



Calendar of Events

- June – CCD pre-registration begins and continues through the summer
- Sat. and Sun., June 18 and 19
Media Outdoor Book Sale after all masses
- Tues., June 21
Annointing mass at St. Francis de Sales
- Wed., June 22
Book discussion group
- Wed., June 29
Book discussion group
- Sat. and Sun., July 16 and 17
Media Outdoor Book Sale after all masses
- July 17-23
Youth Ministry Work Camp

(Continued on page 8)



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The Buzz



June 2005

Vol. 3, No. 2

Stewardship: Keeping It In Balance

Q. What is stewardship?

A. Select one:

1. It's giving all your money to the church.
2. It's spending hours at the parish.
3. It's stringing rosary beads day after day.
4. It's all of the above, done in moderation, and done willingly and joyously for the love of God.

If you circled the last answer, you're correct.

You see, stewardship is a response to God for all He has given to us. He has blessed each one of us with unique gifts of time, talent and treasure. And, while he wants us to use these gifts to the best of our ability, He does not want us to neglect family, friends and other important relationships. He wants us to find a balance and use our gifts wisely.

Take time, for instance. You can spend seven days a week at St. Bernard's, attending Mass and working in various ministries. That's not a problem, if you have no one else vying for your time. If you have family members who need your attention, friends who would like to spend more time with you, coworkers who need your presence—you need to nurture those relationships. Or, just enjoy the beauty of the world around us. Taking time to nourish ourselves is one of the best things we can do to deepen our relationship with God.

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Save the Date!

St. Bernard's 3rd annual Stewardship Fair will be held Sunday, Sept. 25, at Halloran Hall. There will be an outdoor mass (weather permitting), information on all ministries, and activities for young and old alike.

First Communion Class 2005

Sixty-six children made their First Communion this year in three separate Masses on May 7 and May 14. We congratulate the children on receiving this sacrament, and thank the religious education teachers and parents who helped make it all possible!





A Look at the New Bishop

The Most Rev. Thomas Tobin, the eighth Bishop of Providence, is a native of Pittsburgh, Pa. His schooling has taken him from Pennsylvania to Rome.

Bishop Tobin was ordained on July 21, 1973, and was named Auxiliary Bishop of Pittsburgh and Titular Bishop of Novica by Pope John Paul II on November 3, 1992, then ordained to the Episcopacy on December 27, 1992. He was installed as the fourth

Bishop of the Diocese of Youngstown on February 2, 1996, in St. Columba Cathedral.



Bishop Tobin is an author—he writes a popular column, “Without a Doubt,” for his diocesan newspaper. The column, which received special recognition at the 1998 Catholic Press Association Convention, was

selected as best in the nation in 2000. Bishop Tobin’s articles also have appeared in other periodicals including New Covenant, Pastoral Life, The Priest, Lay Witness, Sacerdos, and Be. His book, “Without a Doubt: Bringing Faith to Life,” a collection of his

columns, has been published by Emmaus Road Publishing, Steubenville, Ohio.

We look forward to working closely with Bishop Tobin in the future!

Young at Heart



St. Bernard’s Over 50 ministry meets the second Saturday evening of every month for a potluck supper at the parish center. Members seen here enjoyed their annual end-of-the-season breakfast at the Larchwood Inn in Wakefield. If you would like to join these spirited parishioners, contact Vi O’Connor, 295-1409, for more information.

A Full Church



More than 300 people attended the Warwick Symphony Orchestra concert to support the Interfaith Community Dire Emergency Assistance Fund. Led by conductor/director Dinarte “Dino” Ferro, the 60-member orchestra played a variety of selections from Bach to Andrew Lloyd Webber. Not only was a great time had by all in attendance, but \$1,800 was raised in the process. Thanks to Bill Feaster and the other members of the fundraising committee (Jeff Horner, Bernie Nugent, Julie Palazini and Gina Sayles), as well as to all who supported the event.



These Sneakers Are Made for Walking...

