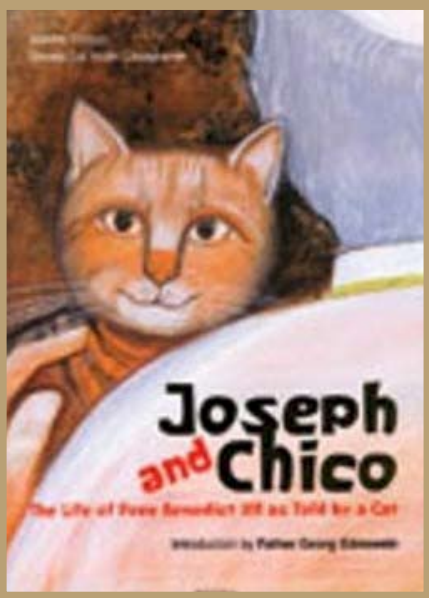
Our Lady of Grace

Catholic Parish

595 East Main Street · Avon Park, Florida 33825

Triumph of the Cross **September 14, 2008**



How do young people see Pope Benedict XVI?

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· Phone: (863) 453-4757
· Fax: (863) 453-2620
· Monday through Friday
9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

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from our Pastor's desk

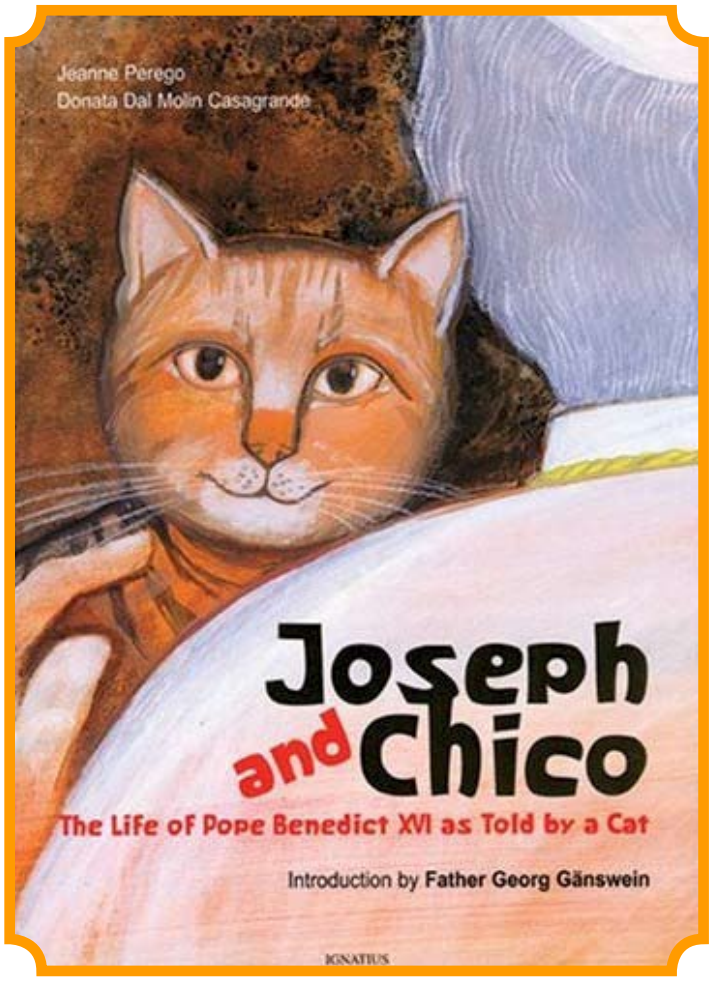
Dear parishioners: How did young people "see" Pope Benedict at the recent World Youth Day (WYD) in Sydney? The World mass media led off with headlines like "Pope Benedict 'rock star' of World Youth day in Sydney" and, described WYD as a kind of "Catholic Woodstock." The Pope is, like the younger generation, tech-savvy. He has his own iPod and frequently sent text messages to his young pilgrims at WYD, signing off "BXVI." He is aware that he and the Church live in a world in which young people use new ways to connect with one another in today's tech savvy world. After the opening evening service where they prayed with the Pope, the young people went to a rock concert at which they sang Prince's mega-hit to let the Pope know that "Nothing Compares 2 U" in their own teen newspeak.

