



# The Catholic Cantor

## Pope Benedict XVI Prayer intentions

~ September 2009

**General:** That the word of God may be better known, welcomed and lived as the source of freedom and joy.

**Mission:** That Christians in Laos, Cambodia, and Myanmar, who often meet with great difficulties, may not be discouraged from announcing the Gospel to their brothers, trusting in the strength of the Holy Spirit.

## September Birthday's

2 ~ Makata Ezeugwu

3 ~ Theresa Henle

6 ~ Angela Hill

7 ~ Annalise Cook

21 ~ Benjamin Henle

24 ~ Maeghan Reed

Welcome to the 2008-2009 Academic Year and to Western Massachusetts Catholic Homeschoolers and our newsletter The Catholic Cantor. If you are new you'll want to read our Statement of Purpose on page 2.

This is your family's newsletter. Please send me articles and announcements. Your children can send cartoons, (pre-scanned please), or writing the have done. Book Reviews would be greatly appreciated as well as ideas for coping with toddlers, pregnancy, learning differences, illness, menopause, teens, schedules, housework, finances, etc. Also a regional page about the hilltowns and CT. Show the newsletter to the whole family and ask what they would like to see.

Again we will have one issue in December with ad space for Catholic businesses for or by Catholic Homeschoolers.

## *Things to look for this year*

--- your help will be needed:

All Saint's Carnival, History Fair, Father- Daughter Dance, Science Fair, End of Year Picnic and best: our own *New England Homeschool Conference!*

## First Friday:

Hosted by Fr. Henry Dorsch and Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Southwick, Mass.

Friday September 4, 2009 for Mass at 11 AM.

Arrive at 10:45 am please. After Mass we can serve lunch to our children in the basement church hall. We will have a Birthday Cake for Our Lady for dessert. Karen Ford 642-4623 and Christine Hebert 315-9999 will coordinate altar servers and readers at Mass and Adoration. If your child would be willing to do any of these things please call.

## Hadley First Friday:

12:00 Lunch and fellowship

12:30 craft/story                      1:15 confessions

1:45 Mass                                      2:30- 8 adoration

The address is 120 Russell St (RT 9), Hadley.  
Contact info: Debby Cook [gcook6255@charter.net](mailto:gcook6255@charter.net)  
Most Holy Redeemer Church 413-584-1326

## Warren First Friday (and Daily)

8:30 AM St Paul's

For Latin Mass contact Karen Walsh

413-283-9373

## St. Stanislaus B & M Lower Basilica

566 Front St

Chicopee, MA 01020

11 AM Confession

12 PM Mass

(Daily)

## In CT

We meet at St. Paul Church on Main Street in Glastonbury. Mass is at 12:15, afterwards we have lunch, games and a sandwich making service project in the downstairs meeting rooms.

If you know someone who's local, I'd be glad to talk to them.

Noreen ~ 860-633-3111

[nvozzo@hotmail.com](mailto:nvozzo@hotmail.com)

## ***Western Massachusetts Catholic Homeschoolers Statement of Purpose***

Our families come together in order to support each other, as obedient Roman Catholics, and to bring the Catholic way of life to greater fruition and brilliance in our homes.

We have as our foundation, and the guiding principle of all our activities, fidelity to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church, especially to our pope, Benedict XVI, Vicar of Christ.

Thus we affirm the Magisterium on contraception and other life issues as central to our mission as families. As emphasized in the Second Vatican Council, we parents have a most solemn obligation to educate our offspring. Therefore we are the primary educators of our children. As lay faithful, we are dedicated to promoting home education among Catholic families and to support those families who are engaged in providing their children's primary education at home.

For further information, call Jane Seaver at (413)- 786-0691 or email her at seaverclan@comcast.net.

If you would like to join Western Mass Homeschoolers please send your name address to WMCH 74 Pearl St. Holyoke, MA 01040 We would be happy to send a complimentary copy of the Cantor to any homeschool family or future homeschool family. If you would like to down load the newsletter from our website, <http://crossfire.org/coffeehouse> send your name, address, email address, and \$5 per year and I will give you access to register for the Covenant Coffeehouse, where our newsletter, current and past, is housed. Security is important to our families so please do not share your password. After Registering click on MyMessages and send a message to JaneS or Mary B asking for access to the private page. An email attachment can be sent instead, again for \$5 per year. A snail mail version is available for \$9

To submit an article for publication please contact Mary Brazeau 74 Pearl St. Holyoke, MA 01040 (413) 533-0045 brazeaus@comcast.net

We now have a group email at [wmch@crossfire.org](mailto:wmch@crossfire.org) and a public page at [wmch.stblogs.com](http://wmch.stblogs.com)

### **St. Gerard and St. Joseph's Corner**

Send us the names (or initials) of those praying for a pregnancy, delivery, loss or adoption and we will pray for them each month.

