

Transfiguration Parish “Men’s Fellowship” Newsletter

Volume 4 – Issue 1
February 2008

Men’s Fellowship **“Key Activity Dates”**

Mon 02/18 - Men in the Spirit (7-9pm)
Sat 03/08 - Spaghetti Dinner (5-9pm)
Mon 03/17 - Men in the Spirit (7-9pm)
Fri 04/04-06 - Men’s Notre Dame Retr
Mon 04/21 - Men in the Spirit (7-9pm)
Sat 05/tbd - MDA Walk (8am-12pm)
Mon 05/19 - Men in the Spirit (7-9pm)
Wed 06/10 - Spring DOR Retr (11-7pm)
Fall Mtgs - TBD (11-7pm)

“Men in the Spirit” **Winter/Spring** **Sessions Now Started**

Our first **“Men in the Spirit”** meeting in 2008 will be on **Monday, February 18th**. We will be joining the series “Marriage Enrichment for our Times” being given by Dennis Boike which starts on February 11th. This session is entitled “Love is a four letter word: W-O-R-K!”

We are still working on the agenda and speakers for the rest of this year’s meetings. Currently being considered are Mark Hare (D&C columnist), Father Pat Van Durme (previous MIS speaker), and Jack Garner (D&C movie critic). Check the parish website for updates.

Our current meeting format with offering a light snack of pizza, wings, and soda from **6:00-6:50 pm.** in the Education Building has allowed all of us time for casual discussion to catch up on events. **We are continuing with this for 2008.**

Our remaining scheduled winter/spring meetings are planned for **02/18, 03/17, 04/21, and 05/19**, so please mark your calendars now for future evenings. The formal program **starts promptly at 7:00 and ends by 9:00 pm.**

“Why not consider bringing another parish member with you to acquaint them with our program?” **We are all “Called by Name” to the Fellowship** and we each need to do our part by calling others by name as well!

8th Annual **Spaghetti Dinner**

Our **8th Annual Men’s Fellowship Spaghetti Dinner** will be held this year on **Saturday, March 8th**, with two seatings (5:30 & 7:30) after the 4:30 pm mass. **This event provides substantial revenue for Fellowship sponsored activities through the “Kentucky Fund”.** It is always a fun event for all who assist and attend.

As usual, we will need volunteers to work at various tasks planning or assisting at the event.

Please contact **Rich Gangemi** at his email address or phone (see last page). You can also sign up on one of the tables in the rear of the Gathering Hall.

Please watch the church bulletins for dinner reservation forms and church Gathering Hall sign-ups after Masses. Get signed up early for this worthwhile event.

4th Annual “Retreats Alumni Nite” a “Kentucky Fund” Success!

Following the success of our first three events in 2004/5/6, we held our fourth [Alumni Nite](#) this past **November 15th, 2006**. For this year, we expanded the invitees to include our Notre Dame Mens retreat-ers in addition to our Kentucky and Spring retreat-ers, with over 75 past attendees participating. Everyone enjoyed catching up with alumni teammates, reviewing photos of previous years' activities, and trying their luck at our 50/50 raffle.

The men enjoyed our traditional “Dinosaur Barbeque” with wine, beer, and soda. [Deacon Mike](#) updated the men on several topics while also drawing winner names of the 50/50 raffle. Most importantly, [Mike Feldhousen](#) reports **we again were able to contribute to the “Kentucky Fund”** from donations, after covering for evening expenses. **This fund has significantly contributed to quit smoking programs, education, medical, funeral, and parish expenses in Booneville this past year.**

[Mike](#) indicates multiple efforts by email and phone were made to contact all previous retreats alumni. If for some reason you were missed, we apologize.

2008 to be our “19th” Annual Kentucky Retreat

This year's [Kentucky Men's Retreat](#) at Holy Family Parish, Booneville, Kentucky is being scheduled for **September 6th to 13th**. Please contact [Deacon Mike](#) or [Tim Smith](#) for further info at their email address or phone (see last page).