Challenges: In his message the Pope did not skirt the pitfalls which plague young people today. He lamented the "confusion" and "despair" caused by alcohol, drug abuse, violence, sexual degradation and a corrosive consumerism "where choice itself becomes the good, novelty usurps beauty, and subjective experiences displace truth." Young people tended to agree with the Pope's assessment of youth culture. Resisting the pleasure driven culture of other teens is "hard" says Matt McHugh, of Hartford, Wisconsin. "You see other kids doing things and it looks fun and it's tempting, but then you look at where that's going to lead." Brenda Brauer, also from Hartford, agrees: "You know what's right and wrong, but other people may not have the same values and morals as you. They say, come on, it's really fun, and you just have to say, I'll have my own fun, thanks. But it makes you feel separate from them." For Michael Leone, from Perth, a sense of connection has been one of the best things about coming to WYD. "Being with other people with similar values and interests really helps… The hardest part will be going back." The Pope spoke of the hope he sees in young people: "I experienced the youthful face of the Church... It was like a multicolored mosaic, formed by young men and women from every part of the globe, all gathered together in the one faith in Jesus Christ." After the Pope confirmed 24 young people from around the world, he invited all present to renew their baptismal vows: WYD was "transformed into a new Pentecost," the Pope said, "from which the mission of young people, called to be apostles to their contemporaries, was relaunched." It is our hope and prayer that Adrianna Ramirez and Dylan Heiring, who represented the youth of OLG parish at WYD in Sydney, will help "relaunch" a "new Pentecost" among young people in OLG parish by encouraging them to come to youth meetings on Wednesday evenings, 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Youth Center. **Father Nick**

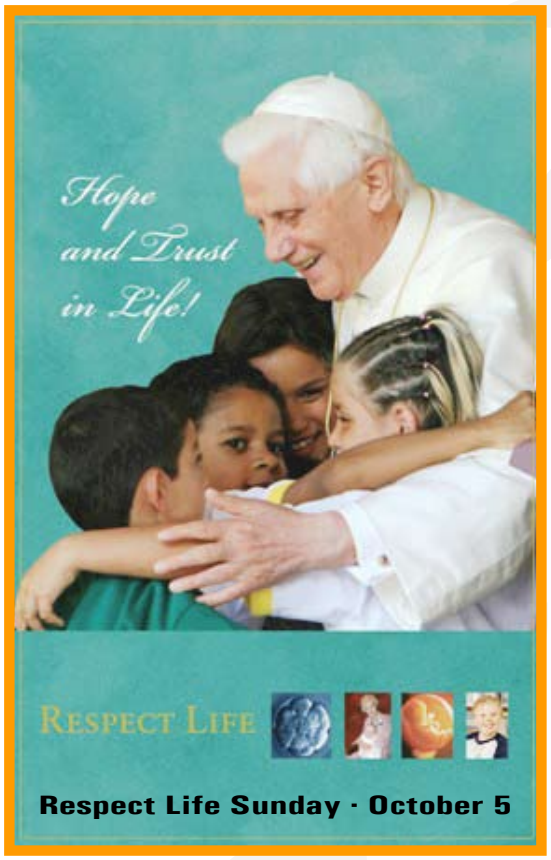
Children's News

Children's Mass, Sunday, September 21, at 10:30 AM
Beginning next Sunday, we will have the first children's Mass of the new Sunday school year. The readers and gift bearers will be children from the Sunday school of religion. Jesus, the greatest teacher, who came to teach us how God wants us to live says, "If you love me, keep my commandments." One of the First commandments He teaches us is: "Keep holy the Sabbath Day." Sunday is the Lord's Day and He wants us to come to Church on that day.

Joseph and Chico is a children's book written by an Italian journalist living in Bavaria. You can tell that she's not usually the author of children's books, and there's an excess of cutesy cat jokes. But where else are you going to read about Pope Benedict XVI's favorite Christmas teddy bear, or the time he fell into the fish pond and was rescued by his siblings? The book is a great introduction to Joseph Ratzinger for children, and shows the humble background from which he came. It also has an introduction from the pope's private secretary, Fr. Georg Gänswein, who, among other things, summarizes the life and work of Benedict in four sentences: "To begin with, I agree with the fact that the Holy Father is a special person, but it is above all because he is a real friend of Jesus. This is important! Here is the secret of his life: only by becoming a true friend of Jesus can we learn to open our hearts to the people we meet and to all the people of the world. . . . Precisely because he is filled with trust in Jesus, the Pope is not discouraged by difficulties and never gets tired of loving everyone." That much was clear when he came to America. If you know any young children who'd like to get to know the pope better, *Joseph and Chico* might be a good way to make an introduction. It can be ordered from www.amazon.com

