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Our Church

Windows for Our Souls

They provide beauty, light, and the stories of our faith and salvation. Before there were books of church stories, the art in the stained-glass windows told the stories of the church and they continue to tell those stories today. Our 10 stained glass windows at SS Peter & Paul provide a framework for the ceremonies and the believers within.

In need of repair, the windows were restored in the mid-‘80’s in preparation of the Centennial celebration in 1989. Funds from the Centennial Fund Drive were used to have the windows cleaned and tightened. The wood frames were replaced where needed and painted, and the metal grating was removed and replaced with lexon.

This tour of the windows relays a brief story that each window tells. Some are more familiar; some may be new to you.

1. Window #1 depicts the fall of Adam & Eve in the Garden of Paradise. God is confronting Adam and Eve after they have sinned. The serpent is coiled around the tree of good and evil. Appearing in the background of this scene is Mary of the Apocalypse. In the book of Revelations, Mary is described as “clothed with the sun, with the moon beneath her feet.” She is the symbol of victory over sin.

Mary is also referred to as the new Eve, which further connects her presence in this depiction of the Garden.

2. The Annunciation is the subject in window #2. Gabriel is bringing the good news to Mary that she has been chosen to be the mother of God. The window bears the prayer “Hail full of grace, the Lord is with thee.” (*Luke 1:28*)

In the rosette at the top of the window is a rose, the symbol of the Nativity and of the Messianic prophecy – a hardy white rose that blooms at Christmas. IHS appears in the middle of the rose, the first three letters of the Greek spelling of Jesus.



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Window # 1 on the northeast side of the church portrays God with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Paradise.

Ministry Update

Changes at ESCYM

By Ralph Stewart

For the last fifteen years, if you have had any dealings with East Side Child & Youth Ministry (ESCYM) you probably have encountered Sharon Pogorzelski.

Sharon has been the administrative assistant at ESCYM since 1990. She worked with five different directors, many volunteers, and numerous families with children in the program. Throughout this time, she has done her job with a strong sense of faith, professionalism, courtesy and caring for all who have come in contact with her.

This April, Sharon is retiring from ESCYM due to health reasons. We will certainly miss all the gifts she brought to her work, but even more we will miss her. She has filled our program with such love and joy.

God has blessed us in finding a qualified person to fill the position of administrative assistant. Marcia Szczawinski has been hired for the position beginning in May. She has been a long-time, active parent at Catholic East Elementary School. Marcia has volunteered in many programs and committees there, including the School Board where she was president from 2000 to 2002.

We welcome Marcia and hope she enjoys working with our parish and families. Sharon will do some consulting work until Marcia is comfortable with her new position. ☪

East Side Child and Youth Ministry (ESCYM) is the religious education program for four parishes: Three Holy Women, Our Lady of Divine Providence, the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, and SS Peter & Paul.

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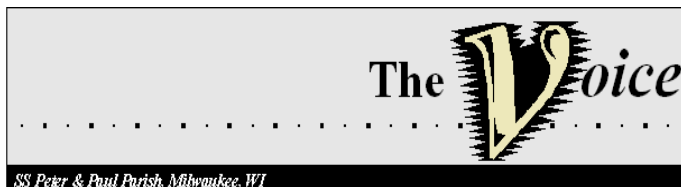
The **Annual Stewardship Appeal for the 2005-2006** fiscal year begins this spring. If you have not already received your appeal letter in the mail, it will be arriving soon. Please read the letter carefully and give prayerful consideration to the issues set forth in it. If we all take on our just share of the financial support of the parish, we will have adequate resources to fulfill our parish mission. We realize and respect that not everyone may be able to do this. We also realize that some may be able to be more generous than others. That is the beauty of a community. We all share our gifts of time, talent and treasure as we are able for the greater good and in service to God's people. Please respond to the appeal. Please share what God has given you in the manner in which you are called. It's what being Christian is all about. ☪

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Editor's Corner:

The weather is finally warming up and the parish is showing signs of an active summer. It's hard to think about fall when summer is only just on its way, but if you have an activity planned at the parish for fall, we'd love to hear about it. It may turn into a picture or an article for a coming issue. Send me an email.

What would *you* like to read about in ***The Voice***?



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The Voice is published four times a year. Please send comments or questions to the editor at j9pilar@yahoo.com

Janine Pilarski, Editor
 Lynn Charnitz, Contributing Writer
 Karen Mikolainis, Contributing Writer
 Ralph Stewart, Contributing Writer

Parish Council Notes

Council Update

By Karen Mikolainis

Last week, I had the great idea that there should be a regular *Voice* column with notes on what the SSPP Parish Council has been up to. Sometimes having an idea leads to volunteering, so here I am, writing the first installment.