For Karen - due in April

**Prayer Chain** ~ Call Pat at 788-4342  
(Our Website also has a Prayer Request corner.)

**Pro Life Rosary** is prayed every second Thursday for an end to abortion and for all babies and Mothers visiting Planned Parenthood that day. Meet at St. Michael's Cathedral at 10 am to carpool to site. Return for 12:10 Mass.

*Contact Marilyn Stearns 567-6085*

### **New Website at Yahoo groups:**

This is a clearing house of information on Homeschool activities of all sorts but especially those of interest to Catholic families. It is sponsored by Western Mass Catholic Homeschoolers who have a site at [wmch.stblogs.com](http://wmch.stblogs.com) and just ran the first New England Catholic Homeschool Conference on June 6, 2009 in Chicopee, MA.

Support groups throughout NE may add their information in Files, Links and Database. Update annually or it may be removed. You may post information on the calendar as well.

Members should choose the Daily Digest version. Reply off group whenever possible.

Please include City, State, time, cost, ages/grades, date w/year and contact person for every event listing.

To subscribe send an email to:  
[NewEnglandCatholicHomeschool-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:NewEnglandCatholicHomeschool-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)  
or go to [Yahoo.com](http://Yahoo.com) and click on groups. Then search for New England Catholic Homeschooler.

## ***Mom's Bible Study*** ***—Mom Prays, Kids Play.***

This wonderful social and inspirational group has grown and changed but been in place since the 70's! Meetings are Friday at 10AM except First Friday and rotate homes. Join anytime. Call for details.

2nd Friday Jen McManus in Holyoke 533-5204  
3rd Friday Cheryl Wilcox in Westfield 572-2361  
4th Friday Maggie Adams in Springfield 734-7270  
(5th Friday when necessary,  
Karen Ford in Springfield 642-4623)

Please email [wmch@crossfire.org](mailto:wmch@crossfire.org) for information or call Christine Hebert 315-9999

*PS There is interest in having a second Bible Study perhaps for older moms. Let us know which you are interested in.*

### ***Available in fall:***

Western Mass Catholic Homeschoolers:  
Offers: website, email updates, National History Day Fair to be moved to November, Annual Science Fair in April, Bowling and Roller-skating, Drama etc.  
Go to <http://www.wmhomeschoolers.org/> to register.

Challenge: Hopes to restart in October  
Challenge is a Catholic peer led club for girls aged 10 -16. It offers formation in the faith in a fun format with a wonderful group of girls! Challenge is always fun but it's about faith and leadership skills. We want to build up the future women of our church!

Challenge will meet at Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills this year. It is at the intersection of Mill and Springfield streets about 1/2 mile up from Line Street. (Use the Mill St. Exit off Rte 57) We plan to meet every Tuesdays at 3: 00. Please call Jane Seaver if you plan on coming or if you have any questions. (786-0691)

San Damiano Youth—a Youth group for everyone!  
Go to [sandamianoyouth.org](http://sandamianoyouth.org) and read Fr. Marek's message or visit the 6PM Mass on most Saturdays at St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr Basilica on Front St in Chicopee, MA.

We are looking forward to a great year!

## ***The Priest's Corner-***

Lord Bless those ordained so that we might have access to the Sacraments! Pope Benedict XVI has declared a Year of the Priest to inspire the search for spiritual perfection in our priests.

