

St. **A**mbrose Parish

Our 99th Year!
APRIL 19, 2015
BEEHIVE



Each year, EARTH DAY – April 22nd – marks the anniversary of what many consider the birth of the modern environmental movement that was begun in 1970. The fight for a clean environment continues with increasing urgency, as the ravages of climate change become more manifest every day. The following article is an excerpt from Katherin Preston’s essay written for [Sojourners Magazine](#) in August 2013. It was used as part of the study guide for our recent adult education sessions on “Climate Change: Our Call to Conversion”. For the complete article go to [sojo.net](#).

Why is it so hard for people to respond effectively to the reality of climate change? Changing people’s minds – with facts, tables and predictions – has proven extremely difficult. Showing people photos of the miraculous beauty of the planet alongside the predicted losses is not working. Guilt, anxiety, and anger can be motivating forces, but they have debilitating side effects. They are also soul-destroying.

So I wonder about our hearts. Have we ignored our emotional and spiritual connections to the planet? Could the noise swirling around climate change – science, politics, media blitzes, as well as the weather disasters themselves – drown out the voice of a loss so profound that it rests unnamed in our souls? Could our breaking hearts be part of the reason we are immobilized?

Today, the iconic images surrounding climate change are different: the human mother watching her child slowly die from malnutrition, the majestic polar bear mother with her cub on a

shrinking ice flow, or the head of state of a small island nation pleading with delegates at yet another international conference to save his homeland from disappearing under the rising ocean waves. These things are happening right now and, sadly, most often to those innocent of the causes.

Earth is an incarnation of God’s love rendered in soil, water, atmosphere, and living beings. It is a gift we must, by all rational, emotional, ethical, and spiritual measures, protect and preserve for future generations. It is a gift to all of us – not just some. We are compelled as Christians to ensure that the “least of these” who are most vulnerable are protected from the ravages of a changing climate. So if we are to truly “love our neighbors as ourselves,” we must put ourselves in their shoes and imagine watching our own malnourished child die or the place most precious to us disappear beneath the ocean waves.

We rarely talk about loss, grief, and climate change. The losses come in many forms. Clearly the victims of weather-related events, such as Hurricane Katrina and Sandy, grieve deeply when faced with the immediate losses of homes and neighborhoods. People drawing their livelihoods from the land and sea notice changes that will eventually eliminate that way of life for them, at least in that place. Some of us may have chosen changes in lifestyles to reduce our carbon footprint; it is something we do out of love, but there can still be accompanying feelings of loss.

For the many who feel God’s incarnate presence in nature,
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Mourning for the Earth

Continued from page 1

part of our grief may be an underlying feeling that some part of God is being lost through the changing climate.

Granted, for many other people, the reality of actual climate change remains distant – somewhere else, sometime later. The responses proposed – recycle more, drive less, watch your personal carbon footprint – seem so ridiculously small, futile, and incongruous that they are simple dismissed: Why bother? Let me just live my life, right now, the way I always have.

But I wonder if there could be a hidden sense of loss at work even beneath this self-absorbed, preoccupied exterior. Indeed, we are the first generation of people who now know that our children’s grandchildren will indeed not walk the same Earth. They will live on a planet so less hospitable and predictable than it is now that it is unimaginable to us.

At the pinnacle of our hubris, we find we are not above the intricacies and workings of the planetary system. The primary loss, then, is of our accustomed relationship to the planet. The associated grief is both deeply personal and hauntingly universal. It is a frightening, existential grief that leads to a profound sense of sadness and insecurity, perhaps not unlike the grief felt by the disciples after the death of Jesus.

Climate change is one of the most profound experiences faced by humans, as revolutionary a prospect as when Copernicus suggested that the Earth moves around the sun. As then, the change in our self-image cannot help but tie intimately into our thoughts about God. Some people of faith may assume that God’s second coming will change everything and alleviate the pain and grief from climate change. Others are unsure of how, but are certain that God will not “let” the human species die. Many of us, though, accept that, as Pogo said, “We have met the enemy and he is us”: Humans are capable of “free-willing” ourselves into oblivion. That God will remain with us until the end is still a given, but as we are told in Genesis, we are not the only act of creation seen as “good.” There are no guarantees of human existence on Earth – beyond our folly.

So, I wonder, could it be that one root cause of inaction in the face of climate change might be immobilization from caring not too little, but too much? How do we deal with the sadness of all this?