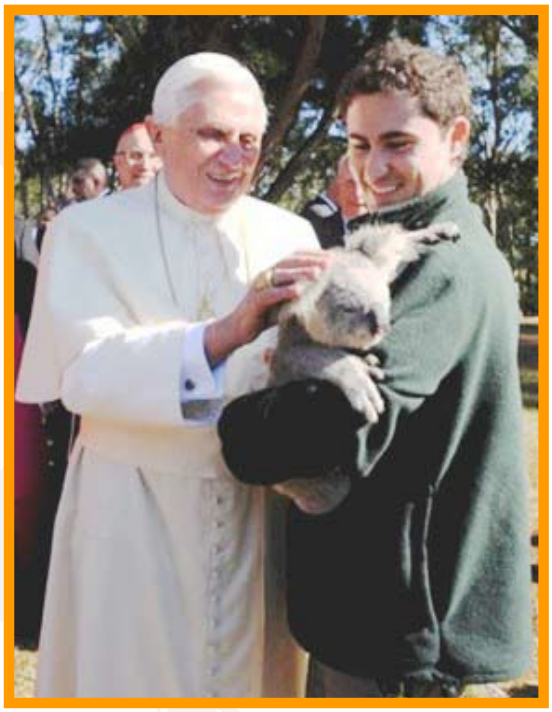


Looking Ahead



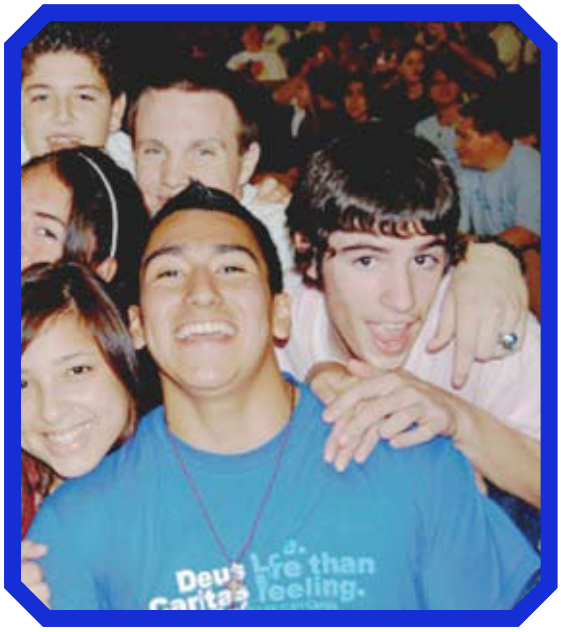
RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) If you have a friend, a neighbor, a workmate, who is searching: invite them – or better, come with them – to the RCIA, beginning on Tuesday evening, October 7, in the Conference room of the Grogan Center., at 7:00 p.m. The RCIA will meet every Tuesday evening until April 6. Those who are interested and ready to make a commitment will be Baptized or received into the Church on Holy Saturday, April 10. If you know someone who has left or has been away from the Church, for whatever reason, invite them to "return." Invite them to refresh their faith by participating in the RCIA. Sometimes all it takes is just an simple invitation.

Blessing of Animals Feast of St. Francis will be celebrated October 5 at 12 noon in the Church Parking Lot. Come and bring your pets.



Ladies Guild Meeting

The Ladies Guild will meet for the first time on Wednesday, October 8, in the Youth Center at 12 noon. Since October is the month of the Holy Rosary, the meeting will open with the recitation of the Rosary. The Ladies Guild was responsible for having the statue of Our Lady of Grace in the Memorial garden repainted and sealed. Thank you Carol and Ray Mills of Caladium Co-op for donating your services.



Life Teen Mass

Begins on Sunday, September 28 at 6:00 PM

Come and make a joyful sound in praising the Lord!

Sacramental Life of the Parish

Baptisms:
Baptismal orientation is the first Sunday of each month. Ceremonies are performed on the second Sunday.

Marriages:
Adequate preparation is required. Call the parish office six months in advance.

