

The Good News

Published on the First Sunday of Every Month

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Fr. William Martin

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Bill Martin, and, on July 1, 2011, I will become St. Richard's Pastor. There are several things you should know about me before I start (many other things will reveal themselves once I am in office). I am 63 years old, and ordained 33 years. I was Associate Pastor at St. Margaret Mary in Golden Valley for the first year-and-a-half, and then went to Christ the King in Southwest Minneapolis for six-and-a-half years. I first became Pastor in 1986 at St. Mary's in Waverly for twelve years. One of the things we did while I was there was to remodel the hundred-year-old church. I'm very grateful that St. Richard's remodel was completed before I got here! After Waverly, I became Pastor of Guardian Angels Parish in Oakdale, where I have been for the past thirteen years. I have loved the people in every place I have been, maybe with a special affection for Guardian Angels, which does not have a crying room, but rather, a Room for Restless Angels, and where those who care for the Parish Food Shelf Garden, which grows thousands of pounds of vegetables for local shelters, food shelves and soup kitchens, are known as Gardening Angels. If the Gospel can

be proclaimed with a sense of humor, I think it may be easier to receive.

You should know that I am a musician (BA in Music-education from St. John's University and Masters work in Composition at the U of M, though I have been decomposing for many years, now.) My major instrument is the organ, but I can also at least produce a tone on the piano, guitar, violin, trombone, percussion instruments and I sing a little. I always wanted to be in a marching band, but my instrument was the pipe organ. You also should know that I am a recovering alcoholic for the last fifteen years. From my perspective, my struggle with drinking has been enormously enriching for my ministry, allowing me to speak to other addicts from experience that other priests don't have. You will also want to know that I have not had any relapses since I finished treatment. I believe that that is the result of taking my recovery program seriously and maintaining a good prayer life, reminding both myself and God that alcoholism is always lurking around and I need all the help I can get. I will also call on all the parishioners of St. Richard's to watch me for any activities or attitudes which might indicate that I might be drinking again or might be headed that direction.

I believe that my job as pastor is to be servant of the servants of God, meaning that I will try to be a good resource to the parish staff and to all members of St. Richard's, so that we might effectively live and proclaim the Gospel we have received. It is our task as disciples of Jesus to become what we eat and to hold Christ up before the world for its salvation. I look forward to entering into the journey with all of you starting on July 1. May God bless you always and hold you close.



This icon of Christ was blessed at the 11:00 a.m. Mass on May 15 for the Communities of Sant'Egidio and Saint Richard.

Pictured from left to right: Dale Schmidt, Richard Oliver, Deb Ryan, Will Howard, Fr. Tom Krenik, Barb Broz, Janet Moore, Annemarie Grether, and Stephanie Seagren.

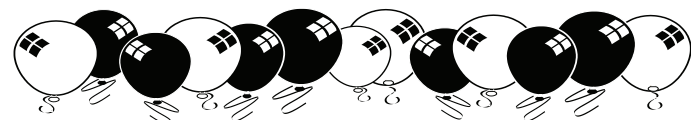
In March, St. Richard's received a check from Catholic United for a Technology Grant.

Pictured from left to right: Lenny and Kathy Woida, Ryan Selleck, Sr. Sue Ernster, and Paul Naumann.



Welcome, New Parishioners:

Ma. Theresa and Claro Magno, Marc & Claire Dawn & Jason Nederhoff
 Mary Ellen Fulton
 Beverly & Francis Marshall
 Ashley Velasco, Isabella
 Sarah & Brian Kummer, Jeremy
 Melissa & Todd Kranz, Lily
 Mia & LauSului Ah Sani, Charles & Savelio
 Missy & Kevin Madigan



Happy Birthday Grace Mary!
 — June 27 —

Your Friends on the Pastoral Care Commission

Thank You, Scouts!

Joe Norby and some fellow Scouts, along with supervisor Paul Kujowski, built shelving on the Social Hall stage and in the back storeroom. This will help us better organize parish and school seasonal items. It was a three-day construction project, after many hours of planning. Thank you so much!

SHARE YOUR GOOD NEWS!

The July edition will be published on Sunday, July 3. If you have Good News to share (an award, graduation, scholarship, birth announcement, birthday or anniversary, etc.), please call the parish office at 612-869-2426, or send an email to secretary@strichards.com.