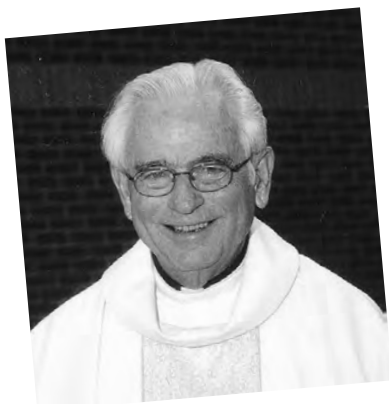


Holy Redeemer

C A T H O L I C C O M M U N I T Y



A Message from Father Bob

The big news for the diocese was that on May 9 Pope Benedict XVI appointed Monsignor Kevin Vann of Springfield, Illinois Coadjutor Bishop of Fort Worth with right of succession. This means that Bishop Delaney is still our bishop. The

coadjutor part means that Bishop Vann will be of assistance to him. Also, he will automatically succeed him when Bishop Delaney retires, or if he should die.

There has been no return of the cancer for Bishop Delaney. Nevertheless, he continues to have good days and bad days. He has been having shortness of breath unless seated. The doctors have found that the medication for his thyroid has not been assimilated. This may be the cause of his shortness of breath. The doctors are working to modify his medication to correct this problem. Most days he is able to do a short day at the office.

Each year I have a fish fry for all our seminarians and many of our priests. We had about 60 at my lake house on May 17th. I was delighted that both Bishop Delaney and

Bishop Designate Vann were able to attend. It gave the new Bishop the opportunity to meet our seminarians (we will have seventeen next year) and many of our priests.

Monsignor Vann, ordained 24 years, has been a pastor most of his priestly life. Currently he is the pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Springfield, his home parish. Monsignor Vann told us at the Catholic Center that he was eating in a Mexican restaurant in Springfield when two employees came up to him saying that they would like to stay Catholic, but there was no Spanish mass in Springfield. He immediately began saying mass for them weekly in the restaurant. He told us that he read the mass in Spanish with a heavy Italian accent. He is fluent in Italian because he spent four years in Rome where he received a doctorate in Canon Law. He followed up by studying Spanish in Mexico two summers after which he was appointed the Bishop's representative for Spanish speaking. He still says mass in Spanish weekly in another parish than his own.

We welcome Bishop Designate Vann. He will be ordained in mid July, the date yet to be announced. He comes to us as scholar, pastor and leader. And we thank the Holy Father for sending him

Father Bob

Children's Religious Education

We have some very exciting changes in the works for next year's CRE program! While we wind down a successful year, we have been hard at work getting organized for next year's program. We have adopted a new curriculum (Faith First, by RCL) that provides total catechesis in the spirit of the Second Vatican Council. (Check out their website at www.faithfirst.com.) We recently held a meeting for parents in the CRE program and received very positive feedback about the planned changes.

When our program starts in the fall, we will have Parent Workshops once per month that will help our parents get involved and learn the same material the children are covering in their CRE classes as well as providing "-refreshers" for some of our basic Catholic teachings. We will also have several Special Events and Craft Days that

will bring the parents and adults in our church together with the children during Sunday morning CRE classes.

We are busy recruiting our teaching staff for the next year so that our teachers will be able to attend workshops and get prepared before the school year starts. We plan to have 3 adults (teachers and assistants) for every grade level, so we need lots of volunteers!

Please check out the enclosed brochure about our CRE program and take some time to call us to find out how you can help! Enrollment forms will be at mass during the summer, so get registered as soon as possible to help us plan.

A child's religious upbringing is a partnership between the child, the parent, and the church. How will you show your children that YOU put FAITH FIRST?

