

Father Kapaun Museum
Contributed by tour guide Harriet Bina

It has been an exciting and challenging time for the tour guides at the Father Kapaun museum! It seems that schools, Harvest House groups, church groups, and families are coming to Pilsen before the snow flies. The guides have been swamped! There are two new tour guides who have graciously agreed to help keep pace with the rising number of tours. “Thank You” to Cindy Vinduska and Monica Svoboda for sharing their time and talent with the Father Kapaun Museum.



Several tours in October and November have been especially touching to the guides. Father Kenneth Novak of the SSPXX community in St. Mary's, KS brought three different groups to Pilsen this fall. The Brothers were ordained on Sunday and were in Pilsen on Monday to learn about Father Kapaun. On October 28th, Father Novak returned with his seminarians to hear Father Kapaun’s story and to visit his church and museum. It was cold, with the temperature at 37 degrees! That morning, Father Novak took the seminarians out to the Kapaun homestead and celebrated Mass. St. Anne’s Altar Society prepared breakfast for the seminarians. When they arrived, cold and hungry, I asked the seminarians if Father was testing their faith! Father Novak replied, “I think I am testing my own faith! It’s cold, but not as cold as it was for Father Kapaun in Korea!”



Father Novak returned at 1:00 in the afternoon November 2 because this was the day Father Kapaun was taken captive in Korea. He was accompanied by some of his parishioners – 87 adults and 30 children! It was a beautiful, sunny Saturday with little wind and temperatures in the high 50’s. St. Anne’s once again provided a lunch. Around 2:00 the group entered the church and heard the story of Father Kapaun, and his alleged miracles. Afterward, Father led his parishioners over to view the Kapaun house. Many of his parishioners toured the museum or returned to the church to pray. They then climbed into their vehicles and proceeded to the Kapaun homestead. Father Novak had arranged for a parishioner to bring a SUV, painted in camouflage, to Pilsen. He took the SUV out to the homestead and placed it on the spot where the Kapaun house once stood. At 5:00, Father celebrated Mass on the hood of the SUV, reenacting Father Kapaun’s “Mass on the jeep”. Earlier, Father had gone down to the creek that ran through the Kapaun homestead, and used that water in the washing of his hands at Mass. He had an envelope, with the names of the poor souls he was praying for, on the windshield. Father also used a rock from the foundation of the house to keep items on the altar from blowing away. To those people, the water and the rock were symbolic of their unity with Father Kapaun on this pilgrimage! When Mass was over, most returned to St. Mary's but many stayed with Father, and as darkness fell, they walked out to the cemetery. With flashlights in hand, they circled the graves of Enos and Bessie Kapaun, Father Kapaun’s parents, and knelt on the cold ground and prayed for their souls! How beautiful!!



Another impressive tour was Father Diase and his 30 students from Colby on November 6th. Father Diase began his tour with Mass. It was at the offering, as I watched the students bringing up the gifts, that I felt tears in my eyes. Father had the students bring up symbols of Father Kapaun’s Corporal Works of Mercy! The children carried a ring of barbed wire because Father was held captive behind barbed wire; a first aid kit because Father helped care for the wounded; a shovel because Father buried the dead; a canteen because Father carried canteens of water so the men could have fresh water to drink; a tin cup because Father heated water for the men to drink in a pan he had made; a blanket because he traded the watch his mother and dad gave him at his ordination for a blanket so he could make socks for the sick and cold; a potato because Father foraged for food to feed the starving; a prayer book because Father prayed for the sick and dying and brought them hope; and wine and hosts to be used for the Mass.

November 11, Veteran’s Day, was cold, windy and snowy. A faithful few of about 150 people gathered to honor our fallen Veterans, especially Father Kapaun. Raymond and David Kapaun, nephews of Father, were in attendance. The Knights of Columbus provided the color guard, while Father Daniel Lorimer, Coffeyville, and Father John Hotze, Mulvane, concelebrated Mass. At the end of Mass, Father Hotze presented the Ambassador of Peace medal to the Kapauns in honor of Father Emil Kapaun. The medal was bestowed upon Father Kapaun by a grateful nation, the Republic of Korea, for Father’s sacrifice to help keep the South Korean nation free of communism.



† Holy Family Parish Newsletter

J M J Florence - Marion - Pilsen - Tampa

December 2019

Schedule of Events

Christmas Mass Schedule:
 Tuesday, December 24th
 5:00 pm, *Florence*
 Midnight, *Pilsen*
 Wednesday, December 25th
 10:30 am, *Marion*

Mary, Mother of God Holy Day of Obligation Mass Schedule:
 Wednesday, January 1st
 9:00 am, *Marion*
 7:00 pm, *Pilsen*

St. Patrick’s Altar Society



On Saturday, November 23rd, St. Patrick's Altar Society hosted 35 women of our parish for an evening of fellowship and fun to kick off the Christmas season. Items for both mothers and babies staying at the Gerard House in Wichita were collected. Delicious soups and desserts were enjoyed by all. Entertainment for the evening was provided by the Marion High School Select Ensemble, under the direction of Ruth Springer. They sang a few of their Christmas concert selections and then led the ladies in singing traditional Christmas carols. St. Patrick's Altar Society wishes to thank Denice Bina, Pam Jones & Andrea Salsbury for providing door prizes. Winners of the Tupperware were Vickie Kraus & Jackie Palic, winners of the Pure water bottle & energy sticks was Dorothy Youk. Thank you to all guests who attended!