Therapists and pastors have long recognized that grief is a process, not a state of being. It is to be lived through, not cured. Using the familiar stages of grief defined by Elizabeth Kubler-Ross, climate scientist Dr. Steve Running perceptively describes five stages of “climate grief”:

DENIAL that the Earth is warming and that the warming is caused by humans.

ANGER that anyone should suggest that their lifestyle be changed.

BARGAINING by suggesting that “it won’t be all bad” (for instance, growing seasons will be extended in some places).

DEPRESSION at the almost unimaginable reality of the problem.

ACCEPTANCE, enabling active exploration of solutions. How could churches, synagogues, and mosques help us

work through our grief so we can embrace the radical changes that must be made? William Worden, author of Grief Counseling and Grief Therapy, suggests four “tasks of mourning.” Grieving over our losses due to climate change might look like this:

ACCEPT the loss of our previous relationship to the planet. Denial of climate change is yesterday’s news, but we still need to understand the meaning of the loss. Anthropogenic climate change harms the biosphere, threatens modern civilization, and is already especially harmful to the poor. But what does that really look like? Faith communities near those most affected (the poor, climate refugees, immigrants) can help articulate the stark realities, as well as what it might mean to more privileged people.

WORK through to the pain of our grief. This is the most salient task if we hope to break through the present inertia. Joanna Macy reminds us how the journey through the “dark night of the soul” has always been recognized by traditional paths as sacred. Moving deliberately through the darkest places will help people emerge with empathy and empowerment as they realize their own capacity to change.

ADAPT to an environment in which our traditional relationship with the Earth has been replaced with a new one. Everything must change, from how we dry our clothes to the underlying assumptions about our economy. Faith communities can provide support to people trying to adjust, trying to make a difference.

Much of the gospel is about healing and justice between human beings. We need to learn to adapt that to encompass the larger ecological community of which we are a part. Although they might not call it “God,” there are many non-churchgoers in the surrounding community who experience the sacred in the natural world that could share in this dialogue.

Emotionally **RELOCATE** preconceived notions of control and dominance of the planet and move on. We need to relegate our old Earth/human relationship to the past and move into a new community of being.

This seems overwhelming, but in a sense it has happened before. Jesus challenged people to change their allegiances, world views, and lifestyles, much as we are being challenged today by the reality of climate change. He suggested an entirely new community, bound together by love. “This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples – when they see the love you have for one another” (John 13:35). Only after his death did his followers realize that this new community of love had the power to break through their grief, enabling them to finally move onward in hope.

Instead of guilt, fear and depression, can we face our profound loss, talk about it, acknowledge our grief, and move forward within this new community? Can we dry our tears and embrace a new relationship with Earth infused with wonder, reverence for all life, and gratitude to God for remaining with us through the perils of what we must face?

“Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world’s grief. Do justly, now. Love mercy, now. Walk humbly now. You are not obligated to complete the work. But neither are you free to abandon it.” – from the Talmud.

All Things Considered

Our Catholic Church is becoming more visible in Ecological issues – with **Pope Francis** likely to go down in history as the “Pontiff of the Environment.” Last December our Holy Father said “*On climate change, there is a clear, definitive and ineluctable ethical imperative to act.*” For this reason we have brought together a group of parishioners to seriously study the issue and to be proactive in finding some solutions to certain specific problems within our reach. First of all, I would think that our location on the river gives us certain responsibilities toward issues of fresh water. Secondly, our patronage under St. Ambrose should also make us focus on the colony collapse disorder of bees. Celebrate Earth day this week with a renewed resolve to save and reverence the planet. To participate in our ecology action group, see **Sue Schrieber OP**.



Easter celebrates life emerging from death and the affirmation that “with God all things are possible.” What better time is there than this to talk about the new signs of life that are happening in Detroit, and in our part of town.

This leads us to two more sessions of “Motor City Makeover.” That’s the series where we invite a visit from some of the key people who are masterminding our urban renaissance. This Sunday morning in between masses, we’ll welcome Grosse Pointe Park’s interim mayor, **Greg Theokas**. Mr. Theokas has just assumed the mayoral role upon the recent medical retirement of long-time civil servant and friend of our parish, Mayor **Palmer Heenan**.

