



SSPX



Number 271 August-September 2016 ∴

Recreation and Leisure

Recreation and leisure are not only essential to a healthy life, but a vibrant culture as well. It is in our time of retreat from the duties of our state of life that we can focus on developing physically, mentally, emotionally, and—above all—spiritually. However, as with all things in this fallen world, recreation and leisure can become occasions of sin if we allow ourselves to lose sight of our final end, which is heaven.

As the great Eastern Doctor of the Church, St. Basil the Great, warned: “Leisure without the fear of God is, for those who do not know how to use time, the teacher of wickedness.” This is why it is essential for Catholics to cultivate a virtuous disposition

even when engaged in sporting or other physical activities, and to be good stewards of their eyes and ears when encountering art, literature, and music.

Because the way to our heavenly reward can be long and hard “in this vale of tears,” we should take joy in our moments of reprieve and give thanks to Our Lord for the blessings He allows which make recreation and leisure possible. So, too, should we the faithful make sure to sanctify this time by creating works which give glory to God and comporting ourselves with charity in all that we do so as to serve as good examples for those around us in society. In this way, leisure and recreation can serve as a means to salvation rather than an impediment to it.

Letter from the District Superior



Dear faithful,

As I write this page, I am looking back at the summer quickly fading away. Some of you will be sorry to see the best season of the year slip away like sand through the fingers. Others will give a sigh of relief for having survived the ordeal of having their children in close quarters for three long months. Keeping up the morale of the troops takes a lot of thinking, energy, and inventiveness from both parents.

Perhaps you took advantage of some of the children's camps available in your area. Others may have decided to hit the road and quench a thirst for adventure under new skies. Allow me to share with you the ways a father of nine met the challenge this year:

"The big issue is, after breakfast and morning chores, to motivate them. You have to be behind them to get them enthusiastic about various chores or projects, to avoid being disheartened before a long day ahead of them. They may be sluggish getting up and ready for work the first days but, in the scorching heat, they soon find out that heavy chores are best done early in the morning!

"Each week after a full work load, I would make sure to carve three to five hours to be with them. Recently, we purchased a ten acre property, and the kids enjoy exploring the woods, trees, and birds. Lately, I requested a wooden bridge across the creek, showing them a few models, using what left over timber they could find around the property. Dad acts as the mentor and they take their own initiative and slowly learn a trade: at least that is the plan!

"Gardening, too, is healthy and gives them a sense of beginning and finishing with tangible results. They learn something about the circle of life. Each group of boys and girls has their own chore and project to do and we rotate the teams. Usually, we try to match their temperaments. You know that they are growing up and responsible when you see them taking ownership of the job, be it the chickens or the sweeping and cleaning chores or the building project. It is nothing glamorous, but it is the day by day chore which brings home this valuable lesson that patient and hidden labor contributes to joy of the entire family."

"There are some indoor activities and Mom does a great job with craft projects. One of the boys took an interest in cooking, and he is the first to help seasoning the meat for the barbecue—he's not bad! On occasion, they drop by the library and read a while or bring back a good old movie to watch. We do allow other kids to drop in as long as it does not disrupt the family."

I am sure that we all can come away from reading these lines with some ideas for ourselves and those entrusted to us for the next holidays. If children are an investment for the next generation, they certainly force parents to be fully invested too.

With my blessing for you and your families,
Yours in Her Immaculate Heart,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jürgen Wegner". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Fr. Jürgen Wegner



Leisurely Recreation



“As a third grade child, one day, I came home and told my family that we had discussed values at school. My father was intrigued by this and asked me what I valued most on earth. My face betrayed some signs of deep thinking before I uttered the answer that play time was my first priority. This did not sit well with Dad who was fuming at me...”

This story was related to me by a former third-grade student of mine. The story made me call to mind the words of St. John Vianney, a man not particularly inclined to softness: “Playing is the privilege of your age.” Although far too much of today’s society is geared towards pleasure and entertainment, there is much to say in favor of our schoolchildren—regardless of their age—running in a well-groomed field or acting at being soldiers and firemen. Who is not happy to see their children’s imaginations transcending the limits of the bedroom or backyard?

It is thought that kids who take games seriously are the ones best prepared for the ropes of adulthood. Can we say the same of grownups who take games all too seriously? Might we not rather think that they are receding into childhood?

