



# Mother of Good Counsel

*A Great Faith Community*

## The Chronicle

### From the Ambo

*A message from Fr. Carey*

**Welcome** to this issue of the MGC Chronicle. As you can see by looking through the following pages, there is a lot going on at MGC Parish and School. And, you can imagine, educating our school children, participating in ministries and providing sacramental opportunities keeps us busy here at MGC! It is nearly impossible to fit all the exciting news happening at MGC into the pages of our newsletter, but we do our best.



*Winners of the Catholic Schools Week morning trivia question celebrate a special lunch with Fr. Carey.*

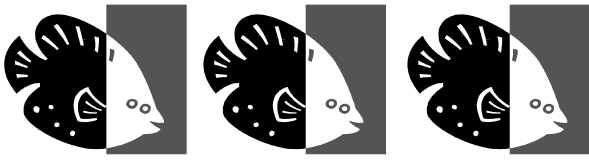
Inside this newsletter, there is the annual report and information about our celebration of Catholic Schools Week, ministry updates and more. You will also find our calendar of services for Lent and Easter. As we head into this sacred season we ask that you continue to keep MGC in your thoughts and prayers. Please join us for any of the services during this holy season. If you are from out of town and will be visiting family or friends over the holy days, we would be especially happy to see you again and share your memories of MGC.



*Fr. Carey unlocks the tabernacle for the 4K students to have their first look inside.*

May you all have a Blessed Lent and a Happy Easter.

God Bless You,  
Fr. Carey



# Come Follow Me!

## Please Join Us For Worship & Spiritual Growth during Lent and Holy Week

**Weekend Masses: Saturdays at 5:00 PM & Sundays at 8:30 & 10:30 AM**

**Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday at 8:15 AM**

### 2007 Liturgical Calendar for Lent

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent** Saturday - 5:00 PM Mass Sunday - 8:30 AM Mass, 10:30 AM Mass  
 Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>

**Stations of the Cross** 7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross - followed by Benediction  
 Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>



**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent** Saturday - 5:00 PM Mass Sunday - 8:30 AM Mass, 10:30 AM Mass  
 Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup>

**Stations of the Cross** 7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross - followed by Benediction  
 Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent** Saturday - 5:00 PM Mass Sunday - 8:30 AM Mass, 10:30 AM Mass  
 Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>

**Stations of the Cross** 7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross - followed by Benediction  
 Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>



**District 12 Penance Service** 7:00 PM - A District 12 penance service will be held at St. Jude Parish.  
 Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent** Saturday - 5:00 PM Mass Sunday - 8:30 AM Mass, 10:30 AM Mass  
 Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup>



**Stations of the Cross** 7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross - followed by Benediction  
 Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>

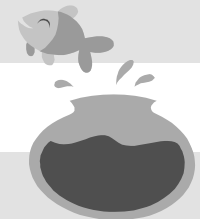
**District 12 Penance Service** 1:00 PM - A District 12 Penance Service will be held at Mother of Good Counsel  
 Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent** Saturday - 5:00 PM Mass Sunday - 8:30 AM Mass, 10:30 AM Mass  
 Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>

**Stations of the Cross** 7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross - followed by Benediction  
 Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>

**Palm Sunday** Saturday - 5:00 PM Mass Sunday - 8:30 AM Mass, 10:30 AM Mass  
 Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> including Children's Procession with Palms & Children's Liturgy of the Word

**Stations of the Cross** 7:00 PM - Living stations of the Cross lead by the MGC 8th grade class,  
 Wednesday, April 4 light reception to follow



**Holy Thursday** 8:30 AM - Liturgy of the Hours  
 Thursday, April 5 7:00 PM - Mass of the Lord's Supper and Washing of Feet

**Good Friday** 8:30 AM - Liturgy of the Hours  
 Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> 1:30 PM - Solemn Good Friday Service, Vigil Rehearsal to follow

**Holy Saturday** 8:30 AM - Liturgy of the Hours  
 Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> 8:30 PM - Easter Vigil & Mass of Easter

**Easter** 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM - Easter Mass  
 Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>



# Alumni News & Events

## An MGC Christmas



This Christmas, Ginny and I received an unexpected surprise from coworkers at the University of Pittsburgh. Having mentioned to them how much we enjoyed teaching at the very same school we had attended, they decided to call Mother of Good Counsel to order a jacket or sweatshirt in memory of years long ago! When I opened the package, not only was I surprised to see two green fleece jackets but a 1975 MGC yearbook and eighth grade pictures of Ginny (Heider) and me! Unbelievable memories of not only what we looked like eons ago, but also of the many students we enjoyed teaching between 1972 and 1975. Of course, we shared many a laugh over my 1970's look as a

long haired teacher and the crew cut hair style I sported from my eighth grade graduation in 1962. How and why this yearbook still existed, Ginny and I will never know, but it certainly will be a Christmas present we will never forget.

