




Sacred Heart

Catholic Church

July 2014

Meet Our Parish Receptionist

Kate Schaefer

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An Introduction

Proverbs 15:17 tells us that it is better to share "a bowl of vegetables with someone you love than steak with someone you hate." Sacred Heart Parish receptionist Kate Schaefer says these words have provided her with inspiration since they served as her senior quote during her high school days. Now, as a new member of our parish office staff, that verse has stayed with Kate as she goes about her daily tasks.

"Working here has allowed me to spend more time in prayer – not only when I am listing sacraments, but also in the little joys of assisting the parishioners with any questions or needs they may have," Kate says. "I will take a moment

to say a quick prayer of thanks or ask for God's blessings in their lives."

While every workday brings something new to the Sacred Heart parish office, a typical day for Kate also consists of answering phones, assisting other staff with their various projects, and compiling the hospital list to pass on to the Pastoral Care Committee and our pastor. Other key duties include recording recent sacrament completions in the record books – a task that Kate says provides her with an opportunity to reflect and pray for those whose information she is handling.

"My favorite part of the job is the people!" she says. "I love the atmosphere here."



Prior to joining our staff, Kate served as a stay-at-home mom for 15 years to her daughters, Ami and Megan. She then worked as a substitute for administrative assistants in the Moline School District. Her most recent position was serving for two years as a school district computer lab manager.

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STEWARDSHIP

A Need to Give

When the church needs a new roof or the local food bank needs donations, we jump at the chance to give for the sake of the need. It's part of our human nature — we identify a need, and we want to give of our time, talent and treasure to help.

But as a stewardship people, we are called to give of ourselves not simply because the Church has needs, but because each of us has *a need to give*. As the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops states in its pastoral letter on stewardship, *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*, "We need to give our money to individuals and families in need, to the Church, and to other worthwhile charitable organizations because giving money is good for the soul and because we need to return thanks to a loving God for all of the many blessings each of us has received" (*Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*, 67).

As fellow members of the Body of Christ, created in God's image, we should strive to go beyond simply co-existing with one another on earth. The life we live should be fueled by love for each other. This love should dictate how we live — by giving of ourselves.

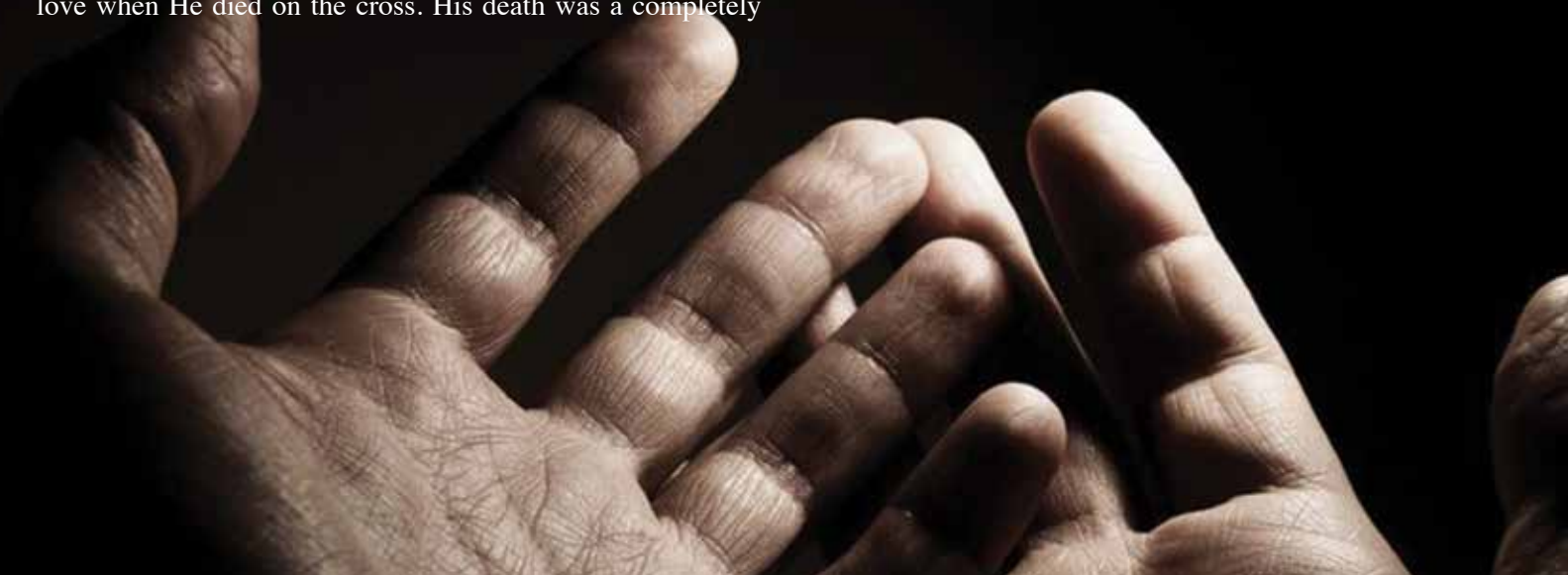
Jesus Christ showed us the perfect example of this self-giving love when He died on the cross. His death was a completely

selfless act. He gave of Himself for our sake, offering us — through that gift — life everlasting.