Please send us the name of priests in need of prayer: your pastor, confessor, relative, a missionary you support. And include seminarians! By email: [wmch@crossfire.org](mailto:wmch@crossfire.org)

- We begin of course with our Bishop Timothy McDonnell and retired Bishop Joseph F. Maguire.
- Fr. Victor Carrier is the pastor of Holy Cross in Springfield (Perkins and Henle families)
- Towsley's attend St. Stan's, and I think the Kelly's do as well.
- Priests at St. Stan's are Fr. Michael Zielke (pastor), Fr. Marek Stybor, Fr. Mieczyslaw Wit, Fr. Piotr Tymko
- Fr. Bill Tourigny is at Ste. Rose in Chicopee
- Fr. Henry Dorsch is at Our Lady of the Lake in Southwick
- Mary's brother is Fr. James F. Murphy CSB in Toronto.
- Laverdiere's and Brazeau's are at Holy Cross Holyoke with Fr. Roland Galipeau, Fr. Francis X. Sullivan (retired) and seminarian Matt Guidi.
- Fr. Marek was very excited to hear that we were beginning prayer for our priests!
- And let's not forget: From the Diocesan website:
- Currently, there are 61 active Deacons serving in our diocese. In addition, We have 14 candidates were ordained 5/09/09. We have 13 aspirants who started their 2nd year in Formation this past August and God willing, will be ordained in May of 2011. We are also in the final stages of accepting members for the Class of 2013.

*Please note we will have as many as 28 seminarians by September! Also Gabriella Dufresne is working with Fr Gary Daily to cover the cost to send TWO seminarians with a Priest to the summer Conference at Steubenville each June.*

***Send Contributions ( as small as \$1) to:  
26 Gilbert St West Springfield, MA 01089***

## *September Prayer Corner*

September is the month of The Blessed Virgin Mary's birthday. The church celebrates only three births as Feast days. As you are all aware of the most important birth, Jesus Christ, we must also ponder the awesome wonder of another very important birth of Saint John the Baptist. He was especially chosen to prepare the way of the Lord. In God's incredible wisdom and profound love he bestowed the precious gift of The Blessed Virgin Mary whose birth we celebrate on September 8th.

Without this most worthy mother, we would have never had a redeemer. It was her yes and her humility that brought forth our Savior Jesus Christ!! Let us remember Mary in a very special way this month as we contemplate her Blessed Motherhood not only for Jesus but for the entire human race as she was given to us at the foot of the cross by Our Lord Himself as mother of us all. This brings me to another feast we celebrate on the 15th of this month "Our Lady of Sorrows" the devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows is one of great reverence. It is the awareness and or meditation of her 7 sorrows. The prophesy of Simeon, Flight into Egypt, Loosing the child Jesus in the temple, Meeting Jesus on the way to the cross, The crucifixion, Holding Jesus dead in her arms (pieta) and The burial.

Also I would like to reflect on "The Year of the priests" This year declared by Pope Benedict is an extraordinary gift for the priests and for all of us. Let us offer many prayers and sacrifices for our lady's beloved priests. Through her son the Eternal High Priest we can assist our priests, seminarians and those seeking a vocation to the priesthood with our cooperation with the graces offered through Holy Mother Church.

May this year be a year full of gifts and blessings for the Ordained men who assist us in all the sacraments, most importantly ( not only) **The Holy Eucharist** a gift we could never receive without the sacrament of Holy Orders. We thank Jesus for bestowing upon us countless blessings and merits through this unspeakable and awe-struck blessing and gift. May God bless you as we begin our new school year with all the necessary graces to assist our children in all their needs and may our blessed mother watch over and guide us this year and always.

Amen.

In Our Lady's Sorrows,

*Lynda Collins*

### ***Catholic Scout Retreat Diocese of Springfield***

Theme: In Saintly Footsteps

September 25-27, 2009

Camp Holy Cross

Goshen, MA

Fee of \$30 per person includes 4 Meals, Two Cracker Barrels (late night snack), Cabin/Camp fee and Retreat Patch.

Make Check payable to:

Catholic Committee on Scouting

For Information Call Fr. Eugene Plasse

413-283-5091 or Pam Kosnicki 413-283-3242

Money due by Sept 20

Send to Pam at:

12 Green St

Palmer MA 01069

## *Morning Star News*

### **Welcome!**

Did you receive the invitation? You know, that persevering, quiet call to pull away from the hustle and bustle of everyday busy schedules? .....to find some quiet, quality time with your family... .....to reclaim that time for God... .....to seek fellowship with others in your Church community... .....come and join us!

*In Loving Memory of Margaret Mary Cygan*

### **What is Morning Star?**

We are a prayer group rooted in a Eucharistic-centered environment with the common purpose of providing children an opportunity to develop their prayer life and provide a network of faith-filled friendships for the whole family.

