



The Angelus

February 2025

From the Rector's Desk

As a former Grace organist-choirmaster used to say at this time of year, "Soon Lent will be at our throats."

Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the season of Lent, is March 5.

Recall that Lent is indeed a period of fasting and penitence and almsgiving. These practices are among the most important practices in Catholic faith and growth. In returning to them ("turn around to"="repentance) we follow the practices of the saints before us who lead the way.

Please recall that fasting is not about gratuitously inflicting pain on ourselves, for pain's sake. Rather, fasting is an honored, effective practice because it's an essential beginning for detaching from all things that become false gods—even good things like food or material comfort or success of one kind or another. The discomfort of detaching in this way is the same discomfort that comes from, say, debriding a wound. It is for healing not punishment.

Penitence is likewise not at all about grinding ourselves into powder. Rather, it is about shedding everything that breaks the bond of life and love between us and God, us and other people. That bond the Scriptures and the saints call communion. Broken communion is loss of life. Restored communion is eternal life. The value of penitence, feeling honestly the burden and wounds of lost communion, is that it is the path to freedom and life. Can you imagine needing a doctor for a blocked artery but when in consultation with your doctor you instead talk about your vacation and maybe an ingrown toenail instead?

Lent, penitence, fasting, and almsgiving are about detaching and preparing to receive above all—receive new life through the Resurrection of Jesus. "You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast."

What will your fast look like this Lent? How will you reduce the amount you eat and limit the kinds of food you eat?

How will you prepare to make confession with your parish priest or some other priest confessor you choose, and when will you schedule your confession?

To what or whom will you give support and material help, above and beyond regular charitable giving?

Peace,
WLB+

Annual Meeting

On January 19 our annual meeting was held in St Nicholas Hall. An abundance of sweet and savory snacks (contributed by our talented parishioners) accompanied the meeting along with a birthday cake marking Fr. William's upcoming 60th birthday. Nominations were held resulting in Mary Snyder as Sr. Warden and John Davis Jr. Warden. This is their third and final term. Newly elected to the vestry for three year terms are Sarah Bernhardt, Doug Jenkins, and Tim Miller. Elected to serve a one year term is Robert McMillan. Congratulations! Many thanks to the outgoing members for their faithful service: Mary Gallimore, Shannon Luckey-Mueller, Jean Margaret Merrell-Beech, and Connie Schneider.

If you were unable to attend the meeting and would like to pick up a copy of the annual reports please stop at the front desk in the reception area and get one.

Sarah Bernhardt



1. *How long have you been a member of Grace Church?* - I grew up going to Grace Church. My parents and brother and I were very active members. I have been away from the church and from Grace for a number of years and I'm looking forward to reigniting my involvement.

2. *What activities or ministries have you been involved with at Grace Church?* - In high school I was the president of the youth group at Grace. I was also a member of the youth and adult choirs at various points. I was highly involved with the Happening diocesan youth retreat program. During my senior year of high school I was called upon to be the rector for one of the Happening weekends.

3. *What are some of your favorite things about Grace Church?* - Many of my fondest memories of Grace Church center around music. Music is an amazing vehicle for worship and a great way to bring people together.

4. *What are your hopes for the parish?* - My hope is that Grace can continue to be a welcoming community full of people doing our best to demonstrate God's love.

5. *What are your hobbies?* - I love traveling, camping and spending time with my kiddos. I also love riding my motorcycle, kayaking, fishing, and playing tabletop games.

6. *What is your favorite hymn?* - I am the bread of life, #335

7. *Is there anything else you want us to know about you?* - I have two wonderful children and a feisty cat named Leo.

Doug Jenkins



1. *How long have you been a member of Grace Church?* - Kath and I were members from 1988 - 1995, when we moved away. We returned to Grace when we moved back to Sheboygan in 2021.

2. *What activities or ministries have you been involved with at Grace Church?* - We have regularly attended All Saints Chapel, since that is where we had our marriage blessed in 1994, and because it is such a wonderful place for worship.

3. *What are some of your favorite things about Grace Church?* - Its members, its history, and its rector.

4. *What are your hopes for the parish?* - That its refugee program flourishes and that its financials become more sound.

5. *What are your hobbies?* - Golf, pickleball, and brewing beer.

6. *What is your favorite hymn?* - Eternal Father, Strong to Save (The Navy Hymn). My father was in the Navy in World War II, and he had the hymn sung at his funeral. Decades later it still moves me every time I hear it.

