



Stewardship is a way of life.

Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

Tithing Income: Dec 18, 2011	\$ 6,950.00
Tithing Income: Dec 19, 2010	\$ 8,431.00
Children's Offering:	\$ 1.00

Next Week's Tithe is for:

St. Vincent de Paul

Tithe for 12/18/11 supported the following:

EWTN Catholic Network \$ 645.00

Community Partnership RC & D \$ 50.00
(Lewistown)

From the Pastor:

A gift is something that we do not have to give! No law requires us to give gifts on Christmas. Similarly, our gifts to God are prompted by the spirit of generosity. We give because we want to give. We give because we love. Tithing is giving a gift...for every gift we have ever received. Thank you for your faithful, weekly gift to God through your tithe.

From the Pews:

"It is funny how income is rather relative. Compared to some I am rich. Compared to others I am poor. My gift counts especially because I give it thoughtfully and from the heart."

My Good Deed for the Week:

Here's what one of our young people offered as their tithe, in addition to their financial gift:

One of our second graders helped clean his room! And another helped pass out the gifts during the family Christmas party!

GREAT JOB KIDS!

Pastors Column

IN FIELDS WHERE THEY LAY...

Two Christmases ago, after my last morning Mass, I took a drive through the snowy countryside. At one point I pulled the car over, got out and walked into a farm field.

This little hike replicated winter walks I would occasionally take as a boy, out into the fields, near my home. I was "channeling" childhood again.

Back then, I would stroll out into a field, with the sounds of silence all around me, broken only by the crunch of snow and ice under my feet and the distant cawing of crows. The black, bare tree branches contrasted with the white blanket spread for miles around me. Some may have considered that dia-chrome world boring, even ugly, but I thought it beautiful.

Once or twice, I was out there with my dog, Spot, part beagle, part who-knows-what (He would actually bay at the moon at night from his dog house). I think he had escaped from the house or his outdoor tether, and he was a genius for regularly doing that. But I have a fond memory of encountering him out there. He ran up, happy to see me, wiggling at my feet, and we rejoiced in one another's company, together enjoying the snow and the cold air around us. Spot loved to be free. Dog house and chain could not contain him.

Those fields of my youth are covered with lawns, driveways, and houses now. So it was with satisfaction that I felt that I was back in time again with my more recent little excursion. Our local area is still blessed with abundant open space, much of it startling in its beauty (e.g., Big Valley in Mifflin County, Tuscarora Mountain in Juniata County.)

On that past Christmas, it all came back to me. Once again I was surrounded by a kind of sacred silence, even more so because, after all, this was Christmas Day. I could imagine Spot way out there, dusting up the snow, running through the corn stalk stubble, happy to be free.

I thought about those shepherds in the fields, surrounded not by snow but by silence, to be sure. It must have seemed like any other night out in the fields. And they weren't out there, like me, for a romantic walk in the winter wonderland. For them, it was a work night. That is, until that first angel appeared, with that announcement. Then everything changed. For them and for us. Forever. Never to be the same.

God chose open fields to start things off. As I stood there, looking out into the black and white of winter, I didn't have any mystical experiences, no angels or celestial singing. But, hey, I thought, this is the way it was, sort of, right before those angels came to them. It was the sound of silence. And that silence is necessary for prayer and angels and babes in mangers to come about.

I crunched back across the field, got into my car and drove off, leaving the field behind me, but the sound of silence and the expanse of pure white stayed with me that day.

May our hearts and minds be like those silent white fields this Christmas to receive whatever messages God may have for us. Such silence and pure white inner peace can only result in tidings of great joy.

Fr. Bill

Weekly Readings

Monday – December 26

(St. Stephen, The First Martyr)

Acts of the Apostles 6:8-10;7:54-59;

Psalms 31:3-4,6 & 8, 16-17; Matthew 10:17-22

Tuesday – December 27(St. John, Apostle & Evangelist)

1John 1:1-4; Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; John 20:1-8

Wednesday – December 28 (The Holy Innocents, Martyrs)

1John 1:5-2:2; Psalm 124:2-5, 7-8; Matthew 2:13-18

Thursday – December 29

1John 2:3-11; Psalm 96:1-6; Luke 2:22-35

Friday – December 30 (The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph)

Genesis 15:1-6;21:1-3 or Hebrews 11:8,11-12, 17-19;

Psalms 105:1-9; Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Saturday – December 31

1John 2:18-21; Psalm 96:1-2, 11-12, 13; John 1:1-18

Sunday – January 1(Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God)

Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 67:2-3,5,68; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December:

12/26 – PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

12/28 - Confessions/6:30pm/Church

12/28 - Mass/7pm/Church

12/29 - NO 9AM Mass – Due to School is out

12/30 – PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

January:

