



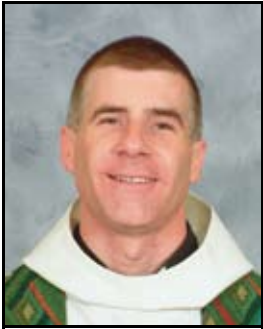
# GESU NEWS & VIEWS

Highlights of Parish, School and Alumni Happenings

Winter 2011

Vol. 3 Issue 1

## From the Pastor's Desk...



St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits and the first pastor of our Mother Church in Rome, never intended to become a saint. Ignatius' spiritual desires were much more realistic. His heart yearned to be a pilgrim; a person who journeys through life in prayer and service. A pilgrim realizes and lives in the grace of the present moment.

St. Ignatius held a bold spiritual vision. He believed that prayer was not simply a set of prescribed meditations but holiness was action. St. Ignatius often described a pilgrim as a contemplative in action. A prayerful stance towards all of life and things. Jesuit spirituality holds that the world can be a vehicle of grace; a spirituality that is embodied in the journey and our humanity. To grow in holiness is to be available to Christ within our present life.

When St. Ignatius of Loyola commissioned the first Gesu in the heart of Rome, he envisioned a parish that would encourage people from all walks of life to reach holiness in their neighborhood, city, and community. Prayer and Eucharist set people on fire for service. Our Gesu continues the way of a humble pilgrim by our attentiveness to service and the world.

Today, Gesu is in transition. We are invited into the future with hearts set on fire by the Eucharist, Ministry, and the Spiritual Exercises. A true Jesuit institution must always be grounded in the world, reality, and the future. In a two year study and consultations with Jesuit and ecclesial leadership, we need to prepare our buildings and infrastructure to meet the demands of our ever changing Church. Our Capital Campaign, and certainly P.O.P., assists our parish to meet future demands and growth. However, our building fund still needs more capital to complete all the necessary improvements to the Gesu property. The stewardship of our parish is incredible. I am positive that more parishioners will come forward to help Gesu's future and vibrancy. I am deeply impressed by the number of families living with disabilities that contributed to the accessibility of our buildings. This will make our buildings easier to navigate and to access throughout the year. I am grateful to those who make it possible for us to continue to improve our school and build a ministry center that will increase our spiritual and parish life programs.

Everyone at Gesu is being called to action – prayer. Our Ignatian vision encompasses the celebration of the Mass, our service, and our financial commitment to the family of Gesu. Stewardship is grounded in the vocation of a pilgrim; walking with grace and courage towards a strong and vibrant future. I ask everyone to do what they can to increase the stewardship of Gesu Parish. Contributions to P.O.P., the building fund, service and commitment to prayer will strengthen our Jesuit vision and parish. I am confident that everyone will participate in our pilgrim family we call the Gesu.

- Fr. Lorn J. Snow, S.J.



*Rendering of newly renovated Parish Office. Turn to page 2 for construction photos.*

## Development Update



Happy New Year! What an exciting year 2010 was for Gesu! As we look back, there is much to be thankful for. Service Day was another huge success, with over 1,000 volunteers making quite a difference in the lives of our neighbors and our city. The first ever reunion weekend had a tremendous turnout with 500 alumni representing 23 states and the Gesu alumni are reconnecting. Gesu School and Parish will continue their long-term goal of incorporating St. Ignatius into our daily exercises and the renovation of the Parish Office began. We are thankful for our family, friends and our Church.

The Annual Planned Offering Program (P.O.P.) is underway. Gesu is grateful for your generosity and dedication. As of February 8th, 699 families have pledged \$918,781 and out of the 699 families, 254 families increased their pledge this year. The P.O.P. raises important operating dollars that maintain our buildings and sustain salaries for teachers and the pastoral staff. It also covers the overall maintenance of the parish, including lighting, heating and the spiritual programs essential to our parishioners.

The Renewing the Mission Building Fund moves forward with momentum. The Parish Office demolition began in December 2010, and the garage has been taken down, the inside gutted. (See photos below.) The footers have been poured for the handicap ramp and stairs for the main entrance to the Parish Office. As the construction continues we will update you on our progress. To date 470 families have pledged \$3.4M toward our goal of \$4.9M. If you have not yet made a commitment to the campaign and would like more information, please call me at 216-932-0617, email [denaadler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:denaadler@sbcglobal.net), or check out the web-site at [www.churchofthegesu.org](http://www.churchofthegesu.org).

