

# St. Francis de Sales Parish

All glory comes from daring to begin.

*St. Francis de Sales*



## Meanderings... | Parish Bulletin – April 11 & 12, 2009

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### Noah Re-visiting

**SOME** of our most important scriptural stories revolve around the Old Testament covenants. Of them, one of the most endearing is the myth of Noah and his Ark, with the assembling of the animals two by two.

Certainly the people must have thought him strange and ridiculous, but I often wonder what they thought as the rain began to fall, and little by little the water began to rise. Last week was one of those occasions when the story of Noah was foremost on my mind.

For those who don't know, the basement of the rectory has become the location of the St. Vincent de Paul food bank. The first and most important negotiation item was that they had to be responsible for any and all mice that happen to arrive in the rectory looking for handouts.

So I was a bit taken aback when a couple of them sought me out and informed me that my indoor swimming pool was ready. What indoor swimming pool? My basement was flooded. About two inches of water covered all four corners of the basement. The halls, the rooms, the washrooms were under water. It was time to start building an ark.

Now the basement had never flooded before, so I was utterly unprepared. I had a longing for the black and red rubber boots of my youth. So I was slogging through the basement praying that I wouldn't encounter the two mice waiting for the ark. I felt very helpless and had no idea what to do.

Fortunately, wiser people than me were at hand, and the Men of St. Francis crew has amassed wet vacs, pool pump, squeegees and mops, and had the first flood cleaned up in no time. That was only the first wave. Three o'clock on Sunday morning, I was up and bailing the sinking ship. That was flood number two. The Office began calling here and there, the Town of Ajax, the Catholic Mutual Insurance Company, Greenpeace and the Coast Guard. The Insurance company sent people to rectify the rectory. Again it flooded, flood number three.

Now we called in the heavy weights, City Core to help stop the tsunami attacking my basement. A catch basin was drilled into the floor to temporarily resolve the issue.

Now being a place dedicated to God, one would assume that an Act of God is a good thing, but as I am finding out, the Insurance company figures if God created, God can pay for it.

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