As Christ's disciples, we follow His example, and we give of ourselves for the sake of others, out of love and an inherent need to give.

That's not to say that we gain nothing through our gifts. In fact, in His goodness, God sees to it that we do. Most of us have experienced what happens when we give of our time, talent or treasure. We feel as though we get more out of it than we give. If you speak to someone who serves at the soup kitchen or someone who has made it a regular practice to tithe to the Church, you are likely to find that he or she feels blessed to be able to give. As the U.S. Bishops point out, "To be a Christian disciple is a rewarding way of life, a way of companionship with Jesus, and the practice of stewardship as a part of it is itself a source of deep joy. Those who live this way are happy people who have found the meaning and purpose of living" (*Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*, 21).

Find out for yourself. Get involved in a ministry. Make a commitment to put some money in the collection basket next Sunday. Don't wait to find out if there is a need — give of yourself right now. You will be richly blessed for doing so.



A Letter From Our Pastor

I Look Forward to Serving You

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Iwould like to take this opportunity to begin to introduce myself to you. I am Fr. Mark DeSutter, your new pastor. I know you are probably asking the question, “Who is this guy?” You will gradually get to know me in the months ahead.

I have been a priest for 32 years. I grew up in Kewanee, Ill. My name is a Belgian name. My parents and grandparents all shared that nationality. I have one sister who lives in Quincy, Ill. Her name is Josephine. She is married and has three children. That is some rudimentary information. I will try to tell you more in the days ahead, but it is only through our interactions over time that we really get to know each other.

I look forward to serving the people of Sacred Heart. I have been stationed in the Quad Cities before. I was an assistant at St. Pius X in Rock Island from 1982 to 1985. That was my first assignment. I had a lot more hair back then and weighed



a few less pounds, but I remember that time with fondness.

Please be patient with me as I take up my priestly responsibilities here in Moline. Transition is always stressful for everyone. My pastoral task at this time is to learn as much about the parish and its ministries as I can. This will take a while. I know that Sacred Heart has always had

a great reputation and your former priests have enjoyed serving here.

I would like to thank Msgr. Wellman for his kind assistance during these past days of adjustment for me. He has been a compassionate presence during the last decade or so in this parish. I hope that he will continue to be involved, and I am comforted to know that he is only a phone call away. I am happy that Fr. Sebastian Tumusiime will be a full-time assistant at our parish in the upcoming year. Please pray for the three of us as we work through the details of getting things arranged while we also adjust to our responsibilities.

I look forward to worshipping with you and serving you. I pray the Holy Spirit will guide us all as we seek to be the church Jesus calls us to be.

Blessings,



Fr. Mark DeSutter

I know that Sacred Heart has always had a great reputation and your former priests have enjoyed serving here.



Social Committee Sponsors Annual Trip to Baseball Game

Part of being a member of a parish is getting to know the other members of the parish family, and in turn becoming more of a part of that family ourselves. There are many ways to do this — joining a new ministry, visiting with other parishioners after Mass, volunteering for parish functions. But one of the best times to get to know people is when they are having fun. One such opportunity is coming up this month – the Sacred Heart Parish Social Committee’s annual trip to Woodman Park for a Quad City River Bandits baseball game.

“Maybe you see the same people at the same Mass every weekend, and you just wave and don’t know their name,” says Peggy Bruce, chair of the Baseball Game event and member of the Social Committee. “At the ball game, maybe you will sit next to someone that you don’t know. This gives you the chance to get to know them on a more personal level. So maybe next time you do see them in church, you can talk to them and visit with them.”

The Social Committee has planned parish group trips to these annual baseball games for the last five years. This year, participants will see the River Bandits take on the Lake County Captains at 5 p.m. on Sunday, July 20.

“One of our teachers from Seton School made a Sacred Heart banner, and when they call our name, we will all stand up and raise our banner so everyone at the ball game can see it,” Peggy says.

Last year, the group included around 110 people, and this year the Social Committee has 100 tickets, which they will be selling after the Masses on July 12, 13, 19 and 20, with the tickets costing \$8 each. If anyone who purchases a ticket cannot attend the game for any reason, they can exchange their ticket within one week of the date of the game for a ticket to another home game.