We’ve asked Mayor Theokas for an update on the issues that concern the sensitive relationship between the Cities of Detroit and Grosse Pointe Park – issues which concern the mission and ministry of St. Ambrose. I would hope to hear questions about the Kercheval Avenue closing; the clean-up of Alter

Road’s abandoned properties; and an issue that should be of special focus for St. Ambrose parishioners – the status of the junk yard and City garage inconveniently located in-between us and Jefferson Avenue. Certainly our Centennial Parish deserves to be better respected than it is now. I trust that our parishioners will also bring many more questions regarding other collaborative efforts between cities. Some City Council persons have also asked to be invited. I hope that after accepting an invitation to be with us, there will be a good number of St. Ambrose parishioners at this executive meeting this Sunday morning in-between masses in the ARK.

We’re trying to work in a similar session with Detroit’s Mayor, **Mike Duggan**, or his Deputy Mayor, **Ike Mackinnon**, but their schedules are more complicated. At the very least, we should have an opportunity to hear Mayor Duggan speak about issues of city safety at the Community Unity Walk on May 2nd, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Walk begins at Mack/Cadieux and ends at Alter Rd.

Thus far, I know of only three persons from the parish who will comprise our Ambrosian delegation at that Walk. I trust that there will be several more persons involved to help demonstrate our civic solidarity and a desire for safer streets. If you want to walk with your fellow parishioners, call (313) 822-2814, or email us at stambrose@comcast.net. If you can’t walk, then help us at a hospitality tent at the end of the route.



In two weeks time, we will offer another “Motor City Makeover” presentation relative to the exciting announcement of the Jefferson Avenue project that has already begun as to the “blending” of

the street-scapes of the Park with the first five blocks into the eastern side of Detroit. The goal is to eventually connect – by a series of bike trails and other user friendly amenities – Grosse Pointe Park (and our campus) with Belle Isle.

Josh Elling will be our presenter. He has been a part of the Jefferson East Business Association since 2007, and over the last couple years has helped to lead the stakeholder process leading to the creation of the East Jefferson Corridor Collaborative. He will be joined by **Todd Scott** from Detroit Greenways Coalition. This group has developed a vision which calls for over 70 miles of greenways throughout town. That vision also includes bike lanes to bridge gaps between the greenways and to connect with neighborhoods. The Jefferson project will be part of Detroit’s Non-Motorized Transportation Master Plan. You’ll want to hear about this.



Our “Theology on Tap” program (also known as “Dinner Drinks and Dogma”) was on hiatus this month because the April gathering date conflicted with Holy Week services. We’re back on schedule for May 6th at Antonio’s. Over the Spring and Summer we’ll be mixing things up a bit with some different venues,

days and times for this outreach ministry. Since its creation in the Archdiocese of Chicago in 1981, Theology on Tap has proven to be a successful vehicle for reaching young adults interested in learning more about their faith, coming together to share community, and feeling welcomed and valued in the Catholic Church. As the only Theology on Tap program on this side of town, there is a lot of potential here.

2	0	CSA
1	5	Box Scores
Number of Families 840		
Returns to date 0		
Average Gift ('14).....\$413		
Received in the '14 campaign ... \$117,654		
Quota for the Archdiocese\$106,011		
Property/Liability Insurance ... \$50,000		
Parish '15 Target.....\$156,011		
<p>• We're starting the 2015 CSA campaign this week. Expect a letter asking for your participation. Contribute by using the CSA forms sent to you, or you can make a contribution electronically through stambrosechurch.net.</p> <p>* We fully expect to again meet our Archdiocesan obligations. Remember that any overage to the CSA campaign comes back to our parish at 100%</p>		



Bee at the Tee
St. Ambrose Golf Classic
Detroit/Grosse Pointe Park

Make plans now to join in the inaugural St. Ambrose Parish golf outing on Friday, June 12, 2015. We're planning a great day of golf and socializing at the beautiful Chandler Park Golf Course (chandlerparkgolfcourse.com).

The event includes a scramble format with four-person teams, lunch and awards, with a great dinner to conclude the day at the ARK at St. Ambrose. A person can register to play a round of golf with dinner, or just for dinner.

Register *now* online at planmygolfevent.com/26900-St-AmbroseBeeAttheTee. Registration, sponsorship and volunteer forms are available in the back of church. Questions? Email st.ambrosegolf@gmail.com.

Sponsorships will be available in many different price ranges. Consider signing up your business as one of the first supporters of our first golf outing. Personalize your own Tee sign to celebrate a special event, to thank or remember someone special, or to congratulate a friend, or a group.

