

Pine Times



OUR LADY OF THE PINES
VOLUME 14, ISSUE 2

SAINT PATRICK PARISH
MAY/JUNE 2009



WHAT IS THE FEAST OF PENTECOST?



Pentecost means "fifty days after." Pentecost Sunday (May 31 this year) is one of the most ancient feasts of the Church, celebrated early enough to be mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles (20:16) and St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (16:8). It is the 50th day after Easter (if we count both Easter and Pentecost), and it supplants the Jewish feast of Pentecost, which took place 50 days after the Passover and which celebrated the sealing of the Old Covenant on Mount Sinai.

The Acts of the Apostles recounts the story of the original Pentecost as well (Acts 2). Jews from all over were gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate the Jewish feast. On that Sunday, ten days after our Lord's Ascension, the Apostles and the

Blessed Virgin Mary were gathered in the Upper Room, where they had seen Christ after His Resurrection.

And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a mighty wind coming, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them parted tongues as it were of fire, and it sat upon every one of them: And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they began to speak with divers tongues, according as the Holy Ghost gave them to speak. [Acts 2:2-4]

Christ had promised His Apostles that He would send His Holy Spirit, and, on Pentecost, they were granted the gifts of the spirit. The Apostles began to preach the Gospel in all of the languages that the Jews who were gathered there spoke, and about 3,000 people were converted and baptized that day.

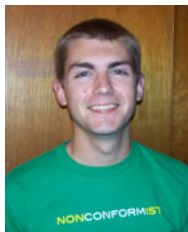
That is why Pentecost is often called "the birthday of the Church." On this day, with the descent of the Holy Spirit, Christ's mission is completed, and the New Covenant is inaugurated. It's interesting to note that St. Peter, the first pope, was already the leader and spokesman for the Apostles on Pentecost Sunday (see Acts 2:14ff).

In years past, Pentecost was celebrated with greater solemnity than it is today. In fact, the entire period between Easter and Pentecost Sunday was known as Pentecost (and it still is called Pentecost in the Eastern churches, both Catholic and Orthodox).

During those 50 days, both fasting and kneeling were strictly forbidden, because this period was supposed to give us a foretaste of the life of Heaven.

AARON OUTLAND WINS SCHOLARSHIP

Ron Burns, *OLOP Scholarship Committee Chair*



The OLOP Scholarship Committee received five applications this year for the annual \$1,000 Scholarship Award. All five applicants were deserving and it was difficult to pick a winner. After much consideration, the final consensus was that Aaron Outland stood out from the rest and we were proud to pick him as this year's winner.

As with the other applicants, Aaron was active in many Parish activities including Religious Education, Altar Service and Youth

Group activities. In addition, Aaron was a Eucharistic Minister at OLOP, and in 2008 received the Eagle Scout Award (Order of the Arrow).

Aaron is planning to attend Claremont McKenna College in Southern California in the Fall to pursue a Liberal Arts Degree. He will be invited to attend the May OLOP Society Meeting to acknowledge his award.

Once again we applaud Aaron on his achievements in contributing to the needs of our Catholic Community, and congratulate him on winning our 2009 Scholarship Award.

KNOW YOUR PARISHIONERS



The Munzar Family

Miriam and **Patrik Munzar** were born in 1969 in the former Czechoslovakia (now Czech Republic). They met at underground prayer groups for medical students when Communists were still in power. When they started to date they were dreaming about having a large family. And God blessed their dreams. There are 10 children in Munzar family now (**Marie, Benedikt, Rachel, Abraham, Catherine, Abigail, Raphael, Francis, Rebecca, and Ignatius**) and number 11 is on the way (to be born in May of this year). When they got married in 1994 they dreamed about having a peaceful life but that did not happen. In 1996, after their first two children were born, they moved to the United States as Patrik got a two year fellowship position at National Institutes of Health in Maryland. After several extensions, they decided to make the US their new home. In 2002 they moved to California and Patrik started to work at a biotech company in the Bay Area. They were making frequent day trips to Sierra Nevada until they chose Pioneer as a place for the weekend home for their growing family. They are members of Our Lady of the Pines Church since 2006. Patrik returned to the clinical medicine and is going through residency at Stanford Hospital now. Miriam and the children are often staying in Pioneer without Patrik. But being a member of Our Lady of the Pines parish means that you are never alone. The Bible verse which Miriam and Patrik selected for their wedding announcement is truly being fulfilled in the life of Munzar's family: "The earth has yielded its harvest; God, our God, blesses us. May God bless us still; that the ends of the earth may revere our God (Psalm 67, 7-8)."

