

Community Communications

August ~ September 2008



A communication tool for the Deacon community of the Diocese of Lansing

“Well Done Good and Faithful Servant”

Thank You Wayne

submitted by Bill Sirl

After nearly nine years of editing and publishing our *Community Communications*, Wayne Charlton has stepped down. Wayne approached me with the idea of having a deacon community newsletter at the first Deacon Convocation in October of 1999. He offered to pull everything together, format it, edit it and send it to the Office of Deacons ready for publication. Needless to say, I was delighted with the idea and his offer to do most of the work on it. All he asked was for material with which to work.

Thanks to his efforts, *Community Communications* has become a top notch deacon newsletter and the envy of many a Director of Deacons. It has quite a readership around the country including Bill Ditewig, former Executive Secretary for the USCCB Office of Deacons and Jim Alt, publisher of Deacon Digest. In fact, Jim has culled many articles for Deacon Digest from our newsletter. This is a real testament to the quality of our newsletter. (See separate article below)

Wayne, words cannot express our deep gratitude for the many hours you have put in to the newsletter. I know each issue required at least 12 to 15 hours of your time. But even more impressive is the talent and dedication with which you served the deacon community. Thank you for all your effort, sacrifice and inspiration. Truly you have given a priceless gift to our community.

I need also to thank Stan Kukla who, from time to time, would give Wayne a bit of a break by pulling together an issue for him. I doubt Wayne would have continued this long if it weren't for the occasional respite you provided him.

And to all of you who have faithfully provide articles and material over the years, keep them coming. Our newsletter would be nothing without your input.

Our Writers Recognized Nationally ~

Deacon Digest has published many articles which have been authored by members of our deacon community. Most of these articles first appeared in our *Community Communications*. Jim Alt feels we have very good writers in the Lansing Diocese and scans our newsletter on line after every issue. Here is a list of articles appearing in Deacon Digest just in the past three and a half years:

March/April 2005 - *Night Prayer* by Joy Franklin

When Marriage and Diaconate Collide by Dcn. Marv Robertson

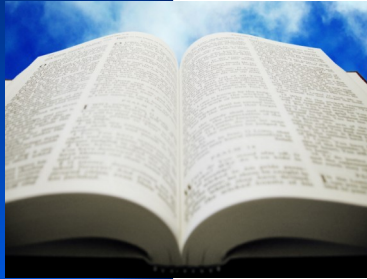
Sept/October 2005 - *Impressions & Expressions* by Dcn. Greg Poole

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Deacon Convocation 2008 ~ October 3-5 Shanty Creek ~ Summit Village



**It is Important
for you to know
that this is not
a preaching
workshop or a
*practicum***

Renewing Sunday Preaching is the theme of this year's Deacon Convocation ~ Father Ray John Marek, OMI along with a NOCERCC Team (The National Organization for Continuing Education of Roman Catholic Clergy) have put together a wonderful program and have adapted it especially to the Deacon Community for this Convocation.

It is important for you to know that this is not a preaching workshop or a *practicum*. It does not include writing or giving homilies. The program is intended to be an active reflection, an attempt to capture the inner reality

of the Catholic Sunday preaching, allowing us to affirm our dedication to preaching the Word of God, as well as to encourage our best efforts in that ministry.

Planning for the Deacon Community Convocation is entering the final stage. Please note that room registration will take place at the Conference Center entrance. Do **not** go to the main registration desk. This way you will not need to climb any stairs and you can take your luggage down the hall to the elevators without hauling luggage up or down any stairs.

We will be taking pictures of everyone near the satellite registration area on Friday from 4:00 to 5:30. These will be used to compile an addendum to the Deacon Community Directory. For those unable to attend the Convocation, we ask that you submit a picture or we will make arrangements to get your picture taken. We want to have everyone in the pictorial directory.