Yet, no one will object to supporting the local football team or, better even, playing baseball with other friends on the block. The week has been a tough one and we need to get our mind off the drudge of a soulless job! For all too many out there, the weekdays mean the world of “total work,” which turns a human

Continued on next page

person into a senseless and thoughtless automaton. And so, the urge of leisure—of liberation—is like oxygen to one who has been suffocating.

To see the purpose of life as liberation is one of the themes of German philosopher Joseph Pieper in his book, *Leisure, the Basis of Culture*. Modern society allows short slivers of time carved out for idle leisure in order to better resume work. One of Pieper's main points is that the Greeks had it the other way around. Instead of using rest for the sake of work, they used work for the sake of rest: "We are not-at-leisure in order to be at-leisure."

Pieper illustrates his argument by the term the Greeks used. Leisure in Greek and Latin is a positive noun, *scholè* and *otium*. By contrast, the opposite term is in the negative in both languages: *ascholè* and *neg-otium*—best translated in English as "non-school" and "busy-ness." In Greco-Roman culture, rest and leisure meant not idleness, but a full blown activity undertaken for its own sake, e.g., the delight before an artist's masterpiece or the wonder at God's creation.

Pieper explains that life is made to be free. To be exact, he speaks of leisure as a spiritual freedom. In his mind, leisure is always connected with cult, which is the foundation of all culture. Culture is that treasure of human wisdom produced by the noblest of men who had the most profound view of life. But this sense of achievement and purpose in life is linked with the sense of awe and adoration of the creature before its Creator. And so we naturally move from cult to culture to leisure. We go from "holy days" to "holidays." Genuine leisure is best exemplified with the rest of the seventh day, when God rested from the work of creation. Work is seen as a prelude to the Sabbatical rest, the doorway to the "re-creating" of the soul in God's beatific repose.

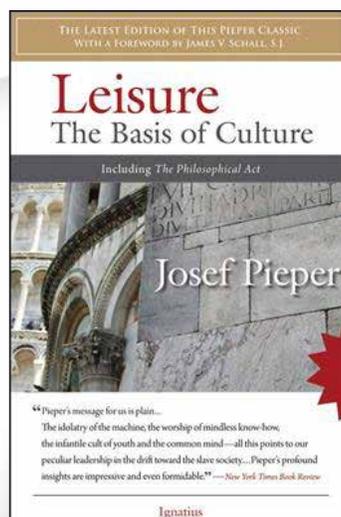
To finish the story of my third grader, I was told that he read his Pieper and learned his lesson. And now, although not a monk, he as a priest has adopted the motto of St. Benedict: *ora et labora*—pray and work. He has left behind the things of the child: "work and play."

Available from Angelus Press

One of the most important philosophy titles published in the twentieth century, Josef Pieper's *Leisure, the Basis of Culture* is more significant, even more crucial, today than it was when it first appeared more than fifty years ago.

Leisure is an attitude of the mind and a condition of the soul that fosters a capacity to perceive the reality of the world. Pieper shows that the Greeks and medieval Europeans, understood the great value and importance of leisure. He also points out that religion can be born only in leisure, a leisure that allows time for the contemplation of the nature of God. Leisure has been, and always will be, the first foundation of any culture.

Pieper maintains that our bourgeois world of total labor has vanquished leisure, and issues a startling warning: Unless we regain the art of silence and insight, the ability for non-activity, unless we substitute true leisure for our hectic amusements, we will destroy our culture and ourselves.



143 pages – STK# 8427 – Softcover – \$14.95

www.angeluspress.org—1-800-966-7337



Our Lady of the Angels Academy in Arcadia, CA spent a beautiful day on a whale watching trip. While no whales were seen, the day off from regular school work in the company of Father DeMeyer (principal), Father Stafki, and Father Hawker was enough to recharge every ones batteries.



Priests and students in Veneta, OR, enjoy a spirited day of football.



The winning team poses with their trophy and some youthful fans.



A group of parishioners and a seminarian from St. Joseph's Church in Ray Township had the opportunity to tour the Tall Ships when they docked in Bay City, MI.

Twenty-two teams converged once again on Holy Family Academy and Chapel in rural Belle Plaine, MN for its 12th Annual Volleyball Tournament on July 9. The women's trophy was claimed for the second consecutive year by the Mighty Maders from central Minnesota as they rose to the top of ten women's teams.



Joe Archer of St. Mary's, Kansas and Megan Mackedanz of Holy Family Chapel were awarded the men's and women's MVP awards respectively.



The feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12 is celebrated in typical Mexican style at Jesus and Mary Church in El Paso, TX, with a traditional dance of the Matachines to honor Our Blessed Mother.



Father Jorge Diaz blesses the St. Joseph's Table at Jesus and Mary Academy's St. Joseph's Day Dinner and Auction on March 19, 2016.





The Importance of Parish Events

Interview with Rebecca Heatwole, Coordinator of Parish Activities at St. Vincent's, Kansas City, MO

Why is having events important to your parish?

Social life outside of Mass is so very important because it provides a time for us to socialize with other parishioners and helps foster a familial bond.

What are the goals of parish events?

In the beginning, I organized events as fundraisers. I was trying to think outside the bake sale to raise money for our theater productions. Now, the goal is to provide a social life for our parish.

What kind of skills are most important in being able to pull off a successful event?

I have often joked that my one skill in life is determining the talent of others and exploiting it for the benefit of all! Getting people involved is definitely the key to a successful event. Don't rely on people to volunteer to help; everyone thinks someone else will, and then no one does. It is best to ask a specific person to do a specific task. Keep it simple the first time; don't go overboard with activities, food, *etc.* If you make the event too complicated to execute you run the risk of the event being a huge flop. Additional things can always be added for the following year. It's important for the event to be a good memory for those attending, especially if you want people to attend again. The pastor's involvement is also crucial, not only because he makes all final decisions but because we parishioners genuinely enjoy getting to know our pastor.



Rebecca Heatwole
Coordinator of Parish
Activities at St. Vincent's,
Kansas City, MO

What kinds of events have you helped with? How long have you been doing this?

I have helped with several events at St. Vincent's including plays, talent shows, parish carnivals, Oktoberfests, trivia nights, and fundraisers galore since I became a Catholic 11 years ago.

How do you go about organizing a typical event?

I generally like to begin by bouncing ideas around with my close friends in the parish, working through the do-you-think-we-can-do-it "stage". Once we have a basic outline of what the event might look like, the idea is presented to our pastor. After approval, specific volunteers for specific tasks are solicited. I always begin with my "circle of dependability," those who I know are always willing to help.

How do you stir up excitement for activities?

We try to have posters and flyers printed to advertise. I have found, however, that the best way to generate excitement is to be excited about the event yourself and to stir up excitement about it through conversations with others.

Which event had the biggest positive effect on your parish? Why?

Definitely our plays, which require teamwork from our actors on stage and our volunteers behind the curtains. Working together for a common goal, we make costumes, build sets, find props, experiment with makeup and more! As one of our parishioners once said, "Theater is the only team sport where you can make a mistake, and at the end everyone laughs about it." I have found this to be true. Our plays provide our parish opportunities to work together and give us a real sense of pride—both personally and as a group. WE love that our audiences seem to love what we do as much as we do. I receive many thank you notes for providing good wholesome family entertainment.

What are some events you wish you could put on but haven't yet?

I would love to put on a Christmas Madrigal; this is in the idea phase now!

What are the easiest/simplest kinds of events a parish could put on?

Parish picnics and game nights are very simple. Asking those attending to bring a dish or drink make it easy for organizers too! All you need is a space for the children to play and a place to eat to foster conversation and fun.



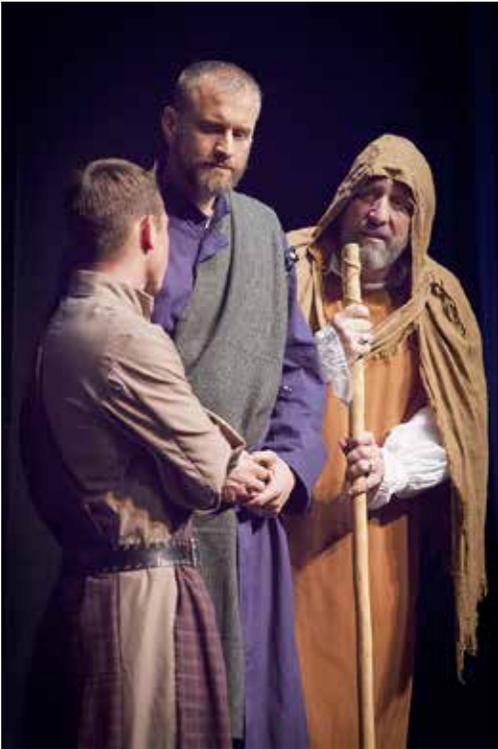
St. Therese Church in Nicholville, NY, hosted a medieval lunch where participants were invited to bring their own knightly gear, goblet, and sword. Lunch was eaten without silverware, in the medieval fashion



The Medieval Lunch was followed by a scavenger hunt, based on the knightly virtues, which included having to joust with Fr. Flanery.