ONE BODY, ONE BODY IN CHRIST

Joan Nikolai

In the RCIA process, the catechists use a method called "Unpacking the Experience" to lead the participants in reflecting on the Rites. It uses three simple questions. What did you see? ...hear? ...feel?

These are my reflections on the Triduum.

I saw a hall transformed into a worship space not only by bringing in the proper furnishings and enhancing the environment with fabric, plants, and candles; not only by the music of the choir, but most importantly by the attitude of the people. I saw people gathered from three parishes who came together as Church, one body, one body in Christ.

On Holy Thursday, I heard Father Mervin speak of shared meals as a significant way of forming family. A time when you bring all of who you are to the table. A time when you tell the family stories, which connect you to your ancestors, and in this experience you learn to act with a generous heart to anyone in the family who needs you. As three parishes, we came together as one family united in Baptism. We brought all of who we are to the table of the Lord and we told our story. As the Great Amen resounded, I heard the voice of the Church, one body, one body in Christ.

In the veneration of the cross, during the solemn Good Friday service, there were no divisions of parish, of generations, of ordained and laity. There was only one identity. We were the Church, one body, one body in Christ. I felt a humble reverence.

At the Easter Vigil, I heard Father Tom call forth each of the Elect and each of the candidates by name. I saw the smiles and tears. I felt the joy of family as we welcomed the men, women and children into the Church, one body, one body in Christ.

LIBRARY NEWS

Florence Reynolds



Invite new inspiration into your spiritual life this spring through one (or more) of the selections available in the Our Lady of the Pines library, located in the "crying room" at the back of the church. Stop by and browse the collection any time the church is open. Included are tapes, CDs and selections for children. Items may be checked out for two weeks and renewed. A clipboard is available for indicating the item you are borrowing. No penalty for late returns, and plenty to be gained in spiritual insights.



NELSON BROTHERS ACHIEVE HONORS

from the Ledger Dispatch

Doug and Nick Nelson, sons of parishioners **Dennis and Liz Nelson**, both took part in the Order of the Engineer Ring and Obligation Ceremony at University of the Pacific in Stockton recently. The obligation is the formal statement and acceptance of an engineer's responsibilities to the public and to the profession and receiving of a stainless steel ring to be worn as a symbol on the fifth finger of the working hand.

Doug and Nick are former Amador High School graduates and will be graduating in May from UOP. Doug was on the dean's list last fall and will be graduating as a mechanical engineer. Nick, a member of the Theta Chi Fraternity, has been taking honor classes and will be graduating as a civil engineer with a minor in engineering management.

YMI NEWS

A. Wright

Our YMI men's organization has been moving forward since its inception in December of '08'. We gratefully acknowledge the donations from the YMI Grand Council and the local (Jackson) Chapter of the YLI.

In the past three months, our members have attended the Red and White Mass in So. San Francisco, an annual gala that brings together all the YMI Chapters through out the U.S.

Recent activities have included the sponsorship of Lenten Soup Suppers at both OLOP and St. Patrick in Jackson. Members also showed up after the Triduum to help remove the myriad of items from St. Sava Hall and return them to the various locations from where they were borrowed.

We are planning a men's spiritual retreat in the coming months and invite all our Amador Catholic men to join us.

We meet on the second Wednesday of each month in Haran Hall for a friendly meal and business meeting. Come join us in spiritual fellowship.

