

THE SHINING SON

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November 2014

By: Deacon Vince Slomian



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST-

- DEACON VINCE'S MESSAGE
- LEAD ME LORD
- NEW TECITES
- TEC TEAM 192
- THANKS
- TALENT SEARCH
- 2014 TEC CONFERENCE
- FOURTH DAY BIO
- GOING GREEN
- IMPORTANT DATES
- PRAYER REQUEST

Dear TECites,

Thanks to everyone for your sympathy and prayers, food, visits, love and support during this time of Ruth's passing. Ruth was a member of a number of TEC's and then she was the LEADER with TEC #25. We also had the opportunity to be the marriage couple for a TEC weekend. We have great memories and many laughs about presenting our meditation as we both wore our high school sweaters, yes, Ruth in her LP sweater and I wore my Hall Red Devils sweater. Great memories.

This evening I met with Deacon Bob Sondag, Vice-chancellor, Peoria Diocese in regards to the future of TEC here at Peterstown. Due to my age and health we were looking into ways to keep the Peterstown TEC running strong and efficiently so that our Peterstown TEC movement will continue to flourish.

We decided that in a gradual amount of time I will begin to take more of a Spiritual Advisor Role and I am pleased and thankful to announce that Kim Santman will be groomed into the Peterstown TEC Spiritual Director position.

I ask that you continue to pray and give us the support in the future as you have in the past, so that this will be a smooth and positive transition. THANKYOU for your WHEAT. Keep planting seeds.....and KEEP COMING BACK.

Deacon Vince

Lead Me Lord!

By: Robin Santman, Lay Director

Lead me Lord!

A lot of sharing is done on TEC weekends, but most of all we share Christ's love for us and our love for Christ and fellow TECites. At this time of year in preparation for the Thanksgiving holiday, I would like to share a prayer I have come across that expresses thankfulness for God and people in our lives.

In Gratitude,

Thank you, Father, for having created us and given us to each other in the human family. Thank you for being with us in all our joys and sorrows, for your comfort in our sadness, your companionship in our loneliness. Thank you for yesterday, today, tomorrow and for the whole of our lives. Thank you for friends, for health, and for grace. May we live this and every day conscious of all that has been given to us.

From the Catholic Prayer Book compiled by Msgr. Michael Buckley

Our next TEC weekend is a girls' weekend on December 6 – 8th. The Lay Leader is Brenda Vaessen. We are praying for a large group of candidates to come and share in a weekend where they will experience Christ's love for them. The TEC community is asked to share their love for the team and candidates by writing wheat letters describing their loving sacrifices done prayerfully, by helping in the kitchen (contact Jill Ross 815-866-6889 or email rossranch92@gmail.com), by baking cookies, and by attending the Hoot Mass, Hoot, and Candlelight.

Most of all we ask you to pass out a TEC application form to family, friends, and fellow workers. You can download an application from the Peterstown website. Make sure you follow through to see that the application gets sent to our Executive Secretary, Rhonda Bezely (her address is on the upper left corner of the candidate application). As always, pray for the team and candidates of the upcoming TEC #192.

May God's blessings be with you and your family this Thanksgiving and always.

Lead Us Lord!

Welcome New TECites Team #191

Austin Henkel, Victor Hernandez, Brady Leonard, Ryan Leonard, Rafael Maldonado, Ryan Mann, Bryce Otterbach, Marco Rosales, Caleb Spears, Luis Valdez, Evan Weber

PRAYERS For The Peterstown TEC #192

Lay Leader – Brenda Vaessen

Asst. Lay Leaders – Colleen Yucus, Beth Super

Assistant Spiritual Directors – Brenda Barnickel, Jim Hoscheid

Spiritual Leader – Fr. Bo Schmitt

Spiritual Director – Deacon Vince Slomian

Other Team Members – Sister Anne Germaine Picard, Kiley Booker, Rachael Cessna, Yulissa Correa, Sue Garland, Katee Johnson, Chris Klein, Brock Sondgeroth, Kim Sondgeroth, Savanna Sondgeroth, Sophia Suarez, Renee Vaessen, Lauren VanKeulen

The word 'THANKS' is written in large, purple, block letters. A hand is shown holding a yellow star with a blue outline, positioned over the letter 'A'. The background is a light blue gradient.