Participating in parish social events like this one is not only fun, but it also gives us a chance to get to know the people in our parish community.

“When I was going to Sacred Heart Church all the time, I didn’t know too many people,” Peggy says. “The way to get to know people is to join a committee. When I joined the Social Committee that gave me the opportunity to meet people in the parish.”

And when we take advantage of that opportunity, it often fosters a closer relationship to our Sacred Heart parish family.

“The more social activities you go to, you feel like you’re more a part of the parish,” Peggy says.

For more information about the Baseball Game or the Social Committee, please call Peggy Bruce at 309-762-4262.



"A PURE GIFT": *Becoming a Catechist at Sacred Heart*



Celebrating with this year's First Communion candidates are: (back row, from left) Deacon Patrick Murphy, Fr. Dustin Schultz, Msgr. Dale Wellman, Fr. Chris Hooke, Seton Teachers Becky Morrissey and Julie Ivory, Director of Religious Education Mary-Ellen Pfeiffer and catechist Julie Hernandez.

You may have previously heard the word “catechist” mentioned in our church. Perhaps you’ve even thought about becoming one. But what does it mean to be a catechist?

Pope Francis put it best in his Address to the Participants in the Pilgrimage of the Catechists: “The heart of the catechist receives the gift of the kerygma (a Greek word for “preaching” used in the New Testament), and in turn offers it to others as a gift. What a little word: ‘gift’! The catechist is conscious of having received a gift, the gift of faith, and he or she then gives that gift in turn to others. This is something beautiful. We don’t keep a percentage for ourselves. Whatever we receive, we give! It is pure gift: a gift received and a gift given.”

Director of Religious Education Mary-Ellen Pfeiffer notes the importance of what this “pure gift” can mean to the people of Sacred Heart.

“Within Catholicism, every baptized Catholic is personally called by the Holy Spirit to build up the kingdom of God,” she says. “So, it is often said that simply by virtue of baptism, everyone is a catechist.”

At Sacred Heart, certified catechists fill the role of instructors for the Religious Education program, serving children in pre-kindergarten through the eighth grade. Necessary coursework is completed through classes taught via correspondence by Christendom College in Front Royal, Va., and offered by the Diocese of Peoria. During these self-paced classes, candidates learn doctrine as well as teaching practices and approaches. Professors from Christendom College monitor the coursework, while offering feedback and advice. With a commitment to teach for two years, the candidates’ coursework is paid for by the parish and the diocese.

“The role of the catechist is multi-faceted,” Mary-Ellen says. “They proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ. They have to do that in an age-appropriate, formative way, understanding that only God can transform the hearts and souls of individuals. They have to lead others to prayer and worship through a deep personal spiritual life, setting the example and recognizing the unique relationship God has with each individual.”

As Mary-Ellen states, any baptized Catholic is called to serve as a catechist – and for this specific role, she notes that potential catechists should have also completed the sacraments of the Eucharist and Confirmation.

“However, with that said, not having those sacraments completed does not preclude someone from beginning the process of becoming a catechist,” she adds. “There are different positions within the Religious Education program, and the setting provides a perfect background for someone seeking to enhance their own spiritual development as well.”

Mary-Ellen emphasizes that the parish “can never have too many catechists.”

“If anyone feels called to serve the children, youth or adults of the parish, specifically as a catechist, please call and talk with us,” she says. “We would love to have a conversation with you.”

For more information on becoming a catechist, contact the parish office or Mary-Ellen Pfeiffer at 309-762-2362, or at mary.ellen.pfeiffer@sacredheartmoline.org. Staff members will then discuss with the candidate what age group would be a good fit for that individual.



St. Christopher



*St. Joseph of
Cupertino*



*St. Brendan the
Navigator*



*St. Adjutor
of Vernon*

“Summertime” Saints

School is out, and summer is now in full swing. The days are longer, warmer and filled with plenty of fun summertime activities.

This summer, as we take family vacations, get together for barbecues, spend time by the pool, and enjoy all of the usual summertime activities, we can also take the time to reflect on some of the saints who are associated with the summer.

Family vacations are perhaps the most iconic of all summertime activities. Although there is no patron saint of vacations, there are a number of saints associated with traveling. One of the most popular is St. Christopher. According to his story, St. Christopher was an extremely tall and strong man who served Christ by helping people cross an especially dangerous river. That is why many people wear St. Christopher medals while traveling — to ask for his blessing and protection.

For those of us who are taking road trips this summer, there is St. Frances of Rome, the patron saint of cars and drivers. While St. Frances died well before cars were invented, her story says that her guardian angel went ahead of her when she traveled at night and lit the road with a lantern to keep St. Frances safe.