MGC has always been and still is a wonderful school. My thanks to the faculty and staff at MGC for taking the time to accommodate my colleagues 600 miles away from 68<sup>th</sup> and Lisbon. This past week, I had the opportunity to visit the school to personally express my gratitude and tour the classrooms, "breezeway" and squeaky hallways where Ginny and I spent 11 years of our lives. It didn't take very long for me to realize what MGC truly meant to us as I looked at the faces of classmates and students we have taught. I would encourage everyone to take the time to visit "our school" and remember those good old days of "not so long ago".

Warm regards to our friends in Milwaukee

Ken and Ginny (Heider) Etzel  
1962 and 1964 Alumni

## Alumni, Spread the Good News!

Please share your news about education, family or career with us. Show off your new baby or wedding day with a picture! Simply provide the following information, and we will celebrate with you!

Name (Maiden) & Graduation Year

Address & Phone

Occupation

News & Events to Share with MGC!

Send Alumni update info to: The Chronicle, MGC, 6924 W. Lisbon Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53210. Fax: (414) 444-0408. Email: [mgc@mgcparish.org](mailto:mgc@mgcparish.org)

## Alumni News!

### Jay Mustapich, Class of 1986

In the Summer of 2006 Jay earned his 5th degree Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do. He continues to teach martial arts to children and adults through the Milwaukee Recreation Department, as well as for U.W.- Milwaukee. Jay and his wife, Michelle, added to their family this November with their second daughter, Hannah Malia. He still resides in Hales Corners and would like to share his e-mail in order to keep in touch with alumni: [masterjay@wi.rr.com](mailto:masterjay@wi.rr.com)

### Attention Class of 1960!

We are gathering email addresses from the class of 1960. Email [Gunderson@mgcparish.org](mailto:Gunderson@mgcparish.org), subject line 1960 email, to include your email and receive a copy of the emails in your graduating class.

Not from the class of 1960, but still interested?

Contact Marie Gunderson at [Gunderson@mgcparish.org](mailto:Gunderson@mgcparish.org) to do the same for your graduating class.

# Catholic Schools Week 2007

## Hymnal Holder Service Project



Now only the sweet sound of silence can be heard when returning hymnals to their holders. MGC's Student

Council led this school-wide service project to improve our worship space.

## Jump Rope for Heart

Catholic Schools Week is about celebrating the faith education in our school, and wouldn't be complete without helping those in need. Students who participated in Jump Rope for Heart raised money for the American Heart Association. This year, alone, nearly \$2,000 was donated by MGC!



## Talent Show

From karate to comedy, this year's talent show was as outstanding as the years past.

Students showcased their many skills by playing musical instruments, tap dancing, gymnastics and more. Two 8th graders, Alaina Keller and Megan Fischer, were joined in a tap dance performance by Mrs. Ballard (4th grade teacher).



## Catholic Quiz Bowl



How well do you know your Catholic trivia? The MGC students know theirs! This year's 2nd Annual Catholic Quiz Bowl was a big success, ending with many hi-fives and even stumped judges Fr. Carey, Principal Regina Shaw and DRE Mary Ellen Pfeiffer!



## Science Guy

He may not be Bill Nye, but he's just as great of a Science Guy. Students loved Larry Kunninger and his interactive science experiments that helped them to learn and have fun all at the same time!



## Faculty vs. 8th Grade Volleyball

Teachers or 8th graders? Who will you cheer for? Catholic Schools Week came to a close as the teachers pulled off a big win against this year's 8th grade class. Immediately following the 7th grades chanted, "We'll win next year". Alumni, do you remember when you played against the teachers?



# MGC Alive with Vitality!

*Reflections from, Principal, Regina Shaw*

I'm not sure when "school-life" is ever "not busy", but this is certainly not one of those times! My days at MGC are filled with so much vitality. Multi-tasking is a skill that all educators must perfect if they are going to survive. I often find myself carrying on three or four conversations at once – sometimes in two different languages! What sustains me every day is this simple fact: the teachers and I are blessed by the opportunity to truly make a difference in the lives of our students. How many people can honestly say that?

In this edition of *The Chronicle*, you see pictures from this year's Catholic Schools' Week as well as many other activities around our church and school. This is truly a busy place!