Community Walk

Save Our Children's Future, Detroit Crime Commission and Crime Stoppers are three of the members of a larger coalition of institutions, organizations, and individuals committed to working together to plant and nurture the seeds of reliable safety on our streets, on our playgrounds, at our bus stops and everywhere in-between. This is in hope that we may all live in and leave the shelter of our own homes without fear and without harm.

On May 2nd, there will be a Community Unity Walk from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The route begins at Cadieux and Mack and ends at Alter and Mack. Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan will be in attendance to deliver the keynote speech.

"One person can make a difference, and everyone should try," said John F. Kennedy. We hope you can help these groups make a difference in this corner of town. For more information, visit saveourchildrensfuture.com or call Detroit Crime Commission at (313) 394-1600.

If you want to be part of a unified St. Ambrose delegation in making this walk, call (313) 822-2814 or email stambrose@comcast.net

Spring Cleaning for a Good Purpose

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus explains the meaning of the scriptures. Like the disciples, when we offer and receive forgiveness our hearts burn because we encounter the risen Christ within us. Have you considered answering the call to "help the poor find forgiveness and healing in their lives" by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul here at St. Ambrose? Then call 822-2814.

It's time to clean out your closets and organize your attics. Our St. Ambrose St. Vincent de Paul Society's "Bundle Weekend" will take place Saturday, May 30th and Sunday, May 31st. To save you a trip to the donation center, a pod will be located in the church parking lot to collect your items. We are in particular need of new/clean bed linens. If you have those, please put them in a separate bag and let us know when you drop them off. We are also in need of kitchen items, such as pots and pans, and small furniture such as card tables and chairs. Good clothing in good condition is always needed.

We have an ongoing need for clean twin mattresses, box springs and bed frames. We can arrange to pick these up from your home if you are not able to bring them to the pod. Just call the rectory and let us know. Organize your stuff now for a drop off the last weekend in May.

Motor City Makeover

Metropolitan Detroit is rapidly being made over in ways that will define its future. We've invited persons knowledgeable in the field of Detroit's makeover to talk with us. Hear their visions of the 'City to come'.

These sessions are Sundays from 9:45 until 11 a.m. in the ARK

April 19 "The Park and the Parish" with **Greg Theokas**;

A meeting with Grosse Pointe Park's new mayor.

April 26 "The Border" with **Joshua Elling** of JEBA and **Todd**

Scott of Detroit Greenways; a look at East Jefferson's redesign of the five blocks connecting the Detroit and Grosse Pointe parts of the parish, with the goal of blending both communities.

Religious Education Notes

Fr. Ron Rolheiser is quick to tell the reader in his book (simply) titled, *Prayer*, that he doesn't place much stock in dreams. That said, he relays a dream he once had that he attributes to a sort of revelation about God. In this dream he found himself waiting at the airport for Jesus to arrive. His religious superior has given him the job of picking Jesus up from the airport and, as he stands there waiting for the flight to come in, he begins to worry about many things. What if he doesn't recognize Jesus? After all, he doesn't really know what he looks like! How will Jesus react when he sees him? He is feeling unworthy for the task! What if he fails to do what he has been instructed to do? So much anxiety!

Suddenly, Jesus is off the plane and walking directly toward him. At that moment, their roles appear to reverse. It is Jesus who becomes the greeter and as he does so, Ron feels a flood of warmth and acceptance and love. Jesus embraces Ron in all of his imperfection and anxiety in such a way that allows Ron to feel the unconditional love that is his best way to describe God.

In today's Gospel Jesus tells his disciples that they are witnesses of the great love and mercy of Christ that was evidenced in his death on the cross and his Resurrection from the dead. Jesus continues to state that the "Good News" would be preached in his name to all nations, throughout all time, beginning in Jerusalem. All that has been promised to God's People in love has been accomplished in Him.

Unlike the first disciples, we were not present when Jesus first appeared to them and spoke these words. But ... if we are most attentive ... we will catch Jesus speaking the same words to us today in a whisper, in an intuition, or even in a dream. The message we receive is the message we share with others. God is Love. In this understanding, we who are disciples become witnesses to that fact, to give it life – first in our own lives – and then to pass it on.

