

ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC CHURCH

ST. PIUS X -
AUGUST, 2011

Volume I, Issue I

FR. JULIAN IBEMERE NAMED ST. PIUS X PASTOR

On June 14, 2011, Fr. Julian Ukachukwu (Word of God) Ibemere became the tenth Pastor of St. Pius X Catholic Church.

My home is in Nigeria (the village of Umuorsu in the township of Amaraku), I have ministered in the United States in the Diocese of Owensboro, KY for about five years as a missionary priest. My first assignment was as Parochial Vicar at Blessed Mother Catholic Church in Owensboro. After two years, Bishop McRaith assigned me to help Fr. Brian Roby as Parochial Vicar of St. Francis de Sales Church and Rosary Chapel in Paducah, as well as St. Mary Parish, in LaCenter. My main responsibilities were to Rosary Chapel and St. Mary's. In December of that year, Bishop McRaith appointed me Pastor of those two smaller parishes. With the 2011 priests' location assignments, Bishop Medley made me the Pastor of St. Pius X.

I love being a priest and I love the people in the parishes that I serve. I thank the good Lord and Bishop Medley for making me a member of St. Pius X and giving me the privilege to serve in this household of faith that shines and radiates light from the hilltop.

May God bless and keep us together as we work in His vineyard.
Fr. Julian

This is the first of a 3 part series next month read about Fr. Julian's family.

YOU ARE INVITED

The Pastoral Council invites you to join them on **Saturday, August 20** for the Parish Feast Day Celebration AND the installation ceremony of Fr. Julian as the Pastor of St. Pius X.



The Celebration will begin with Mass, with Bishop Medley presiding, at 5:00 P.M. Immediately following Mass, burgoo, mutton sandwiches, hot dogs, tea & lemonade will be provided in the Parish Hall. Please bring a bag of chips, a 2 liter drink, or a dessert to share.

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SPEAK-UP SESSIONS BEING PLANNED

What do you see as the strengths of the Parish? What opportunities do you see for improvement? What would you like the Parish to be like, look like in 5 years?

Fr. Julian and the Parish leadership need your answers to these questions. Small group speak-up sessions are being planned for the next several months. Every parishioner will be invited to attend a speak-up session and give their input. This input will then be used to set priorities and to make short-term and long-term plans for the Parish. Speak-up sessions will be held in homes and at the Parish Hall. If you would like to host a session in your home, please contact Delores Turnage at 315-0789. Sessions will be at various times and days so that all Parishioners will have the opportunity to attend. These sessions will provide a great opportunity for everyone to meet Fr. Julian. A summary of the input will be published in the newsletter when the sessions are completed.

Special Points of Interest

- Giving Needs to Increase
- Stewardship a Way of Life
- Catechists Needed
- Becoming a Catholic
- June Fundraisers help Offset Financial deficit.

This Newsletter made possible by the generous donation of a Parish Family!!! Thank You!

A Quick Look at Year-end Financials and the Budget for This Coming Year

Al Johnson – Finance Chair.

When examining our finances for this past year (July '10 – June '11), we see that we are doing **Great** in some areas of the parish, but not so well in other areas. For reporting purposes, the Parish is separated into three departments --- Church Operations, Capital Campaign and Daycare. The Capital Campaign numbers were great with a positive \$11,354.60 difference between revenues and expenses on the year. Also, the Daycare numbers were good with a positive \$2,204.38 difference between revenues and expenses on the year. However, when examining the Parish Operations, the numbers aren't so good. So let's look at these numbers a little closer and see what we can do to improve the situation for this coming year.

We ended the year at a loss of \$35,634.05. We were not able to pay all our bills, plus our checking account has been drawn down to unworkable levels. To start to address the problem, we have cut the budget for this coming year everywhere we can without cutting ministries including cutting two part-time staff. Beginning July 1, we entered into a new fiscal year (our fiscal year runs from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012) and began working with a new budget which is the combined effort of Staff, Finance Committee, and Pastoral Council. Much is taken into consideration during this process. As with your own household, there are regular monthly expenses that are just part of running a household, in our case, a parish. Utilities, insurance, maintenance, etc. are just a few. And, in the same way our own financial responsibilities must be met (the bills continue to arrive regularly), so it is with our church.

To get us back on track as we go down the road and let us pay our bills on time and slowly build our checking account back to a workable level our weekly collections need to be \$15,072.00. This past year our weekly collection averaged \$13,911.08 per week. So we have a ways to go to get to \$15,072.00 per week. We currently have approximately 200 families that use envelopes or write a check to the church on a regular basis. This number needs to be, and should be, much larger! To pay our bills, we simply have to have more families contributing financially to the Parish, even it means contributing just a few dollars. Small amounts will add up over time and confirm that we are active, participating members of the Parish. Plus, any increases that can be made to existing giving will help to meet our goal and to make budget. Also, any one time gifts would help to catch the Parish up and maintain operation in the black.

EXPENES & REVENUES AT A GLANCE

Expense Graph Here

Revenue graph here

A New Year.....