### **Who We Are**

We are parents and children in love with our Catholic faith; making a deliberate commitment to our families' faith formation; taking time to be together, to care for each other and to have a deep concern for others, especially the unborn. A united faith-family is a precursor for justice and peace in the world.

**Holy Hour:** We meet Monday evenings at 7:00 PM, in the Lower Basilica. For the complete schedule please visit the calendar <http://www.sandamianoyouth.org/index/0-4>

## *San Damiano Youth ~ Our Ministries and Activities*

*The main focus of our group is ministry and activities involving teens.*

- During most months on the last Friday (see calendar) we have our formation meetings. During these meetings we gather together for prayer and song, as well as share prayer intentions and testimonials. Fr. Marek will normally bring in a video or discussion piece. Meanwhile, in the parish office that parents gather together to pray and help to plan events and trips. Parents and youth 11 and up are welcome to attend.
- Never loosing site of the fact that the Eucharist is the center of our faith, SDG hosts a youth Mass every Saturday at 6:00 p.m. Open to the entire parish, Father Marek delivers pointed homilies on everything from pro-life issues to living as a Christian in today's society. The SDG Music Ministry team provides contemporary, but appropriate music for the liturgy each week. Youth, their families, and everyone else are invited.
- Gym nights are part of the fun side of the group. Following Mass on select weeks members of the group go over to the gym for an informal night of socialization usually accompanied by pizza and a service project such as making Christmas cards for the elderly.
- A teen adoration night occurs every third Thursday of the month. Members of the SDG Music Ministry play songs dispersed by devotionals and prayers planned by Fr. Marek and members of the group. All members of the family are welcome. This is part of All Day Adoration for Vocations.
- Keep an eye on the calendar and news feed for non-regular events being held for teens

***Mondays - Co-op for all grades - at Sacred Heart.***

***Tuesdays - just high school/junior high – Same location!***

<i>Monday Sept 14</i>	<i>Tuesday Sept 15</i>	
<i>Monday Sept 21</i>	<i>Tuesday Sept 22</i>	
<i>Monday Sept 28</i>	<i>Tuesday Sept 29</i>	<i>First Friday Oct 2</i>
<i>Monday Oct 5</i>	<i>Tuesday Oct 6</i>	
<i>Monday Oct 19</i>	<i>Tuesday Oct 20</i>	
<i>Monday Oct 26</i>	<i>Tuesday Oct 27</i>	
<i>Monday Nov 2</i>	<i>Tuesday Nov 3</i>	<i>First Friday Nov 6</i>
<i>Monday Nov 9</i>	<i>Tuesday Nov 10</i>	
<i>Monday Nov 16</i>	<i>Tuesday Nov 17</i>	
<i>Monday Nov 23</i>	<i>Tuesday Nov 24</i>	
<i>Monday Nov 30</i>	<i>Tuesday Dec 1</i>	<i>First Friday Dec 4</i>
<i>Monday Dec 7</i>	<i>Tuesday Dec 8</i>	
<i>Monday Dec 14</i>	<i>Tuesday Dec 15</i>	
<i>Monday Dec 21</i>	<i>Tuesday Dec 22</i>	
<i>Monday Jan 4</i>	<i>Tuesday Jan 5</i>	<i>No First Friday!</i>
<i>Monday Jan 11</i>	<i>Tuesday Jan 12</i>	
~~~~~	<i>Tuesday Jan 19</i>	
<i>Monday Jan 26</i>	<i>Tuesday Jan 26</i>	
<i>Monday Feb 1</i>	<i>Tuesday Feb 2</i>	<i>First Friday Feb 5</i>
<i>Monday Feb 8</i>	<i>Tuesday Feb 9</i>	
<i>Monday Feb 22</i>	<i>Tuesday Feb 23</i>	
<i>Monday March 1</i>	<i>Tuesday March 2</i>	<i>First Friday Mar 5</i>
<i>Monday March 8</i>	<i>Tuesday March 9</i>	
<i>Monday March 15</i>	<i>Tuesday March 16</i>	
<i>Monday March 22</i>	<i>Tuesday March 23</i>	<i>First Friday ~ falls on Good Friday (no gathering)</i>
<i>Monday April 12</i>	<i>Tuesday April 13</i>	
<i>Monday April 19</i>	<i>Tuesday April 20</i>	
<i>Monday April 26.</i>	<i>Tuesday April 27</i>	
<i>Monday May 3</i>	<i>Tuesday May 4</i>	<i>First Friday May 7</i>
<i>Monday May 10</i>	<i>Tuesday May 11</i>	
<i>Monday May 17</i>	<i>Tuesday May 18</i>	
<i>Monday May 24</i>	<i>Tuesday May 24</i>	
~~~~~	<i>Tuesday June 1</i>	<i>First Friday June 4 (set up?)</i>
<i>Monday June 7.</i>	<i>Tuesday June 8</i>	