Fr. Snow and I also visited our Gesu "Snowbirds" in January. Over 40 Gesu friends enjoyed Mass and a luncheon in Naples. A big thank you to Rosemary and Carl Nardone for sponsoring our luncheon. Your graciousness is humbling and truly appreciated.

Again, many thanks to our parishioners, families and alumni for the many ways you contribute to Gesu and for making such a vast difference in the lives of many each year. May God bless you and your family in the New Year.  
-Dena Adler



*The Construction Team*

## Parishioner Recognition

### Congratulations to...

**Matthew Thompson** was recently honored by the Boy Scouts of America with the prestigious Eagle Scout Award. He is pictured here with his Scout Master, Mark Anderson, from Troop 309 in Pepper Pike. For his Eagle Scout project, Matthew built and replaced 21 bluebird houses which were in disrepair at the Holden Arboretum. Matthew was able to get the building materials donated from hardware stores in Chardon and he organized a group of 40 volunteers to install the birdhouses. As a result of his efforts, there was a 20% increase in bluebird fledglings at the arboretum. Well done, Matthew!



The **Gesu School Peace and Justice Committee** were the recipients of this year's Service Award. This committee is made up of faculty and staff who work to promote community service in our neighborhood and beyond. Thank you for the example that you set for our children to be "persons for others."

## Pilgrimage to Rome

Fr. Snow led a group of 92 Gesu parishioners and friends to Rome for an eight day pilgrimage from Dec. 30, 2010 – Jan. 6, 2011. The once in a lifetime trip featured an audience with Pope Benedict and a visit to the Church of the Gesu. There was also a tour of Vatican City and optional side trips to Florence and Pompeii.



## Sleeping Bag Ministry

The Sleeping Bag Ministry was initiated by Eileen Beegle and Pat Schoeffler in 1996 after Eileen read an article in Guideposts Magazine and felt it was her calling to help the homeless. This dedicated group of interfaith women continues to meet each week at Eileen's quilting business, Quilt Design Studio, in Cleveland Heights to sew sleeping bags for the homeless. Parishioners who regularly participate along with Eileen and Pat are: Janine Curran, Rosemary Nardone, Eloise Thoma and Marilyn Zahurak. To date, the group has made close to 2,700 sleeping bags. Parishioner Jim Skerl distributes the bags through the Labre Project to homeless men. Sleeping bags are also given to women and children at the West Side Catholic Center. The Sleeping Bag Ministry is open to anyone who is interested, sewing experience is not required. Most of the materials for the bags are donated. Monetary support from groups including Gesu's Social Concerns Commission, the Skerl Foundation, Fairmount Presbyterian, Plymouth Church and Park Synagogue is used to purchase batting for comfort and warmth. On behalf of the Gesu Community, we thank these amazing women for their wonderful service to the community.



## Blessing of the Pets

Fr. Jim Ackerman held a Blessing of the Pets on Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Church in recognition of the feast day of St. Francis. A very orderly group of dogs, cats, bunnies and even a turtle were in attendance.



## New Albs for the Servers

We now have new albs for the servers thanks to a group of hard-working ladies of the parish. They sewed new albs to replace the ones that were in extremely poor condition. Thank you to Eileen Beegle, Marylou Bongorno, Anne Caputo, Sue Gohring, Jane Lewis, Margaret Schreiber, and Lia Zingales for the countless hours spent on this project.



# Service Day 2010



NewAvenues L'ArcheHome  
 St.Colman RudwickManor SloveneHome  
 RosemaryCenter CatholicWorkerSF  
 HighbrookLodge ClevelandFoodBank MalachiHouse ManorCare  
 OurLadyOfPeace St.AugustineManor GreensOfLyndhurst  
 ServiceDayDinner IPM St.AloysiusSt.Agatha TheaBowman  
 RonaldMcDonaldHouse UrsulineAngelaCenter LightOfHearts NotreDame  
 HospiceofWesternReserve OurLadyOfMt.Carmel Judson  
**Gesu** McGregorOverlook SunriseSr.Living  
 JenningsCenter ParkVillage  
 McGregorHome MerrickHouse  
 BrooklynUMC HolySpirit  
 ElizaJennings  
 LittleSisters CommWomen'sShelter FamicosAnsel Homewood  
 2100Lakeside WestSideCatholic SuburbanPavilion  
 Marymount FranklinPlaza CandlewoodPark  
 NewLife ParkEast CityView  
 MedWish



With over 1,000 volunteers, Gesu's Service Day made quite an impact on our city. Thank you to the many who volunteered that day to help make a difference!