A collection for the Deacon Assistance Fund will be taken at Sunday's Mass. An envelope for the collection will be included in the packet you receive when you arrive. Just place your donation in the envelope and drop it in the basket prior to Sunday's Mass. We know many of you are avid readers so we plan to have a book exchange table available outside the meeting space during the weekend. Bring any books (from fiction to spiritual) you'd like to contribute to the cause and place them on the table. During the course of the weekend check out the table and take home any book(s) you'd like to read. Don't feel you have to contribute any books to take some.

Saturday Evening Prayer will include Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction followed by Adoration through the night. There will be a sign up sheet available during the day on Saturday.

Pat and a committee of wives are planning optional alternate programming for the wives while the men are in session with homiletics on Saturday and Sunday morning. Bishop Boyea plans to talk with the wives at one of the sessions. He has asked for some suggested talking points. Please let us know if you have any ideas or questions that the Bishop might address.

If anyone would like to arrive a day or two early or stay over, they can enjoy our Convocation rate of \$95 per night. Just notify Anne and we will make arrangements with Shanty Creek for you and bill you later.

RSVP for Convocation due August 29th

Planning Tomorrow's Churches ~ A Mini Common Conference ~

On November 7, 2008, the Office of Pastoral Planning is offering a day long 'common conference' for all pastoral workers of the diocese. This workshop will help participants be effective and responsible agents for change. With the on-going implementation of Planning Tomorrow's Churches, change will affect all of us in some way. Some parishes are involved in clustering, merging or closing; everyone will be involved in ministering in different ways as cooperation and collaboration between parishes and regions takes effect.

The presenter for the day will be Terri Monroe, RSCJ, EdD. A number of diocesan ministers were privileged to hear Sr. Terri at The Summit in Orlando in April, 2008. Her down to earth, yet meaningful way of dealing with changing situations left participants clearly understanding some simple things, for example, why "New Year's resolutions don't always work" as well as the more complex situations of leading others through intense transitions. A study conducted some time ago showed that efforts in change result in failure 90% of the time! A similar study recently conducted by the University of Michigan showed that efforts in change resulted in failure 75% of the time. We can conclude that now when we deal with change more effectively, the results can be positive.

Sr. Terri Monroe, EdD, is an Associate Professor at the University of San Diego. She teaches the core course on Leadership Theory and Practice and Leadership for Change for doctoral and masters students at the School of Leadership and Education Sciences as well courses on organizational consulting, policymaking and human relations. She is the former Associate Director of the Leadership Education Project and Lecturer in Public Policy at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. She is also trained as a theologian and canon lawyer, and has taught courses in these subject areas at numerous colleges and universities including the Weston Jesuit School of Theology, Seattle University, St. John's University and Catholic Theological Union. She is a member of the Society of the Sacred Heart, an international Catholic religious order committed to the spiritual practice of contemplation-in-action, and oriented to the mission of education.



Our Writers Recognized Nationally ~ continued

Nov/Dec 2005 -	<i>The Rest of the Story</i> by Dcn. Jim Miles <i>Night Prayer</i> by Joy Franklin
Mar/April 2006 -	<i>Ecumenical Church Networking</i> by Dcn. Richard Stanford
Nov/Dec 2006 -	<i>The Power of 'To Be'</i> by Tony Mammina
Jan/Feb 2007 -	<i>Evangelizing Evangelizers</i> by Dcn. Marv Robertson
May/June 2007 -	<i>Mary, Martha & the Diaconate</i> by Dcn. Marv Robertson
Sept/Oct 2007 -	<i>Groaning Amen</i> by Wayne Corrion
Nov/Dec 2007 -	<i>The Color of Hope</i> by Wayne Corrion
Jan/Feb 2008 -	<i>Alcoholism & Guest House</i> by Dcn. Pat McDonald <i>Great Memories of a Friend's Life</i> by Dcn. Paul Ellis <i>A Deacon Reflects on His Dying</i> by Dcn. Bob Chadwick
March/April 2008 -	<i>Journey to First Snow</i> by Dcn. Dave Rosenberg
May/June 2008 -	<i>I Saw You</i> by Wayne Corrion <i>A Grace Filled Moment</i> by Gary Prise
July/August 2008 -	<i>Juvenile Justice Ministry</i> by Dcn. Gene Hausmann <i>The Toll of Time</i> by Dcn. Marv Robertson
Sept/Oct 2008 -	<i>Duty, Honor, Faith</i> by Don Michael



