

JESUS CHRIST,

PRINCE OF PEACE CATHOLIC CHURCH



A Letter From Our Pastor

Virtues Guide the Wise Steward

Dear Parishioners,

Have you thought about virtue recently – really thought about it? Most of the time what’s presented to us, either on the big screen or television, emphasizes sin and vice.

But St. Paul wrote, “Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things” (Phil 4:8). Those are the things we Christians should concentrate on, for they are the source of virtue.

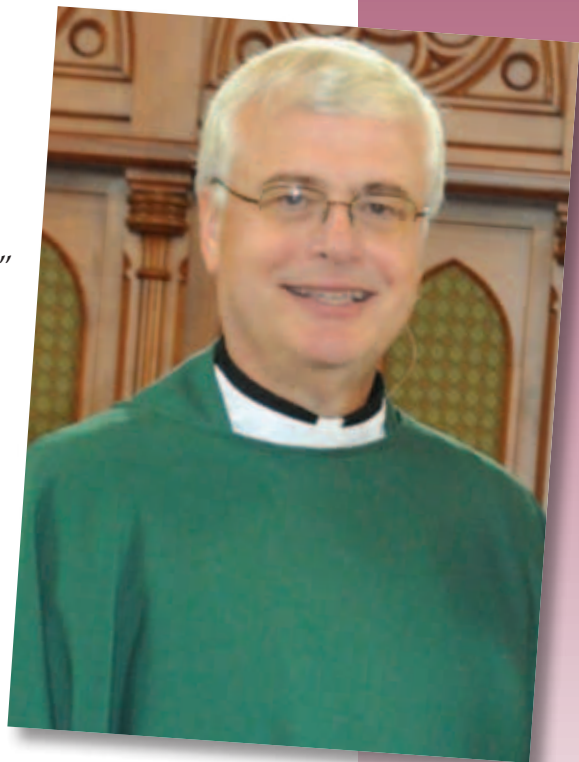
We frequently hear about faith, hope, and charity or love – the theological virtues mentioned at the end of 1 Corinthians 13 and elsewhere in the New Testament. They are, as the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* tells us, “the foundation of Christian moral activity” (1813).

We hear less often about what the *Catechism* terms the human virtues, which are also important for how we live. “Human virtues are firm attitudes... that guide our

conduct according to reason and faith. They make possible ease, self-mastery, and joy in leading a morally good life” (1804).

Chief among the human virtues are what are called the “cardinal virtues.” Enumerated first by Plato, they were widely accepted by the pagan philosophers of classical antiquity. But they form part of our own religious heritage as well and are even listed in Sacred Scripture (Wisdom 8:7).

And what are the cardinal virtues? First, prudence helps us “discern our true



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Finance & Administration: *New Fiscal Year*

The 2012 fiscal year (July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012) operating budget is a faith-filled document that reflects our Parish mission plan and ministry goals for the coming year. This year's budget (next page) recognizes that even though we all may face challenges, our belief is that our Almighty God has not forsaken us. As stewards of God's abundant gifts, we act in faith, not fear. With this in mind, our new operating budget reflects:

- A 13% increase in stewardship of treasure (envelope giving) to attain a balanced budget;
- No increase in wages this year for Parish staff;
- No reduction of staff, services, programs or ministries;
- An increase in Catholic school subsidy of \$29,730 (6.25%) to fund tuition-free kindergarten for Parish families attending Prince of Peace Catholic School;
- A 5% increase for anticipated property insurance and utility expenses;
- Realistic budget expenses based on most recent history;
- Bequests and memorials are not included in our operating budget.

Without a doubt, if each parish household was committed to returning 5% of their household income in gratitude to God through the parish offertory, Prince of Peace would be able to go even further in helping all parishioners live out their Baptismal call and grow in their relationship with Christ. As St. Paul tells us:

"Brothers and sisters, Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each must do as already determined, without sadness or compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

Moreover, God is able to make every grace abundant for you, so that in all things, always having all you need, you may have an abundance for every good work." — 2 Cor. 9: 6-8

YEAR IN REVIEW

Below is a recap of several highlights during the past fiscal year (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011):

Blessings from Bequests:

✠ Our Parish community was blessed by Kathryn Purcell and Clair Adams who remembered our Parish in their wills. A gift from Kathryn's estate and a residual remainder from Clair's estate totaled \$36,793 and were received last fiscal year. As you may recall two years ago, Clair Adams bequeathed \$1,473,017 to the Parish, of which \$1,196,115 was used to pay off the mortgage of the new church.