If only they could talk, the sneakers of the St. Bernard's Walkers could tell many tales of their travels around the state. This group, which includes parishioners (from l) Gerry Grabowski, Marie Quinn, Jane Allen, Elizabeth McGrath, Chris Kosak and Catherine Rubin, partakes in several walks during the course of the year. This picture was taken at the Tomorrow Fund Walk (held in April), but they also participate in the annual Good Friday Hope Walk, the AIDS Walk R.I., the Memory Walk for Alzheimer's and a breast cancer walk. Besides getting exercise and strengthening their friendship, they're also supporting local organizations. Remember...the best exercise program is a walk with God. (Sign at a local church.)



Youth Ministry Heads to N.H.

Our Work Camp team—25 strong—will be going to Hollis, New Hampshire, from July 17-23. The team includes 22 returning members and three new ones; it represents 16 different families, including four sets of brothers and sisters; and there are 13 ninth graders, three tenth graders, one eleventh grader and four twelfth graders.

The team includes: adults Dawn Masterson, Roger Biron, Colleen Hitchings and Jay Masterson; and, youth Shalan Bates, Trevor Brunelle, Cody Daluz, Dan Fanning, Matthew Gardiner, Kathryn Gillette, Phillip Gillette, Victoria Gillette, Dennis Glasberg, Caleb Heikes, Kelley Hitchings, Kaitlin Hitchings, Michael Hoey, Andrew LaVallee, Bobby Murtha, Haley Nixon, Christina Sayles, Maria Sayles, Christine Schmoeger, Erin Smith and Kathleen Smith.



Capital Campaign Update

Have you been wondering what's happening with the Capital Campaign? Well, not a whole heck of a lot! We had to take a break from our campaign while the Diocesan Catholic Charity Fund Appeal was in progress. That officially ends this month—so watch out, we're coming back!!

With just over half of our \$3 million goal pledged and/or contributed so far, we've still got a lot to do. We have heard from only about 30% of our parishioners. What about the remaining parishioners? Does that include you??

Remember, our goal is to build for the future. Our little church is 130 years old and is showing its age. At a minimum, our new church will provide us with a beautiful setting in which to worship, plenty of room for the choir and after Mass socializing, air conditioning, as well as convenient and safe parking. All this and we haven't even mentioned the new Parish Center!

Fr. Dennis and the co-chairs are exploring additional avenues to raise the necessary funding, but personal participation from parishioners is the most important source of funding for this endeavor! What are you waiting for? Please respond prayerfully and generously!

We need your support to achieve our parish goal!

Shut In?

Do you know of a parishioner or neighbor who is housebound and might enjoy some company? If so, please contact the parish center at 295-0387 to make arrangements for a visit by a Eucharistic minister.



Class of 2005 Leaves Mark on Youth Ministry

by Dawn Masterson

The Youth Ministry would like to congratulate the Class of 2005.

Your abilities, energy and enthusiasm helped the ministry become what it is today - a successful and spiritual group of young adults making a difference in the lives of others and, most importantly, your own. Thank You for all your hard work and dedication to the ministry.

A special highlight of this class is the relationship of three seniors—Victoria Gillette, Kaitlin Hitchings and Maria Sayles—who have been with the ministry for the past six years. Although these girls attend three different high schools, they became great friends through the youth ministry. They were involved in all aspects of the youth ministry - including singing with our youth choir, lecturing at youth masses, attending all four trips to WorkCamp and helping plan and lead our social nights and games. They participated in almost every scheduled event (e.g., car washes, rake and runs, scavenger hunts for cans, lock-ins, celebrity dress-up nights, tie-dying shirts, singing at my wedding, writing reflections for the masses, etc). They were leaders of activities and great role models of God's Love for the other youth in the ministry.



Victoria Gillette graduated from the Prout School. She will be attending Wagner College, Staten Island, New York, in the fall, with in undeclared major. She plans to spend a year there and then, possibly, transfer to Emerson College to pursue her performing arts

passion. Victoria is witty and charming and always had an idea that she was willing to develop from beginning to end. She was our note-taker during our planning meetings and she had a keen ability to develop a theme for any of the events we were planning. She also was our Easter Bunny one year, right down to the cottontail and painted-on nose and whiskers.