On the Feast of St. Joseph, a Catechism Competition was held at St. Michael's in Carmichael, CA for the faithful, young and old alike. In the weeks leading up to the event, dusty catechisms were unearthed and studied with a new fervor as each family team vied for the coveted trophy.



Actors, both young and old, took to the stage in the Magnificat Theater Company's recent performance of Shakespeare's *Macbeth* in Kansas City.



The junior and senior girls from Blessed Virgin Mary Academy in Warners, NY enjoy the breathtaking view of Assisi from the square in front of the basilica of St. Clare on their recent class trip to Italy.



Nearing the end of the school year, the students of St. Michael's Academy performed one of the most delightful of Shakespeare's comedies, *As You Like It*.

The senior class of Notre Dame de La Salette Academy performed a thoroughly entertaining rendition of the musical, *Man of La Mancha* for their guests at this year's graduation weekend.



A skate night hosted by Immaculate Conception Church in Post Falls, ID, brought young and old, priests and lay-folk alike out onto the ice for an evening of fun.

An eager group of young adults from Fidelis (St. Michael's Church, Carmichael, CA) embarked on a scavenger hunt to step, or perhaps leap, outside their comfort zones in the company of fellow Catholics. They were presented with a series of challenges, which included serious matters such as distributing and explaining miraculous medals or light-hearted tasks, like crossing a street backwards.





Follow Our Lady's Journey

Visit www.sspx.org/fatima. Select *Our Lady's Journey* to find out which chapels are being visited and what special things are planned.

Select *Testimonies* to read what people are saying about the visits and *Recent Pictures* to see photos of all the various events.

SSPX Fatima: 816-733-2574 | fatima@sspx.org

Angelus Press Conference



October 7-9, 2016

Theme: The Missions: Teaching all Nations

Location: Kansas City, MO International Airport Hilton

Keynote Speaker: Bishop Bernard Tissier de Mallerais:
"Archbishop Lefebvre, the Missionary"

Speakers Include:

Fr. Jürgen Wegner, U.S. District Superior
Fr. Juan-Carlos Iscara, St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary
Dr. John C. Rao, D. Phil. Oxon, St. John's University
Andrew Clarendon, M.A., St. Mary's Academy
and College
Fr. Lawrence Novak
Fr. Patrice Laroche
Fr. Jonathan Loop

Topics Include:

Paradise Lost: The Jesuit Missions in Paraguay
Islam and the Middle East
A Traditionalist Approach to Protestantism Today
The Counter-Reformation on the Offensive: The Jesuit
Response to Protestantism
Mission Work in Central America
Charles de Foucauld

For more information please contact:
800-966-7337 | www.angeluspress.org

Upcoming Retreats

Men:

Aug 22-27	Ignatian	Saint-Césaire, QC
Aug 29-Sep 3	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT
Oct 3-8	Virtues	Phoenix, AZ
Oct 10-15	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT
Oct 24-29	Ignatian	Los Gatos, CA
Nov 21-26	Ignatian	Saint-Césaire, QC
Dec 1-4	Ignatian	Los Gatos, CA
Dec 5-10	Ignatian	Ridgefield CT
Dec 12-17	Ignatian	Phoenix, AZ

Women:

Aug 8-13	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT
Aug 15-20	Ignatian	Saint-Césaire, QC
Aug 22-27	Ignatian	Los Gatos, CA
Sep 19-24	Ignatian	Phoenix, AZ
Oct 5-8	Marian	Los Gatos, CA
Oct 10-15	Ignatian	Saint-Césaire, QC
Nov 7-12	Ignatian	Ridgefield CT
Nov 28-Dec 3	Virtues	Phoenix, AZ
Dec 15-18	Ignatian	Los Gatos, CA

Mixed:

Oct 19-22	Matrimony	Phoenix, AZ
Nov 16-19	Matrimony	Los Gatos, CA

Dates subject to change. For more information please contact:
816-733-2500 | www.sspx.org

