

# *heartbeat*

The Pulse of Sacred Heart Parish, Moline, Illinois

Issue 1  
February 2015

## **INTRODUCING HEARTBEAT**

**It's a new day at Sacred Heart**

**Food Pantry Ministry Feeds the Soul**

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# INTRODUCING HEARTBEAT

Dear Parishioners,

It is my pleasure to introduce our new Sacred Heart magazine. It will be called Heartbeat. This title harkens back to an old newsletter we had years ago and it also denotes a new day. We are doing a comprehensive overhaul of our communications at Sacred Heart. This is just one facet of changes you will be noticing with our website, bulletin, letters and other materials.

When I think of the many ways communications have changed the last 15 years because of the wider use of the Internet, my head begins to swim. I do not like the constant change. My comfort level has been stretched as I continue to learn about computers, e-mail, smart phones, etc. Whether we like it or not, we must adapt and grow. Even the Pope tweets messages to us.

For several years we have worked with a company called Catholic Stewardship Consultants, located in Georgia, to help us with parts of our communications and stewardship. Last year, before I arrived, it was decided by parish leadership that we would only use limited parts of their services in this fiscal year. They conducted our annual stewardship drive and wrote our newsletter until November. At that time, we



## THEOLOGY OF A LOGO

Sacred Heart's new logo is more than simply a few colors and a font sharing space on a page. It was crafted with purpose and meaning that reflects our parish and mission.

First, the colors represent His Most Sacred Heart (red) and the focal color of the interior of our parish (blue). These colors are also shared by Seton. The gold serves as an accent that illuminates the flame at the top of the Sacred Heart, indicating both our desire that this parish inflame the hearts of its people, as well as our commitment to the work of the Holy Spirit where the flame takes on a dove form.

Rays emitting from the heart represent our mission to take our faith into our community. The wordmark uses a font that is considered to be very "Catholic" in appearance. We hope that you will embrace our new parish logo in its' fullness and join us in celebrating our new parish identity.

ended our contract with them. I appreciate all the hard work that went into introducing the concept of stewardship to our parish community, but now that we have learned many lessons from them, it is time to move in new directions.

We are going to contract with a local company, Mandle Design, Inc., which is led by Christopher Mandle. Chris has a degree in Theology and in graphic design as well as a Masters Degree in Pastoral Theology. His company is starting to work with many parishes in the area. Chris is a member of Sacred Heart in Rock Island. I am excited about what Chris will offer to us. He is readily accessible to us and is very enthusiastic about evangelization. We hope to reach out to our local community so that Sacred Heart can grow and prosper. Chris

and his company have a lot of talents that can help our parish. I am very hopeful about this relationship.

Let us all pray that our new efforts to spread the gospel through our parish media may be successful. Our task is not just to maintain the membership we have, but it is to proclaim the good news to all the world and to grow.

**Blessings,  
Fr. Mark**

# FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY FEEDS THE SOUL

Bob De Jonghe started his working career stocking shelves for his father's grocery store. Little did he know that fifty years later he'd be stocking shelves again.

After having just retired from John Deere in 2000, Bob was looking for something to occupy his time and was set on finding a way to give back to the community via the Church. A long-time friend, Bud Vogel, from St. Mary's Parish in Moline, asked him after Mass one Monday morning if he was interested in helping with the St. Mary's Food Pantry. Bud and his wife, Kay, had been long-time leaders at the food pantry, and their duties included everything from picking up the food, doing the accounting and even handing out food on days when volunteers couldn't be found. It quickly became an eye-opening introduction for Bob. A majority of the patrons were the elderly, or were single mothers who needed help feeding their children. For Bob, it was a community of people in need that he didn't know existed.

