

June Newsletter 2014

Our Mission: To be disciples who know, love and serve God.

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ST MARGARET MARY

• CATHOLIC COMMUNITY •

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NEW BEGINNINGS

YOUTH DIRECTOR TAKES ON NEW ROLE

Candy Nieves has served our parish community in an array of ministerial capacities over the years. First, as Parish Secretary then as Director of Youth Ministry, Candy has dedicated a decade of her ministry career to serving this parish community. Candy has received a great deal of recognition for her leadership in youth ministry and has served on a number of diocesan, regional and national boards.

In her new role as Ministry Assistant, Candy will work collaboratively with her peers in ministry (Director of Worship, Director of Lifelong Formation, Pastoral Care Coordinator, Children's Formation Coordinator, and Youth Ministry Coordinator) to facilitate, support and resource those ministries. Candy is uniquely qualified for this role as she has a wealth of ministerial and administrative experience. Her unique skill set along with her capacity to serve as a bridge builder and facilitator of ministerial initiatives, events and activities make her a welcome addition in this new role as we move forward as a parish community in pursuit of our mission: *To be disciples who know, love and serve God.*

When you see Candy please thank her for her ten years of service and congratulate her on her new position as Ministerial Assistant.



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Vacation Bible School With Blessings St. Margaret Mary, Summer 2014



Frequently asked questions about Vacation Bible School:

What will my child do at VBS? The purpose of VBS is to allow children to learn about and share their faith in a fun, safe, and relaxed environment. Each evening is something a little different, but your child can expect to do any one of these fun activities throughout the week: sing, dance, make friends, snack time, play games, arts & crafts, water games, watch skits, and much more!

What is the "Bible focus" of the week? Our week will center around the story of the Woman at the Well (John 4:1-42) and many other stories in the Bible that are related to water (the parting of the Red Sea, Jonah and the Whale, etc). We will also spend time learning about water solidarity, or "standing with" God's children in other parts of the world who don't have clean water to drink. In Matthew's Gospel Jesus tells us "I was thirsty and you gave me drink," and so we know that any time we help give drink to our thirsty brothers and sisters around the world we are showing our love for Jesus, too!

What will my child need to wear? This year we are asking that all children come wearing a blue t-shirt of any shade to represent our theme-water! There will be at least one "wet" night when your child can come wearing their swimsuit. The specific night will be communicated through email so your child can come prepared (they are not required to get wet if they choose not to).

When is VBS?

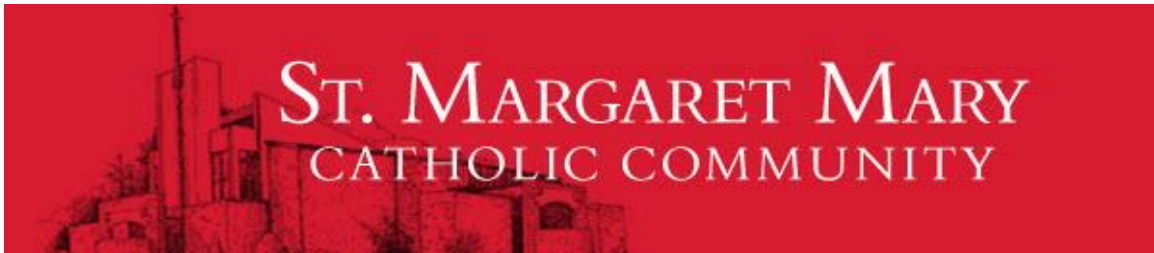
Tuesday, July 15 - Friday, July 18 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in the PAC

What is the cost? \$30 for 1st child, \$25 for 2nd child, \$15 for each additional child. The cost includes a CD with VBS songs, snacks, crafts, wristband, water bottle and other VBS materials. No one is turned away for lack of funds, so please inquire with Stephanie Kornexl skornexl@stmm.org

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[Get involved](#)

[Register for VBS here!](#)



Dear Friends in Christ,

I frequently get asked if things quiet down at St. Margaret Mary during the summer since the students are not in school. Quite the contrary, we just shift into a different gear and a different busyness ensues. This starts with our rigorous preparations for our annual picnic. Many hands are involved without which it just couldn't happen and to all those individuals we are truly grateful. I am comforted by our busyness because I believe that a busy parish is a sign of a healthy parish. And healthy we are.

Many maintenance and improvement projects occur in the summer. This summer work will be done on the lower level hallway of school by adding a drop ceiling, installing new lights and painting. Eight of our classrooms and/or offices will be painted as well as the back stairwell between kindergarten and junior high. The office in the school library will be converted into the assistant principal's office by adding five windows and a door to face the junior high side of the hallway. All of our exterior light bulbs on the building and in the parking lot will be replaced and the façade of our building that is stained with rust will be restored. The foyer space by the hospitality room will be re-wallpapered. A new dish washer will be installed in the cafeteria and the wooden gym floor will get a new finish. All of the classroom floors and hallways will be stripped and finished. An HVAC unit that heats and cools the library will be replaced. And we will be installing a new phone system.

In the church we will be performing some preparatory work for the installation of the new pipe organ which should be finished this winter. The main work includes removing the old speakers and the choir risers and relocating the choir pews.