Kaitlin Hitchings graduated from St. Mary's Academy, Bay View. She will be attending Catholic University in



Washington, D.C., this fall, studying drama. She has been a big help with the family activities—she is our Polaroid camera expert, taking all the photos at our breakfast with St. Nicholas and Easter breakfast. She also helped organize our Parents' Night Out and made phone calls/sent e-mails to fellow members whenever there was a need. She definitely provided an extra set of hands to keep things going.



Maria Sayles graduated from North Kingstown High School. She will be attending Eastern Connecticut State University, studying Government Law/Business/Foreign Languages. Maria helped to create picture collages and was able to help with any odds and

ends that came up – right down to being the witch that had the bucket of goop the children got to stick their hands in at our Halloween costume party. She also has worked in the parish center part-time during the evening. And, she was great with the young children at the breakfasts, helping them to create crafts.

A special farewell to Anne Cardente, Dan Fanning, Brittany Nugent, Stephanie Paretta, Michelle Schmoeger and Natalie Squillante. These seniors also shared their time, talents and treasures with the ministry, as well as participated in at least one or more of the Workcamp trips. A special thank you to Natalie for creating our rainbow for the Easter breakfast; it is an "heirloom" that will be displayed each year. It is bright and beautiful - just like the future for these seniors. Don't forget your sunglasses!!!

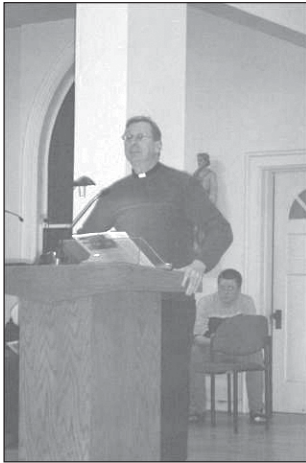
I am very proud to have worked with you and share in your growth over the years. I commend you for your ongoing commitment to our parish community, as well as your ability to perform strong academic work throughout your high school career. You are all dedicated and determined individuals, and I believe that whatever road you travel, you will do great things with great spirit.

Always remember you have a place to call home – St. Bernard's Church.

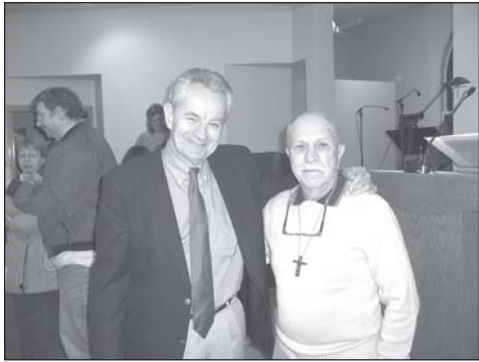
Congratulations, good luck and much love!



Paul Wilkes leads the parish mission.



Fr. Dennis welcomes parishioners.



Paul Wilkes, George Silva



Paul Wilkes, Marry Gormally

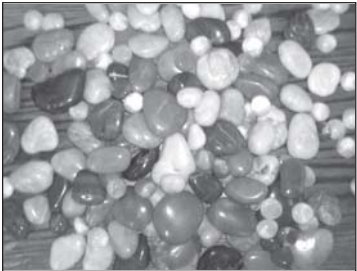


Fr. Dennis with (from l) Joseph Harris, Ryan Harris, Mary Ann Harris



2005 Parish Mission: Bringing a Bit of Light Into the Dark World

Though the weather outside was cold and dreary, the warmth inside the walls of St. Bernard's filled everyone's hearts with hope, peace, love and harmony. This came as a result of a three-night parish mission led by Paul Wilkes. Paul shared with us his thoughts, words, actions and rituals. These photos recapture memories of those evenings, where we laid down our burdens, lifted our voices in song and carried the light of the Word into the night.



Rocks of all shapes, sizes and colors represent the burdens put down by parishioners.



Fellowship at the parish center following the parish mission.