Tim Miller



Born in Milwaukee, Tim spent the first couple of years in the care of nuns at St. Joseph's Asylum for Illegitimate Children (Actual name) until adopted by Jerry and Agnes Miller who ran one of the last Mom & Pop grocery stores on 6th and Bell. Deciding that he would become a priest he enrolled at St Lawrence Seminary immediately after graduation from Holy Name.

However when 16 years old I met Pat (14 years old at the time) and very shortly thereafter realized that a vow of celibacy would not be practical. Agnes always held a grudge insofar as she felt Pat was responsible for her son not becoming a priest. We were married in 1971 and had 3 beautiful children: Kathy, David, and Mary (all good people if I do say so myself). We have been blessed with 8 grandchildren.

I "dumbed into" my vocation in the field of medicine when I was hired in 1969 by St Nicholas Hospital as a surgical orderly. But shortly thereafter Uncle Sam had a better idea! Instead of waiting to be drafted I volunteered in 1970 as a Special Forces Medic. After combat medic training was asked by branch to become a Senior Clinical Specialist. In 1975 it was Physician Assistant training through the Academy of Health Sciences and Baylor University. I served as Battalion Surgeon for two different maneuver battalions to include the largest in the Army, a Pershing nuclear missile battalion in Germany. I retired from the Army in 1990.

After a couple of years at VA hospital in Augusta, GA, returned to Sheboygan in 1993 like a bad penny. Agnes was then living at Sunny Ridge. Went to work for Marsho Family Medical Clinic where I spent the next 20 years. I

finished my medical Career at Aurora Urgent Care Clinic in Plymouth and Sheboygan finally retiring in August of 2023 when I judged the worst of the COVID crisis past.

About 25 years ago I served at Chairman of the Parish Counsel at Holy Name. It was about that same time that Pat and Tim became disenchanted with the Hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church and started to look for a new home. It wasn't too long ago that our search (or God) took us to Grace (Fr Karl was pastor at that time) and the rest is history. Now you know the rest of the story...

P.S. Tim said his favorite hymn is GOD OF OUR FATHERS.

Robert McMillan



I have been a member of Grace Church since 2004. I am currently starting my second term on the Vestry. I have been a delegate for Grace Church at the Diocesan Convention. Last year I was a delegate at the meetings for merging the three Dioceses of Wisconsin. I was involved in the stewardship campaigns for 2022 & 2023. I have overseen the Brat Fry fundraisers for the past couple of years. I also help with various needs at All Saints Chapel in Elkhart Lake during the summer months.

Some of my favorite things are All Saints Chapel, prayers of healing that take place in Our Lady of Walsingham Shrine, and the inclusion of the youth in the celebration of our Mass. I hope that our parish will always live by our mission statement: “To love God, to love others, and to serve God’s world.” It has kept this parish vibrant for 175 years now. May it continue to guide us in all our discernment.

I enjoy spending time at Elkhart Lake with my family, going to the races at Road America, and doing some metalwork when time permits. My favorite hymn is Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence.

Mia and I were married in October 2003 at All Saints Chapel in Elkhart Lake. Going to Mass at the Chapel is what brought our family to Grace Church. Both of my kids (Maya & Jostin) were confirmed through Grace Church at All Saints Chapel.

Grace Walsingham Foundation (GWF) News

It is with great appreciation and service that we thank Tom Wright for his faithful service on the board. Replacing Tom is **Polly Schmeiser**. Congratulations Polly!



Here is the Love INC update

Love In the Name of Christ has decided to develop a monthly newsletter (in lieu of the monthly church bulletin) that will be distributed via MailChimp to any interested party. There are over 940 people signed up for this newsletter already.. We ask that congregation members sign up via the website at loveincsheboygancounty.org. When on the website scroll down to the bottom of the home page to enter your name and email address to receive this newsletter.



Calling for Generous Cooks

Love INC has again asked Grace Episcopal Church to prepare and serve a meal for the New Way class participants on March 27, 2025. Several cooks can share the work and enjoy the evening with friends and family. The cost of the meal is the responsibility of the preparer, who chooses the foods that will be prepared. Below is the instruction sheet developed by Love INC. There will be a sign up sheet on the narthex table or call Connie Schneider at 920-547-0318.

Registration Open Now! classes Feb 6-May 1

Affirming Potential, Successful Living, Tasting Grace, Boundaries, Financial Future and Discovery Bible Study
The New Way Community gathers for two 12-week terms and meets weekly on Thursday nights from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm at Calvin Christian Reformed Church, 2313 Saemann Ave., Sheboygan with a meal served between 5 and 5:30 PM.