Thank you to the TECites at TEC #190 for coming at 4:00 to help clean the TEC Center after the guys' weekend earlier this month. A special thank you to Tracy Knapp for helping with the clean up too!



TALENT SEARCH

If you want to do extra wheat and share your talent at an upcoming Hoot, contact:

Rachel Bezely – (815)303-9299

Brett Becker – (815)303-6656

Peterstown attends 2014 TEC Congress



The 2014 TEC Congress was hosted by Sunflower TEC at The Savior of the World Pastoral Center in Kansas City, Kansas this past August. Brenda Barnickel and Rose Rose, both past Lay Directors, represented Peterstown at the three day event. TEC Community members from eight episcopal regions and 17 different TEC centers came together as one community. TECites came from Illinois, Kansas, Texas, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Nebraska, Florida, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Georgia, and Louisiana. Pictured are the 5 who attended from Illinois: Kimberly Knotts and Colleen Schlipman (both from Great River TEC in Quincy), Brenda, Rose, and Penny Wolf (one of our IL State Representatives and member of the Spirituality Ministry Team as part of the TEC Conference Leadership).

The theme of the weekend was “Humility of Heart”. Three presentations were given on this topic by Fr Andrew Strobl, Director of Evangelization for the Archdiocese of Kansas City, KS; Deacon Dana Nearmyer of Holy Trinity parish in Lenexa, KS; and Kevin Fuller of the Diocese of Omaha. Fr Strobl’s was on Friday evening and emphasized that TEC should be a Christ Encounter, not a “cultural encounter”, while on Saturday Deacon Dana taught us that our Christ Encounter through TEC calls us to be “disciple maker-makers”. The last presentation by Kevin was on Sunday morning and reminded us to stop, listen, and love every person we come across.

Funds were raised for the TEC Conference through silent and live auctions. Peterstown donated a tote bag for the silent auction called "This and That from Peterstown TECites", which contained some handmade and uniquely created items, as well as some items to just Pass On with a SMILE!

Peterstown was recognized as one of two centers that were honored with a Dorothy Gerke Grant (named after one of the co-founders of TEC who passed away early in 2014). A report and pictures were on display showing the windows replacement project that was initiated with the monetary "seed" we received.

Spirit of TEC Awards are announced each year at the TEC Congress. Award certificates were on display and included the 2014 recipients from Peterstown of Les and Carlene "Cog" Grant for their 26 years of giving to the program. Deacon Vince proudly presented the award to them at a recent Peterstown TEC Hoot.

Peterstown TECites are strongly encouraged to make plans to attend the 50th Anniversary Celebration of TEC in June of 2015 at The Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville, IL (less than an hour from St Louis). The theme for the event will be "Coming Home".



Fourth Day Bio

“It only takes a spark to get a fire going; and soon all those around can warm up in its glowing. That’s how it is with God’s love. Once you’ve experienced it, you spread His love to everyone; you want to pass it on.” – These are the beginning lyrics to one of my favorite songs, Pass It On, that describe my first encounter with Christ, my TEC life, and living out my 4th day.

My name is Brenda Barnickel and my first TEC was #24 back in 1981. I am a “well seasoned” TECite who has had many roles in the program. I have been a resource table leader on TEC #25, an assistant leader on Tec #39, leader of TEC #49 and then musician on several weekends – Tec #50, 62 & 102. You’ll notice a 40 Tec break in between those last 2 Tec’s..... that is when I helped in the kitchen, baked cookies and wrote wheat letters for many years while raising my children through grade school. My light was re-ignited on #102 and I got more involved when my children entered high school. I was very tickled to discover that the Wheat Team part of the program started at Peterstown on TEC #100. This opened a door to give me the opportunity to be more involved with weekends, but yet still be at home. I was a wheatie on TEC #107 and was asked to help the Wheat Team Chairman as an assistant for the TEC #110-114 season. I then took over the chairman position on TEC #115 and helped build that part of our program through TEC #154. After a 10 year stretch with the Wheat Team, I was then Lay Director from TEC #155 to #179 for 5 years. I then had to step back, take a deep breath and a break. I am currently TEC Reboost Chairman on the TEC Council and have transitioned to being an Assistant Spiritual Director where my faith has deepened further for the love of this great program. Many more TEC weekends are in my future!