If you worship here at MGC, you may have noticed a reduction in the noise level when the hymnals are being returned to their holders. Thanks to our Student Council, this project was completed during Catholic Schools' Week. It was truly a school-wide project, though. Every student, from kindergarten to eighth grade, had the opportunity to be involved. Some of the younger students counted the number of holders, others sorted the mats, some cut, and the eighth graders put the mats in the holders. Thanks to Mrs. Mersenski and Mrs. Mortell, Student Council Advisors, for spearheading this project for our church.

If you haven't already made plans to attend our 8<sup>th</sup> grade musical, I encourage you to do so. We are staging *The Wizard of Oz* on March 30 & 31 at 7 PM and on Sunday, April 1 at 2 PM. Please call the school office to inquire about tickets. We would love to have you join us and to support our wonderful students.

As always, I encourage you to visit our school. Call or stop by for a tour.

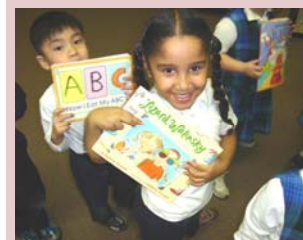
Faithfully,  
*Regina Shaw*  
Principal



Students write their 'dreams' on multicolored hands during an MLK day prayer service.



Regina spends the afternoon with one of our kindergarten classes.



Students, Dellan Sikhathakhosa and Bailey McElroy, pick out their favorite library books.



## We Want Mail!

What's one of the first things you do when you get home at the end of the day? Check your mailbox, of course! The third graders are hoping to receive a lot of mail in the next few weeks by participating in a project called the Great Mail Race. Students will be writing to a Catholic school in each of the 50 states, enclosing an information sheet about Mother of Good Counsel School, a brochure, and an invitation for that school to be a part of the Great Mail Race, too.

Now here's where all of you out-of-state alumni & parishioners can help us with our project. Would you be able to provide us with the name of a Catholic school in your area, the address, a third grade teacher's name, and their parish or school website or e-mail address? We'd love to make a connection with them! It will be a wonderful opportunity to learn about other third grade kids in other Catholic schools all over the country. Please send the above information to Mrs. Diane Saeger, [saeger@mgcparish.org](mailto:saeger@mgcparish.org).

# Annual Report for the 2005-06 Fiscal Year

This previous fiscal year, many parishes across Milwaukee and the country faced the same challenges. And, everyday our staff and volunteers work hard to keep this community great...but we are facing some challenges. Those challenges, declining memberships, rising costs, declining giving levels, are not just going to go away. So we are called to meet the needs of our parish and school using every possible tool and asset we have. We are also called to forecast what our needs as a parish and school will be in the future to insure that we're strong and able to meet whatever opportunities and obstacles present themselves.

This past year we were able to stick as close to our budget as is humanly possible. Our expenses were within small percentage points of forecast, which is extraordinary. Our staff, faculty, committees and Pastor are to be commended for their diligence and creativity!

Our income, however, did not meet the goals we projected and this was the cause of a significant deficit. During the yearend auditor review capital funds were used to offset some of the deficit, specifically in the areas of capital improvement projects. *(Capital improvements are generally understood to be non-operational expenses that improve the facilities or campus as a whole.)* There was much discussion about using capital funds to offset these expenses as it gives an unrealistic yearend result and lowers the actual deficit.

**The hard and cold facts are that without increased income we will continue to face annual deficits unless we find a way to stabilize and increase our income or seriously cut our already very lean expenses.** Many of our expenses are fixed, such as insurance, utilities, salary, benefits and required program expenses. We're all very concerned about this latter option.

*We have a number of groups and staff within MGC who are working very hard to increase our membership, review our budgets and expenses, locate extra dollars, and improve our school enrollment.*

We already have a very lean budget. Few amenities are afforded unless donors come forward and specifically designate their gifts for these items. And, then we have no choice but to use those funds as designated or return them. Long overdue facility maintenance needs to stay on track or we'll lose the benefits we've already seen in improvements. Our school needs to stay strong and continue to offer its quality curriculum and excellent faculty for today and tomorrow's students.

We have a number of groups and staff within MGC who are working very hard to increase our membership, review our budgets and expenses, locate extra dollars, and improve our school enrollment. We've enjoyed a lot of good news about what the school and parish programs are doing. Even so, this doesn't counteract our bottom line. We need you, our members, to help us by maintaining your pledges, or making pledges, and helping us work toward a balanced budget for the sake of our wonderful community. This parish was founded on the extraordinary sacrifice of the founding families. It has been lovingly maintained by scores of families before us, and this is still true and necessary today.