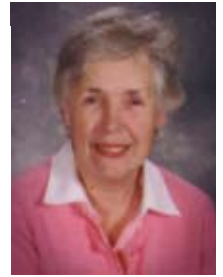
## Message from the Principal



### We Are Growing

As Gesu Preschool celebrates 15 years, we are happy to announce the addition of an afternoon three year old program for the 2011-2012 school year. The class will meet from 12:00 to 2:40 pm Monday – Thursday afternoons. If you are interested in learning more about Gesu Preschool please contact Amy Fanning at 216-932-0620 ext. 129 or visit our website at [www.gesu.com](http://www.gesu.com).

*Sr. Linda Martin, OSU  
Principal*



*Miss Mary Carol Jones  
Assistant Principal*

### Gesu Preschool Classes

2 Day Three Year Old Program – meets Mon. and Tues. from 8:20 to 11:00 am

3 Day Three Year Old Morning Program – meets Wed. – Fri. from 8:20 to 11:00 am

4 Day Three Year Old Afternoon Program – meets Mon. – Thurs. from 12:00 to 2:40 pm

4 Day Four Year Old Morning Program – meets Mon. – Thurs. from 8:20 to 11:00 am

4 Day Four Year Old Afternoon Program – meets Mon. – Thurs. from 12:00 to 2:40 pm

Pre-K Program – meets Mon. – Fri. from 12:00 to 2:40 pm



### Gesu Robotics Club

The Gesu Robotics Club recently completed its second year and has grown to include three teams of 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders. Coached by Tim Van de Walle and Audrey Lynn, the group spends several hours each Sunday afternoon preparing for the regional First LEGO League (FLL) competition. In January 2011, the teams participated in a tournament at Hudson Middle School. They were the only Catholic school teams in the competition. Our sixth grade team was named as 1<sup>st</sup> alternate to the state competition and the fifth grade team received the Gracious Professionalism award. This is an important core value which FLL teams are expected to demonstrate in their teamwork.



## Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive

This year, **200** boxes of canned goods and food were collected for area parishes, shelters and food pantries. In addition over **60** turkeys were donated by the Gesu School faculty and **225** pies were donated through Market Day. Food was distributed to St. Herman's House, the Epiphany House, the Empowerment Center & the Michael White Community Center. Thank you to the school and parish families who contributed to help needy families in our community.



Congratulations to **Girl Scout Troop 127**. This group of 4<sup>th</sup> graders held a food drive and donated 290 pounds of food to the Cleveland Foodbank. Great job!

## Choose It! Use It! Program

Gesu School was selected to represent the Cleveland area as part of the Ohio State University Extension program called "Choose It! Use It!" This program was developed in response to First Lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" campaign to combat childhood obesity. Gesu School was selected because of its strong academic profile, a history of winning athletic teams and teachers and administrators who value school enrichment programs.



## Booster Beat

Congratulations to all the Fall sports teams for outstanding seasons. Special congratulations goes out to the following teams:

Varsity Boys Football Team CYO City Runner Up - Lost in Overtime

Varsity Boys Soccer Team CYO City Runner Up - Lost in Penalty Kicks

Thank you to all the volunteer coaches for all of your hard work and dedication to the Gesu sports program.



**Bernie Kosar** made a guest appearance at the 6<sup>th</sup> grade and the Varsity football practices.



# Alumni News

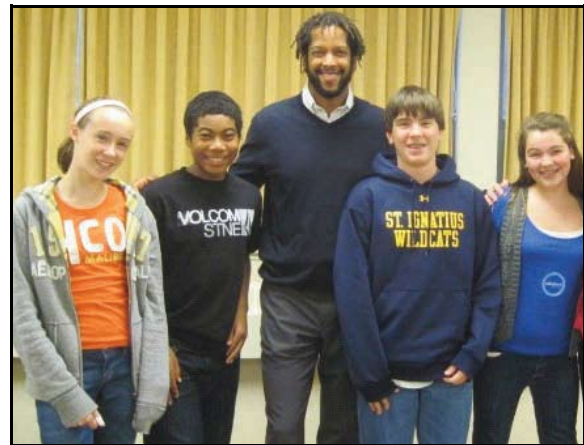
**Warren Brown '85** is a well-respected baker and owner of Cake Love, a bakery in Washington DC. He is the author of two cookbooks, Cake Love and United Cakes of America. Warren appeared on his own Food Network show, Sugar Rush, and has been a guest on a variety of TV shows including The Oprah Winfrey Show.

Warren's mother encouraged his sisters and him to learn to cook lunches when he grew up on Washington Boulevard in University Heights, but he never baked until he was an adult. He taught himself to bake and began experimenting with cakes. This passion soon mushroomed into a small business and he eventually left his practice of law to found Cake Love. He has expanded this venture into seven bakeries in the DC area.