I attended the 40th Anniversary of the National TEC program in 2005 in Belleville, IL at Our Lady of the Snows Shrine. While I was Lay Director, Peterstown joined forces with the other Illinois TEC Centers in 2009 to host the annual TEC Congress in Peoria. I was blessed to meet the co-founders of TEC, Fr Matt Fedewa and Dorothy Gereke, at those special times. I was humbled to have received the Spirit of TEC award in 2010. I have now met my goal of attending an “out of state” TEC Congress by traveling by train to Kansas City, KS just this year. My light has once again been re-ignited. I look forward to attending the 50th Anniversary of the National TEC program back in Belleville in 2015 where the theme will be “Coming Home”.

I call TEC my “hobby” but during some years it was more a second “full-time” job. My husband Earl, of 32 years, has been supportive and understanding of my love for Christ and this wonderful program. We have experienced the transition to the “empty nest” with our two sons being in their 30’s and well established in their jobs. I’m anticipating and praying that grandchildren will be part of our journey down the road, where the next generation in our family can experience an encounter with Christ at Peterstown, like so many other TEC families.

I live in Mendota and work full-time at the First State Bank main branch in E-Operations (formerly known as Bookkeeping) where I work “behind the scenes” with customers on the phone and do various other computerized jobs. I attend St Peter & Paul church at Peterstown, where I have a rich family heritage. I am blessed to be able to “come home” to Peterstown every weekend.

In closing, “I wish for you my friend, this happiness that I’ve found. You can depend on Him, it matters not where you’re bound. * I’ll shout it from the mountain top <Hey God!> I want the world to know; the Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.” I encourage everyone in the TEC family to Pass It On and re-ignite your light! Ask someone to have that encounter with Christ!



TEC is going **GREEN**. We are asking for your assistance with this transition by keeping TEC updated with contact information, especially e-mails. New TECites receiving the newsletter in the mail will need to notify TEC if they want to remain on the mailing list. Otherwise it will be assumed that they now have the capability to look up the newsletter electronically. Money saved in postage will be used elsewhere for the "good of the TEC Program".

CLIP AND SAVE IMPORTANT TEC DATES



Please make sure to mark your calendar so that you don't miss out on all the fun we have at the TEC Hilton, spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.

* TEC Council Meeting –
Monday, November 24th, 6:00 pm

* Girls' TEC Weekend –
December 6th – 8th

* Follow-up –
December 14th, 5:30p.m.

* Mass of intention for Frank Wujek –
December 14, 9:00am

Sts. Peter & Paul Church, Peterstown (Frank and his wife Mary Catherine were on TEC #4 in 1976. He is survived by his wife; his children Rick (Darlene) Wujek, Andrew (Sue) Wujek, Mark (Debby) Wujek, Mary Jo (Jim) Myers, Rose (Gary) Rose, Dan (Katie) Wujek, Anita (Frank) Kobilsek, Paul (Mary Beth) Wujek, and Tom (Carrie) Wujek, many of whom have also been involved with the TEC community. His grandson, Father Jacob Rose has also been involved in the TEC program)

Peterstown TEC Program
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ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED

KEEP PRAYING: CHRIST IS COUNTING ON YOU

Pray for the team of TEC#192 as they prepare for the girl's TEC weekend to be held December 6-8.

Pray for all TECites and their families who are suffering from illness, loss of jobs, and other stressors of life. May God grace them with His healing and give their caregivers strength and faith.

Remember all prayer requests may also be submitted on the Peterstown TEC website at <https://www.peterstowntec.com>.