01/03 – SHS Back in Session

01/03 - GALA Com. MTG/6pm/Parish Ofc Basement

01/04 - Pro Life Group Mtg/6pm/Parish office

01/04- Confessions/6:30pm/Church

01/05 - Cursillo Group Mtg/4:30p/Parish Office

01/06 - First Friday Adoration – After 7am Mass

01/06 - Columbiette Adoration/5:30pm/Church

01/06 - Holy Hour/7pm/Church

01/08 - CCD Back in Session! 9am/SHS

01/08 - K5 Youth Grp Mtg/2pm/Church Basmnt

01/09 - SHS School Board Mtg/6pm/SHS Faculty Rm

01/10 - Adult Bible Study/7pm/Parish Ofc. Basement

01/10 – Knights of Columbus Mtg/7pm/K of C House

01/11 - Confessions/6:30pm/Church

01/11 – Adult Choir Practice/7:30pm/Choir Loft

01/12 – Cursillo Grp/4:30p/Parish office

01/15 - CCD/9am/SHS

01/16 – Week of prayer for Christian Unity Begins!

01/16 - Columbiette Mtg/6:30pm/K of C Hse

01/16 – St. Vincent DePaul mtg/6pm/SHS Cafeteria

01/17 - Adult Bible Study/7pm/Parish Ofc. Basement

01/17 - Buildings&Grounds/7pm/Rectorry

01/18 - Adult Choir Practice/7:30pm/Choir Loft

01/18 - Columbiette Rosary Grp/6:30 pm/Church

01/18 - Confessions/6:30pm/Church

01/19 – Week of Prayer Service/12noon/Church

01/19 - Cursillo Group/4:30pm/Parish Ofc.

01/19 - HSA Gen. Mtg/6pm/SHS Faculty Rm

01/21 – St. Vincent de Paul – Free Meal/11:30 am/SHS Cafeteria

LITURGICAL NOTES

Mass for the Intentions for the Week

Sunday, December 25

10:00 AM People of the Parish

Monday, December 26

7:00 AM Mary Mahon

Tuesday, December 27

7:00 AM Jean Lennartz

Wednesday, December 28

7:00 PM Mary Mahon

Thursday, December 29

7:00 AM Richard McCusker

Friday, December 30

7:00 AM Germaine Le Blanche

Saturday, December 31

8:00 AM Arthur Leeper

4:00 PM Special Intentions for Kathryn Porpotage

Sunday, January 1

7:30 AM Special Intentions for Will Barr

11:00 AM People of the Parish

Van Transportation to Mass: The following is the van schedule:

Jan 15 - Mel Reed

Jan 22 - Russell Krug

Jan 29 - Dave Kanicki

Memorialize Sanctuary Candles: The following dates are available: Jan 15, 22, & 29 Cost is \$20. Call the office to make arrangements.

*The Sanctuary Candle is for
The Intentions of the
Pannizzo Family*



Memorialize Flowers: If you would like to memorialize flowers at the altar or ambo (pulpit) please call the parish office to schedule. Dates available are Jan 1, 8, 15, & 22. Flower colors should be coordinated with the church seasons.



*The Altar Flowers are in
loving memory our family and friends who
have gone to our Lord and in honor of those
who are still here on earth doing his work,
with love from their family and friends*

PARISH ACTIVITIES

A Thank you from one of our faithful parishioners:

Dear Sacred Heart,

I just wanted to thank everyone for the wonderful birthday wishes, the cards, flowers, and visitors to my home. You made my 90th Birthday so special.

With love and Prayers,
Annie Hallinger



Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship For - Girls & Boys Ages 10-14 Held - Sunday, January 8th from 2:00-5:00PM at YMCA Doors will open at 1:00PM For entry form & registration info, please call: Scott Richard at 717-953-5164



Save the Date!

3rd Annual Sacred Heart School Gala Savor the Flavors of Mardi Gras... February 4th, 2012

Come join us for a night of Fun, Food, & Friends

Social Hour 5-6pm, Dinner begins at 6pm

Rec Park Community Center

Tickets: \$50.00 per person

Entertainment: 3MO

Food & Drinks provided by our Local Restaurants

Games and prizes given out all night!

For Tickets Contact:

Sacred Heart School: 248-5351
Sacred Heart Parish Office: 242-2781

*all proceeds benefit Sacred Heart School



Church Hope Center at 23 N. Juniata St. Lewistown. January 15 2012 1 PM We will supply posters and banners. Represent your Catholicism Bring your children and let us pray for the unborn! For information contact Annemarie Swineford at 242-2781 or Frank Cunningham at 667-9334 every pro lifer is welcomed!

Save the Date!



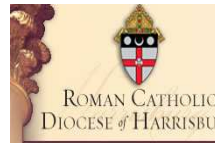
The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be beginning

January 16 -25, 2012

Watch the Bulletin for daily prayer services at Lewistown's local Churches!