Capital Improvement Account

✠ Our Parish Finance Council set aside \$115,000 of savings to invest in a long-term capital improvement fund for the new church. Those funds will be restricted for the use of any major capital improvements (new carpeting, repainting the exterior, HVAC replacement, etc.) that may be needed in the future. Any additional monies received from the Building Peace capital campaign will be added to the capital improvement account.

Diocesan Capital Campaign

✠ Thanks to Parish families who made payments on pledges of \$675,874, the Parish received \$47,083 last fiscal year which equals the 20% refund as promised in the Diocese Capital Campaign. Thank you!

Prince of Peace Catholic School

✠ Dialogue with Finance Council, Pastoral Council and School Board began to better define the relationship between Prince of Peace Parish and Prince of Peace School that hopefully will build a stronger Parish school.

St. Boniface Church

✠ On June 10, 2011, Bishop Martin Amos signed a Corporate Resolution authorizing the transfer of the St. Boniface church over to a newly established non-profit organization called The Catholic Historic Center at St. Boniface. The mission of the Historic Center is to create an educational museum of the history of the former Clinton Catholic parishes and institutions. Transfer of the church property was completed July 25, 2011.

Annual Year Operating Budget Highlights

	Previous Budget (July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011)		New Budget (July 1, 2011– June 30, 2012)
<u>INCOME</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>NEW BUDGET</u>
Envelope/Offertory Gifts	\$ 967,053	\$ 878,726	\$ 985,550
Miscellaneous Ordinary Income	14,726	11,995	6,870
Auxiliary Income (utility & insurance refunds)	6,145	24,524	2,100
Building Fund/Development/Campaign	62,009	48,667	78,500
Interest/Dividends/Rent/Organizations	3,000	7,369	5,100
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,054,933	\$ 971,281 *	\$1,078,120
<u>EXPENSE</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>NEW BUDGET</u>
Priest Wages (2 priests)	\$ 60,445	\$ 60,281	\$ 61,340
Admin Staff Wages (2 full-time/4 part-time)	111,364	111,946	111,950
Custodial Wages (2 part-time)	16,708	15,534	15,535
Employer Tax Expense	14,773	14,699	14,750
Employee Insurance/Benefits	11,017	10,870	10,870
Priest Accountable Plan	13,000	2,245	13,000
Priest Continuing Education	3,000	1,810	3,000
Priest Aid Insurance	11,880	10,800	11,550
Priest Aid Retirement	9,810	9,339	9,555
Hospitality	725	143	5,000
Supplies	8,954	12,100	12,000
Equipment Maintenance/Repair	488	2,011	1,000
Continuing Education/Materials	1,150	565	650
Public Relations/Other	740	368	600
Extra Priest Services	625	100	200
Utilities	40,986	34,436	36,160
Telephones/DSL/Internet	5,928	4,978	5,100
Postage	7,143	7,873	8,000
Custodial Supplies	3,111	2,513	2,700
Contracted Services	11,522	12,533	13,000
Technology/Computer Expense	900	1,685	1,600
Diocesan Insurance Fund	39,904	30,751	32,290
Professional Fees		1,288	1,200
Building Maintenance & Repairs	6,538	8,582	8,500
Annual Diocesan Appeal Expense		10,497	
Catholic Messenger Expense		2,327	
Transportation/Travel	1,983	2,071	2,200
Prince of Peace Parish School (pre-K-12) Subsidy	476,000	476,000	505,730
Stewardship/Development Costs	63,763	55,979	56,000
Furnishings		644	
Church Life Expense		830	1,150
Family Life Expenses	3,383	2,023	1,050
Faith Formation Wages(1 full-time/4 part-time)	75,712	76,696	76,700
Faith Formation Expenses	12,870	9,913	11,600
Social Action (does not include charities)			500
Liturgy Wages (1 part-time/5 stipend musicians)	23,267	24,464	24,460
Liturgy Expenses	17,244	17,952	19,180
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,054,933	\$1,036,846 *	\$1,078,120
NET OPERATING (LOSS)		(\$ 65,565)	

* Bequests of \$36,793 from Kathryn Purcell and Clair Adams, memorials of \$8,034, diocesan campaign refunds of \$47,083, Building Peace gifts of \$19,655 and extraordinary repair expenses of \$168,804 are not included above.

Please remember Prince of Peace Parish in your will and estate plans.
Thank you for your gifts of treasure!