Announcing a New Feature

Starting with this issue, we would like to feature book reviews prepared by members of the deacon community. If you have read a book, spiritual or otherwise, that you think others might enjoy, please write up a little review for publication in *Community Communications* and send it to Anne Rivet at arivet@dioceseoflansing.org

The Secret Cardinal

by Tom Grace

submitted by Bill Sirl

Loosely inspired by real life characters, *The Secret Cardinal* is the story of a former Navy Seal, a practicing Catholic, who is asked by the Vatican to plan an operation to “liberate” a Chinese archbishop from 30 years of imprisonment and bring him to Rome. In actuality, the archbishop had secretly been named a Cardinal by Pope Leo XIV many years before. The story gives a glimpse into the working of the Vatican while weaving a fairly decent tale of intrigue and suspense. The Pope of the story reminds one of John Paul II and the secret Cardinal certainly brings to mind the revered Vietnamese Cardinal, the late Nguyen Van Thuan. Cardinal Van Thuan was held prisoner for 13 years and then “released” to house arrest until 1991 when he was expelled from Viet Nam. With much detail about the history and politics of China and the Roman Catholic Church, as well an abundance of modern technological gadgetry, there is plenty to hold the reader’s interest. I won’t reveal any more of the story so as not to ruin the suspense.



Interestingly, the main character is from Ann Arbor and a graduate of the University of Michigan. The frequent local references gave the book a more comfortable feel for me. Of course, the author is a University of Michigan grad and a parishioner of St. Joseph Parish in Dexter. Not a “wannabe” author, this is Tom Grace’s fifth successful book. And, yes, his last name really is Grace.

I recommend the book for an evening or two of light, enjoyable reading that will keep you engrossed from start to finish. Pat and Anne both recommend it, too. Thanks Betty Endebrock for loaning us the book.

Directory Updates

Dcn Stanford
POBox 4285
East Lansing, MI 48826
517-708-8819

Dcn Arquette
xarqarbor@comcast.net

Dcn McPhilamy
415 Morgan Falls Rd, Apt 9306
Sandy Springs, GA 30350
404-345-3866
bobmac06@mac.com

Updated Deacon Community Directory Coming: The final changes are being made to the Directory so that we can get it printed in time for the Convocation. If you have had any changes to your address, phone numbers or e-mail, during the past year, please let us know, so that we can make the updates in the next few weeks. **If the wives would like their emails included please get them to us as well.** arivet@dioceseoflansing.org or call Anne 517 342-2510

Pictures for the directory will be taken at registration, for the Convocation from 4-5:30pm, on Friday. These will be compiled as an addendum for the Directory. For those unable to attend Convocation, we ask that you submit a picture or we will make arrangements to get your picture taken. We want to have everyone included.



For the sick:

- Jim Brown
- Mae Brown
- Mary Ann Carsten
- Joy and Tom Franklin
- Bill and Pat Fudge
- Betty Garber
- Fr. Bill Lugger
- Cathy Lynch
- Ofelia Miles
- Penny Novak
- Jesse Pizana Ray & Grace's grandson
- Fr. Roger Prokop
- Tommie Ann Tracey Mary Russello's mother



Community Prayer Line

For those who have died:

- Rita Selinsky, Pam Feiten's mother

Necrology

September

- 5 Most Rev Kenneth Povish 2003
- 24 Dcn Len'Dell Miller 1994



**Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi,
feast day October 4th**

Lord make me an instrument of Thy peace;
 where there is hatred, let me sow love;
 where there is injury, pardon;
 where there is doubt, faith;
 where there is despair, hope;
 where darkness, light;
 and where there is sadness, ever joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so
 much seek to be consoled as to console;
 to be understood, as to understand,
 to be loved, as to love;
 for it is in giving that we receive,
 it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
 and it is in dying that we are born to
 Eternal Life.