Left: Members of St. Pat’s Altar Society pictured- Steph Kraus, Mary Zogelman, Lori Kirkpatrick, Debbie Gillett, Rachel Collett, Marlene Herzet, Donna Fink, Jolene Gayle



Holy Redeemer Altar Society

Holy Redeemer Altar Society had a Halloween party/Altar Society meeting at Dorothy's in Marion on October 21. There were 22 members attending with prizes for costumes. They will be celebrating Christmas in January! The PSR classes at Tampa are smaller this year with 14 students in grades first through eighth. The teachers are Myrna Hamm, Emma Davidson, Denise Barney and Jeanne Rziha. Mary Jirak does all of the paper work for the diocese. The ladies are excited to announce that an old portable confessional was found behind the church’s confessional. It is now set up for use in the north sacristy for confessions before Mass in Tampa.





St. Mark's Altar Society

St. Mark's ladies hosted a soup supper and white elephant bingo night on Sunday, November 3rd at the Marion Activity Center. A large selection of soups was provided by altar society members and desserts were supplied by the parish members.

After the meal, the group enjoyed playing bingo with the new computerized program being projected on a large screen!

The altar society provided a cash prize of \$25 that was won by Freddie Burnett and a \$50 cash prize won by Dusty Schoenthaler.



Pictured above left: Rita and Jim Brennan receive a marriage blessing from Father Bebak on their 65th wedding anniversary in September.



Above right: Pro-Life chain gathered October 6 on Hwy 56 in solidarity of the pro-life movement in support of the unborn.



Knights of Columbus Council #3423

Fall activities for the Knights included working the annual Tootsie Roll drive, which is a fundraiser for people with intellectual disabilities; serving a breakfast of pancakes and sausage after the Marion Mass October 27th with the proceeds going to our Diocesan seminarians; and holding a Red Cross blood drive at the Marion Activity Center surpassing their goal of 40 units by collecting 43 units!

Knight of the Month: September— Ken Stuchlik for his work on the parish Mass times sign and for helping cook at Fr. Bebak's birthday party; October- Nick Kraus for his help getting the Holy Family Parish Mass times sign put up on Hwy 77; November— Tom Oborny for teaching the boys high school PSR class.

Family of the Month: September-Lucas & Julie Carlson for their work with the music ministry and the Marion PSR program; October— Dennis & Terry Klenda for all their work cooking, cleaning, and organizing events at the Pilsen church, basement, and kitchen as well as being involved with Pilsen PSR and all the Fr. Kapaun events; November-Laverne & Harriet Bina for their work with Fr. Kapaun tours & events.

PSR

Our parish school of religion teachers for the school year 2019-2020 are:

PL site coordinators - JoAnn Stuchlik, Anna Kristek

Anna Kristek—grades K-1st

Sam Oborny—grades 3-4

Melissa A. Stuchlik—grades 5-6

Anjanette Vinduska—grades 7-8

Substitutes-Terry Klenda, Sharon Gutsch

TM site coordinators - Mary Jirak, Jeanne Rziha

Myrna Hamm—grades 2

Emma Davidson—grades 3-4

Denise Barney—grades 5-6

Jeanne Rziha—grades 7-8

Substitutes-Catarina Rziha, Wayne Rziha, Morganne Hamm

MN site coordinators-Amanda Baxa, Julie Carlson
Karen Konarik, Jane George, Amanda Baxa—
grades Pre-K

Aileen Raymer—grades K-1

Julie Carlson—grades 2

Andrea Salsbury, Jen Guetterman—grades 3-4

Sarah Fenske—grades 5

Tim Baxa, Tina Kraus—grades 6-8

High School-

Laura Klenda, Anjanette Vinduska—girls

Ken Stuchlik, Tom Oborny—boys

CYM sponsor is Laura Klenda.

CYM News

In September, the CYM began their meeting with a kickball game at the Marion baseball diamonds.

Several of our youth attended the LEAD Conference at Goddard in September and the Region 2 Lock-in at Holy Cross Church in Hutchinson in November.

Pumpkins were carved at the October meeting. There were some very creative designs, pictured below!

Pictured below: Elias Jirak and Tyler Nickel try out the fit of the jack-o'-lantern mask. Blake Kaiser, Tanner Stuchlik, and Quinten Bina work on their



2019 Ascend Youth Rally

On Saturday, November 9 at Kapaun Mt. Carmel High School, the Catholic Diocese of Wichita invited Middle School aged youth in grades 6th-8th grade to attend their first ever Middle School Conference called "2019 Ascend".

Catholic musician Dante Schmitz opened the conference. Talks were delivered in the morning and afternoon by Chris Padgett, a Catholic speaker, musician, and author, and Noelle Garcia, a Catholic recording artist and speaker. Wichita Adore Ministries assisted in the day's events. The day included Eucharistic Adoration and Confession and a surprise visit from Bishop Carl Kemme who wanted to make sure our youth were taken care of with a frozen ice cream treat!

The event had an amazing turnout of over 1,300 in attendance and fun had by all who attended.

Jeanne Rziha sponsored the event from Tampa and took Ray Whitehair, Reese Whitehair, Daniel Rziha, and Isabelle Rziha. Tina Kraus, Julie Carlson, and Susan Wessel sponsored the event from Marion and Pilsen and took Gentry Holub, Elijah Klenda, Kaitlynn Bina, Addison Bina, Maria Carlson, Taryn Kraus, Addison Cooper, Erin Regnier, Haley Kraus, Jaxon Salsbury, Kadon Mercer, Luke Wessel, and Zander Haslett. Parent sponsor Shannon Cooper also attended the event.



PSR Mini-Retreat

Sixteen kids participated in this year's fall PSR mini-retreat. The retreat was led by Theresa Cady with help from Gabriella Schlehuber. The children learned about the only approved Marian apparition in the United States, Our Lady of Good Help. A shrine is located northeast of Green Bay, Wisconsin. The kids also put together a new game to learn about the Catholic Church.