Lenten Sunday Morning Series. Christian Faith, Science and Technology

What reaction do you have to these words: artificial intelligence (AI), genetic modification, climate correction, stem cell therapy or brain enhancement—and other scientific and technological changes And, as Christians these developments? For, as we know, these advancements can bring great blessings and great harm.

Beginning Sunday, March 9th and for the following Sundays in Lent, Fr. John Throop will take us through an “experiment”: how biblical theology and secular sciences handle these challenges. Hint: we’ve been here before—so there will be some history—including scientists we honor as faithful saints.

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Fellowship Hall

Any questions? Ask Fr. John.

December Financial Focus

<u>December Income</u>	<u>YTD Income</u>	<u>Annual Budget 2024</u>
\$ 23,348	\$ 323,995	\$ 309,921
<u>December Expenses</u>	<u>YTD Expenses</u>	<u>Annual Budget 2024</u>
\$ 29,808	\$ 319,845	\$ 332,29
<u>Net Total</u>		
(\$ 6,460)	\$ 4,150	(\$ 22,377)

Mark Your Calendars

- **February 2nd**
 - Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple
 - Scout Sunday
- **March 5th**
 - Ash Wednesday

February Birthdays

Beth Bouck	2/5
Brian Munro Jr.	2/6
Ellen Aparicio	2/11
Robert McMillan	2/11
Tim Miller	2/15
Deb Gagin	2/16
Alison Weinert	2/18
Carver Beek	2/20
Helen Mullison	2/21
Nancy Imig	2/25
Clever Soe Lin	2/28

February Anniversary

John & Dianna Keller	2/10
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Parish Staff

The Rt. Rev. Matthew A Gunter, *Bishop*
 The Reverend William L. Bulson, *Rector*
 The Reverend Paul D. Aparicio, *Deacon*
 Clayton Logue, *Organist-Choirmaster*
 Crystal Lopez, *Parish Administrator*
 Javier Delgado, *Sexton*

The Vestry

The Reverend William L. Bulson, *Chair*
 Mary Snyder, *Senior Warden*
 John Davis, *Junior Warden*
 Brian Heck, *Treasurer*
 Helen Mullison, *Chancellor*
Vestry: Jean-Sarah Bernhardt, Jack Britton, Fr. Jack Connelly, Tasha Crouse, Jane Hanson, Doug Jenkins, Robert McMillan, Tim Miller, Connie Schneider, and Steve Weinert

January's Grace highlights

Annual Meeting – January 19th





Open House - January 10th



THE CHALKING OF THE DOORS

THE CROSSES STAND FOR CHRIST

THE CALENDAR YEAR

20 + C + M + B + 25

THE CALENDAR YEAR

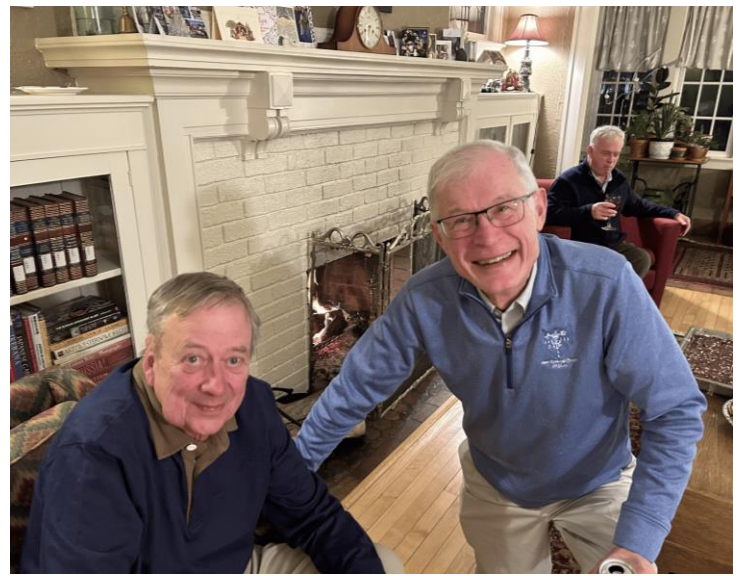
CASPAR, MELCHIOR, AND BALTHAZAR

The letters have two meanings:

- Initials of the three magi
- Represent the Latin words "Christus mansionem benedicat," which means "May Christ bless this dwelling."

CHRISTUS MANSIONEM BENEDICAT
MAY CHRIST BLESS THIS DWELLING











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