Sacred Hearts will be held January 19th at 12 noon

COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS



"The word became flesh and lived among us." Vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life are living in our midst. If you may be among, Call the office of Vocations (717) 657-4804 ext 282, or email:

frrlavoie@hbgdiocese.org

INTERNSHIP with Pennsylvania Catholic Conference - Pennsylvania Catholic Conference (PCC) in Harrisburg, PA is seeking an intern for the spring or summer 2012 term. Candidates must be upper-class students majoring in public relations, communications, marketing, journalism or related discipline; or political science/government. This project oriented internship involves research, writing and outreach about public policy issues of concern to the Catholic Church. Contact Amy Hill at 717-238-9613 or abhill@pacatholic.org for more details.

Save the Date - First Communicant Families - On Sunday February 5, 2012, St. Patrick Cathedral Gift Shop will be hosting a First Communion show featuring dresses and veils for girls, suits and ties for boys as well as other gifts and accessories. More details will follow soon.



Our Lewistown Pro Life March we will have their March, Sunday, January 15, 2012. And will march from Sacred Heart of Jesus Church's steps to the Bethel Ame



St. Jude Thaddeus

Mass Schedule & Events:

Saturday:

Confessions: 4pm -4:45 pm

Mass: 5pm – English
6pm - Spanish

Sunday:

Mass: 9:15 am

Christmas Mass Schedule:

12/24 - Children's Mass – 6:30 pm

12/24 - Spanish Mass

12/25 - English Mass – 9:15 am

MARCH FOR LIFE UPDATE: There are still seats available on the bus for the March for Life on January 23, 2012, but our deadline to send in our final registration and payment to Mount St. Mary's is less than two weeks away. If you have been considering joining our pilgrimage, you must sign-up no later than January 1. The cost is \$57.00 per person, plus meals. This fee includes \$12 for a sunrise rally and Mass at Mt. St. Mary's University (a boxed lunch included in the price) and \$45 for bus fare. A complete itinerary for the trip is on the bulletin board located in the church entrance and on the table next to the sign-up sheet in the social hall.

For Sacred Heart the Itinerary is located in the Church Vestibule by the sign up sheet.

For more information or to register by phone, contact Karen Thome, 694-3607.



ATTN: Parishioners: Morgan Bobb, a former SHS Student and a current St. Francis University Student, and will be going to the Dominican Republic for a mission Trip.

She needs help raising the \$1,000 required to go on the mission, however; she can take with her donations in the form of the following:

Medications:

vitamins (for any age)/ Tylenol/ OTC cold medicine
eye drops/ Ibuprofen (Adult/Childrens/Infant)
Antacids/ Benadryl (Tablets and Liquid)
Claritin (Tablets and Liquid) /Zyrtec (Tablets and Liquid)/Robitussin (Tablets and Liquid)
Nasal Steroids (Fluticasone)/Nasal Saline/ Aspirin
Hydrocortisone 1% Cream
Clotrimazole Cream and Tolnafate Cream
Permethrin 5% Cream/Nix or RID Shampoo
Bacitracin (Triple Antibiotic Cream), etc

I am also taking donations to help the unfortunate citizens of Dominican Republic with clothing and shoes.

If you want you can donate new or used:

t-shirts/ one piece swimsuits/dresses for girls ages 3-8/ bras: 32B, 34A, 34B, 36A, and 36B/ dress sandals size 7-10 for female adults/ jeans for boys ages 8-17/tennis shoes (males: 5-8, 8.5, 9, 10.5/sturdy sandals with velcros for boys and girls/shorts for boys only ages 3-17/underwear for boys and girls all sizes/socks for boys and girls all sizes

You can also donate items such as:

Food (highest priority)

Pancake Mix/Syrup/Peanut Butter/Jelly and Jam
Tuna Fish/Rice/Cake & Cookie Mix, Frosting,
Sprinkles, Cupcake Paper/Parmesan Cheese
Salt and Pepper, Cinnamon & Oregano/Pudding and
Jello/Mac & Cheese

Canned Vegetables: corn, black beans, green pigeon peas, green sweet peas, tomatoes & mushrooms/Salsa for our Mexican Dinner nights!

Household Items:

Dish soap/ scrubbing pads and brushes
Deodorant/ batteries/liquid hand soap/wooden clothes pins/hand sanitizer (large bottles with pump)
Oven Mitts (HEAVY DUTY)/Can opener (HEAVY DUTY)/Kitchen Aprons (Cotton - Heavy Duty)
HP PRINTER CARTRIDGES: HP 60XL Black, HP 60XL Tricolor, HP 21, HP 22, HP 54, HP 57 & HP 58/Shower curtains & rings - HEAVY DUTY!
Combination locks/Tape: DUCT & MASKING TAPE/Lexmark Ink Cartridges: 105XL Black, 100 Cyan, 100 Magenta & 100 Yellow/Manicure & Pedicure sets/Padlocks: Combo or with keys
Disposable Hairnets (for our kitchen staff)

You can Drop off donations to the Parish office. Thank you!

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Faith. Academics. Service.
Catholic Schools

Weekly Schedule: School reopens January 3, 2012



Our best wishes to all of our parishioners for a blessed feast of the Lord's Birth. You are all remembered in our prayers.

Thank you! To all of the families who supported our baby item collection for Crossroads Counseling.