Looking Ahead With Eyes of Faith

By Marisa Cooper, Parish Business Manager

There has been a lot of talk over the past few months regarding the financial status of the parish. You have heard talks from the pulpit, representatives from Pastoral Council and the Finance Committee, as well as me. As part of parish leadership, it is our responsibility to keep you, the parishioners, updated on what is going on and how we are being good stewards of the contributions you make to the parish. We will continue to make every effort to uphold this responsibility to you.

However, God calls each of us to be good stewards, responsible for the resources he has blessed us with. Being a good steward should not feel like a burden. Rather, it is an opportunity--a call on the part of the *giver* to give back a portion of the blessings God has bestowed upon us. A call to be a good steward is not a task to be endured, but a way of life to be embraced all year through.

Here at St. Pius Tenth, we are greatly blessed with a vibrant and active parish. The events and activities which keep our facilities full most of the week are a statement to the commitment of many volunteers. They are also evidence that St. Pius Tenth is a thriving parish, striving to build up God's Kingdom in our community, diocese, and beyond. Let us continue being that light shining from the hilltop.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED

For the last several years, a key component of the Parish faith development has been missing — Stewardship Ministry. Early this year, a Stewardship Committee was established and is being chaired by Joe Wathen. Other committee members include: Donna Howard, Carolyn McCarty, Gary Estes, Stacy Freels, Madison Silvert, Jane Strehl, and Beth Clements. During the summer, this group has been reading and educating themselves about the Ministry of Stewardship. Biblically, we know that Stewardship is the generous giving of our Time, Talent and Treasure to God in thanksgiving for our many blessings. In reality, most folks hear the word Stewardship and they immediately think MONEY — true, that is a component of Stewardship—but, Stewardship is SO MUCH MORE!!!! The primary focus of this Committee will be to get Parishioners involved — sharing their Time and Talents within the Parish and the community. Please keep this ministry in your prayers.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Sessions for Preschool through High School begin August 21 at 9:15 a.m. **Registration forms** are available in the Church vestibule during the month of July. Forms may be completed online at www.stpiustenthparish.org. Completed forms may be mailed to nancy.greenwell@bellsouth.net or placed in the Sunday collection basket.

Catechist Needed....Have you ever thought, “I could be a Catechist,” but never pursued the opportunity. NOW is your chance to share your faith and time with children or adults in the Parish. Please consider answering “Yes” to God’s call to make a difference in someone’s faith development. Both lead teachers and assistants are needed. To be a Catechist you must be actively participating in the Catholic faith and have a desire to share you faith. Training and on-going support will be provided. Safe environment and background checks are required for all people involved in church ministry. To volunteer, please contact Nancy at the Parish Office.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS AND CHILDRENRCIA

Have you been attending Mass for a while, but are not Catholic? We invite you to learn what Catholics believe in an open and welcoming environment. Get the answers to the questions you have about the Catholic faith and practices. Sessions will be held on Wednesday evenings beginning August 3 in the Parish Hall. Please contact Nancy in the Parish Office for additional information.



AWESOME JOB..... Special Thanks to Maria Hoesli and all the great volunteers that made Vacation Bible School such a great fun faith experience for our children. SUPER, super, job folks!!!!

Stewardship
In Action



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**“A LIGHT SHINING FROM THE
HILLTOP”**

We're on the Web
stpiustenthparish.org

PICNIC & CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT HUGE SUCCESS

The second weekend in June was once again a busy, exciting, and profitable time for the Parish. On Friday, June 10, we held our First Annual Corn Hole Tournament. This was a huge success....the Parish Hall was full of corn hole enthusiasts and spectators. The must was rockin, the bags were landing, and the nacho's, beer and fried pickles were disappearing. We had 48 teams in the tournament. The net profit for this event was \$3,700. All funds went to the general fund to help offset the current fiscal year deficit. The idea for the Corn Hole Tournament came from Gary Estes, a member of the Capital Campaign Committee. To make the tournament a reality, Gary recruited an excellent group to lead the effort: Jerry Wells, Rick Wallace, Jeff Fulkerson, and Jonathan Estes (Gary's

son who is a member of Immaculate Parish). This group did an awesome job and plans are currently underway to make next year's tournament bigger and better.

Preparations for the Picnic were underway for several months prior to the event. This year's Picnic Committee included Carolyn McCarty, Tom Rhodes, Sherry Nash, Rosemary Smith, Mallory Leutch, Jeff Fulkerson, Eddie Mattingly, Jr., Brenda Thomson & Michelle Jones. This group of folks did a super job. The picnic grounds were hopping with activity through the week and many volunteers came out to help with the Picnic. One of the most rewarding parts of the picnic is to see the fellowship among the Parishioners - one team working for a com-

mon goal! Everyone was busy, hot, and working, but there was an overwhelming spirit of camaraderie and happiness. Picnic day concluded with Mass - it was an awesome sight - a sea of sweaty, tired folks wearing red shirts and praising God at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Special thanks to everyone who sold Capital Prize tickets — sales increased by \$1,700 (which is all profit). A big WOO HOO to Alicia Wells who coordinates the Capital Prize ticket sales!

The projected net profit of this year's picnic is \$20,100.