“MDA Walk” Support

The Fellowship is planning on supporting this important fund raising effort again this year with crossing guard volunteer assistance. The event will take place on a **Saturday in early May from about 8am til noon**.

Please contact [Tim Smith](#), at his email address or phone (see last page), if you are interested in taking part in these activities, or for more details. **This is also a good event to involve other family members.** Kids should be of teenage or older for safety reasons. Please watch the church bulletin for further details.

2nd Annual Men's “Notre Dame Retreat” Parish Weekend Scheduled

Our parish has been assigned to the weekend of **April 04-06** for the Men's Retreat Weekend. We will be joining men of other parishes at Notre Dame's location overlooking Lake Canandaigua.

A weekend at Notre Dame runs from Friday evening to Sunday noon. There will be talks, reconciliation, morning and evening prayer, good meals, plenty of free time to walk on the beautiful grounds or chat with a friend. Nothing is mandatory although it is highly suggested that you attend each piece for the full experience.

In March 2007, 19 men went for the weekend, 17 of them were newcomers. It was such a positive experience, approximately 50% have already committed for 2008!

Please contact [Bob Hutchins](#) for further info at his email address or phone (see last page).

8th Annual Men's Spring "Day of Reflection" Retreat Scheduled

We are planning to hold our [8th Annual Men's Day of Reflection Retreat](#) again this Spring on **Tuesday, June 10th** at [Camp Stella Maris on Conesus Lake](#).

This year we are privileged to be able to inaugurate the new "Wegman House" facility at Camp Stella Maris. This building has been specifically designed for retreats such as ours and it will provide us the intimate environment we are looking for in our retreats. If you haven't made the retreat recently, come and check out the new facility.

If you have not yet attended this retreat, this year would offer a great opportunity to start. [Over the years, we have had several hundred men attend these very rewarding 1-day getaways](#). If you want more information now, about this event, please contact [Mike Feldhousen](#) at his email address or phone (see last page).

We will have bulletin announcements and church signups in April/May.

Men's Fellowship Electronic Database & Email Helping Communications

We have had very good results with our Men's Fellowship database efforts and its ability to be used for email purposes.

[We have now published several years of newsletters and have regularly used the database for short email reminders as we approach Fellowship events](#). Our goal is to keep the communications meaningful and timely, and members continue to validate this approach.

While this has helped us eliminate significant mailing costs; we will continue to leave copies of the newsletter in the church vestibule on one of the kiosks, pass out at our events, and post to the parish website.

Please keep in mind that if you have a change in email address, please contact [Ken Zabloutny](#) at his email address or phone (see last page), so we can get the database updated. [So if you have an email address we don't yet know about, please get a message to Ken!](#)

Transfiguration Parish “Men’s Fellowship” Key Contacts Information

<u>Fellowship Pgm.</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Phone/Email List</u>
Kentucky Fund	Deacon Mike Piehler	Deacon Mike Piehler248-2427 (email: piehlerp@rochester.rr.com)
Kentucky Retreat	Tim Smith	Tom Balog730-9242 (email: tbalog001@rochester.rr.com)
Men in the Spirit	John MageeDevon VanVechten	Mike Feldhousen385-1667 (email: mnm9@frontiernet.net)
Spring Retreat (DOR)	Mike Feldhousen	Rich Gangemi264-0047 (email: rgangemi@fahsconstruction.com)
Wing and a Prayer	TBD	Bob Hutchins737-1903 (email: Hutch2@rochester.rr.com)
Spaghetti Dinner	Rich GangemiTom Balog	John Magee359-2955 (email: jmagee@bonadio.com)
Newsletter	Mike Feldhousen	Tim Smith924-3518 (email: tsmith14@rochester.rr.com)
Fellowship Database	Ken Zablony	Devon VanVechten334-3777 (email: devonvanv@aol.com)
Notre Dame Retreat	Bob Hutchins	Ken Zablony223-4922 (email: kzablony@aol.com)
Alumni Dinner	Mike Feldhousen	Transfiguration248-2427 (email: www.transfigurationpittsford.org)