, are the programs they pulled together since we came back from our winter hiatus. In March we had a mini-retreat conducted by Deacon Mike. It was held in the days leading to the Triduum.

In April, our own Bill Wescott who most of you know is Board Chairman and speaker for the Preservation Society for Asheville and Buncombe County, spoke on the past and the future of our beautiful mountain home.

In May, Antonio Garcia, Coordinator for the Hispanic Ministry for the Diocese of

Charlotte spoke on the efforts being made by the Hispanic Community to become part of the St. Eugene family.

In June, we enjoyed the talents of the SART players including our own Liz Aiello. Such a treat!

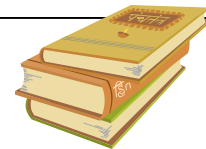
In July, it was time once again to bring a box lunch and just enjoy each other's company. After a delicious lunch, we shared 'life stories'. How wonderful to get to know each other better through the telling of these stories.

This month, we are looking forward to having our meeting at the Governor's Western Residence. We will enjoy a catered lunch and a very well known speaker – Susan Reinhart (Asheville's own Erma Bombeck) will be our speaker.

Again, I invite the ladies of the parish to join us on the second Wednesday of the month for a great meeting.

Flora Sipes

Book Review



Crisis Facing the Church by Raymond E. Brown, S.S.

I came across this book when I was searching for something to read while my car was being serviced. I chose one written by Father Brown since I knew that he was an outstanding Biblical scholar. This book fascinated me. Although it was written in 1975 it is still current today – complete with some of Father Brown's predictions. In it he leans heavily on the documents of Vatican II.

This book is a series of lectures that he gave to the National Catholic Education Association and the Hoover Lectures. The titles are intriguing: The Current Crisis in Theology as it Affects the Teaching of Catholic Doctrine: "Who Do Men Say That I Am" – A Survey of Modern Scholarship on Gospel Christology; The Meaning of Modern New Testament Studies for the Possibility of Ordaining Women to the Priesthood (*this ought to catch a few eyes!*); The Meaning of Modern New Testament Studies for the Ecumenical Understanding of Peter and a Theology of the Papacy; and The Meaning of Modern New Testament Studies for an Ecumenical Understanding of Mary.

He commented on the change of church theology throughout the centuries as the church developed a better understanding of theology, from Plato to Aristotle to Thomas Aquinas to the Reformation period. Then about one hundred years ago discoveries of documents revealing the language of the Biblical period came to light, which sometimes considerably changed the traditional meanings of earlier translations – enlarging the interpretations. He also pointed out that scholars now think that some passages were added at a time later than the original author, such as Corinthians I, 14:33-34, "...women should keep silence in the churches". This was thought to have been added by men who wanted the women to be quiet. Scholars also think that some other changes were made to the original passages.

He makes many other observations – some of them startling.

Bob Abernathy

Note: The book has 108 pages plus Appendix
Catalog # BIB BRO20ca

Organ Recital Coming Soon

On *Friday, September 26th at 7 p.m.*, there will be an organ recital featuring our own Valerie Borland!! Come and check out the fantastic repertoire and amazing capabilities of our new Allen Quantum Series organ and the talents of our staff organist. You'll have an opportunity to get an up-close look at what makes our organ tick and be thrilled by the tremendously powerful "pipes", as well as the wonderfully subtle sounds that make up an organ of this caliber.

A reception will follow in the social hall. We hope to see you all for what promises to be a delightful evening!

Paul Berrell
Music Minister



Music Ministry 2008-2009

Our Music Ministry program will be getting back into the swing of things the first week in September. We would love for you to join us in one of our ensembles! These groups are all doing great and having a fun time but WE NEED YOUR GIFTS to help us grow even more! The first Children's Choir and Adult Choir practices will be on September 3rd at their specific times. The SNG will be back soon after that! Information for our various groups is below. Please feel free to chat with me if you have more questions.

Thank you! – Paul Berrell (berrellmusic@yahoo.com)

THE ADULT CHOIR: This group consists of people of all ages – high school age and older. We practice every Wednesday evening at 7 pm and usually sing at the 11 am mass each Sunday. We incorporate harmony in our repertoire, but prior choral experience or the ability to read music is not mandatory.

CANTOR MINISTRY: A sub-section of the Adult Choir, the people involved in this ministry are trained and prepared to vocally facilitate the music at various masses. We meet once a month to go over new music and each Cantor receives a packet with sheet music and a CD with which to practice on their own. The ability to read music is required.

THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR: This group consists of students 2nd grade through 5th grade. We practice every Wednesday evening from 5 – 5:45 pm. We sing about once a month on a rotating mass schedule.

SNG (SUNDAY NIGHT GROUP): This group consists of students 6th grade through adult age. We practice Sunday afternoons and sing at the 5:30 pm Sunday night mass. In addition to singers, this group also invites instrumentalists of all kinds to be involved.

INSTRUMENTAL MINISTRY: Instrumentalists are always welcome to become a part of the music at any mass. From guitars to percussion to woodwinds and brass – come and share your gifts with our community!

THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC RISK RETENTION GROUPING

VIRTUS Online™**Why are we surprised?**

Last year, I wrote about our then 13 year old daughter who was the victim of relational bullying in the form of criticism, fabricated allegations, rumors, and social exclusion. She was the recipient of unwarranted, persistent, and unwelcome behavior that negatively affected her relationships, self-esteem, and ability to succeed.

