



# GENERATIONS OF FAITH

By Dave Topor

This year's Generations of Faith program is in full swing. Generations of Faith is a family-based religious education program that focuses on a particular area of Catholic teaching each year. Last year, we studied the meaning of the Creed. This year we are exploring the seven Sacraments of the Church. In years to come, we will be delving into the Church's teachings on morality, prayer, mercy, and service, and the Liturgical year itself.

The 2006-2007 year began on September 10<sup>th</sup> when we broke open the importance of the sacrament of Baptism. One of our missionaries,

Charlene Mallory, shared with everyone the huge effect that her own Baptism had in her life. She also described how Baptism positively affected her daughter Erika. Erika was born with Down syndrome and Cerebral Palsy. Doctors told Charlene that Erika would never walk or talk. Shortly after being Baptized, Erika began to walk, and she was also able to speak some very basic words. Fr. Jack Mattimore then highlighted some key points on the Church's teaching on Baptism. Following this, a number of those present shared how Baptism has helped them to change their lives. As people were leaving, they all received a Generations of Faith take-home packet, complete with an instructional CD, a coloring page packet, and a project on Baptism. All these materials will allow the learning to continue in a person's home.

In October we focused on the Sacrament of Confirmation. Jeanne Marinaro discussed how Confirmation was a big step in her life of faith. After Fr. Jack's presentation on the Church's teaching on Confirmation, people shared how this sacrament has helped them on their spiritual journey. The CD in the take-home packet focused on how the saints have lived out the graces received in this sacrament. Special emphasis was given to Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, a young man who was called, "A Man of the Beatitudes" by Pope John Paul II. In the twenty-four years of his earthly life, Pier Giorgio lived out in an exemplary manner what it means to be a confirmed Catholic.

In November we studied the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. We watched an excellent musical presentation on the Eucharist by Quiet Waters Productions. Afterwards, Fr. Jack went over key aspects on the Church's teaching that the Eucharist is the very body and blood of Jesus Christ. Eddy Simon and others then shared how the Eucharist has brought healing and strength to their lives.

In December, we discussed the beauty of the Sacrament of Christian Marriage. In our world which does not appreciate, nor correctly understand that Marriage is an indissoluble sacrament, efforts were made to clearly teach what Jesus thinks about this sacrament. The CD in the take-home packet presented the life of St. Gianna Beretta Molla and her husband Pietro, as an example of the love and sacrifice needed to faithfully live out the sacrament of Christian Marriage.

Generations of Faith has been striving to educate the whole family as to what it means to be a Catholic Christian. Many forces in our world seek to sidetrack us from living out our Catholic faith; Generations of Faith seeks to *rekindle* and *deepen* our love for Jesus Christ and for His Catholic Church. Here is a list of upcoming Generations of Faith dates and topics for 2007:

January 7 <sup>th</sup> :	The Sacrament of the Sick
February 18 <sup>th</sup> :	The Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Eucharist
March 11 <sup>th</sup> :	The Sacrament of Reconciliation
April 22 <sup>nd</sup> :	The Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist: Adoration
May 6 <sup>th</sup> :	The Sacrament of Holy Orders
June 3 <sup>rd</sup> :	Review / Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary

## Join the Missionary Community in Prayer



*Everyone is welcome to join the Missionaries of St. Luke's in our daily communal prayer. Come to mass, spend an hour in adoration, or join us in the rosary. Our doors are open!*

Sunday Mass: 1PM

Daily Adoration M-F 8:30AM to 4:30PM

8:30 AM: Rosary

9:10 AM: Morning Prayer

3:00 PM: Hour of Great Mercy:  
Divine Mercy Chaplet

4:15 PM: Evening Prayer

4:30 PM: Mass

## Phone Directory

### St. Luke's Mission of Mercy

Office: Sue Gilhooley, Barb

Carpenter: 894-4476

### Furniture / Appliance Pick-up

Good Shepherd office: 893-9080

### Newsletter

Dave Marciniak: 880-5981

### Assoc. Servants of Divine Mercy

Barb Carpenter: 894-4476

### Jr. Associates / Gen. of Faith

Dave Topor: 893-9080

### Priest Associates

Fr. Bill Quinlivan: 688-5678

### FOSL's (Friends of St. Luke's)

Barb Kenny: 625-8290

Pat Titus: 825-4147

### FOSL's Niagara

Sandy Gawrys: 772-2720

