

Stewardship is a way of life.
Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

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|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Tithing Income: April 18, 2010 | \$6,347.75 |
| Tithing Income: April 19, 2009 | \$7,341.00 |
| Children's offering: | \$9.00 |



The advent of tithing took place when Abraham gave ten percent of his possessions to the protopriest Melchizedek. The practice of tithing and other offerings was confirmed in the

Mosaic Law and acknowledged in Matthew, Luke, and Hebrews.

Have I tithed to my church (if actively promoting the true teachings of the Church and observing correct liturgical practices)? 10% of one's net income must be given in the following order:

- given to the Church of the parish in which one resides.
- given to the Church where one attends Sunday Mass only if one's own parish is not acting in accord with the teachings of the church and the pastor has been notified of existing concerns.
- given to promote the restoration of the Church to its own formal teachings and practices.
- given to promote the cause of promoting justice within the Church.
- given to serve the justice that should have been overseen by the Church.
- set aside for future giving to worthy advocates for truth and justice within the Church.

"In a generous spirit pay homage to the LORD, be not sparing of freewill gifts. With each contribution show a cheerful countenance, and pay your tithes in a spirit of joy. Give to the Most High as he has given to you, generously, according to your means." (Sirach 35:10-12).

My Good Deed for the Week: Here's what several young people offered as their tithe, in addition to their financial gift: A couple of 5th graders said: "I helped my friend with a broken arm set up for the science fair, I helped with the yard work." A 7th grader said: "I helped my Gram bring in her groceries." A kindergartner said: "I helped my sister build a tent."

Pastor's Column

PRO-LIFE MASS AND ABORTION MILL PROTEST

It sounds scary but it's not. In fact, it's interesting, exciting and satisfying. I do it once a year and I would like a bunch of parishioners to go with me.

Here's what we do: We leave from the front steps of our church 6:30 a.m., Saturday, May 8th, to attend an 8 a.m. Mass, which I will celebrate, at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church, North 3rd Street, Harrisburg (about 50 attend). After Mass, we go to the nearby Hillcrest Abortion Mill (I won't dignify it with the word "clinic"), on North Front Street, to pray out loud on the sidewalk, facing the main entrance (about 35 attend) for about 40 minutes. And then we all go out for breakfast (maybe 25-30).

It's a great time, with wonderful fellowship among us pro-lifers, who are my kind of people, my soul mates. Every time I go it's a joyful reunion with old friends, who are like family, especially during breakfast at some nearby diner or café afterward. Coffee flows, eggs and toast are consumed, stories shared. I've been doing this once a year for almost 20 years, so I know and love these people.

Some are out there every Saturday morning, rain, sleet, hail, snow or sun, saying their prayers and holding up their placards on that Front Street sidewalk along the river. The preceding Mass is once a month, celebrated by various priests of the diocese.

The prayer out front is pretty mild, not the radical action you might picture. We stand on the public sidewalk (we're not allowed to step on the front lawn), saying the rosary and other prayers out loud, sadly watching women escorted from their cars to the front doors by the orange-vested Hillcrest volunteers. We hold up signs, posters and a large statue of Our Lady of Fatima.

Meanwhile, out back, stand our "alley counselors," next to the parking lot. This is not to everyone's calling or taste but God bless these people. They call out to the women and the husbands or boyfriends, as they leave their cars, trying to dissuade them from the dastardly deed, asking them to come over for a conversation (since the counselors cannot step onto the property). Most don't but some do and there are success stories, where the mothers come over to talk with the counselors, receive the literature, change their minds, turn around and go home. Often they are then in touch with that counselor for later pregnancy and child support. We believe that our prayers out front, and the preceding Mass, shower God's grace on those back alley efforts.

When I was last here, in 1990, I was trying to talk a woman parishioner into going with me. I chuckled at the reversal of roles when the woman's teenage daughter told her, "Mom, I don't want you to go. It's too dangerous. These people get arrested; you'll wind up in jail." Neither the "radical" mom nor her "sensible" daughter went but maybe I'll have better luck this time. See you on the church steps May 8th.