On the last night of the parish mission, attendees carried the "light unto the nations."

The Haitian Connection Continues

St. Bernard's is fortunate and blessed to be a vital part of the Haitian Project, thanks largely to Marco Barbesta and his passionate commitment to the program. Marco recently moved to Pennsylvania to pursue a new career in Nazareth (a holy calling?) and has entrusted the continued connection of St. Bernard's parish to the Haitian Project to Pat Newell.

Pat is a parishioner who accompanied Marco and several other women from the parish on a mission trip in November 2002 to Louverture Cleary School, the Haitian Project's free, Catholic boarding school in Haiti.

St. Bernard's involvement with the Haitian Project is current and thriving. On March 4, 2005, the parish graciously hosted the annual meeting and dinner for board members attending from various parts of the country.

In April, Peggy DaLuz (another volunteer from the November trip), her SPRED students and their family members presented Pat Newell with a check for \$50 and 150 hair ornaments for the female students of Louverture Cleary. Peggy knows first-hand the genuine appreciation the students have for any gifts they receive, and the gratitude they feel for being remembered.

Also, the Youth Ministry of the parish will join with the Haitian Project group to kick off "Sneaker Sunday" on June 19. This ongoing sneaker drive will benefit students at Louverture Cleary who are playing soccer and basketball with no shoes or sneakers.

In the past, Marco has been synonymous with the Haitian Project as he introduced St. Bernard's to the school in Haiti, its children, their struggles and their tremendous accomplishments—despite the enormous difficulties in their country. Through its continued commitment to the Haitian Project, St. Bernard's welcomes new opportunities for the parish to support the efforts of this noteworthy and exciting cause. These children truly are the future of Haiti!

Anyone interested in becoming involved with the project or learning more about it may call Pat at 295-5160.



Get the Latest Buzz...

Did you know we have an electronic version of The Buzz, called the e-Buzz? If you'd like to receive timely news from St. Bernard's, just send your e-mail address to parish.center@sbcwickford.org. We'll add you to our distribution list.

St. B's Leaders

New members of the parish council were selected at the masses during the weekend of June 4/5. They include: Donna Bezubka, John Bezubka, Maureen Corcoran, Karin Forbes and Catherine Rubin. We look forward to your leadership as we move into a new year.

Double Your Money

Many companies offer matching funds to employees who contribute to nonprofit organizations. That means, for every dollar you donate or pledge, your company will match it. In fact, the Diocese of Providence lists more than 150 companies who participate in this program. Some of those in the Providence area include: Cranston Print Works, CVS, FM Global, Gilbane Building, GTECH, Hasbro and Textron. For more information, contact your human resources department.

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Then, there's talent. We usually think of talented people as those who have a special gift, such as musical ability or artistic talent, or some other "easily identifiable" gift. But, that's not always the case. "Talent" includes the ability to be a good listener, to organize people, to be patient with others. And, talent changes with age. Our teens are always on the go because they have a lot of energy, while our seniors have slowed down a little, but have the gift of knowledge to share.

Treasure. Oh, how Catholics hate to talk about money. But, it's an essential part of running our parish. And, again, it's all about sharing our gifts in gratitude, not in resentment. You shouldn't support St. Bernard's because you *have* to...you should be doing it because you *want* to. The Capital Campaign is a perfect example of how we can share our gifts with our parish community. Give what you can afford—and give it with love!

So, how can you best be a steward of your time, talent and treasure? Put God at the center of your life. When you pray regularly about your gifts and listen to how God is calling you to use them, you will feel fulfilled in all areas of your life.



St. Bernard's Books and More
 (Formerly known as St. Bernard's Media Center)
 by Deborah McCoy

New books have been arriving at *St. Bernard's Books and More* on the following topics:

- Thomas Merton
- Prayer and spirituality
- Mary, the Mother of Jesus
- Pope John Paul II

Each month, new stock will be added, with an emphasis on selected monthly reading themes. The projected themes for the next few months are as follows:

- June — Celebrating the Year of the Eucharist
- July and August — Summer Reading for Catholics
- September — Stewardship and Discipleship
- October — Saints and Spiritual Heroes

Starting in June, we will be bringing the books to you one weekend a month through an outdoor book sale outside the doors of the church after all masses. Look for us the third weekend of each month: June 18 and 19; July 16 and 17, and August 20 and 21.