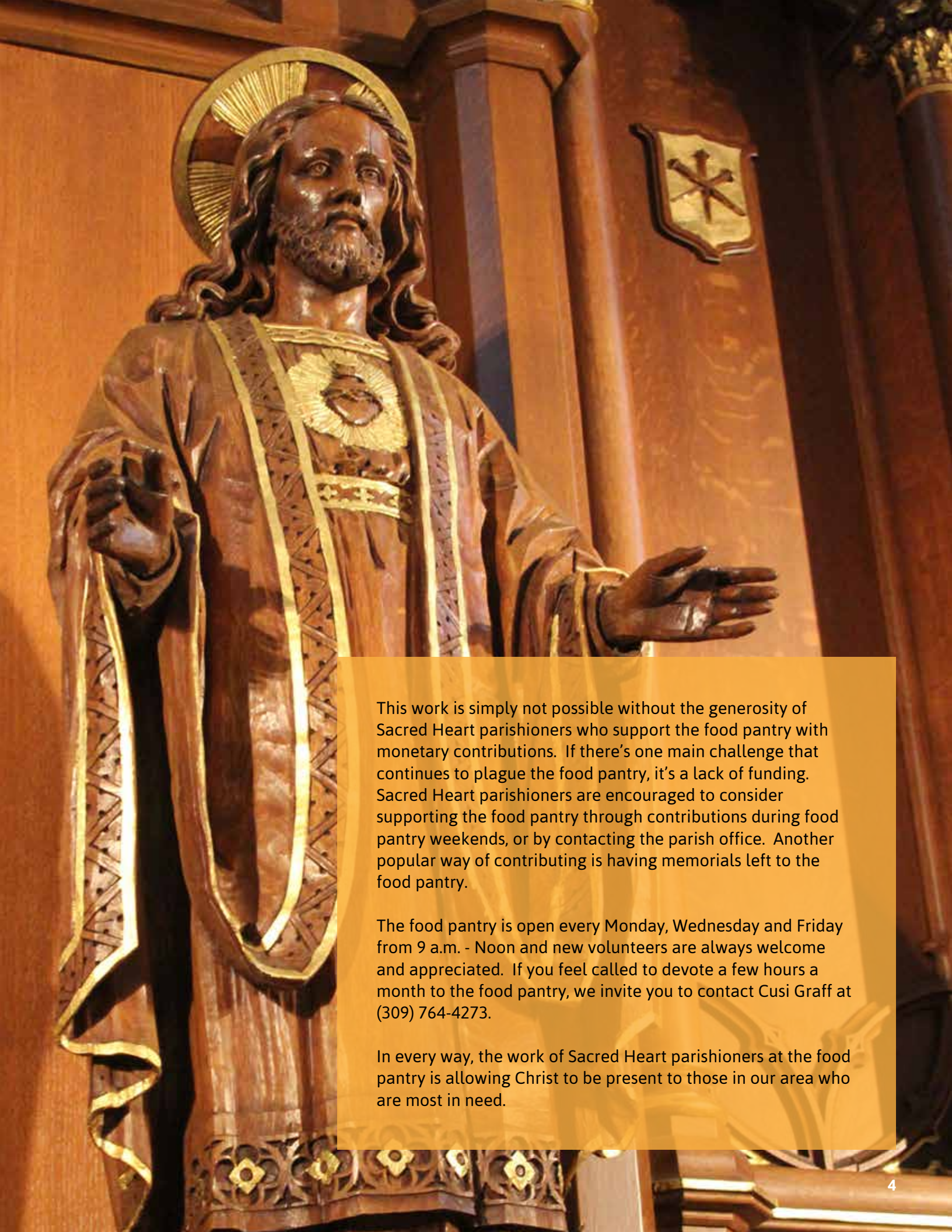
When Bob took over the running of the food pantry he shared with Msgr. Wellman and Sr. Kathleen that the work in the food pantry was truly a ministry. He was concerned that most people were like him when he first got involved in that they had no idea where the food pantry was located, what it took to operate it, nor just how crucial it was to those who came seeking food. Food pantry weekends had already been established on the third Sunday of each month at Sacred Heart and many generous volunteers from the parish serve there.

In time, Bob passed on the operating of the food pantry to Phil and Cusi Graf, who continue to lead it to this day. Cusi, like Bob, quickly recognized a population of both the elderly and single women who were in most need of help. She believes that the food pantry impacts the lives of these people by positioning them to make better decisions for their lives. For the elderly, when money is tight, it may come down to a choice between paying for one's medication or buying food. Knowing that food is available from the food pantry helps them to first take care of medical needs.