Parish News

Holy Redeemer Catholic Community

817-441-3500
P.O. Box 550
Aledo, TX 76008

www.HolyRedeemerEPC.org
Fr. Robert (Bob) Wilson

Office: 817-560-3300
Home: 817-441-7630

Pastoral Assistant
Judie Woodall

Liturgical Ministry

Altar Servers Robert Speer
Eucharistic
Ministers Chuck Sheridan
Lectors Sheila Hill
Music Bryan Doke
Ushers/Offertory Gifts . Scott France
Service Set-Up Jackie Voss

Outreach Ministry

Community
Service Steve & Laura Brown
Personal Outreach Kathy Williams
Pro-Life Carolyn Pass
Prison Ministry Benny Paredes
Missions Tom Ghesquiere

Youth Ministry

CRE Coordinator Tom Davis
YM Coordinator
High School Jimmy Suarez
Middle School Ann Peirce
Pre-K-5th Grade

Other Ministry

Finance Monica Collins
RCIA Coordinator . . . Linda Gossett
Parish Advocate
Canonical Marriage Cases
Collection Envelopes
. Tom Ghesquiere
Chalice Program Amy Hyde
Bulletin Notices Peggy Spears
Communications Sandy Moore
Weekly Prayer
Intentions Laura Brown
Office Assistant Lynn Walker

VBS



Holy Redeemer will be holding its Vacation Bible School on June 6th through June 10th, from 6:00-8:30 p.m. at the church office at St. Francis. The theme will be Kingdom of the Son, A Prayer Safari. It should be a great time of bible stories, crafts, music, games, and much more! Its not too late to sign up. You can sign up at the church office or after

mass on Sunday. If you have any questions, Call Rosemary Barron (441-8007) or Jessica Pohl (341-0474).

And, keep an eye (or ear) out for the kids as they sing the songs they will learn at VBS at the parish social to be held after mass on Sunday, June 12th.

RCIA Update:

Another successful year for the RCIA Ministry. Our newest Catholic is Newman Gonzalez who received his sacraments during the Easter Vigil. We will begin the next Inquiry session during the summer months for anyone interested in becoming a Catholic or interested in learning more about the Catholic faith. Information regarding the Inquiry session will be mentioned in the Sunday bulletin in the near future. I would like to thank the RCIA team, teachers and all who helped make this a successful year. If you are interested in being part of the RCIA team, please call the Parish office.

Parish News:

Pot Luck Summer Salad Social on Sunday, June 12th, immediately following Mass. Please join your parish family in the H.S. cafeteria for food, fellowship and entertainment from our children, who will be singing songs they have learned in V.B.S.

Community Relations/Parish Info:

Parishioner, Cliff Valentine of Valentine Nursery, has completed the newest addition to the Bearcat Park, trees! Holy Redeemer pledged some nice sized trees to the park and now that planting season has arrived, they have been transplanted. "Saving Trees," in small efforts, come large rewards... to save trees used to make paper bags, Holy Redeemer offers cloth bags to be used for a variety of purposes including groceries. Call the Parish office to purchase them.

Prison Outreach Ministry:

We need to remind ourselves that although many people have made mistakes that cause them to serve time. God still loves them and wants them to know they are not forgotten. The devil has a way to drive people to sin and he gets pleasure out of it.

Many people just react to making wrong choices in life that hurt others and themselves.

No matter what we do our God (Father) will always love us and wants us to know we are never to be left orphans. We must always look for ways to share Gods love and message to everyone because God has no favorites. We have to spread the message of the Gospel to everyone and let the know they are special. Saul punished many Christians and yet God forgave him and he served God the remainder of his life, what makes the prisons of today any different, they too can serve our Lord. God loves all his children. What a Dad!

Center of Hope East Parker County Grand Opening

On April 29, 2005, Fr. Bob and Judie Woodall joined leaders from various churches in the East Parker County area, Aledo ISD school officials and other area leaders to formally dedicate the Center of Hope - East Parker County (COH-EPC). Lynn McKinney, AISD Assistant Superintendent and recent addition to the Center of Hope Board of Directors, spoke with characteristic passion of seeing this dream come to reality. Becky Kinard, Director of the COH-EPC, was joined by representatives of The Aledo Children's Advocats for the official ribbon cutting.

AISD officials approached the area churches in the Fall of 2004 to determine how the East Parker County community can best help the families of the area that are meeting the definition of poverty and/or homelessness as well as the many more that are on the margin. Within a relatively few short months, the Holy Spirit led the area churches, hand in hand with the school district to meet with leaders of the Cen-

ter of Hope to request assistance in opening a similar facility in East Parker County.

