Weekend Masses
Saturday ................................ 4:00 pm
Sunday ..................................... 9:00 am

Weekday Masses
Monday - Friday .................................. 8:30 am

Devotions
Monday-Friday before Mass .................. Rosary
Tuesday & Thursday after Mass ...... Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Tuesday ............................................. Perpetual Help Novena
Friday ................................................ Sacred Heart Novena

Holy Days of Obligation
Vigil .................................................... 5:15 pm
Holy Day ............................................. 8:30 am

Eucharistic Adoration
Wednesdays ....................................... 9:00 am - 9:00 pm

Confessions
Saturday ........................................... 2:15 pm - 3:30 pm
Wednesday ....................................... 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Baptism
Call to arrange a date & time. A preparation session is required.

Marriage
Call the parish office at least 9 months in advance of your desired wedding date.

Museum
Tours by appointment .......................... 920-432-4348

St. Thomas More School
650 S. Irwin Ave., Green Bay, WI 54301
Principal, Ms. Vicki Marotz
Phone: 920-432-8242

Mass Intentions

Saturday  December 7
4:00 pm  † John, Helen, John & Jim Marshall & Jenny Murray

Sunday December 8
9:00 am  † Fr. Francis Kerscher

Monday December 9
8:30 am  † Hilary Desotell

Tuesday December 10
8:30 am  † Bob Burckle

Wednesday December 11
8:30 am  † Albertha Jorgensen

Thursday December 12
8:30 am  Special Intention of Judith Kenney

Friday December 13
8:30 am  † Rose Gevaert

Saturday December 14
4:00 pm  † Most Reverend Mark Schmitt (Anniversary of Death)

Sunday December 15
9:00 am  † Living & Deceased Members of
St. Francis Xavier Cathedral;
St. John the Evangelist Parish, Green Bay;
St. Rose Parish, Clintonville;
St. Mary Parish, Bear Creek

Thank you for using Online Giving. Parishioners who use the service are pleased with how easy it is to set up and manage. If you have not yet signed up for Online Giving, then please consider this option. This is a perfect tool for anyone who shops online! By using Online Giving you are helping the parish to improve our operational efficiency. Go to our parish website and click on Online Giving.

Readings for the Week of December 8, 2013
Sunday: ...................... Is 11:1-10/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12
Monday: ............. Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday: ..................... Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday: ............... Is 40:25-31/Mt 11:28-30
Thursday: .............. Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a,
10ab/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Friday: ......................... Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: ................... Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Next Sunday: ........... Is 35:1-6a, 10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11
MARIAN MINISTRY
Thank you all the volunteers that visit our parish family members who are homebound or residents in a nursing home. Christ’s ministry of hospitality and friendship that you extend to our parishioners is one of the Seven Corporal Works of Mercy that is vital to the spiritual life of St. Francis Xavier Cathedral. Many of you have expressed that you are enriched by the person you visit and feel you are the one blessed for having made the visit. We are blessed to have you! Unfortunately our member list is growing so please, if you have even a thought to give of your time and talent in this area of visitation, call Pat Westlund, Pastoral Minister at 432-4348.

RETIRED RELIGIOUS COLLECTION
Today, through the Retirement Religious Collection, we are able to share in the care of our retired sisters, brothers and religious order priests through the National Retirement Fund for Religious, as well as of the senior priests of our own diocese. Envelopes are available to make your contribution. Please be generous.

FRIDAY ARTIST SERIES
St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, 140 S Monroe Ave., is having a “Friday Artist Series” for the four Fridays of December from 12:15 to 12:45 pm. Performances will include harpists and pieces played on our own organ. If you are in the area and would like a short respite from the hustle and bustle of the season, come and enjoy some beautiful Christmas music.

DIGNITY OF LIFE
Cathedral’s Christmas Giving Tree will be in place in the Bishop Wycislo Center lobby beginning the weekend of November 30 through Sunday, December 22. Each ornament on the tree will designate a gift for the following: the men and women who are guests at St. John Homeless Shelter, the Love Life Program (newborn babies), and a Cathedral neighborhood family of one adult and two children. Please be generous and take an ornament or two, return the gift(s) unwrapped in a plastic bag with the ornament. Place the gift(s) under the tree. Thank you.

