



HOUSE BLESSING — Bishop Michael P. Driscoll blesses a community room at the new St. John Vianney Residence in Boise Feb. 8. The ceremony marked the official opening of the \$1.4 million facility, located next to Nazareth Retreat

Center. A place for priests to retire, it includes eight single apartments with individual kitchens, baths and garages, as well as a large community kitchen, dining area and chapel. See story, page 16. (ICR photo)

Appeal strategy: 'Bring a friend'

By Michael Brown
Editor

Web site (www.catholicidaho.org) has been an extremely useful tool for donors to the

For the results of the 2009 Idaho Catholic Appeal and parish goals for 2010, see page 8.

BOISE — The theme for the 2010 Idaho Catholic Appeal is "Called to Serve, Called to Share." Jim Hughes, director of Stewardship and Development, offered an even shorter catch phrase: "Bring a friend."

Hughes cited national statistics showing about 30 percent of registered parishioners give to annual campaigns, and while there are no figures for Idahoans, he suspects the return rate here is even lower. "Think of what would happen if you raised that just five or 10 percent," he said. "In this economy, we're not asking people to give more; we're asking more people to give."

The goal for the 2010 drive is the same as it has been the last four years, at \$2.5 million. The 2009 campaign finished slightly under that mark, at \$2.31 million, still the largest amount ever raised.

Hughes is also encouraging donors, especially those who are currently financially strapped, to consider making a pledge that can be paid over nine months, instead of making a one-time gift. Many may not be able to make a \$50 or \$75 one-time gift, but by pledging to give \$10 per month, a donor can soften the impact on his own finances while increasing his overall gift to \$90, he said.

Also, the renovated diocesan

diocese. In its first month of operation, it processed \$18,000 in donations, more than what came in from the former Web site in all its years of existence.

Hughes encouraged parishes to play the new DVD of Bishop Michael P. Driscoll's Appeal message, available in English and Spanish. "We need to show people the reasons to give," he said. "If you were giving before and stopped giving, we pray that you open your hearts and give again."

The Appeal kick off coincides with the beginning of Lent, Hughes added, because when the late Bishop Sylvester Treinen initiated the annual campaign, originally called the Diocesan Development Program, it was intended to be part of Catholics' seasonal sacrificial giving. He said that ideally, he'd like to see most of the campaign completed by the end of the current fiscal year — June 30 — although the books stay open through Dec. 31.

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2010

Bishop urges gratitude for gift of Catholic schools

By Michael Brown
Editor

BOISE — The theme of Catholic Schools Week may have been "Dividends for Life," but Bishop Michael P. Driscoll left no doubt about the real nature of a Catholic school education.

"What a gift!" he said. "It's a gift from your teachers. It's a gift from your principals. It's a gift from your parishes. It's a gift from your diocese."

Speaking at the annual All Schools Mass at St. Mark Church Feb. 5, the bishop also reminded students from the Treasure Valley schools that their parents had made sacrifices to give them a Catholic school education, even while supporting public schools through their taxes. Their parents could have sent them to public schools, the bishop told the students, "but they wanted more for you.... They wanted you to learn about your faith."

"The power of Catholic schools is that you learn about and live out your faith," he added.

The bishop began his homily by explaining the meaning of the miter he wears and the crozier he carries. He also told the story of a child who, upon entering church one day and seeing the bishop with his crozier, thought



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN THE SOUTHERN DEANERY — Bishop Michael P. Driscoll celebrated Catholic Schools Week Masses in several parishes this year, including St. Edward Church, Twin Falls, on Jan. 27. Pictured from left are Father Camilo Garcia, parochial vicar at St. Edward's; Father Justin Brady, pastor of St. Nicholas Parish, Rupert; Rev. Mr. German Osario, on pastoral year assignment at St. Edward's; Father Marcos Sanchez, parochial vicar at St. Nicholas; Bishop Driscoll; and Father Michael A. St. Marie, pastor of St. Edward's. For other photos of this Mass and a Mass Feb. 5 in St. Mark Church, Boise, see the slide show on the diocesan Web site at www.catholicidaho.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/NewsandEvents.aspx. (ICR photo courtesy of St. Edward Catholic School)

he was a wizard.

"I said, 'I'm better than a wizard. A wizard can do tricks. I can do more than tricks. I can do miracles,'" he explained, adding that during the consecration, with the help of the Holy Spirit, he can turn bread and wine into Jesus' body and blood. "That's powerful. That's wonderful," the bishop told the students. It's

the lesson that students learn all the time in Catholic schools, he added.

Catholic schools also help students live out their faith in words and in deeds, Bishop Driscoll said. "You can tell other people what you believe, and you can tell them why you believe it."

See "GIFT," page 9

Father Snyder to speak at state prayer breakfast

BOISE — Father Larry Snyder, president of Catholic Charities USA, will be the main speaker at the 49th Annual Idaho State Prayer Breakfast March 13.

Father Snyder is the first Catholic to offer the main address in the history of the prayer breakfast. Bishop Michael P. Driscoll serves on the board of CCUSA.

Father Snyder's visit comes as CCUSA celebrates its 100th anniversary and Catholic Charities of Idaho marks its 10th year. Dr. Karl Watts, founder of Genesis World Mission, will offer a lay challenge and a response will be given by Gov. Butch Otter.

The address will take place at 8 a.m. in the Jordan Ballroom of the Boise State University Student Union. For information or tickets, call 343-2300 or visit the Web site www.idahoprayer-breakfast.org.



Father Larry Snyder

THANK YOU

Catholics give more than \$233,000 to Haiti

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Football great calls students to faith

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When more of the same is not more of the same

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