SOLEMN CELEBRATION OF FIRST EUCHARIST: Almost all of our 36 communicants received their First Communion at the Holy Thursday celebration of the Lord's Supper. This coming Saturday, April 25th, they will celebrate the sacrament a bit more formally. At a special 1:30 liturgy these boys and girls will come dressed in First Communion garb – white dresses and veils – shirts and ties – to process together and receive Communion together in a more solemn way.

After mass, all present will be invited into the ARK for a reception. Our photographer, Larry Peplin will then take a group shot of our first communicants. After that, families may line up for individual pictures which they will receive in the mail as a gift from the parish. It has been a St. Ambrose custom that First Communicants are excused from Sunday School the following day, but they need to return to class on the Sundays in May for the completion of their lessons.

This coming Friday, April 24th, we will have an important rehearsal for this at 6:30 pm in the church. In the meantime, the Traveling Chalice will continue to go home with individual children all the way through the first Sunday in June. Please continue to keep these children and their families in your prayers.

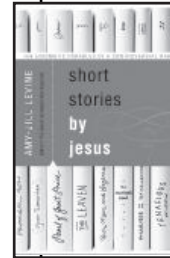
KAY LASANTE: Thank you, again, to the families in our religious education program who donated their extra dollars to help support the Kay Lasante Medical Clinic in Port au Prince, Haiti. Together, we raised \$300.55 that was sent directly to Bishop Tom Gumbleton who will, in turn, send it or bring it personally to the Kay Lasante clinic. This was indeed, a gift of love. I hope that many of you will consider giving on a regular basis to such a worthy cause. I know I will.

Betty Haley

A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

The apostles were afraid of Jesus until he ate with them and they touched him. In your family the ordinary acts of eating together, touching, embracing not only confirm our love for each other, but also celebrate God's presence in your family. These 'ordinary' moments contain the 'extraordinary.'

Marcellina's Book Club



In *Short Stories by Jesus*, Amy Jill Levine, a renowned biblical scholar, author of *The Misunderstood Jew*, and editor for *The Jewish Annotated New Testament* interweaves history and

spiritual analysis to explore Jesus' most popular teaching parables, exposing their misinterpretations and making them lively and relevant for modern readers.

Levine takes readers back in time to understand how the parables' original Jewish audience understood them.

Marcellina's Book Club will meet on Sunday morning, May 17th at 9:45 a.m. in the ARK. Make this book your Easter season reading.

The Beehive

The the parish weekly bulletin of the St. Ambrose Catholic Community Detroit/Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan

Pastor: Rev. Timothy R. Pelc

Pastoral Minister: Charles Dropiewski

Religious Education: Elizabeth Haley

Minister of Music: Marilyn Biery

Office Manager: Theresa Harthen

Sacramental Celebrations

Masses: On the Lord's Day –

Saturday Vigil - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday - 8:30 and 11:15 a.m.

Baptism: Arrangements for both adults and infants to be made by contacting the rectory.

Penance: As announced and by appointment.

Marriage: Couples should contact the rectory office a minimum of six months in advance of the proposed date to make arrangements.

Funeral: Normally celebrated within one week after the deceased's passing.

Directory

Parish Office: 15020 Hampton

Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan 48230

Tel: (313) 822-2814 **Fax:** (313) 822-9838

Email address: stambrose@comcast.net

Religious Education: (313) 822-1248

Ark Scheduling: (313) 822-2814

School Archives: 313-237-5846

Parish Website: stambrosechurch.net

Liturgy Schedule for the Coming Week

- Monday, April 20**
8:30 a.m. - Morning Prayer
- Tuesday, April 21**
8:30 a.m. - Mass - Dick & MaryAnn Senks
- Wednesday, April 22**
8:30 a.m. - Morning Prayer
- Thursday, April 23**
St. George, martyr
8:30 a.m. - Mass - Judy & Frank Simonds
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Finkiner
- Friday, April 24**
St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen
11:00 a.m. - Funeral - Patricia Pulis
- Saturday, April 25**
St. Mark, evangelist
1:30 p.m. - Solemn First Eucharist
4:00 p.m. - Mass - For All People
- Sunday, April 26**
Fourth Sunday of Easter
8:30 a.m. - Mass - For All People
11:15 a.m. - Mass - For All People