Our Lady of Fatima Pilgrim Statue Itinerary



August

- 5** St. Margaret Mary
Grand Rapids MI
- 12** Infant of Prague
Bay City MI
- 19** Sacred Heart Church
Mancelona MI
- 26** St. Anne's Church
Livonia MI

September

- 2** St. Joseph's Church
Ray Township, MI
- 9** Immaculate Heart of Mary
Kingsford Heights IN
- 16** St. John Fisher
Ft. Wayne IN

International Pilgrimages

Lent Pilgrimage to the Holy Land **March 2-10, 2017**

Meditate and pray at the sites where Our Lord lived, taught, and suffered. Take advantage of this 9-day semi-retreat to increase your knowledge and love for Our Lord with excellent speaker and chaplain, Fr. Steven McDonald, Second Assistant to the US District Superior.

Youth Pilgrimage **May 26-June 6, 2017**

The annual Youth Pilgrimage will visit Fatima to commemorate the 100th anniversary, then cross into Spain to visit Salamanca, Avila, Burgos, and Loyola before arriving in Lourdes, France. Afterwards, join thousands of pilgrims and walk from Chartres to Paris. For youth between 18 and 35 years of age. Accompanied by Fr. Nicholas Gardner.

100th Anniversary Pilgrimages to Fatima **August 2017**

These special commemorative pilgrimages will join in the official SSPX festivities in Fatima to celebrate 100 years since the apparitions of Our Lady. Choose between an 8-day journey through Portugal, a 12-day trip from Lourdes to Fatima by the Way of St. James Compostela, or a 12-day trip from Fatima to Lourdes. Accompanied by an SSPX priest.

For more information please contact: Regina Pilgrimages
866-369-8149 | 785-437-2883 | info@reginapilgrimages.com
P.O. Box 67, St. Mary's KS 66536 | www.reginapilgrimages.com

100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima 1917-2017 **May 23 - June 1, 2017**

In honor of Our Lady 100th Anniversary we are organizing a pilgrimage to Fatima in May with the highlight visiting Our Lady of Montserrat, Our Lady of Lourdes, Burgos, Avila, Fatima and more. Land price, only \$2,355.

Holy Land **January 3rd - January 11th 2017**

Spend your Christmas season in the Holy Land! St. Pius X Pilgrimage Co. has over a decade of experience in traveling to the Holy Land. Visit iconic locations such as the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Nativity site, and much more. Join us and our seasoned Spiritual Director, Father Young, for a once in a life-time experience! Air and land for only \$2,795.00 all included.

For more information and reservations please contact:
Saint Pius X Pilgrimage | Christine di Cecco: 203-378-2763
email: diceccochristine@gmail.com | www.stpiusxpilgrimage.com

Eucharistic Crusade

Monthly Intentions **August:**

For the sanctity of priests

Prayer for Priests

O Almighty, Eternal God, look upon the Face of your Son and for love of him, who is the Eternal High Priest, have pity on your priests. Remember, O most compassionate God, that they are but weak and frail human beings. Stir up in them the grace of their vocation which is in them by the imposition of the bishop's hands. Keep them close to you, lest the enemy prevails against them, so that they may never do anything in the slightest degree unworthy of their sublime vocation. Amen.

September:

For the sanctity of Christian families

Prayer for Catholic Families

*Jesus, our most loving redeemer,
You came to enlighten the world
with your teaching and example.
You willed to spend the greater part of Your life
in humble obedience to Mary and Joseph
in the poor home of Nazareth.
In this way, You sanctified that family,
which was to be an example for all Christian families.*

*Graciously accept our family,
which we dedicate and consecrate to You this day.
Be pleased to protect, guard, and keep it
in holy fear, in peace,
and in the harmony of Christian charity.
By conforming ourselves to the Divine model
of Your family,
may we attain to eternal happiness. Amen.*

E-mail: eucharistic-crusade@sspx.org



U.S. Pilgrimages

Mother Cabrini **August 19-20, 2016**

2-day walk from St. Isidore's Catholic Church in Watkins, CO to the shrine of Mother Frances Cabrini in Golden, CO.

For more information please contact: 303-325-7558

Auriesville **September 9-11, 2016**

3-day pilgrimage to the Shrine of the North American Martyrs in Auriesville, NY.

For more information please contact: 203-431-0201 x. 13

Starkenburg **September 1-3, 2016**

3-day walk from the Katy Trailhead in Jefferson City, MO to Our Lady of Starkenburg Shrine in Starkenburg, MO.

For more information please contact: joespencer92@gmail.com