***# of Mondays 32***

***# of Tuesdays 34***

***(By now all families should have paid their \$35 fee, bought their books and supplies.)***

September 2009 - Let's start our school year off with prayer!							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<b>To Do:</b> Pay Membership Register: <a href="http://crossfire.org/covenant">http://crossfire.org/covenant</a> Message Mary B ask for access Register kids also Consider joining History Fair				2 Popo St Gregory the Great	3 First Friday- see newsletter  7PM Parent Meeting for San Damiano Youth at St Stanislaus Chicopee	4  San Damiano Youth 5PM Music Practice, 6 PM Mass, 7 PM Gym night	5
6 Labor Day	7 Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary	8	9	10 WMH Parent Support-Record Keeping	11 Mom's Bible Study at Jen McManus in Holyoke 413-533-5204	12	13
13 Grandparents Day	14 Co-op Week 1 8:45 Prayer. 9AM first class  Exultation of the Holy Cross	15 High School Co-op Week 1 9:30 Algebra 2:30 Activities Towsley's	16	17 Adoration for Vocations All Day 3rd Thursday at St Stanislaus Chicopee	18 Mom's Bible Study at Cheryl Wilcox's Westfield 413-572-2361	19	20
20 Co-op Week 2 8:45 Prayer. 9AM first class	21 Co-op Week 3 8:45 Prayer. 9AM first class	22 High School Co-op Week 2 9:30 Algebra 2:30 Activities Towsley's  Fall-- Autumnal Equinox	23	24	25 Scout Retreat at Camp Holy Cross "In Sainly Footsteps"	26	27
27 Co-op Week 3 8:45 Prayer. 9AM first class	28 Co-op Week 3 8:45 Prayer. 9AM first class	29 High School Co-op Week 3 9:30 Algebra 2:30 Activities Towsley's	30 St. Jerome	<b>Preschool Themes Sept 14, 21 God Made me to know, love and serve Him. Sept 28 and Oct 5 Apples</b>			Mom's Bible Study at Maggie Adams in Spfld 413-734-7270  SanDaniano Youth Mass 6PM (5 Music)  SanDaniano Youth Mass 6PM (5 Music)

Web Sites you should visit: [www.sandamianoyouth.org](http://www.sandamianoyouth.org) <http://www.wmascouting.org/wmch.stblogs.com>  
[www.wmhomeschoolers.org](http://www.wmhomeschoolers.org) [www.nhd.org](http://www.nhd.org)

Western Mass Catholic Homeschoolers  
wmch.stblogs.com or wmch@crossfire.org  
74 Pearl St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040

## ***Western Mass. Catholic Homeschoolers Membership 2009 - 2010***

Membership includes monthly newsletter, email updates, Nominating and voting for Board of Directors, also access to our private page on The Coffee House <http://crossfire.org/covenant/>

Checks payable to Western Mass Catholic Homeschoolers.

I have included:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$9 for the mail version \_\_\_\_\_ \$5 for the Internet download or \_\_\_\_\_ \$5 for email attachment of newsletter  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$5 for a business card size ad Christmas and Easter. \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 for a quarter page ad Christmas and Easter.  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ donation toward free newsletter for Priests and those in need.

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal or New Family (Please circle)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Unlisted? Yes/no \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_ on Facebook? Yes/No \_\_\_\_\_

Family business: \_\_\_\_\_

***Send money to WMCH 74 Pearl St Holyoke, MA by First Friday June 5th for September '09 - June '10***

Be sure to mail or email your children's birthdays.

Consider a Gift subscription to a grandparent, pastor or local supportive business.

We will give one free issue to anyone interested in homeschooling.