Genesee/Owosso Cluster

Place: St. Mary, Mt. Morris
Date: Sept 8
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Contact: M. Dear, J. Daunt
Other Details:

Jackson/Lenawee/Hillsdale Cluster

Place: TBD
Date: TBD
Time: TBD
Contact: Jim or Pat Nicholson
Other Details:

Lansing Cluster

Place: at Covocation
Date: Oct 3-5
Time: TBD
Contact: T Heutsche, T. Fogle
Other Details:

Livingston Cluster

Place: McDonald's House
Date: Sept. 13
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Contact: J. Brennan, P. McDonald
Other Details: Bring a dish to pass

Washtenaw Cluster

Place: TBD
Date: TBD
Time: TBD
Contact: W. Hecht or T. Franklin
Other Details:

Cluster Meetings

Other Important Dates

Seminarian Golf Outing On Thursday, September 9, at Hawk Hollow & Eagle Eye Courses.

As many of you know, for the first time in many years, the diocese is blessed to have 40 young men studying to be priests. They need our help in easing the burden of educational expenses. In order to raise support, the diocese is presenting the first annual **Bishop's Golf Classic for Seminarian Education**. It is sponsored by the Diocese of Lansing and the Knights of Columbus. For registration and sponsorship information, contact 517-342-2503 or email pohearn@dioceseoflansing.org.



***If you are not a golfer, or simply are unable to join us for golf that day, please consider coming out for the buffet dinner/awards banquet and mingling. Buffet cost is \$30.**



CATHOLICS AND FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP ~ John Carr, secretary, USCCB Department of Social Development and World Peace, has represented the USCCB at the Vatican in Northern Ireland, South Africa, Central America, Eastern Europe, Russia, Vietnam and the Middle East. He has written on Catholics and political responsibility, housing and mediating structures and often speaks on Catholic Social

Teaching and the moral dimensions of key public issues. John will be speaking on *Catholics and Faithful Citizenship* on September 19 at 10:30 a.m., St. Joseph in Dexter and 7:00 p.m., St. John's Student Parish in East Lansing. All are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

**THE OFFICE OF LAY ECCLESIAL MINISTRY &
THE PROFESSIONAL PASTORAL MINISTERS ASSOCIATION**
present the LAY MINISTRY CONVOCATION for 2008

Friday, October 24th
8:30 am ~ 3:00 pm
St. Patrick Parish, Brighton



“Unity through Diversity” A ‘*Chautauqua*’ or focused conversation for pastoral leaders, is a program designed by Diocesan Director, Ronald Landfair, incorporating presentations, reflective interaction and dialogue among ministers from different backgrounds. The Unity through diversity Chautauqua aims to familiarize participants with important social, cultural and theological understandings of the diverse peoples of the diocese of Lansing.

For more info contact Nancy Joseph at njoseph@dioceseoflansing.org or (517)342-2510

Newsletter Deadline: October 17th

You are cordially invited to attend

**THE REALITIES OF
SAME-SEX ATTRACTION**

October 24th* and 25th, 2008

10a.m. - 3p.m.

St. Joseph Church

440 East Washington, Howell

PRESENTERS

RICHARD FITZGIBBONS, M.D., P.C.