The Center of Hope East Parker County is currently open on Wednesday and Thursday from 10:00 to 2:00 providing groceries; financial assistance for utilities and prescriptions; spiritual uplifting; and all important connections to other opportunities for help with temporary situations.

Your involvement is welcomed. Please call or come visit. The Aledo Children's Clothes Closet is now located right next door too. They are both at 151 South FM 5 in Aledo. The phone number for the Center is 817-441-2442 and for the Clothes Closet is 817-441-2707.

Opportunities to Help

Summertime can be a particularly difficult time for families of the poor and hungry. During the school year these children may qualify for government subsidized meals at school. What are they to do during the summer

months when stomachs are growling, their cupboards are bare and the cafeteria is closed? The Center of Hope - EPC is prepared this summer to reach out with sack lunches and sacks of groceries for those families that qualify for assistance.

Ironically, it can also be a difficult period for organizations designed to assist these families. Food drives drop off. As do financial donations, as well as school sponsored fund raisers. Volunteers go on vacation.

Thankfully, summer can also provide opportunities. Perhaps you and your family can come by and drop off a few groceries or a financial donation and witness what is happening. Besides various volunteer opportunities await, you will undoubtedly see familiar, friendly faces from within the community already making their mark by volunteering at the Center of Hope-EPC. Stocking shelves—interfacing with clients—sacking groceries—entering data—cleaning the office—praying with others—and more!

Personal Outreach

Lent was a whirlwind of activity! Thanks to all our generous parishioners for making this ministry so successful in our activities!! Our volunteers are great!!

Simple Suppers every Monday evening in Lent were a prayerful and delicious success with approximately 30 people attending each dinner. We also collected \$272 for food for Center of Hope.

Our CRE children contributed \$277 to fill the "Pennies for Porky" PIGGY BANKS for their Lenten project. The money will go to purchase a pig from the Aledo High School



Agricultural program, (it is still being fattened up), which will then be processed and the meat delivered to Freedom House. The 6th and 7th grade class donated the most coins and were rewarded with "pigs in a blanket", donut holes and juice. Outreach will also purchase another pig for meat for Center of Hope.

The Easter basket program for Freedom House was another success. We collected Easter goodies for 12 baskets for children and 10 containers of inspirational/toiletry items for the ladies. The 8th graders assembled the baskets to donate and they were very much appreciated!!

We continue to donate at least 3 large totes of food every third Sunday of the month for our Center of Hope neighbors!!

We are continuing to assist Aledo Advocats, Manna House, and provide Christian reading materials.

So what is new for OUTREACH????

In August and September, we will sponsor a back to school supplies drive, as well as collect new socks and underwear for Advocats.

We will then begin preparations for our fall and winter programs for our annual Angel Tree program, Shoe Box Program, and Thanksgiving food drive.

Thanks again for your ongoing generosity to all of our community and to all our great volunteers!!

God bless!
Laura & Steve Brown

Youth News

Some of the Youth participated in the Choir that was put together for the Easter Vigil. Jonathan Wilmer did a fantastic job leading the choir, as the ceremony was breath taking. The Youth communicated how marvelous they felt about being part of such a moving Mass.

Confirmation Mass was held May 15th and several of our Youth became full members of our Catholic Community. May is also Graduation Month and as such, we will be celebrating the graduation of eight High School students and one Collegiate during Mass on May 29th. We graciously ask our community to pray for those recently Confirmed and our graduates.

The Youth Group is anxiously looking forward to the summer months. We will be prayerfully organizing all of our upcoming activities, one of which we know will be our annual Burgers Lake outing and we anticipate one of our largest groups to attend this year.



The First Communion class of 2005

Currently the Youth Group is putting together some care packages for distribution to the needy and homeless. The packages will contain everyday necessities, which we might take for granted. The Youth feel that by providing those in need with some of these items, they could possibly, if

just for a little while, be able to change the lives of a few in a positive manner. "What so ever you do to the least of my people, that you do unto me." Again, we thank our church and community for your continued prayers and support.

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P.O. Box 550 Aledo, TX 76008