OLOP SOCIETY

Phil Fondale, President

The Society meets the first Wednesday of the month. A potluck is held at 6:00 pm, followed by a short meeting at 7:00 pm. Remember, everyone is a member, and we are all in this together.

At the March and April meetings **Joe Bertao**, our maintenance chairman, reported on the replacing of a door on the north side of the church. The non-functioning drinking fountain in the Church vestibule has been removed, and it will not be replaced due to the cost involved. A big thank you goes to **Joe Harder** for helping install the ceiling fans, and placing a light sensor underneath the overhang in front of the Church.

A big thank you goes to **Ron Burns**, our Scholarship Committee Chairman, the committee members, and all the students who applied. After studying this year's excellent applications thoroughly, the committee rewarded the OLOP Society's \$1,000 scholarship to **Aaron Outland**. Congratulations Aaron.

If you have a garage or basement piling up with "treasures," don't panic. This year's rummage sale is a go. **Judy Christopolous** and **Jim Powell** are the chairpersons. The sale will take place the first weekend in June. So, turn in your old "treasures," and replace them with new ones. What a deal.

Lee Cumpian has graciously agreed to chair this year's OLOP Golf Tournament. Saturday, August 22, is the date to save for golf and dinner. As always, this is going to be fun for all, and for some a "nature walk" will be included.

A fall "fun" raiser is being considered, consisting of a spaghetti dinner and bingo. Details are currently being worked out for this inexpensive event.

Fellow parishioners, the OLOP Society needs you. It is time to nominate next year's officers. All positions are open. We are all members of the society, and no one can hide. **Sue Perrine** and **Sue Bertao** are heading up the Nominating Committee. Be ready. The election will take place at the June meeting.

So, come to the next meeting, have a great meal, and find out what's happening before it happens.

CRYING ROOM

As you enter our church, the little glassed-in room on the right is our crying room. It has been set aside for small children and their families, so they can attend Mass without disrupting worship for the rest of us. Please sit in the church's main sanctuary if you arrive late, and make that crying room available for children.

RUMMAGE SALE 2009

Judy Christopoulos

It's not too early to start thinking about your spring cleaning. The 2009 Rummage Sale will be here before you know it, and we need your donations of gently used clothing, shoes, handbags, furniture, linens, books, music, movies, knickknacks, kitchen items, small appliances, electronic, artwork, craft projects, fabric, jewelry, children's items, tools, outdoor equipment, Christmas items, medical supply items, etc.

This year's Rummage Sale is June 5, 6 & 7, 2009, so mark your calendars. This annual event, held by the parishioners of Our Lady of the Pines and St. Bernard, takes place at OLOP's Haran Hall and is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Proceeds are applied toward church maintenance and charitable causes.

So start putting all those things you've been meaning to donate to a good cause and watch for future announcements about donation drop-offs and pick-ups.

Please note we cannot accept the following items:

Hazardous materials (paints, solvents, oil, other flammables)

Computers or components:

(printers, monitors, keyboards, mice, etc.)

Mattresses

Encyclopedias

Large appliances *

Microwave ovens *

**These items may be acceptable, pending approval of Jim or Judy*

This year's rummage sale is co-chaired by **Jim Powell** and **Judy Christopoulos** from Our Lady of the Pines. Lots of willing hands are necessary to make this event successful, please consider helping out.

Contact Jim at 295-5628 (jcpowell@volcano.net) or Judy at 295-1942 (judychris@yahoo.com) for further information or to volunteer.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration is the adoration of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. In the many Churches that have this adoration, the Eucharist is displayed in a special holder called a monstrance, and people come to pray and worship Jesus continually throughout the day. Christ's great love for us was shown when he was crucified on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins and give us eternal life. He loves us without limit, and offers Himself to us in the Holy sacrament of the Eucharist. Can we not give Jesus a few minutes of love and adoration in return? Adoration at OLOP is on Fridays, from 10 am to 7 pm. We hope you will join us!