SEROOGY’S CHOCOLATE SALE
The Dignity of Life Committee will be selling 9 oz. boxes of Seroogy’s assorted, meltaways, mint, and caramel chocolates. We will also have packaged butter fudge on sale immediately after all Masses the weekends of December 7/8 and December 14/15. Boxed chocolates will be $11.50 a box and butter fudge will be $5.00 each. Profits will go to purchase food for homeless shelter meals.

DID YOU KNOW …………?
Ken Nier has been very active in our parish for many years. Currently as head usher, he is responsible for recruiting, training, and scheduling of ushers. He can be found on Monday mornings collecting and storing the items dropped off for the Cathedral Pantry. Ken does home visits for Cathedral’s St. Vincent de Paul Conference and is the new president of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. He is a member of the Dignity of Life Committee which is responsible for the Advent Giving Tree, Back to School Store, Pair and a Spare, and other charitable events. Ken also heads up the NEW Shelter meal when it is the Cathedral’s turn to prepare and serve. Ken is a shining example of what true stewardship is all about! May God bless you.

STEWARSHIP - HOW CAN I HELP?
Cathedral Keepers: Warmly greet guests and make them feel welcome in our parish. They are available to answer questions and assist parishioners and visitors. To volunteer for two hour shifts from 9 am to 4 pm Monday through Friday or for information, call Sonia at: 432-4348.

December Prayer Intentions of Pope Francis: Apostleship of Prayer
Victimized Children. That children who are victims of abandonment or violence may find the love and protection they need.
Prepare the Savior's Coming. That Christians, enlightened by the Word incarnate, may prepare humanity for the Savior's coming.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS
Winnie & Roger Ostrenga
Karissa Tousignant

November 30th and December 1, 2013
Sacrificial Giving...............................$ 7781.00
Offertory Collection..........................$ 1270.31
On line Giving..................................$ 1456.00
Building & Maintenance......................$ 210.00
Thanksgiving..................................$ 707.70
Total..............................................$10,862.48
We need an average of $9500.00 from the weekly collection to meet our budget.
From Our Pastor

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What do people look for in a Catholic Parish? This is a very good question, and I believe an important one for all of us to ponder. Perhaps we might ask ourselves the following questions: Why do people come to my parish? Why do I go? Why are they Catholic? Why am I Catholic?

It is widely known that Catholics are the single largest religious group in our country. Roughly 1 in 4 Americans considers themselves a Catholic. The second largest “religious group” in our country are fallen-away Catholics. These are Catholics who for a variety of reasons no longer practice their faith or no longer consider themselves Catholic. What a tragedy! What can be done to invite those who have strayed to return? I strongly believe a solution to this problem exists in the local Catholic parish.

When individuals are asked why they leave the Catholic Church, they typically say the same thing: “I wasn’t being fed at my parish.” This of course is very ironic because the very bread of life – the Eucharist – is only found in Catholic parishes! Presumably those who are going to Mass are able to receive communion and yet, despite this fact, they still feel like they are not being fed. What is the reason for this subjective, yet real, feeling of emptiness? And what can parishes do to help?

Sadly, it seems that parish life not deeply rooted in the Eucharist will leave people feeling hungry. And although the Eucharist is the greatest of gifts that we have as Catholics, people rightly expect that they will be nourished in a number of ways when they go to church. Here are just a few of the things that they might expect.

One of the most important things that people are looking for in their parish is a solid, Christ-centered, and relevant homily. Even though the priest’s homily lasts only about 10-12 minutes, it is very often the only opportunity in a given week to have the faith explained to them. Homilies are very important and people are attracted or driven away by them. To be sure, priests have varying gifts in this regard. However, every parishioner deserves to have an original, well-organized, and relevant sermon that teaches the Truth. Is the homily the most important part of the Mass? Certainly not! Is it the most memorable part? Typically yes, and that’s why it’s so important. If a priest’s homilies are not heart-felt and “real”, people will leave the parish.