DIRECTOR, COMPREHENSIVE COUNSELING SERVICES, PA

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FORGIVENESS, WI

REVEREND PAUL CHECK

DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT, CT

OCTOBER 24 ~ *CLERGY DAY (reserved for Priests and Deacons only)

**OCTOBER 25 ~ EVERYONE WELCOME: PRIESTS, DEACONS, SOCIAL
WORKERS, DRES, TEACHERS, SEMINARIANS**

SOCIAL WORK CEUs AVAILABLE

❖ LUNCH PROVIDED ~ RSVP REQUIRED ❖

Rory Hoipkemier 517-342-2469 or email:

rhoipkemier@dioceseoflansing.org

Sponsored by the Departments of Formation and Catholic Charities

Catholic Diocese of Lansing



Msgr. Michalek Honored by Pope

The Holy See recently has informed Bishop Boyea that Msgr. George Michalek has been named a Prelate of Honor to his Holiness Pope Benedict XVI. This had been requested by Bishop Mengeling earlier this year. We are all grateful for this honor which the Holy Father has bestowed on our Presbyterate and on Msgr. Michalek. There will be a Mass for the presentation of this papal honor at the Cathedral on Sunday, September 28, 2008, at 5:00pm. All are encouraged to join Msgr. Michalek for this joyous day in his life and in the life of our diocese.

RSVP = GOOD STEWARDSHIP

With the rising cost of food and fuel on everyone's mind these days, we are all looking for ways to reduce and conserve. Planning errands more carefully, turning off unneeded electrical items, etc. We at the Diocesan Offices are also trying to conserve. In this day and age of technology, many of us have the means to communicate almost instantaneously and yet the "RSVP" has almost become obsolete. One easy way that you can help us to reduce costs is to RSVP to events promptly. The cost of food and fuel is being passed on to us by the good folks who prepare many of the meals for our functions, meetings and events. We have to guess high to make sure we have enough, then end up with more than necessary. While the food doesn't go to waste; the cost of the extra meals is taken from the budget and is therefore passed onto all those who support the Diocese. Please help us to be Good Stewards of the Diocesan resources. A good rule of thumb is to remember that we usually have to give a final head count for meals and room reservations one week in advance. This gives the caterers a chance to plan, shop, and prepare in an efficient manner and keep their costs down as well. The same can be said for room reservations. Many times we could have used a smaller room and gotten charged less or allowed the facility to book space for another group, but we didn't know how many were coming. We understand that things come up and schedules get rearranged for us, so if your plans change at the last minute, please call. There is always the chance that we can fit you in or allow someone else to take your place. So next time you get an invite, be a good steward, do your part and RSVP in a timely manner.



Pope Urges Christians to Stay Close to Holy Spirit from Zenit News Service

Benedict XVI says that Christians have to stay close to the Holy Spirit if they want to be able to transmit him to others.

The Pope affirmed this Aug. 6 when he met with priests, deacons and seminarians of the Diocese of Bolzano-Bressanone and answered six questions they asked him. The Holy Father was on vacation in the Dolomites, where he stayed at the major seminary of Bressanone.

The first question, posed by a seminarian, Michael Horrer, regarded living the gifts of the Holy Spirit in one's daily life.

Horrer recalled his experience at July's World Youth Day in Sydney, led by Benedict XVI, and dedicated to the theme of the Holy Spirit.

"Holy Father, how can we live the gifts of the Holy Spirit in practice, here in our country and in our daily lives, in such a way that our relatives, friends and acquaintances feel and experience his power, and how can we exercise our mission as Christ's witnesses?" the seminarian asked.

The Pope answered by recalling that participants and spectators at the Sydney event saw "that faith today is a force that is present, a force that can give people the right orientation. This is why there was a moment in which we truly felt the breath of the Holy Spirit who sweeps away prejudices, who makes people understand that yes, here we find what closely affects us; this is the direction in which we must go; and in this way we can live, in this way the future unfolds."

Benedict XVI acknowledged, however, that in daily life, "it is far more difficult in practice to perceive the action of the Holy Spirit."

"In the end, it is the Lord who helps us but we must be available as instruments," he continued. "I would say simply: No one can give what he does not personally possess; in other words we cannot pass on the Holy Spirit effectively or make him perceptible to others unless we ourselves are close to him."