"EATING AT JOAN'S HOUSE"

Joan Alimonti

There are several interesting food customs associated with the Feast of the Ascension (May 21 this year). In the provinces of France children make the rounds of the neighborhood, begging for flour to make apple fritters (*beignets de pommes*).

Apple Ring Fritters

2 eggs, separated

1 teaspoon salt

1/2 cup milk

1 teaspoon vegetable oil

6 apples

1 cup sifted all-purpose flour

1/4 cup sugar

1 teaspoon baking powder

confectioners' (powdered) sugar

Beat egg yolks; stir in milk. Mix and sift flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt; beat into egg yolk mixture. Beat in oil. Beat whites stiff but not dry; fold in. Core and pare apples; Cut into crosswise slices 1/4 inch thick. Dip apple rings in batter. Fry a few at a time in shallow fat or vegetable oil heated to 370° until brown, turning once. Drain on absorbent paper. Sprinkle with confectioners' sugar. Serve hot with butter or margarine and maple syrup. Makes about 24 fritters.

'PUTER PATTER

C. Wright



Q: What can I do about emails I receive that display dozens of names and addresses of other recipients who are also

receiving, or who have already received, the same message?

A: I'm afraid there is nothing you can do about such an email that has already arrived in your Inbox. But you have the power to edit the email before sending it on to others! Proper "netiquette" is that you should delete all the names and email addresses of those shown—for privacy's sake as well as to clean up the email. Once you've clicked on "Forward" or "Reply" your email becomes *editable*. Take advantage of that and make the email display the way YOU would want to receive it—without line after line of **From, Date, To, and Subject**. Sending a clean email such as this also helps when a recipient wants to print the email by shortening the content and eliminating unnecessary pages. On a related matter, when you're sending out "mass mailings," it's a good idea to leave the **To** field blank

(or enter your own email address) and put all your recipients in the **Bcc** field (Bcc stands for "blind carbon copy," a holdover from the days of the typewriter, which simply means that recipients are in the dark as to who the other recipients are). A blank **To** field will usually display at the receiving end as "Undisclosed recipient." No one wants to see that Uncle Vlad in Siberia, Cousin Joe from Kokomo, and Aunt Bee from North Carolina all got the same message, along with a hundred other recipients.

Nifty Tip

Is your monitor a tad too small to view some web pages in their entirety, even when you've maximized the window? Windows users can press **F11** key on their keyboard to activate the command for "full-screen viewing." As that suggests, your entire monitor will fill with the web page; menu bars, tool bars, address bar, tabs, and the task bar will disappear from view until you press the F11 key again. Works in Internet Explorer and Firefox.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Blanche Rueda

Starting in March 2009 all new parishioners will be receiving a letter welcoming them to our parish. Since January 2009 the following have registered with St. Patrick Parish:

Graeme & Lora King

Mary Ann Peters

Matthew & Kelsey Villanueva

Megan Long

John & Barbara Nichols

Michael & Lelani Shortino, daughter Natalie

We welcome these new families to our parish. If you have any questions please call Blanche Rueda, New Parishioner Ministry at 295-4025. Each month at the OLOP Hospitality Sunday there will be a table for newcomers to stop by and gather information and brochures about the parish, including OLOP.

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT G4, INC.



YOUR FATHER HAS AGREED TO STAY AWAKE IN CHURCH TODAY SINCE IT IS MOTHER'S DAY ... IT WOULD BE NICE IF YOU WOULD DO THE OPPOSITE FOR ONCE

STATIONS OF THE CROSS COME ALIVE AT OLOP

C. Wright



Some of our Catholic community's finest youth presented the Living Stations of the Cross this Lenten season. They re-created the Stations at each of the three churches in the parish, with the final presentation at St. Patrick Church on Good Friday. This living rendition of the Stations makes Jesus' Way of the Cross come alive in our mind's eye, and we look forward each year

to this special Lenten devotion.