Warren Brown returned to Gesu in October, 2010 to speak with our students. Warren graduated from Gesu School in 1985 and he attended University School, Brown University and received a law degree from George Washington University. Warren encouraged Gesu students to dream big, take risks and begin by taking small steps toward their goals, as he did. He spoke about how important it was to approach people in a respectful and loving way, even when it is challenging to do so. He also urged students to work hard and put their best in all they do. Warren, his wife and daughter live Washington DC. He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Leon Brown who now reside in Solon.



*Warren Brown speaking to Gesu School's first graders who celebrated cupcake day and created a cookbook of their own cupcake recipes to share.*



*Warren Brown (center) with 8<sup>th</sup> grade Student Council Officers.*

**Rajiv Joseph '88** was recently featured in a New York Times article as an up-and-coming playwright. The article mentioned that in eighth grade he was voted most likely to become a priest. Rajiv loved the rituals of the Roman Catholic Mass. Most of all, matters of morality and faith tumbled around in his mind.



He did not become a priest, but his interest in good and evil, in sin and redemption, found powerful expression in his calling as a playwright. He rarely saw plays and did little play-writing until he moved to New York a decade ago.

His dark comedy, "Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo," a finalist for the 2010 Pulitzer Prize, is set to open on Broadway in March, starring Robin Williams. It is in large part a morality tale about American soldiers and Iraqi civilians trying to make sense of the war. The "Bengal Tiger" joins numerous plays written by Rajiv. Congratulations to Mr. Joseph for producing powerful plays that require much thought about moral issues we face in our own daily lives.

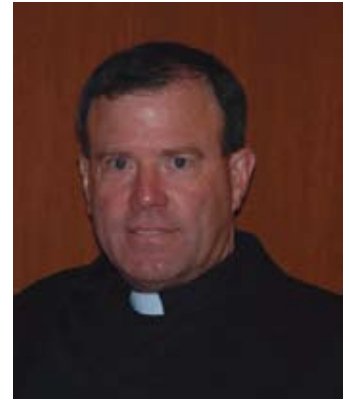
## In Memoriam

**Sr. Mary Marcella Zimmerman, SND** passed away on January 5, 2011. Sr. Mary Marcella was a principal at Gesu School from 1966 to 1972.



## Bishop Neal Buckon '67

Pope Benedict XVI has named Fr. Neal J. Buckon as Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese for Military Services. He was ordained on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Bishop Buckon entered the Army in 1975 and served for 7 years. He decided to enter the priesthood and was ordained a priest in May 1995 for the Diocese of Cleveland and was assigned to St. Margaret Mary Church. He became a member of the United States Army Chaplain Corps in 1996. His military awards include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Parachutist Badge and the Ranger Tab. Congratulations Bishop Buckon! Bishop Buckon will preside at an All School Mass on Friday, March 4 at 8:30 am if you would like to personally congratulate him.



## CLASS NOTES

**GESU CLASS OF '47** reunited at Claddagh's Irish Pub on September 28, 2010.



Pictured from left to right: Seated (front row) Mary Kay McAuley Futtu, Marilyn Hausser Madigan, Ann Davidson McBride, Jane Ross O'Brien, Ann Mittenger McGear, Marilyn McKay Horning, and Theresa Consolo Weaver.

Standing (back row) Tony Phelan, Jerry Futtu, Bob Micco, Don Junglas, Frank Kay, Joe Schneider, and Ray Rhode.

## Attention: **CLASS OF 1991 AND 2001 GRADUATES**

Plans are underway for a 10 year reunion on Saturday, August 6, 2011. We will meet for 4:30 pm Mass followed by a party at Pizzazz. Please visit the Facebook page "Gesu Class of 2001 grade school reunion" or contact Michael Murray at 216-906-3948 or michaelmurray23@gmail.com if you would like to be on the committee or if you have updated information.

The class of '91 is beginning to plan for the 20<sup>th</sup> reunion! Date is to be determined. If interested in helping to plan or need to update your contact information, please contact Meredith Owendoff Sonby on Facebook, or e-mail Katie Kondrat Parisi at marykparisi@yahoo.com. We look forward to catching up! It is so hard to believe it has been 20 years already!