Another aspect of parish life that is vitally important is what the church itself looks like. Is the church decorated beautifully? Does it look like the house of God or does it look like a basement store room? Does the church building remind us that we are in God’s house or does it make us think that we are at the mall? And the art of music at Mass is also vitally important. We all have our favorite kinds of church music. Some of us like the music to be traditional, others prefer folk-based songs, still others yearn for the hymns to be in Latin. Yet we all know what it is like when the music is out of tune, too high, too fast, too slow, or presented in an unprofessional manner. People are attracted to a parish that is decorated beautifully and which has uplifting and reverent music. Although this might seem to be so very trivial, it is an important factor of why people choose a given parish over another. If the church is poorly decorated and the music is awful, people will leave the parish. To be continued next week...May God Bless You.

Fr. Girotti

A NOTE FROM FR. GIROTTI

Thank you everyone for all your work with the St. Cecilia Concert. It was so beautiful and prayerful as well. I was very honored to be a part of it. Special thank you to Jody Strnad, for her gift of music that lifted our hearts. Great job everyone! I can’t wait until next year.

Fr. Girotti
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday………………………………………..December 9
6:00 pm…………………………………..Natural Family Planning - BWC

Tuesday…………………………………….December 10
5:00 pm…………………………………..Finance Committee
6:00 pm…………………………………..Parish Council

Friday……………………………………….December 13
12:15 pm………………………………..Friday Artist Series

Saturday & Sunday…………………December 14 & 15
Seroogy’s Candy Sale after Masses
(benefits Dignity of Life Committee)

Sunday…………………………………December 15
10:00 am……………………………Tour: St. Willebrord Parish RCIA

Thursday……………………………December 19
1:30 pm……………………………Tour: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Staff

Friday……………………………………December 20
12:15 pm……………………………Friday Artist Series

Tuesday……………………………December 24
4:00 pm……………………………Christmas Eve Vigil Mass
9:00 pm……………………………Christmas Mass with Bp. Ricken

Wednesday………………………December 25
9:00 am……………………………Christmas Mass with Bp. Ricken

Friday……………………………………December 27
12:15 pm……………………………Friday Artist Series
7:00 pm……………………………Donald VerKuilen Organ Concert

Saturday…………………………………December 28
6:30 pm……………………………Ecumenical Christmas Walk begins at Grace
………Lutheran & ends at Cathedral with reception in BWC

ECUMENICAL CHRISTMAS WALK
Join us for the sights and sounds of the Christmas Season on Saturday, December 28, as we walk to several area churches to enjoy some Bible readings, seasonal music and decorations. The walk begins at Grace Lutheran Church, 321 S Madison Street at 6:30 pm and ends at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, 140 S Monroe Ave., with a visit and reception to follow in the Bishop Wycislo Center. Non-perishable food donations can be dropped off at Grace Lutheran Church. A bus will be available for anyone who does not want to walk the tour. Those who are taking the bus, please park at Cathedral by 6:15pm.

FEATURED LIGHTHOUSE CD
“Shameless: Seeing Yourself as God Sees You”

As a young adult, Jeff Cavins left the Catholic Church and became a Protestant Pastor for 12 years. After returning to the Catholic Church, Jeff became a nationally known speaker who has helped hundreds of thousands come to a clearer understanding of Scripture and our Faith. In this presentation, Jeff explains the meaning of shame and teaches us how to engage the struggles of the heart.

SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF GOOD HELP
Healing Mass with Fr. Chris Crotty, December 14.
10:00 am Confessions
11:00 am Healing Mass - Intention for all present
12:00 pm Lunch on your own
1:00 pm Adoration and Spiritual Talk
1:30 pm Praying over people
2:30 pm Closing Benediction

Fr. Crotty is a native of San Francisco. He served in the United States Navy as a Hospital Corpsmen during the Persian Gulf War, and joined the Fathers of Mercy in 1995. Fr. Crotty specializes in parish missions and retreats that focus on Inner/Spiritual Healing.

ST. JOHN HOMELESS SHELTER
During this Advent season, we at St. John Homeless Shelter reflect on all the blessings we have received this past year. One of our greatest blessings is our volunteers who are an essential part of our program. We are in constant need of new volunteers to help us with our mission. If you are interested in becoming involved, we have scheduled volunteer orientation meetings on Friday, December 13 at 11 am, Saturday, December 14 at 10 am, and Monday, December 16 at 6 pm. Meetings are about one hour and can help you determine if this ministry is one you might be interested in. For information contact: Jackie Ebert (jebert@sjehs.org) or 436-9344.