There are also saints we can look to when traveling by plane. St. Joseph of Cupertino was a Franciscan friar who is said to have frequently and miraculously levitated off the ground during intense prayer sessions. Because of this levitation, he is recognized as the patron saint of air travelers. St. Therese of Lisieux is also associated with aviators and flying.

If you are going on a cruise this summer, you can ask for the intercession of St. Brendan the Navigator, an Irish monk who founded the Clonfert monastery and monastic school, and is the patron saint of mariners and sailors. He and his brothers sailed the Atlantic Ocean and evangelized on a number of islands, and may have even reached the Americas.

Another favorite summer activity is swimming. Whether you choose a pool, a river, a lake or the ocean, seek the intercession of St. Adjutor of Vernon, a knight who was captured in the First Crusade. His captors tried to force him to give up his faith, but St. Adjutor escaped by swimming to his freedom. For this reason, he is the patron saint against drowning, drowning victims, sailors and swimmers.

The summer is also a time of amusement and enjoyment. One of the biggest national celebrations of the summer is the Fourth of July. For this type of summertime activity, we look to St. Barbara, the patron saint of fireworks.

There are also a number of saints with feast days during the summer. The feast day of St. Anne, the mother of Mary and grandmother of Jesus, is celebrated on July 26. July 31 is the feast day of St. Ignatius of Loyola, who is also associated with stewardship. These are just two of the many saints whose feasts we celebrate this summer.

No matter what kinds of activities we choose to do during the summertime, let us remember to honor the saints who have gone before us, and give their intercession for us as we walk through our own journeys of faith.

Sacred Heart Church Estate Planning: *An Introduction* By Bill Laird

A note to our parishioners: This article series was originally published in our bulletins, and the articles can also be found on our parish website. However, we feel this information is important enough that we would like to share it in our parish newsletter, as well. Thank you for reading!

This is the first in a series of articles to be published in the newsletter on estate planning for the benefit of our parishioners. These articles are not intended to be a guide for the Do-It-Yourselfer; rather their purpose is to assist you when discussing estate planning with your attorney, accountant, insurance agent, financial planner or other professional adviser. Let us begin with answering the question, “What is estate planning?”

Estate planning is the process of anticipating and arranging for the systematic disposal of an individual’s property (estate) upon their death. It also includes planning for property management in the event one becomes incapacitated or disabled during their lifetime. There are many estate planning tools or devices that may be utilized to accomplish this. These devices include such things as preparing a will, durable powers of attorney for health care and property, living wills and trusts. Additional tools may include holding property jointly with others such as in joint tenancy, tenants in common, tenancy by

the entireties, POD (payable on death) and designating beneficiaries.

Other considerations may involve how to avoid probate. Should I create a revocable or irrevocable living trust? Will the state take my property if I die without a will? Will I have to pay inheritance or estate taxes and, if so, can I avoid or reduce the amount I have to pay? What are the costs to have a professional prepare documents and advise me as to my estate planning? Who will take care of my children if I’m no longer around? What are guardianships and conservatorships? How can I use life insurance as a part of my estate planning? What do financial planners do? What is the roll of an attorney in this process?

It should be noted that each state has its own statutes that govern how property is distributed or transferred upon death, including who are the decedent’s heirs, what share lineal descendants or ancestors will take, and the amount of inheritance taxes, if any, each may have to pay. We will focus our discussions on the laws of the State of Illinois. Lastly, we will also explore such matters as small estate administration, probate, will contests, incapacity, undue influence and disclaimers.

So stay tuned. These questions and more will be explored in upcoming articles.

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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

Saturday: 3 to 4 p.m.
and by appointment, call 762-2362

Eucharistic Adoration (St. Francis Chapel)

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



Kate Schaefer *continued from front cover*

“While I love it here, I do miss seeing my students every day,” Kate says.

So what is life like for Kate when she’s not at work? Married to her husband, Phil, for 23 years, the family relocated from Champaign, Ill., via Rockford 17 years ago. Ami, 20, will be a junior at Iowa State University, while Megan, 19 just finished her freshman year at the University of Illinois. As a parishioner at Christ the King, Kate – along with Phil and Megan – sings with the Glory Ensemble each week at the 11:30 a.m. Mass.

Kate says her hobbies include gardening, card making, and boating with her family. A car enthusiast at heart, she says she also enjoys taking the family’s Ford Mustangs to car cruise-ins and watching NASCAR.

“I also love to spend time walking my dogs and love meeting friends for coffee,” she says.

“Working here has allowed me to spend more time in prayer – not only when I am listing sacraments, but also in the little joys of assisting the parishioners with any questions or needs they may have. I will take a moment to say a quick prayer of thanks and/or ask for God’s blessings in their lives.”

– Kate Schaefer