Prince of Peace

Principal: Nancy Peart

Number of Faculty:

- 27 professional staff
- 14 support staff
- 44 percent of professional staff hold a master's degree or higher
- Teachers average 16 years of teaching experience

Enrollment:

- K-12: 220
- Families served: 136
- 13 percent minority students
- Average class size is 17 students
- Students come from Clinton, Camanche, East Central, and Northeast School Districts in Iowa and Fulton, Albany, Morrison, Thomson, and Mt. Carroll, Illinois



Accomplishments

Test Scores:

2010 Iowa Test of Basic Skills (grades 1-8) and Iowa Test of Educational Development (grades 9-12)

Grade Level	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Equivalency	1.8	2.6	4.0	5.3	6.8	7.9	9.3	13+	13+	13+	13+	13+

Average ACT Scores for 2010

Prince of Peace School	State of Iowa	Nation
22.5	22.2	21.0

Twenty-two students in the Class of 2011

- 100 percent graduation rate
- 100 percent of graduates will be attending college in the fall
- Graduates were awarded over \$138,000 in scholarships

Prince of Peace Catholic High School is ranked 12th in the top 50 of the Advanced Placement (AP) State Index.

Catholic School

Faith:

Grades 6-12 donated over 6,000 hours of service.
Student led fundraisers for our Sister Parish in Sapallica, Peru, the Love Squad (Student Right to Life Group), and the Holy Childhood Association (K-eighth grades).

- School Masses
- Senior Day of Reflection
- The Living Rosary
- Semester Reconciliation Services
- Living Stations of the Cross
- Advent Prayer Services
- Holy Thursday – Day of Reflection
- Catholic Schools Week Activities
- Holy Hour for Vocations

Extracurricular:

- Girls' Cross Country Team Qualified for the State Tournament – Team finished fourth in Class 1A; Audrey Griffin finished sixth, Katie Isenhour finished 14th, Jackie Kokjohn finished 19th.
- Boys' Cross Country Team Qualified for the State Tournament – Team finished eighth in Class 1A; Sigurd Hynne finished 14th .
- Boys' basketball team became champion of the Big East Conference and qualified for the Sub-State.
- Eric Sikkema qualified for Golf State and finished third
- Members of the girls' track team qualified for the state tournament in six events.
- Two theatrical performances: *Diary of Anne Frank* and *Godspell, Jr.*
- Gerry Murphy, Varsity Boys' basketball coach, is named Big East Coach of the Year.
- Emily Gardner and Keaton Fuller were selected to attend the All-State Speech Festival Large Group after receiving three "I" ratings as well as a recommendation of "Outstanding" for their performance.



Join the Ranks and Honor the Dignity of Life in October

All Catholics are summoned to action, yet not all respond.

In his homily at the Papal Mass held at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York in April 2008, Pope Benedict XVI asked all Catholics to respond when he said: "The Church ... is called to proclaim the gift of life, to serve life, and to promote a culture of life. ... This is the message of hope we are called to proclaim and embody in a world where self-centeredness, greed, violence, and cynicism so often seem to choke the fragile growth of grace in people's hearts."

October is Respect Life Month. Respect Life Sunday, as designated by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, is celebrated each year on the first Sunday of October.

In light of the looming culture of death, Pope Benedict XVI continues to summon all Catholics to action, just as his predecessor Pope John Paul II did during his papacy. In an apostolic exhortation titled *The Church in America*, Pope John Paul II described the "stamp of the culture of death," present within American society. The "powerless" are the unborn, helpless victims of abortion; the elderly and the ill, subjected to euthanasia; the marginalized of society, and victims of the death penalty... Faced with this distressing reality, the Church community intends to commit itself all the more to the defense of the culture of life."

The call is clear, the stakes are set, and Christ's army is currently engaged in battle. As parishioners and members of the holy Catholic Church, we all are among the ranks.

Respect Life Month is the perfect time to prayerfully examine our consciences in light of these issues, which directly violate the dignity of the human person. This includes not only the evil of abortion, but also euthanasia, stem cell research, capital punishment, and contraception, all of which are vital contributors to the pervasive culture of death.

Ask yourself: Do I, in my personal, day-to-day choices, respect life? If so, do I boldly proclaim this belief or merely stand idle? Do I exercise my right to vote and support candidates who promote a culture of life? Am I known within my home, family, and/or workplace as someone that respects life?

As with every movement of a Christian heart towards goodness, it is imperative that our efforts issue forth from a prayerful foundation. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, we will receive the zeal necessary to promote the sanctity of human life, even in the face of suffering.

During the month of October, please pray for a revitalization of the culture of life. Every night, as a family, meditate on the prayer from John Paul II's encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*. As you pray, allow the Holy Spirit to fill you with apostolic boldness; ask the Lord to guide your heart towards ways in which you – personally – can contribute to the culture of life.

The call is clear, the stakes are set, and all Catholics are summoned to action. How will you respond?