In the meantime, feel free to peruse the selection of new books at the parish center during weekday hours in classroom 1 and the hallway. If the parish center is open for events or meetings in the evening (check the schedule in the bulletin or look for cars in the parking lot), you also are welcome to have a look and make purchases.

Unfortunately, these hours of availability are limited, especially for those who work full-time, so please don't hesitate to contact the operating manager (see below) and arrange for *St. Bernard's Books and More*

to be open on the weekends—by appointment. The staff also is looking into alternative ways to have merchandise available at more convenient times and places.

The "**More**" of *St. Bernard's Books and More* includes religious medals, crosses, crucifixes, religious jewelry, statues, sacramental gifts, greeting cards, games and music. "Older" stock has been on sale and will continue to be on sale throughout the summer. We will be replenishing these items in the early fall. However, if you are looking for something particular now, we are happy to order items at any time.

The "**More**" of *St. Bernard's Books and More* also includes events such as film showings and book discussions. Watch the bulletin for details of future events.

Volunteers are needed to help staff outdoor book sales, and perform some inventory and set-up work during the summer. Teens and adults are welcome. Contact Liz O'Keefe, 295-0438.

Special Order requests, suggestions, and comments always welcome. Contact the Operating Manager Deborah McCoy at 885-6405 or dlmccoy@cox.net.



**Faith Formation—
 Another Successful,
 Faith-Filled Year**

by Judi DiMartino

As this issue of *The Buzz* goes out to our parishioners, the 2004-2005 CCD school year is coming to a close. Approximately 600 children participated in the program, with the help of over 60 teachers and aides. Fifty-eight 10th graders were confirmed in November by Bishop Boland, and 66 children made their First Communion in the spring.

Michele Sandham, along with all her staff of teachers, aides and students, provided a witness of faith to our parishioners with the many activities and programs in which they participated. We thank Michele for the time she spent making sure everything went well. Thanks, too, to the teachers and parents who gave of their time.

Inside, you will find a **PRE-REGISTRATION POSTCARD** that should be used by **all** families to sign up for the 2005-2006 CCD program. It's very important to pre-register your child/children, so we can be prepared to greet them when CCD begins. Parents whose children will be entering Grade 1 next year need to fill in the card **AND** contact the parish center. Please return the pre-registration card to the center by sending it in the mail, dropping it in the collection basket on Sunday, dropping it off at the center or leaving it in the pick up box in the foyer (if the parish center is closed).

The St. Bernard Faith Formation program wishes all students an enjoyable and safe summer—and we look forward to seeing you all back in the Fall!

We Want You!

Do you have graphic design skills you'd like to share? The Buzz staff is in need of someone who can volunteer his or her time and talent to help produce the parish newsletter. If you're interested, please contact Jane Allen at 295-0387 or Carol Sarro at 739-2375.

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Dollars for Scholars



Once again, thanks to the support of many parishioners, the Scholarship Committee was able to award scholarships to eight students. They include (front row, from l) Maria Sayles, Jessica Pagano, Victoria Gillette, Natalie Squillante and Kaitlin Hitchings, and (back row, from l) John Olerio, Laura Fahey, Fr. Dennis and Rachel Manoni. Congratulations and good luck in school!



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The Buzz

Calendar of Events (continued)

- Tues., Aug. 2
Red Sox game to support N.K. Food Pantry
- Thurs., Aug. 11, 2-4 p.m.
Blood Drive
- Sat. and Sun., Aug. 20 and 21
Media Outdoor Book Sale after all masses
- Sun., Sept. 25
Stewardship Fair
- Sun., Oct. 16, 23, 30
New Beginnings Program
- Sun. Nov. 13, 11:30 a.m.
Newcomers Mass