With gratitude,  
Christine Weidner, Administrator

Fiscal Year:	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Income	1,876,052	1,853,902	1,868,479
Expenses	1,873,812	1,838,160	1,881,535
Net Income/(Loss)	2,240	15,742	(13,056)

# What's Happening at MGC?!

## MGC Human Concerns Committee Bread for the World – 2007 Offering of Letters

In 2005, with approval of the Parish Council, Mother of Good Counsel joined with St. Sebastian, St. Catherine, and St. Margaret Mary in the four Cluster Parish Bread for the World covenant. In June of that year, MGC held its first Offering of Letters event.

MGC parishioners believe that charity (direct service) is not enough to end world hunger because the problems leading to hunger and poverty are massive and the causes are structural. Governments play a major role in both causing and resolving these problems that affect millions of vulnerable people in our world.

Throughout history, people of faith have served as critics and the conscious of their nation's leaders. Some may worry that engagement in the political arena blurs the distinctions between Church and State. Not true. Advocacy is when individuals in the Church say to government leaders, "We are concerned about the people and issues that matter to God and will hold you accountable for your role in addressing these concerns." Always working for legislation in a nonpartisan, balanced way allows people of faith to speak out across party, ideology, and faith tradition lines and has been effective in improving policies enacted in Congress. We have the right and responsibility to use our voices to promote justice and tackle the root causes of hunger and poverty.

The 2007 Offering of Letters advocacy event entitled "Seeds of Change: Help Farmers. End Hunger" is focused on speaking out for important changes in the Farm Bill which is up for renewal this year. Obviously the Farm Bill is about farms and farmers, but it touches everyone who eats – especially those who struggle to have enough to eat. Our goal is to make the renewed Farm Bill provide better support for average U.S. farmers, strengthen small town rural communities, help hungry people afford a sufficient and more nutritious diet, and even support the efforts of small scale farmers in developing countries to sell their crops and feed their families – all things that the current Farm Bill falls short of doing.

All MGC parishioners can look forward to reading more about "Seeds of Change" in future bulletins. Also, informational brochures will be distributed in preparation for our parish's Offering of Letters scheduled for the weekend of April 21-22.

## MGC Church & School Endowment Continues to Grow!

In 2006 MGC took in over \$5,000 for the Church Endowment Fund and \$22,700 for the school.

This brings the current total up to \$155,600 & \$302,000 for the church and school, respectively.

A portion of this is distributed for operations each year, and the remainder is strategically invested.

These Endowment Funds secure a bright future for MGC. For more information, contact Marie Gunderson at 442-7600, ext. 105.

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## Sing a New Song!

We welcome those of you who love to sing or play instruments to join our Music Ministry team at MGC! Do you enjoy singing? Do you play the bass or an instrument? If you have an instrumental background, perhaps you may consider playing in our Handbell Choir? New members are welcome any time of year.

Do you love to sing but cannot afford the time to attend choir rehearsals. If you are interested in serving MGC as a Cantor, please contact me. I will be happy to rehearse the music at your convenience and provide a rehearsal CD for you. Cantor scheduling is flexible and based upon your needs. We'd love to have you!

Contact Nick Narloch, ext. 117, for more information.

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Congratulations to MGC 8th grader Tess Muszytowski, first place winner of the city-wide Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. essay contest sponsored by the Milwaukee Teachers' Education Association and the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

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# The Chronicle

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## MGC Easter Decoration Appeal

MGC Parishioners, School Families and Alumni are invited to support the Easter Decoration Appeal. You may honor family and friends, both living and deceased, and provide for a beautiful worship environment. Flowers and decorations for the church will be purchased with a **\$10** per person memorial gift to the Decoration Appeal. **Please enter the names of your loved ones below and check living or deceased.** All gifts for those living will be *In Honor Of* and all gifts for those deceased will be *In Memory Of*.

Person's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Living \_\_\_\_\_ Deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Person's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Living \_\_\_\_\_ Deceased \_\_\_\_\_

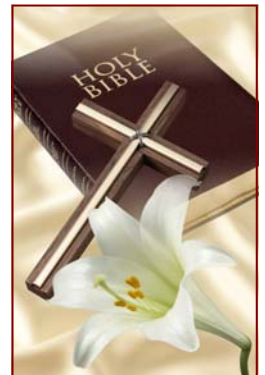
Person's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Living \_\_\_\_\_ Deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Or, simply for blessings received, check this box.

Enclosed is a gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as my/our Christmas Decoration Appeal gift to our Church.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_



Use envelope & drop in collection basket or mail to: Mother of Good Counsel, 6924 West Lisbon Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53210.  
*Memorials and Honorariums will be acknowledged in our Easter bulletin.*