The Holy Father went on to encourage his listeners to remain "within the radius of the Holy Spirit's breath, in contact with him. Only if we are continually touched within by the Holy Spirit, if he dwells in us, will it be possible for us to pass him on to others.

"He said that the Holy Spirit can be considered the breath of Christ, and "we, in a certain sense, must ask Christ to breathe on us always, so that his breath will become alive and strong and work upon the world. This means that we must keep close to Christ."

The Pontiff said the secret to staying close to Christ is meditating on his word. Recalling an expression he used in Sydney, the Pontiff proposed that speaking with God through his word is "as if we were to find ourselves strolling in the garden of the Holy Spirit; we talk to him and he talks to us."

"And then, naturally, this listening, walking in the environment of the word must be transformed into a response, a response in prayer, in contact with Christ," he added, recommending time spent with the Eucharist and the frequenting of the sacrament of penance.

The Bishop of Rome affirmed such a relationship with Christ and the Holy Spirit would give shape to daily life, structuring it in such a way that "God has access to us all the time. [...] We are in continuous contact with Christ and [...] we are continuously receiving the breath of the Holy Spirit."

"If we do this, if we are not too lazy, undisciplined or sluggish, then something happens to us: The day acquires a form, and in it, our life itself acquires a form and this light will shine from us without us having to give it much thought," he said.

Benedict XVI then considered another consequence of faith: the rebuilding of man.

"Faith does not only involve a supernatural aspect," he said. "It rebuilds man, bringing him back to his humanity."

The Pope contended that "human virtues show that faith is truly present, that we are truly with Christ -- and I believe that we should pay great attention to this, also regarding ourselves: to develop an authentic humanity in ourselves because faith involves the complete fulfillment of the human being, of humanity."

"We should pay attention to carrying out human tasks well and correctly, also in our profession, in respect for our neighbor, in being concerned about our neighbor, which is the best way to be concerned about ourselves," he continued, "In fact, 'existing' for our neighbor is the best way of 'existing' for ourselves."

• **PROGRAM CONTENT:**

- **Classes**

- Growth and Development of Spiritual Life
- + Integration of Spirituality and Psychology
- + History of Christian Spirituality

- **Spiritual Direction Practicum:**

- + Intern Spiritual Direction Practice
- + Case Studies in Spiritual Direction
- + Individual Supervision
- + Process Skills Development

- **Integrating Seminar**

- + Issues in Spiritual Direction

Attendance at the annual Colloquium for Spiritual Directors is required. The staff *strongly* recommends that during the two-year period the Interns participate in a Directed Retreat experience.

• **SPIRITUAL DIRECTION:**

Spiritual Direction is a pastoral ministry in which one Christian assists another to pay attention to God's personal communication to her or him, to respond personally to this God, to grow in intimacy and to live out the consequences of the relationship.

• **PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM:**

The Internship in Spiritual Direction provides opportunities for:

- Personal growth and development as ministers of spiritual direction;
- An understanding of the theological and psychological bases for spiritual direction
- Enhanced communication skills focused in the context of the spiritual direction ministry;
- Supervised ministry as spiritual directors.

• **PARTICIPANTS:**

Women and men, laity, religious and clergy of all faith traditions who are interested in deepening their understanding of the nature and process of spiritual direction may apply. It is important that applicants have some background in theology, some experience of pastoral ministry and give evidence of personal maturity. The program has been designed so that full time pastoral ministers can participate.

The maximum number of participants we accept is twelve and the minimum is nine.

• **PROGRAM SCHEDULE:**

YEAR I: 2008 - 2009

**All sessions are held on
Thursdays.**

Opening Session: Faith Sharing

September 11, 2008

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Classes Begin: September 25, 2008

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Remaining Class Dates:

Oct. 9, 23 Nov. 13, 20

Dec. 11 Jan. 8, 22

Feb. 5, 19 Mar. 5, 19

Apr. 2, 16, 30

Evaluations: May 7, 2009

Faith Sharing and Closing: May 14

YEAR II: 2009 - 2010

Dates to be arranged.