Ministry to the Sick:
Arrangements can be made to have a priest and/or a Eucharistic minister visit on a regular basis, if necessary. Call the parish office.

Registration
Permanent and seasonal members are encouraged to register. Registration cards are available at the main church entrance.

Schedule of Masses and Prayers

Saturday
8 a.m. with Confession
at 8:30 a.m. (Nov. - May)
Vigil 4 p.m.
7 p.m. Spanish

Sunday
8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Life Teen Mass returns in Sep.

Holy Days
Vigil 5:30 p.m.
8 a.m.

Daily Mass
Monday - Friday 8 a.m.

First Friday
Mass and Holy Hour
8 a.m.

First Saturday
Mass at 8 a.m.

Confessions
Saturday 3:30 p.m.

Readings for the Week of September 14, 2008

Sunday
Numbers 21:4b-9
Philippians 2:6-11
John 3:13-17

Monday
1 Corinthians 11:17-26, 33
John 19:25-27

Tuesday
1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27-31a
Luke 7:11-17

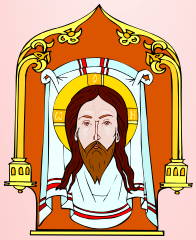
Wednesday
1 Corinthians 12:31–13:13
Luke 7:31-35

Thursday
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 7:36-50

Friday
1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Luke 8:1-3

Saturday
1 Corinthians 15:35-37, 42-49
Luke 8:4-15

Next Sunday
Isaiah 55:6-9
Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a
Matthew 20:1-16a



Please Note: Names will be left on the prayer list for one month. If you would like a name to be kept longer on the list, please call the parish office.

Mass Intentions for The Coming Week

Saturday, Sep. 13
4 p.m. † Frances Deininger by Fred & Lorraine Migliore
† Anna & Ed Castine, Sr. by Ed & Maureen Castine
† Joffre Nassour by Helene Nassour
7 p.m. Spanish Mass

Sunday, Sep. 14
8 a.m. † Marie Ann Carducci by Rocky Carducci
† William Carroll by the Lehane Family
10:30 a.m. † Craig & Brian Dumbleton by their family
† John "Jack" Donovan by his wife Patricia

Monday, Sep. 15
8 a.m. † Mary Cormier by Dan & Joanne Pemble
Special intention for George & Anna Karamitis

Tuesday, Sep. 16
8 a.m. † Father Paul Schaaf friends

Wednesday, Sep. 17
8 a.m. † Gordon Barry by Stephen & Marie Toole

Thursday, Sep. 18
8 a.m. † Ben McCavanagh by friends

Friday, Sep. 19
8 a.m. For our parish family

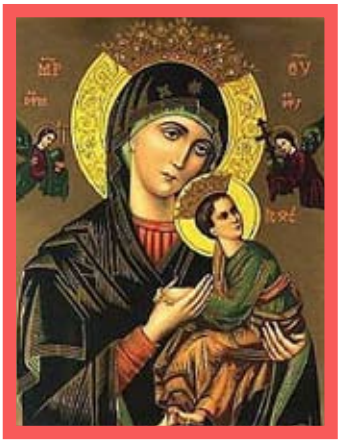
Saturday, Sep. 20
4 p.m. † Micki Godhardt by her husband
† Agnes F. Lopez by her daughter & son-in-law
† Joffre Nassour by Helene Nassour

Sunday, Sep. 21
8 a.m. † Irene Tederous by Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Tederous
† Edward Buzzell by his mother
10:30 a.m. † Judi Heiring by her mother
† Thomas Giles by Lorraine Hjelmeir

Please pray for the sick...

William Carroll
Paul Blanda
John Biezman
Ruth Tomek
Rudolph Cecere
Fred Migliore
Jim McCormick
Walter Shackley
Dale Pounds
Betty Anne Lee
Donna Loomis
Sheri Viera
Joan Southworth
Harry Hicks
Kenneth Bitler
Julius Kesler

Holy Mary,
Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the
hour of our death.
Amen.



And also for...

those who care for the sick,
deceased members and benefactors of the parish,
especially Clara Wanda who died this past week,
and our loved ones.

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Joseph and Chico

a new children's book written by a cat on the Life of Pope Benedict XVI, a great lover of cats and animals. The book can be purchased from amazon.com Below is a sample.