Stop in and browse our many religious gifts from beautifully framed prints, to a variety of books for children and adults, to Mystic Monk coffees and saint mugs!
131 S. Madison Street, Green Bay
Hours: Mon - Fri 9:30 am - 5 pm,
Sat 10 am - 4 pm
131 S. Madison Street Green Bay, WI
920-432-0078
“LIKE” us on Facebook. “FOLLOW” us on Twitter.
info@cathedralbookandgift.com

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info@cathedralbookandgift.com
TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST (TEC) RETREAT

Registrations are being accepted for the upcoming TEC retreat on December 27-29, 2013. TEC is designed for Catholics who are at least 16 ½ years old. Forms can be picked up at the Credo Faith Formation Office. Forms should be sent in at least 2 weeks prior to the weekend. Scholarship money is available upon request. Please note: All teens of the parish who meet the age requirement are eligible to attend. Confirmations are highly encouraged to attend as part of one's preparation for Confirmation. For more information go to www.anchorofhopetec.org.

CONFIRMATION PRAYER PARTNERS NEEDED

Confirmation preparation classes have begun in our parish. Parishioners, would you consider being a "prayer partner" for a young man or woman preparing for the sacrament? Simply choose a name from the list below and begin praying specifically for that individual (feel free to choose more than one confirmand to pray for). This may include, offering Masses, holy hours of Eucharistic Adoration, periods of fasting, praying the holy rosary, chaplets, etc. for that confirmand. Students will be preparing from now through May with Confirmation on June 8, 2014. Confirmands: Patrick Atwell, Angela Compton, Gabrielle Barnice, Conal Delaney, Teresa Delaney, Robert Gelhar, Anna Grzelak, Benedikt Janowski, Calvin Kanzenbach, Nate Kola, Alex McDonald, Brian Miller, and Molly O'Neil. Please keep in prayer as well, Confirmation catechist, Miss Maria DeMeuse. Thank you.

STEUBENVILLE CONFERENCE

CALLING ALL TEENS! Join youth from across the Green Bay Diocese, US and Canada for an awesome, energetic, faith-filled weekend full of music, dynamic speakers, Eucharist, service, prayer and worship.

“Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; For the Lord God is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation.” – Isaiah 12:2

WHO: Youth currently in Grades 8-12
WHEN: July 9-16, 2014 (Wednesday morning through the following Wednesday evening)
WHERE: Gwinnett Convention Center
COST: Between $550-$600 (Includes Coach Bus, Housing, Most Meals, Conference Fees, T-shirt)
Check it out: http://lifeteen.com/events/steubenville-atlanta/

***Registration due to the Credo Faith Formation Office by Friday, January 10, 2014

TO REGISTER: Hand in the $100.00 Deposit (Non-Refundable) and Pre-Registration Form To:
Saint Francis Xavier Cathedral Credo Faith Formation Office
Checks payable to: Saint Francis Xavier Cathedral – Steubenville/Atlanta
Fundraising opportunities available

When you die, there are only two options, so you should choose option A, SAINT!"

GRACE SCHOOL SYSTEM

Thinking about providing your child(ren) with a faith-based education, consider a GRACE Catholic school. Financial aid is available for families who qualify. Call the principal of a GRACE school to schedule a meeting and tour. Help with the online registration process and additional information is available at 920-499-7330 x303 or www.gracesystem.org. The GRACE Catholic schools will be closed from December 21-January 1. School offices and classes resume on Thursday, January 2, 2014. Also, consider making a gift to support the GRACE Catholic schools. Send your gift to: GRACE Office, 1087 Kellogg Street, Green Bay, WI 54303. Your gift is tax deductible. We will send you a letter for your records.

DECEMBER 27 ORGAN CONCERT

Friday, December 27, at 7 pm, organist Donald VerKuilen will present a recital at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, 139 S. Madison Street, Green Bay. His program will include selections by Widor, Franck, Langlais, and Vierne. A native of Appleton, Don is a sophomore at Oberlin Conservatory of Music in Ohio, and is the Director of Music Ministries at First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Strongsville, Ohio. A free will offering will be collected to support the St. Francis Xavier Cathedral Music Ministry.