

### Cry

**The only way you can truly recover from tragedy is to grieve.**

**So don't be afraid to let yourself cry.**

**Crying does not make you weak.**

**Cry and cry often.**

**Let your tears become the rain that cleanses and heals.**

**Grieve for all you have lost.**

**Once you have healed, you will look back on the time spent grieving and be thankful for the strength it gave you to eventually overcome the tragedy.**

**So don't be afraid to let yourself cry.**

Mary Katherine Devine

# Holy Cross/St. Christine Merger News

## Merger Transition Team

The Merger Transition Team has met several times since the arrival of Fr. Joe Fortuna. There is a great deal of work to be done in preparation for the merger of Holy Cross and St. Christine Parishes into Our Lady of the Lake Parish. This newsletter will provide information about what is going on, what decisions have been made and what things are currently in process.

As we begin each of these meetings, we go around the table and give a brief description of how we are feeling about the process. There are several themes that come up for almost everyone at the table.

First of all, there is a feeling of real hopefulness among the Merger Team members. Everyone acknowledges that it will not be quick and easy, but if we have patience with each other and the process, things will come together, *eventually!* There are so many gifts and talents to be shared.

The second feeling that is universal among the members of the Merger Transition Team is the feeling of grief. We know it is important for us, and for you, to acknowledge those feelings of loss and to talk about them.

Taking time to grieve over what is lost does not diminish our hopes for the future of Our Lady of the Lake Parish. As Christians, we know death leads to new life. We still need to take time to come together to share stories and feelings even though we know that new life awaits.....Please take the time.



## Registration & Envelopes

Many parishioners have been asking about offertory envelopes and how registration will be handled at our new parish.

Until new envelopes are received, parishioners should use the envelopes they have been receiving. Contributions will be tracked using them.

Shortly, you will be receiving a letter describing the process for registering at Our Lady of the Lake. This mailing will also include a postcard to be filled out by those choosing a parish other than Our Lady of the Lake.



## Important Dates

**On February 13**, at the 4:00 Mass, Bishop Richard Lennon will celebrate the final weekend mass at St. Christine Church.

**On February 14**, at the 11:30 Mass, Bishop Lennon will do the same at Holy Cross Church.

Funerals occurring between February 15 and the opening of the new parish will be held at the parish of the deceased.

Ash Wednesday Masses and services will be held at Holy Cross Church.

**On February 21 - The Opening Mass at Our Lady of the Lake Parish will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. Because of this time, it is necessary to adjust the other mass schedule for this weekend. The Saturday 4:00 p.m. will be celebrated as usual but the Mass times on Sunday will be 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Please make note of this change.**

A reception is being planned immediately after the 11:00 Mass. The Social Activities and Welcoming Subcommittees will be working together to plan this event.

We are asking for your help as well. We need volunteers to bake for the reception. If you are willing to help out, please call the Holy Cross Rectory at 486-0850 or St. Christine Rectory at 261-1410 to sign up. Thank you in advance for your help.

### **School News**

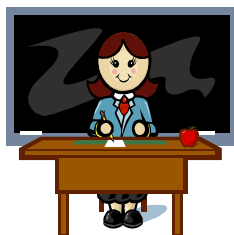
Now that the new Parish has been given a name, there have been questions about the name of the school.

Parish Schools are a part of the faith formation and evangelization ministry of a parish. They are supported by the entire church community and exist to help a parish achieve its mission.

Because of the intimate nature of the relationship of a school to a parish, the school usually bears the name of the parish by which it is supported.

Holy Cross School will become Our Lady of the Lake School at the conclusion of the 2009/2010 school year. State Law prohibits such a change in the middle of the school year.

Committees will be formed to work out many of the details around uniforms, mascot, etc. There will be no significant changes for the remainder of the present school year.



### **Other Happenings. . . .**

As you can imagine, there is a great deal of activity going on all at one time! Some of the other things that are in process are:

Schedules for Liturgical Ministers that incorporate members from both parishes are being developed.



Our Lady of the Lake is requesting ushers, new and old, to serve in a welcoming role at our new parish. Please consider being a welcoming presence at our new parish!



A subcommittee has been formed to research mass times among our Euclid Cluster parishes and to suggest a new Mass schedule for the parish.

A subcommittee has been formed to review and research parking and accessibility issues as well as to look at a Ministry of Transportation. We want to make sure that Our Lady of the Lake is accessible to all that wish to worship with us.



### **Merger Team Members**

Jennifer Adams

Jan Clinton

Chuck DePenti

Sr. Kathleen Flannery

Fr. Joe Fortuna

Dana Heil

Danni Hubbard

John Kendel

Richard Mott

Sylvia Profenna

