

Pray, Fast, Give—*Help Turn on the Heat!*

We're going to help a sister parish this Lent!

Background... St. Damien of Molokai Parish is the first parish in the Pontiac Vicariate of the Archdiocese of Detroit to be formed through a process of merger. In the merger, which took place in 2009, three Pontiac Catholic churches (St. Joseph, St. Michael the Archangel, St. Vincent de Paul) came together as one Parish community under the patronage of St. Damien of Molokai. Terra Sancta Ministries acquired St. Joseph's property; and St. Damien of Molokai parishioners currently worship at both the St. Michael and St. Vincent de Paul sites. Between the two, Masses are offered every day of the week—including several in Spanish. This parish is strong in worship and in ministering to the poor in Pontiac.



Challenge... In the past few weeks, both church sites have been hit with serious heating system problems. While the St. Vincent property is in need of replacement parts, the St. Michael property is experiencing a full system failure. They will be converting a 1950's boiler system to several smaller forced air units. Their plan to install residential size units instead of a large commercial unit will mean the difference between 35K and 250K. While they are being thrifty and creative, St. Damien of Molokai does not have enough in their financial reserves to replace this heating system.

Where we come in... This year, we would like to focus our Lenten Almsgiving on this Catholic neighbor right in our backyard! Our Lenten alms will go toward helping to replace the heating system in St. Michael's Church. Please lift your prayers and open your checkbooks for the success of this endeavor. We give thanks that presently our own St. Irenaeus parish has enough money in our budget for ministry and maintenance. We give thanks that we have heat in our worship space—and in our own homes. We give thanks that there is still a Catholic presence in the Pontiac community. We give thanks for this opportunity to share our blessings with a Catholic church just down the road... furthering God's mission for His Church.

Please make checks payable to "St. Damien of Molokai Parish" and put "help with heat" on the memo line. Cash is also appreciated. We will have envelopes in the Gathering Area in the next few weeks, and will deliver our collective gifts just before Easter. Thank you for your support!



***A neighboring
Catholic Church
in Pontiac
needs our help!***