The SSPP parish council is an advisory body that meets monthly and works with Fr. Tom, and the parish staff. The April meeting focused primarily on the SSPP budget.

The budget was developed by a sub-committee of the Administrative Services Commission. We reviewed several options presented that would eliminate a forecasted \$32,000 deficit for 2005 and 2006 and balance the budget. One of these options included the elimination of a part-time maintenance position that is currently not staffed. The parish needs in this area would be filled as-needed by volunteers. Another cost-saving measure discussed was increasing the rents to the seminary and Catholic East, which have not had a rent increase in several years, and whose monthly rents are well below market value.

The council also reviewed various estimates for how small increases in monthly contributions might help the situation. Envelope giving is currently below pledge levels for 2004-2005, and the Administrative Commission is currently finalizing the pledge requests for the coming year. Perhaps increased contributions will help the budget, but the plans must be based in realistic expectations.

The longest budget discussion addressed how many funds SSPP can afford to share with the larger community – via outreach donations to outside organizations and contributions to organizations that SSPP is committed to, like Chiapas and Habitat for Humanity. The council and parish staff discussed our current giving and collection structures for the charities we support, inquired about the effectiveness of our communication to the parish regarding SSPP’s charitable gifts, and reflected on the appropriate balance between caring for the parish’s many needs and following Jesus’ example of serving others. Due to the importance of this conversation, it will be continued and examined along with other topics at the May council meeting.

Nominations for new council members are currently being accepted. SSPP needs 4 councilors for the 2005-2008 term. Nominees are invited to informational meetings and voluntarily participate in a prayerful discernment process of selection. ☪



**Join us on June 26
for the Annual Mass in the Grass
11 AM
Lake Park, Area #4**

The Lifetime Stewardship Award winners will be honored.
Come and meet them after this outdoor mass in celebration of the
Feast of SS Peter & Paul

SSPP Connections

Looking For Love in All the Right Places

A parish like SSPP has a lot of weddings, especially during summertime, the traditional wedding season. Two weddings that are taking place this wedding season involve parish members who met at SSPP, fell in love, and will be celebrating their love this summer. These are their stories.

David Uy & Mary-Kate Dodge

Mary-Kate and David

Mary-Kate Dodge has been an SSPP member since 1990. Mary-Kate's is a familiar face at SSPP. She worked at the rectory for several years, and she is involved in many SSPP activities, especially Young Adult Ministry programs.



Fast forward to 1999. Enter Mario David Uy, known to everyone as David. He attended SSPP off and on since about 1992. In 1999, he made it official and became a parish member. David also was drawn to the Young Adult Ministry programs. David and Mary-Kate found themselves attending Single Vision events, Eat, Drink & Be Catholic, and Sunday 7pm Mass. Lots of friendships developed in those groups along the way, and Mary-Kate and David developed a friendship too. Their friendship deepened and, in January 2005, Mary-Kate and David were engaged. They tried to keep the news secret, but that only lasted about a week. They will be married at SSPP in July, 2005.

When asked what first attracted her to David, Mary-Kate said, "...his kindness and his faith in God." Today, David and Mary-Kate are still involved in young adult service projects together. They volunteer for St. Ben's meals, the Cathedral meal program, and Hope House. They're still part of the Young Adult Ministry programs at SSPP, and David has taken on leadership roles in those programs.

For this story, I met with Mary-Kate & David one day when they were apartment hunting. They drove separately to the meeting and before talking with them, I watched for a moment as they connected with each other. They smiled so easily. The deep, quiet happiness that connects them was unmistakable, even to this casual observer.

Karol Koshak & Tom Hoerth



Karol & Tom

Karol Koshak and Tom Hoerth will be married in June - a month before Mary-Kate & David. Tom has been a member of SSPP since the early '80s. Karol moved back to Milwaukee in 1997 and continued to attend SSPP.

Karol and Tom are easy around each other. They laughed and talked about how they first met. One Sunday, Tom, who typically attended 7 pm Mass, found himself at the 11 am Mass. He heard Karol singing behind him and afterward, he complimented her on her singing. Then

he uttered the fateful line, "Do you come to this Mass often?" Karol said "NO" and ran out of church (as Tom remembers it). Karol went home and announced to her friend that "some guy in church tried to pick me up." Her friend countered "Well, isn't that what you wanted?"