Scriptures for the 4th week of Easter

- Monday, April 20**
- Acts 6: 8-15
 - Ps 119: 23-24, 26-27, 29-30
 - Jn 6: 22-29
- Tuesday, April 21**
- Acts 7: 51-8: 1a
 - Ps 31: 3cd-4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17, 21ab
 - Jn 6: 30-35
- Wednesday, April 22**
- Acts 8: 1b-8
 - Ps 66: 1-3a, 4-7a
 - Jn 6: 35-40
- Thursday, April 23**
- Acts 8: 26-40
 - Ps 66: 8-9, 16-17, 20
 - Jn 6: 44-51
- Friday, April 24**
- Acts 9: 1-20
 - Ps 117: 1bc, 2
 - Jn 6: 52-59
- Saturday, April 25**
- 1 Pt 5: 5b-14
 - Ps 89: 2-3, 6-7, 16-17
 - Mk 16: 15-20
- Sunday, April 26**
- Acts 4: 8-12
 - 1 Jn 3: 1-2
 - Jn 10: 11-18



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Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 25th and April 26th

4:00 p.m. – Saturday – Celebrant: Fr. Bede **Lector:** Pat Ticknor
Eucharistic Ministers: Adam Borkowski, Ron Hoffman, Mary Helen Quigg-Hillyer
Altar Servers: Joseph & Nicholas Kurta

8:30 a.m. – Sunday – Celebrant: Fr. Bede **Lector:** Karlos Haynes
Eucharistic Ministers: Colleen Drummond, Christopher Harrison, Joan Jackson, Maggie Jackson, Liz & Steve Linne, Bernadette Pieczynski
Altar Servers: Blake Hern, Liam O'Byrne

11:15 a.m. – Sunday – Celebrant: Fr. Pelc **Lector:** Roger Playwin
Eucharistic Ministers: Beverly Bennert, Anne Billiu, Doris Fleming, Mary Ghesquiere, Michele Hodges, Sue Playwin, Cynthia Warner
Altar Servers: Lizzie High, Sylvia & Effie Hodges

Your Envelope Speaks . . . the Inside Story

To operate, each week our parish requires a *minimum* of \$10,127.00

On Sunday, April 12, 2015

in envelopes we received\$6,398.00
in the loose collection \$561.00
in electronic donations \$1,200.00
in children's envelopes.....\$9.00
for a total of**\$8,168.00**

Under budget for the week \$1,959.00

Number of envelopes mailed 800
Number of envelopes used 163

Please use the offertory envelopes that have been mailed to you. Or sign up for electronic giving. Thanks to everyone who gave to the "dent" campaign and to a great Easter collection.

Our Sick

Please pray for our parishioners who are seriously ill or hospitalized: Roma Affelt, Kay Balas, Elizabeth Howard, Maria Chinchilla, Mary Ellen Greenup, Bonnie McKenna, Karen Culver, Joseph MacEachern, Mary Myers, David Schumacker, Carter Billiu, Bob Ramsey, Fred Schroeder, Ann Sullivan Kay, Mary Pat Egan, Pat Blake, Dominic Centorbi, Irene Scopel, Ray Oberly, Milton Aitchison, Donald & Marilyn Miriani, Kathleen Elbersen, Maureen Barron-Brioc, Ginger Weiksnar, Laura Bush Terry, Lennie O'Brien, Maryjane Cullen, Bp. Joseph Imesch, Andrew Chavez, Angela Hansen, Barbara Mann, Elizabeth Robert, Bernadette Gutowski, Dan Fleming and Katherine Brennan Lee.

Our Dead

Anne Marie [Nancy] **Czarnik**, nee **McHale** (72) was buried from St. Ambrose on Friday, April 17th, at a funeral mass celebrated by Fr. Pelc. A former resident of Nottingham Street, Nancy lived at St. Mary's Residence in Detroit for the past 15 years.

Nancy began an artist career as a child when she took classes at the Detroit Institute of Arts. There she encountered a life-size figure called "The Prophet" which would become a *lief motif* throughout her life. She studied painting at Wayne State, sculpture at the Society of Arts and Crafts, and completed her Bachelor of Fine Arts at Marygrove College where she became proficient in metal etching. She was later employed in the advertising department of the Kmart Corporation.

She married her husband Tom in 1971. They had one son, Brian, who died earlier this year. For a time, the Czarnik's lived in Phoenix, where Nancy embraced native American art styles and the color palate of the West. It was there that she produced a series of woodcuts of Native Americans and oil paintings which are among her most memorable works. Nancy had five siblings: Joe, Michael, Ed McHale, Christopher and Mary. Nancy and Tom also have three grandchildren.