Hey, wait a minute! Now that I think about it, “unwelcome behavior that negatively affects self-esteem and ability to succeed” seems to define this season’s reality and talent audition television shows where adults are encouraged to laugh at and make fun of contestants who look different or, in their opinion, acted odd. Well, yes those contestants act odd—they want to be on TV! But what message is sent to the j-zillion youth watching? See someone different, go ahead and laugh openly at them.

Why are we surprised, then, when our children and youth ostracize, act mean-spirited, exclude, badger, smear, laugh at, and condemn, others? Why are we surprised when children and youth zero in on another’s vulnerability and weakness, exposing it only for their perceived advantage—without regard to the hurt, pain, or consequence of so doing? Focusing upon another’s weakness and exposing it only to gain advantage is also apparently the job description of a political campaign manager and from now until November it will only get worse—sending yet another message to our youth, rudeness is okay and self-control is something you can pick and choose.

Bullying: adults do it openly and without apology, and until adults clean up their act, there is little hope that our children will.

Now this is just my opinion, but to me, and only in the world according to me (which can be a very strange place indeed) civility is dying among adults, and as a result, among our children too.

In their article, *Civility*, by Julie Nader and Miriam Schulman, they cite George Washington, who, at the age of 14, copied 110 “Rules of Civility and Decent Behavior in Company and Conversation” from an English translation of a French book of manners. These rules are relevant to the conduct of all, including public officials, today as they were when they were first written, they include:

Every action done in company ought to be with some sign of respect to those that are present. In language my kids will understand: It’s not okay to openly laugh at people—ever.

Sleep not when others speak, sit not when others stand; speak not when you should hold your peace. Translated, again, for children: The common good is more important than your personal needs, irritations, or rivalries.

Shake not the head, feet, or legs; roll not the eyes; lift not one eyebrow higher than the other; wry not the mouth; and bedew no man’s face with your spittle by approaching too near him when you speak. (And here I thought these antics were ingrained during the 13th thru 17th years of life.) Oh, yes, let me translate: Rolling your eyes is disrespectful and dam it, anyway, control your temper and displeasure, and your spit remains in the mouth.

Show not yourself glad at the misfortune of another though he is your enemy. If another’s problems and failures make you gleeful, then I have failed you as your parent.

In short, civility is based on the golden rule that we should treat others as we wish to be treated.

But you know this. We *all* know this, but so often our knowledge fails to turn to action. Knowing isn’t enough, **behavior is the true test of real knowledge.** Most rude, bullying behavior seems to indicate we are truly unknowledgeable.

Outward or subtle bullying by adults *does* affect our children. Don’t we know that *everything* affects our children? Our role as caring adults is to model good behavior, correct the negative messages, and redirect our youth to live within the boundaries of the Golden Rule. In my world, it’s imperative we restore civility because, until adults stop bullying, there is little hope for our youth to stop either.

Submitted by Pat Driver

Fr. John's Statement regarding Bilingual Mass Parts for Saint Eugene Read at August Parish Pastoral Council

I want to start by reminding everyone what our parish mission statement says: "As Catholic Christians, we come together to form an *intergenerational* parish community that is *diverse, hospitable and inclusive*..." It is with this sense of welcome that we try to be open to the various cultures that worship under our Church roof.

The use of Spanish in our music is an expansion of our prayer as a parish community of various groups. Through our singing we reflect a much fuller tradition and sense of inclusiveness. This is just like our use of Latin that was part of our worship during the Lenten Season. Some people had questions at that time also; I believe that it turned out as a good experience for us. There have been questions as to why a section of the Eucharistic Prayer is said in Spanish when we have a Baptism in Spanish. This is because there is a special insert in the Spanish Missal for the newly baptized that does not exist in the English version. This, again, is a welcome and recognition of the much bigger sense of what makes up our Church.

We are also preparing for a specific parish celebration, the parish picnic on 7 September. This will give us an opportunity to be a part of the larger community of the parish rather than just our individual mass time group.

This is a nation-wide process in the Catholic Church in the United States as it grows. As we grow we are "rapidly re-encountering ourselves/itself as an immigrant Church" (USCCB, *Welcoming to Stranger*). Some of you may remember "nationality parishes" – these are some of the churches that are being closed and/or joined together in northern dioceses now. Thank goodness we have not had that occur in the south. We are all learning what it means to "be Church" in new and different ways. Some of this direction comes from universal church documents: *General Instruction to the Roman Missal* (GIRM) #40 & 41 and *Sing to the Lord* (STL) #57-60 recently published by the United States Bishops, as well as the above quote. The STL states that "varied use of musical forms and bilingual or multilingual repertoire can assist in weaving the diverse languages and ethnicities of the liturgical assembly into a tapestry of sung praise."

Why have Spanish as a part of our liturgy and music repertoire? Simply put, it is a way to more fully celebrate the special masses that we will have from time to time which bring together our *entire* parish community. Some examples of this are our upcoming Parish picnic (mentioned above), the Triduum, Pentecost – these are times when bilingual multilingual mass parts are good and appropriate to use.

The issue of how to best incorporate various cultures and traditions in worship is something *every* parish across the country as well as in the Asheville vicariate is addressing to some degree or fashion. How can we welcome all to the Eucharistic banquet? The use of Spanish is not something new to our St. Eugene liturgies. Information shows that Spanish has been a part of the Eucharistic prayer and some of our musical prayer in past years.

The specific addition of the bilingual mass parts is a reflection of our parish mission statement. This is in line with the vision of the PPC and this was discussed with the Worship commission who view this as a step in the right direction in incorporation of our diverse community.

Thank you for supporting and encouraging us in yet another diverse addition to our liturgical prayer.