Things improved significantly over the years. Karol and Tom attended many of the Single Vision activities, and car-pooling to events eventually turned into dating - although they can't exactly agree when their official first-date was. Tom believes it was at a Halloween party in October, 2002, but Karol says with a smile that she thought they were still car-pooling at the time, not dating.

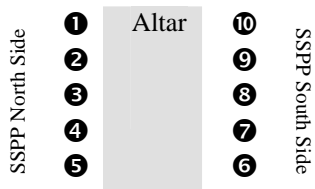
They became engaged in May of 2004. Karol is from Park Falls, WI and after a long, harrowing drive to Karol's family's house in Park Falls, dodging deer at every turn, Tom proposed at 2am in her parent's driveway. They

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Windows for Our Souls, continued from page 1

- 3. Window #3, the center window on the north side, is a tribute to one of our church’s patron saints, St. Peter. In this window, St. Peter and St. John have encountered a beggar who is lame. St. Peter takes him by the hand and says, “In the name of Jesus of Nazareth, arise and walk.” (*Acts 3:6*).
- 4. Window #4 is a beautiful depiction of the Nativity – Mary with Jesus in her arms, and St. Joseph standing close by. An eight-pointed star appears in the rosette at the top of the window, presumably symbolic of the Star of Bethlehem.

SSPP Stained Glass Windows Diagram:



- 5. From Luke’s gospel, window #5 depicts the Presentation. The Law stated that if a woman’s first child was a boy, he shall be dedicated to the Lord. The legal requirement for purification was a pair of turtledoves.

In this window, Jesus, as a child, is presented by his parents at the temple. Mary is kneeling while Joseph is holding two caged birds as required by law. The elderly prophet, Simeon, recognizes Jesus as the Savior.

- 6. **Let Them Come to Me! - Mark 10:14** There are several references of Jesus love for children in scriptures. Window #6 beautifully depicts a scene of Jesus in a garden teaching a kneeling child. The rosette at the top is a symbol of the Sacred Heart with flames coming from the top of the heart – a symbol of Christ’s burning love.
- 7. Window #7 is a striking portrayal of the Resurrection, showing the crown of thorns and the burial cloth at the feet of the resurrected Christ. The rosette at the top shows the phoenix, a mythical bird that bursts into flames at death, then rises from its own ashes. The phoenix is a symbol of resurrection.

- 8. Window #8, the center window on the south side, is a tribute to our other patron, St. Paul. He was often accompanied on his missionary journeys by St. Barnabas who is, perhaps, the figure in the background. St. Paul is pictured opening the scroll of Isaiah and preaching at the temple.
- 9. The Ascension is beautifully illustrated in window #9. “And the Lord was taken up into heaven” (*Mark 16:19*) In the rosette at the top of the window, a bird is flying towards the sun, symbolizing the flight of the faithful to God, the source of all light and grace.
- 10. Sometimes the hardest to see because of its location, but one of the most beautiful, is window #10. Jesus is crowning his mother, Mary, as queen of heaven. The color and intensity of this window are worth the walk to the front of the church to get an unobstructed view.



Window #10 on the southeast side of the church portrays the Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven.

Our history tells us that all the windows were placed in the church during the 1930’s, generously donated by the patrons whose names are displayed at each window. Next time you’re in the church, take a few moments to notice each one of these beautiful pieces of art again. Notice the brilliant, jewel-like colors, and look at the symbols in the rosettes at the top. Look at these beautiful windows again, as if for the first time. ☩

Editor’s Note: A special thank-you to Monica Meagher, Joan Squire and Barb Spalda. Monica and Joan shared their information about the windows with me, and Barb Spalda shared the articles she wrote about the windows for the 1985 issues of The Voice.

Parish Calendar

These dates - subject to change – are events at SS Peter & Paul in the coming months. Please check the Bulletin for specific information. Regular Masses are 5 pm Saturday, 9 am, 11 am and 7 pm Sunday, and 8 am weekdays (M-F). Confessions are 4-4:30 pm Saturday. Centering Prayer is each Tuesday at 7:15 pm in the Church Center. For more information, call the rectory at 962-2443.