At Our Lady of the Pines, **Christian Mullan** appeared in the role of Jesus, portraying our Savior's passion and crucifixion with an emotive quality that moved many to tears. This was Christian's second year appearing in the role of Jesus. **Meghan Daly** read the part of a young woman visiting Jerusalem during the Way of the Cross, who pens a letter to her parents back home describing all that she witnesses and her thoughts and emotions. Orchestrating the Living Stations was **Chris Fenton**, who lead the acclamation, announced the stations, and read the scriptural passages. Chris has organized the Living Stations for the past nine years.

Also appearing in the Living Stations were **Anthony Chansler, Brock Hayes, and Tyler Love** (Roman soldiers), **Dana Lang** (Mary, mother of Jesus), **Michael Shoda** (John), **Joe Stremfel** (Simon of Cyrene), **Tessa Leskinen** (Veronica), **Caitlyn Hawkins** and **Kaitlyn Lang** (women of Jerusalem), **Ryan Morgan** (child of Jerusalem), **Drew Russell** (Joseph of Arimathea), and **Duncan Kirkwood-Yates** as the candle tender.

AN IDEA BLOOMS

Cindy Fondale, aka *the flower lady*



I would like to thank everyone who chose to buy an Easter lily in memory of someone they felt deserved the honor. The idea started with trying to give people a chance to express their love of someone they loved and lost. It was also a chance to help Our Lady of the Pines parishioners honor our Lord with beautiful flowers on Easter morning. I was pleasantly surprised by the response that I received. We had 41 lilies that were purchased.

If you didn't have a chance to honor your loved one for Easter, you have other chances. Flowers can be

purchased and displayed on the altar on many Sundays of the year. Please check the schedule of dates still available and sign up for your special date (Calendar dates are on the bulletin board as you enter the church). If you can't get to the store to buy flowers and you don't have flowers in your garden to share, please come see me. For a small donation of \$20 - \$25 I will be glad to pick up the flowers for you and have them on the altar on your special date. The flowers are yours to take home when mass is over. You can call me at home after 4:00 pm. (295-1618) if you have any questions or if you want to inquire on an available date.

YOUR MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Joe Bertao

Welcome to Spring! **Lee Cumpian** has brightened our entranceway to our church with new flowers and plants. He also planted some shrubs up by the Memorial to the Unborn. Good job Lee....all costs are covered by your OLOP Society, so thanks to the Society also. Did you notice our 'new' sanctuary lamp...actually it is our 'old' sanctuary lamp which has been converted to electric (it was designed originally for a candle), so enjoy the ambience! On April 25th a clean up day was held to make sure our grounds are fire safe for the summer and the grounds look good. Many thanks to all who participated. We are in the process of getting the foyer of the church tiled... we are treading on the original tiles and they are starting to get worn.

**The Will of God
never takes you to
where the Grace of God
Will not protect you.**

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

Members of our parish's St. Vincent de Paul Society beg for money after Mass from time to time. The money collected goes to support the needy of Amador County (which is hardly California's most wealthy). Please bring a bit of extra cash with you on Sunday -- you never know when St. Vincent de Paul volunteers may be begging.

OLOP SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Phil Fondale
1st VP: Joe Bertao
2nd VP: Jim Perrine
Secretary: Charlene Rasmussen
Treasurer: Camille Sereni

OLOP MEETINGS

Our Lady Of the Pines Society meets on the first Wednesday of every month. A potluck dinner begins at 6:00 pm and the meeting starts at 7:00 pm. All parishioners of OLOP are members of the Society. There are no dues required. We welcome your participation and look forward to seeing some new faces at future meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you need an announcement made from the altar, please contact Viki Routt (296-4130) so it can be included in the announcements on Sundays. If you need an announcement placed in the Church Bulletin, please contact GERALYN HARDER (296-3889).

If you have a comment, compliment, question or an article for the *Pine Times*, please contact Ray Waugh (Publisher) at 295-1217 or at ray_waugh@juno.com. Material submitted via e-mail is very much appreciated. Photos are to be given to **Jim Perrine**, Director of All Graphic Images and Editor, at jmsu@volcano.net, or call 295-4753.

PARISH WEBSITE

<http://stpatparish.org>