Many of the single mothers who come to the food pantry are recently out of abusive relationships. When a decision needs to be made about whether to leave an abusive spouse or boyfriend, there are two immediate needs - a place to stay, and food to feed her and her children. Knowing they can leave bad situations immediately and still be able to feed their children can help these women to create a better situation for themselves.

In many ways, the ongoing work of Sacred Heart volunteers at the food pantry exemplifies the call to invest time in our community as part of a living witness to our faith. The mission of this ministry continues to be the distribution of food to those individuals and families in an effort to meet their basic needs, improve their lives, and help reduce hunger as a whole. The St. Mary's food pantry is the second largest pantry on the Illinois side of the Quad Cities, which equates to feeding about 250 families a month.

*Continued on next page.*



This work is simply not possible without the generosity of Sacred Heart parishioners who support the food pantry with monetary contributions. If there's one main challenge that continues to plague the food pantry, it's a lack of funding. Sacred Heart parishioners are encouraged to consider supporting the food pantry through contributions during food pantry weekends, or by contacting the parish office. Another popular way of contributing is having memorials left to the food pantry.

The food pantry is open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. - Noon and new volunteers are always welcome and appreciated. If you feel called to devote a few hours a month to the food pantry, we invite you to contact Cusi Graff at (309) 764-4273.

In every way, the work of Sacred Heart parishioners at the food pantry is allowing Christ to be present to those in our area who are most in need.



## **POPE FRANCIS MAKES SURPRISE VISIT TO ROME SHANTYTOWN**

Pope Francis made a surprise visit to a shantytown on Rome's outskirts on Sunday, February 8, stunning poor residents, many of them from his native South America.

The Pope was on his way to a parish in the working class Tiburtina area when he asked aides to make a detour to stop at the shantytown he had heard about.

"He got out of the car and people were shocked when they saw him in front of their shacks," said Father Aristide Sana, the pastor of the parish. Father Sana rushed to the shantytown near his parish when he was told about the Pope's visit at the last minute.

Television pictures showed the Pope surrounded by people Father Sana said were mostly from Peru and Ecuador. They rushed out of their shacks made of concrete, wood and corrugated metal.

"How many of you here speak Spanish?" he joked in Spanish.

"Todos! Todos!" (everybody, everybody)," they shouted.



## THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR MORE ON OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

The season of Lent offers us the perfect opportunity to unite with the world's 1.2 billion Catholics and work towards a common goal of preparing ourselves spiritually for the death and Resurrection of Christ.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 18th and there will be distribution of ashes at all Masses. We invite you to join us:

- **6:30 a.m.**
- **8:30 a.m.**
- **10:15 a.m. All School Mass**
- **5:30 p.m.**

During the weeks of Lent we encourage you to join us for Stations of the Cross as part of our Lenten Simple Supper evenings:

- **February 25**
- **March 4**
- **March 11**
- **March 18**
- **March 25**
- **April 1**

This holy season concludes with some of the most beautiful and powerful liturgies of the year. Please join us for Holy Week as we wrap up our Lenten journey:

### **Holy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper**

April 2, 2015 - 7:00 p.m. Mass

### **Good Friday**

April 3, 2015 - 3:00 p.m. Service

### **Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil**

April 4, 2015 - 7:30 p.m.

### **Easter Sunday - The Resurrection of The Lord**

April 5, 2015

7:00 a.m. (No Incense)

9:00 a.m. (Incense)

11:00 a.m. (Incense)

Father Sana, whose parishioners bring food and clothing to the shantytown, said people from Russia, Eritrea, Ukraine and Poland also live in the community of some 150 people. Most of the men work as manual day labourers, he said.

The Pope, who has made concern for the poor a central plank of his papacy, was known as the "slum bishop" in Buenos Aires because of his frequent visits to the city's shantytowns.

*Source: Reuters*



# SACRED HEART

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## HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS

### Mass Times

- Sundays: 7, 9, 11 a.m.
- Saturday Vigil: 4 p.m.
- Daily Masses (M-F): 6:30, 8:30 a.m.
- Saturday Morning: 8:30 a.m.

### Confessions During Lent

Saturday: 2:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.  
and by appointment, call  
762-2362.

### Eucharistic Adoration During Lent (St. Francis Chapel)

- Wednesday: 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- First Friday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