MAY

May 17:
Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Ctr /
Just Faith, 7pm, Chiapas/

May 18:
Admin/Finance Commission, 6:30pm, Batz /
Worship Commission, 6:30pm, Rectory /
Teaching Commission, 6:30pm, Church Ctr /
Service Commission, 6:30pm, Chiapas /

May 19:
Just Faith, 9-11am, Church Ctr /

May 20:
Play Group, 10-Noon, Church Ctr /

May 21:
Market Day Pick-up, 8:15-9:15am, Cafeteria /
SPRED Catechist Training, 12:30-4:30pm, SPRED Rm /

May 23:
St. Vincent de Paul Mtg, 6:30pm, Church Ctr/
Peacemakers, 7pm, Cafeteria/

May 24:
Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Ctr /
4th Tuesday Group, 7pm, Chiapas/

May 25:
Newly Married Dinner, 6:00-8:30pm, Church Ctr /

May 30:
MEMORIAL DAY

May 31:
Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Ctr /

JUNE

June 4:
Single Vision, 7pm, Church Ctr/

June 7:
Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Ctr /

June 8:
Parish Council, 6:30pm, Church Ctr/

June 12:
Apostles Café, 8pm, Church Ctr/

June 13:
St. Vincent de Paul Mtg., 6:30pm, Church Ctr /

June 14:
Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Ctr /

June 15:
Admin/Finance Commission, 6:30pm, Batz /
Worship Commission, 6:30pm, Rectory /
Service Commission, 6:30pm, Chiapas/

June 20:
Peacemakers, 7pm, Cafeteria/

June 21:
Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Ctr /

June 22:
New Parishioner Dinner, 6pm, Church Ctr/

June 26:
SSPP FEAST DAY & PICNIC

June 27:
St. Vincent de Paul, 6:30pm, Church Ctr/

June 28:
Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Ctr/

JULY

July 4:
INDEPENDENCE DAY

July 5:
Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Ctr /

July 6:
Parish Council, 6:30pm, Church Ctr/

July 10:
Apostles Café, 8pm, Church Ctr/

July 11:
St. Vincent de Paul Mtg., 6:30pm, Church Ctr /

July 12:
Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Ctr /

July 19:
Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Ctr /

July 20:
ESS, 4:30-6:30pm, Church Ctr/
Admin/Finance Commission, 6:30pm, Batz /
Worship Commission, 6:30pm, Rectory /
Christian Formation, 6:30pm, Church Ctr /
Service Commission, 6:30pm, Chiapas

July 25:
St. Vincent de Paul Mtg., 6:30pm, Church Ctr /
Peacemakers, 7pm, Cafeteria/

July 26:
Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Ctr /

Looking For Love in All the Right Places, continued from page 5

both laughed about that night. A gentle, loving feeling rang in their words and their laughter.

Today at SSPP, Tom is the ever-present “camera guy.” He volunteers his time and talent at many of the SSPP events attending to the parish audio/visual needs. He is also a member of the Adult Formation committee and an Usher at 7pm Mass. Karol sings soprano in the 7pm choir, and still regularly attends many of the Young Adult Ministry programs, although she said with a smile, “we’ve sort of stopped going to Single Vision events.” Like Mary-Kate and David, Karol and Tom met at SSPP, attended many of the same Young Adult Ministry programs, and developed a friendship that grew. A friendship grew among these four as well. They will participate in each other’s weddings.

This is the beginning of the story for both couples. There’s so much more ahead...✕

Outreach

The church teaches us to live a life that is founded on the highest priority. That means, in all our decision-making, we should always consider options for the poor to be the highest priority. With that goal in mind, every fourth Sunday, our collection funds are dedicated to Outreach ministries. The Outreach Committee oversees the distribution of those funds to organizations of justice, advocacy, service, and direct assistance. Listed are the fund distributions for 2004-2005:

2004

Latino Community Center	\$1000	Adult & Family Ministry	\$1375	Guest House	\$176.77
Project Equality	\$500	Reach Project	\$1000	Food Pantry - Thanksgiving	\$500
Street Talk Ministry	\$500	My Stuff Program	\$500	Christ Child Society	\$500
Peacemakers	\$128.59	Riverwest Food Pantry	\$100	Eisenhower Center, Inc	\$1000
Peacemakers	\$83.98	Peacemakers	\$138.18	Benedict Center	\$500
Peacemakers	\$76.46	Peacemakers	\$99.61	Medical Mission Sisters	\$1500
Peacemakers	\$99.02	Bickman Project	\$1000	META House	\$1000
Guest House	\$500	Riverwest Food Pantry	\$600	Riverwest Food Pantry	\$100
Peacemakers	\$99.61	Peacemakers	\$443.51	Habitat for Humanity	\$8403.39

2005

Riverwest Food Pantry	\$400	Milwaukee Fatherhood Collaboration	\$1000	Children in Venezuela	\$100
Peacemakers	\$271.60	Give Me Hope	\$1000		

Special Donations:

Global Partners Running Waters	\$10,500	Running Rebels Community Organization	\$7,250	Latino Community Center	\$7,250
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Saints Peter & Paul Catholic Church
 2491 N. Murray Ave.
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