Our biggest news is that we are negotiating the purchase of the house next to the rectory. This property touches our property on two sides and it is an opportunity that doesn't often come along. While seen as an investment, our ability to use the house as additional office space couldn't be timelier with the addition of our new associate pastor, Fr. Johnny Johnson. Additionally, the layout of the house is very conducive for small group gatherings. This new spirituality center will serve us well and can easily be divested if and when the space is not needed.

Vacation Bible School will be in July and it is always accompanied by eager young children and gracious parents who volunteer so much of their precious time. Groups of men and women are diligently and prayerfully planning the next *Christ Renews His Parish* retreats which will take place in September. *Wine for Your Soul* continues to fuel our young adults through the summer and, proudly, we now have our own *Knights of Columbus Council* at St. Margaret Mary that has forty members of which 18 are new recruits. We will have our *Women's Wednesday* gatherings in July and August, and let's not forget that we

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are also taking photos for our pictorial directory in June and July. Our youth went to **Kings Island** in June and will go to **Holiday World** in July and there is a Young Adult Conference in August. Is that busy or what?

I know many of you are very busy making plans for your summer and making honey-do lists. One thing for sure is that we need to be cautious of being too busy for God. It is still important to listen to God's voice over the noise of the busyness. It's easy to miss the simple glimpses of Jesus in our busyness. Let's be intentional about making time for Christ in our life this summer so that Christ is not drowned out by our busyness. Have a safe summer.

Peace,

Donna Schmidt
Community Director

WINE FOR YOUR SOUL

My name is Martha Watts, and I'm a member of Wine for Your Soul, a ministry to young adults at St. Margaret Mary. To start, being a member of a wine-making community is completely unlike me. I'm not a regular wine drinker, yet I'm part of a group that makes wine. It doesn't make any logical sense, but, as we know, God doesn't use logic; He uses faith.



To explain how I wound up in this ministry, I'll begin by briefly explaining my background. I am a transplant to Kentucky and moved here in 2011 after completing graduate school in Tennessee, where, as it turns out, I'm not from either. I'm from Orlando, Florida. My husband and I joined St. Margaret Mary in the spring of 2012 after church-hopping in the area. We settled on St. Margaret Mary because it just *felt right*, like a magnetic force pulling us toward this vibrant parish community.

We later felt this same pull when we saw an advertisement for Wine for Your Soul. As most newly married couples are, we didn't have much money; so, dropping \$50 to be a part of an unknown group was a difficult decision. We strongly contemplated not joining due to money, but we were both seeking something great, something wonderful, and had strong desires to be more involved at church. We were also looking for friends, as we didn't have many in the area, and of the ones we had, the Catholic faith was not a commonality. We found that

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and so much more with Wine for Your Soul. We evaluated and re-evaluated our budget, and by God's grace, we squeezed \$50 out of our already tight budget. We were both nervous.

At our first meeting there were 50 people, and we had to go around the room to introduce ourselves. My introverted self didn't even want to say my name in front of the large crowd. That first night was the hardest as we stepped out of our boats and into uncharted waters. After that evening, we discovered a new way to read and interpret the Bible and we found much more. What we found was fellowship, deeply moving discussions about faith and Christianity and the opportunity to make wine. What we also found was Christ in strangers, who I now call friends, my brothers and sisters in Christ. Together, we laugh, sometimes cry and, always, we pray for one another.

The wine that we make is opened and shared among these new friends, my new friends, at gatherings outside of Wine for Your Soul. We share our joys, our struggles, jokes, and open our minds and hearts to faith moving discussions. If you ask me, now two years later, if what I receive from Wine for Your Soul is worth the \$50, I will tell you it's priceless, and I would pay tenfold for it. So, whatever you are seeking, whether it is friendship, wine, discussion, good food, or anything else, please consider Wine for Your Soul.

Revelation 7:16-17 states, "They will hunger no longer, nor thirst anymore; nor will the sun beat down on them, nor any heat; for the Lamb in the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life; and God will wipe every tear from their eyes."

I was lonely, afraid, and thirsty for something greater than myself. I thirst no longer. The Shepherd led me to Wine for Your Soul, and He will lead you too. Open your heart, and say yes to this opportunity. You won't regret it. - Martha Watts



A new Wine for Your Soul group is forming this fall. Details to be announced in July!

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Feeling overwhelmed or overburdened?

Take some time to renew yourself at the "Christ Renews His Parish" Retreat.



Save the Date:

A Renewal Retreat at St. Margaret Mary

Women's Retreat: Sep 20th and 21st

Men's Retreat: Sep 27th and 28th

Questions: Sharon Hester - 426-1448 | rococosharon@aol.com

Dave Springer - 599-1979 | dgspringer@me.com

A NEW FORMAT FOR THE PARISH NEWSLETTER

In an effort to streamline our communications, reduce costs and communicate more efficiently, we are moving towards more e-communications. If you have received a print version of this newsletter and would like to receive it via email please contact Gale Gowen in the parish office to update your

contact information. ggowen@stmm.org 502-426-1588.

[Visit our website](#)

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