**St. Francis Retreat Center
and**

**The Dominican Center
for**

Religious Development

offer a two year

INTERNSHIP

IN

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

September 2008 - May 2010

at

**St. Francis Retreat and
Conference Center**

703 E. Main

DeWitt, Michigan 48820

(517) 669-8321

www.stfrancis.ws

• **STAFF:**

Teresa Disch, OP

Rev. Anita Smith-Buckwalter

Nancy Mason Bordley

• **TUITION AND FEES:**

Application fee: \$70.00

(Non-refundable fee must accompany the application form.)

Tuition: \$2,000.00 per year (two year program)

(Limited scholarship funds are available.)

• **APPLICATION DEADLINE:**

We ask that prospective interns have their materials in by June 1, 2008.

We are aware that circumstances may require a revised timeline and we will accept applications beyond that date

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information and application materials or to arrange an initial interview, please call, e-mail

or write: Rosemarie Kieffer, OP, Director

Dominican Center for Religious Development

23333 Schoolcraft Road, Detroit, MI 48223

Phone: (313) 387-9574

E-mail: info@dominicancenter.org

Website: www.dominicancenter.org

For the safety and well being of our
men and women in uniform, especially:

1st Lt. Mark Fogle
TSgt. Angelia Fogle
SSgt. Glenn Fogle
Fogle's son,
daughter-in-law & nephew

John Patrick Hilker
Hilker's son

Maj. Timothy McDonald
Spc. Michael McDonald
McDonald's sons

MSgt. Bill Shively



It's All True

submitted by Jim Sirl

Perks of reaching 50 or being over 60 and heading towards 70!

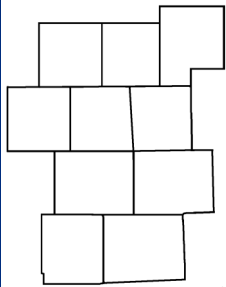
Kidnappers are not very interested in you.
In a hostage situation you are likely to be released first.
No one expects you to run--anywhere.
People call at 9 pm and ask, "did I wake you?"
People no longer view you as a hypochondriac.
There is nothing left to learn the hard way.
Things you buy now won't wear out.
You can eat supper at 4 pm.
You can live without sex but not your glasses.
You get into heated arguments about pension plans.
You no longer think of speed limits as a challenge.
You quit trying to hold your stomach in no matter who walks into the room.
You sing along with elevator music.
Your eyes won't get much worse.
Your investment in health insurance is finally beginning to pay off.
Your joints are more accurate meteorologists than the national weather service.
Your secrets are safe with your friends because they can't remember them either.
Your supply of brain cells is finally down to manageable size.



COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS
Diocese of Lansing
Office of Deacons

Submit newsletter articles to the Office of Deacons
(bsirl@dioceseoflansing.org or arivet@dioceseoflansing.org)

300 West Ottawa St.
Lansing, Michigan 48933



The Annual Diocesan Adult Faith Formation Conference

Diocesan Center in Lansing,

September 3, 2008

9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Major Workshop ~ If It Is Broke, Let's Fix It! *with Tom Zanzig*

You have already seen publicity for this event in **VOICES Alive!**. You can go to the following link for another copy of the registration form and complete information.

<http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/evangelization/adulteducationconference.pdf>

This is a great opportunity to hear Tom Zanzig, a national speaker on adult faith formation, describe practical ways to implement a new way of doing adult faith formation in parish life. The afternoon session will feature four different adult faith formation programs which are enjoying growing success in our diocese.

Parish leaders are welcome to bring members of the parish adult education committee, RCIA team, and evangelization team or other interested parishioners. **RSVP by August 27, \$25 includes lunch**

If you have any questions contact Pete Ries at 517-342-2486, or pries@dioceseoflansing.org.