# CLASS NOTES

## CLASS OF 1960 REUNION

Joanne Giusto Grundke writes: "On Saturday Sept. 25, 2010 the class of 1960 celebrated their 50 year reunion with 62 guests in attendance. Mass at Gesu started our evening followed by a tour of the school and then cocktails and dinner at Maggiano's Restaurant. We were delighted that Sr. Mary St. William could join us and she along with several alum regaled us with stories from our childhood – pointing out several in our class that had left quite an impression on all of us – Tim Rocco was a terrific sport! Judy Rossi and Bob Koch were the emcees for the evening and did an outstanding job leaving "no stone unturned" including leading us in our School Song (with a little adjustment to the lyrics) of course.

The auction held that evening was spectacular and the brain child of MaryJo Mannen Bordonaro who along with Joanne Jarzembowski Habe coordinated the auction which resulted in a donation of \$3,320 to the Fr. Francis Dietz, S.J. Scholarship Fund. On Sunday, a brunch was held at Aberdeen. Thanks to Mary Schork Brennan who worked tirelessly putting together a finale that was bar none the best as evidenced by the fact that we were still there after many hours – nobody wanted to leave. Alums came from many states including



*Sr. Mary St. William saying grace before Saturday evening's dinner.*

Tennessee, Massachusetts, Illinois, New Hampshire, Kansas, Virginia and, last but not least, we had three alums (Karen Shaia Spurgeon, Tom O'Connor and Virginia Thompson Bareis) that came from California and went home with Gesu memorabilia.

All in all we had a wonderful time. Thank you to the Reunion Committee that included: Toni Carcione Kelly, Nancy Collura Mencini, Kathy Gates Barile, Mike Gaul, Joanne Giusto Grundke, Joanne Jarzembowski Habe, Bob Koch, Maureen Mancuso Ferlin, Mary Jo Mannen Bordonaro, Tim Rocco, Judy Rossi, and Mary Schork Brennan."



## CLASS OF 1970 REUNION

Phil Ertel reports, "More than half of the class still lives in the local area, so turnout was good for our reunion at Nighttown Restaurant this past September. We had twice the fun by combining our reunion with the class from St. Ann's. I'm happy to report that all of the old scores have been settled."



Interested in seeing your Gesu Classmates again? Get involved and plan a reunion for your class. We can help! Call or email Dena Adler or Maryellen Callanan for more information at 216-932-0617 or gesudev@sbcglobal.net.



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**Gesu Mission Statement:**

Gesu Parish is a caring, ethnically diverse Catholic community which shares a common belief in Jesus Christ and the sacramental life of the Church. With the Eucharist as the center of our lives, together we are committed to values that are both Gospel and family-centered. We believe that, as a Spirit-filled community, we must promote the spiritual, liturgical, evangelical, educational and ecumenical growth of our family and faith. We pledge ourselves to bring God's Word to the world in which we live and to enliven that world by our own example of faith and truth. We do this "for the greater glory of God" and in the name of Jesus.

**Parish and School Staff:**

Rev. Lorn Snow, S.J., Pastor  
Rev. Paul Panaretos, S.J., Associate Pastor  
Rev. James Ackerman, S.J., Associate Pastor  
Brother Denis Weber, S.J., Pastoral Minister & Liturgist  
Mrs. Meg Madrigal Wilson, Pastoral Minister  
Rev. Dr. James O'Donnell, Deacon  
Sister Dianne Selva, SFCC, Director of Religious Education  
Dr. Joe Metzinger, Director of Music Ministries

Mrs. Kathy Barile, Business Manager  
Mrs. Dena Adler, Development Director  
Sister Linda Martin, O.S.U., Principal  
Miss Mary Carol Jones, Assistant Principal  
Mrs. Amy Fanning, Preschool Director  
Mr. Brian McLaughlin, Athletic Director  
Mr. Joe Gehring, Youth Minister

**Volunteer Editorial Committee:**

Anne Caputo, Margie Caputo, Diane Clemens, Mary Patton and Susan Scalabrino

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**Information about article submissions:** *Gesu News and Views* is published three times a year. To submit articles, information, and/or photos, please email [gesunews@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gesunews@sbcglobal.net), or mail them to the address above, Attn: Gesu News Committee. Submissions for the Summer issue should be sent no later than May 1, 2011. (Email submissions preferred.)

*\* All efforts have been made to provide accurate information. Please contact us for corrections.*

## Upcoming Parish Events

March 22	Pizza and Penance
March 27	Young Families Party
April 7	50+ Club Luncheon
April 9 & 10	Gesu School Art Show
April 14	Women's Guild Spring Benefit
April 24	EASTER Sunday
May 8	First Communion

**For a detailed listing of all our events, please see the Gesu Website at [www.churchofthegesu.org](http://www.churchofthegesu.org)!**