Pope John Paul II's Prayer for the Revitalization of the Culture of Life

O Mary,
bright dawn of the new world,
Mother of the living,
to you do we entrust the cause of life:
Look down, O Mother,
upon the vast numbers of babies not allowed to be born,
of the poor whose lives are made difficult,
of men and women who are victims of brutal violence,
of the elderly and the sick
killed by indifference or out of misguided mercy.
Grant that all who believe in your Son
may proclaim the Gospel of life
with honesty and love to the people of our time.
Obtain for them the grace
to accept that Gospel as a gift ever new,
the joy of celebrating it with gratitude
throughout their lives and
the courage to bear witness to it
resolutely, in order to build,
together with all people of good will,
the civilization of truth and love,
to the praise and glory of God,
the Creator and lover of life.
—Pope John Paul II, *Evangelium Vitae*

Stewardship: The Four Pillars

You've heard about the three Ts of stewardship, but what about the four Ps?

The three Ts — time, talent and treasure — describe the personal gifts we offer to the Church. The four Ps are the “four pillars” of parish stewardship described by the renowned pastor Msgr. Thomas McGread. They are the hallmark of a stewardship parish: hospitality, prayer, formation, and service. Let's take a look at each of them to understand how we can improve in each area.

Hospitality Christian Kindness

“When I was a stranger, you welcomed me” (Matthew 25:35). The Gospel teaches that whenever we welcome the least of our brothers or sisters, we welcome Christ himself. That is why the first mark of a stewardship parish is hospitality. Being friendly is one of the first ways we can be Christ-like toward others.

Modern Catholic parishes are often so large and have so many Masses that many parishioners don't know one another. To create a sense of community, be sure to smile and greet others as you enter and exit the Church. Let's try harder than ever to be a welcoming community.

Prayer Heart-to-Heart with God

“Do not become so involved in the work of the Lord that you forget the Lord of the work,” a seminary professor once taught. In other words, don't get so caught up with parish projects and outreach efforts that you forget to draw aside to spend time with God in prayer. Every great saint has taught that prayer is the most essential component in the life of the Christian. Through prayer, we nurture our most important relationship — the one that will last for all eternity.

A healthy prayer life should include communal prayer such as Mass, as well as personal prayer and family prayer. The two biggest obstacles to prayer are lack of time and lack

of understanding of how to pray. We have to schedule time for prayer just as we would for an important appointment. And we have to learn how to pray from other people. Many saints have written spiritual books that describe different methods of prayer.

Formation Continuous Conversion

Pope John Paul II always emphasized ongoing conversion. From childhood through adulthood, our whole life must be a process of drawing closer to God. He never stops calling us forward to learn more and to examine ourselves more deeply.

Very often our society values material things more than interior virtues. But as personal experience shows, when we finally acquire the car or house or “toy” that we wanted so badly, it doesn't really satisfy. On the other hand, we don't tend to desire spiritual virtues with the same kind of longing, but when we actually have them, we find them far more rewarding than material things.

Service Love in Action

“Amen I say to you, whatever you did to the least of my brothers, you did it to me” (Matthew 25:40). This scripture was one of Mother Teresa's favorites. Each time she picked up a poor and hungry child, she knew she was ministering to Christ. While we may not view ourselves as saints, we too are called to such heroic service right within our own community. As Mother Teresa said, “To be a saint is not the privilege of a few, but the duty of everyone.”

We have many service opportunities right here within our own parish. If you have the willingness to serve and take the initiative to find where you are needed, you'll find that there is no end to the families and individuals who truly need help. How can you reach out to them in love?

A Year at a Glance

Prince of Peace Parish (July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011)

Statistics

New Families	47
Total number of Families	1,685
Total number of Members	4,467

Sacraments

Baptisms	38
Professions of Faith	2
First Communions	42
Confirmations	46
Marriages	17
Funerals	47



Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace Catholic Church

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Mass Schedule

Saturday, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Virtues Guide the Wise Steward *continued from front cover*

good...and choose the right means of achieving it" (1806). Justice consists in the "firm will to give their due to God and neighbor" (1807). Fortitude "ensures firmness in difficulties and constancy in the pursuit of the good" (1808). Temperance "provides balance in the use of created goods" (1809).

How do we acquire these virtues? "By education, by deliberate acts and by a perseverance ever-renewed in repeated efforts," but also "purified and elevated by divine grace." It takes both our own effort and the Lord's assistance to develop the virtues. "With God's help, they forge character and give facility in the practice of the good" (1810).

When you think about it, the virtues are basic qualities for a good steward. Prudence, justice, for-

itude, and temperance are needed so we can make wise decisions about our commitments of time, talent, and treasure and so we can keep those commitments. "The virtuous person...pursues the good and chooses it in concrete actions" (1803). Is that not being a wise steward?

Fr. Ken Kuntz
Pastor