Nancy died of heart failure at Providence Hospital on April 12th. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

St. Pat's Senior Dinner

St. Ambrose Parish is scheduled to cook and serve dinner on Sunday, May 3rd for about 100 low income adults at the St. Patrick's Senior Center in the Cass Corridor/Cultural Center. There is a sign-up sheet in back of church for you to contribute food, or you can make a monetary donation. Servers and personal representatives from St. Ambrose for that day are important. If you and your family can give the time, you would be greatly rewarded. Shared transportation will be offered. Call 822-2814.

Retrouvaille 2015

Retrouvaille can help struggling couples who are looking for help and want a lifeline, but do not know where to turn. Retrouvaille is a Christian Peer Ministry focused on reaching out to hurting couples longing for renewal and hope. Metro Detroit has English and Spanish programs scheduled for the remainder of 2015, each beginning with a weekend on May 1st, June 5th (Spanish), July 10th, September 11th, October 9th (Spanish) and October 23rd. For information or to register, see our website: retrouvaille.info or call 1-800-470-2230.

Fix A Leak: An Ambrosian Environmental Challenge

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's thinks it's possible for consumers to save one trillion gallons of water. Every year, more than one trillion gallons of water go down the drain because of household leaks. Leaks may increase a water bill by as much as 10%. The *WaterSense* program encourages consumers to celebrate the annual "Fix a Leak Week," by finding and repairing water leaks in their homes. Annually, the average American family could be wasting more than 10,000 gallons of water – enough for 270 loads of laundry – due to easy-to-fix leaks. Since 2006 *WaterSense* has helped consumers save a cumulative 757 billion gallons of water and over \$14.2 billion in water and energy bills.

Here's how to reduce water waste:

Check: Look at your water meter, usually located outside your house, before and after a two-hour period of no water use. If the number changed, there is likely a leak, which could be as simple to fix as replacing a worn rubber flapper in a toilet tank.

Twist: Fix dripping pipes, fixtures or hoses, by using a wrench to twist and tighten the connections. If needed, pipe tape can help seal shower fixtures or hose connections. Check washers and valves for persistent drips and repair or replace, if necessary. Remind everyone to turn faucets and showers off tightly.

Replace: For old or inefficient fixtures not easily repaired, look for *WaterSense* labeled models to replace them. *WaterSense* products are available in a variety of styles and price points at home improvement stores. These money-saving products are high performing and independently certified to use at least 20 percent less water. Many *WaterSense* partners also offer rebates for *WaterSense* labeled products.

WaterSense, an EPA partnership program, seeks to protect the future of our nation's water supply by offering people a simple way to use less water with water-efficient products, new homes and services. The program helps consumers make smart water choices that save money and maintain high environmental standards without compromising performance.

"Fixing household leaks is not only an important way to conserve water, but it is a simple way that American families can reduce energy use and lower utility bills," said Ken Kopocis, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Water at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The Cross and the Light Concert Experience

Film, music, and drama have a capacity to touch the heart and spark conversion. We are blessed to have an opportunity to encounter Christ through "The Cross and the Light Concert Experience" this spring here in the Archdiocese of Detroit.

Have you ever wondered what it would have been like to witness the drama of the week leading up to Christ's passion, death, and resurrection? What would it have been like to see the risen Christ and experience the power of the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost? The Cross and the Light Concert Experience will help you experience these things and more.

The Cross and the Light is a two-hour experiential journey into the greatest story of all time. This deeply moving musical journey through Christ's Passion to Pentecost uses the latest projection technology to transform the walls of the church into a virtual canvas that surrounds and immerses the audience into the story. Seven singers sing 24 songs telling the story of Christ, and this story changes lives! Don't miss this opportunity to experience the Good News of Jesus Christ. Five weeks, five locations:

ST. HUGO OF THE HILLS
Bloomfield, April 16 - 18

ST. PATRICK PARISH
White Lake, April 23 - 25

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA
GP Woods, April 30 - May 2

ST. FRANCES CABRINI
Allen Park, May 7 - 9

ST. ISIDORE
Macomb, May 14 - 16, 2015

Don't miss this incredible production! Expected attendance: 20,000 from across the Archdiocese. For performance schedules and to purchase tickets online go to crossandlight.com or call (734) 788-7073.