Fr Bill

Don't forget, Tuesday, April 27th is National Pro-Life Tee-Shirt Day. All those who purchased Tee-Shirts please come to the Mass scheduled for that day at 7am



Scripture Readings for the week:

Monday: April 26 – Acts of the Apostles 11:1-18; Psalm 42:2-3, 43:3-4; John 10:1-10
Tuesday, April 27 – Acts of the Apostles 11:19-26; Psalm 87:1-7; John 10:22-30
Wednesday, April 28 – Acts of the Apostles 12:24-13:5; Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; John 12:44-50
Thursday, April 29 – Acts of the Apostles 13:13-25; Psalm 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27; John 13:16-20
Friday, April 30 – Acts of the Apostles 13:26-33; Psalm 2:6-11; John 14:1-6
Saturday, May 1 – Acts of the Apostles 13:44-52; Psalm 98:1-4; John 14:7-14
Sunday, May 2 – Acts of the Apostles 14:21, 27; Psalm 145:8-13; Revelation 21:1-5; John 13:31-35

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

24 – Last day for CCD / 9am
25 – AUCTION/ 11AM / REEDSVILE YOUTH PARK
 26 – Parish Council / 7pm / office
 27 – National Pro Life T-Shirt Day
 29 – RCIA / 7pm / office
 30 – First Communion Practice / 6-7pm

MAY

1 – First Communion / 4pm Mass
 2 – Prayer Breakfast / SHS / 8:30am
 6 – RCIA / 7pm / office
 7 – All Day Adoration / Holy Hour / 7pm
 8 – Women's banquet / after 4pm Mass

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

May 2 – Russell Krug
 May 9 – Mel Reed
 May 16 – Dave Kaniecki

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Today, Sunday, April 25, schedule for parish auction

11am – Food sales, Silent Auction, Children's activities.
 11:30am – Fudge contest judging.
 12:00pm – Chicken bar-b-que will be available.
 1:00pm-Oral Auction
 Raffle tickets will be on sale all day until the picking of the tickets during the oral auction.

AN INVITATION TO ALL WOMEN OF THE PARISH:

MOTHER/DAUGHTER BANQUET, SATURDAY, MAY 8 AT 5:30PM – BRING A COVERED DISH - BAKED HAM AND FRIED CHICKEN



PROVIDED - PUNCH, COFFEE & TEA PROVIDED - SIGN UP SHEET IN BACK OF CHURCH. ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT TIMI WILLS -248-1955 OR DOTTIE PEIFFER-248-1804.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults meets Thursdays at 7 pm – April 29. Renewal Movements.

SAVE THIS DATE!!

PARISH PICNIC, SEPTEMBER 19 AT DERRY PARK.



MORE INFO AT A LATER DATE

LITURGICAL NOTES

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, April 25

7:30 AM People of the Parish
 11:00 AM Marie Meloni

Monday, April 26

7:00 AM Marge & Tom Connare

Tuesday, April 27

7:00 AM Intention of National Pro-Life Tee Shirt Day

Wednesday, April 28

7:00 PM Deceased of the Battista family

Thursday, April 29

7:00 AM Genevie Harpster
 9:00 AM Rita Coppola

Friday, April 30

7:00 AM Arlen Bilger

Saturday May 1

8:00 AM Intention of the First Communicants
 4:00 PM Stella Dulack

Sunday May 2

7:30 AM Deceased of the Sebastian-Gonzalez family
 11:00 AM People of the Parish

Memorialize Sanctuary Candles: The following dates are available: May 9, 16, 23, 30.

Memorialize Flowers: If you would like to memorialize flowers at the altar or ambo (pulpit) please call the parish office to schedule. The next available dates are: May 2, 9, 15, 23, 30.

The flowers on the altar this week are in honor of the wedding of Rita Moser and Harold VanMeter.

COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Harrisburg Beginning Experience (BE) Weekend –

If you or someone you know is struggling with the loss of a spouse from separation, divorce, or death, we can help. HARRISBURG BEGINNING EXPERIENCE is a peer ministry focused on spirituality, healing and a sense of community. The next BE weekend will be held **May 7-9** at Camp Hebron in Halifax. The program begins Friday evening through Sunday afternoon and consists of large group presentations, personal private reflection and small group sharing. For more information or to register contact Eva Marie at 717-246-1035, Greg at 717-763-0977, or Kathy at 717-846-4947 or email HarrisburgBE@gmail.com

Ave Maria: A Choral Decade of the Rosary

Saint Patrick Cathedral presents *Ave Maria: A Choral Decade of the Rosary* on Sunday, May 2, at 4:00 p.m. in observance of the Harrisburg Diocesan Marian Year, as well as of the traditional practice of prayer to the Blessed Mother during the month of May, the Cathedral Choir will present a musical decade of the rosary: ten different settings of the Ave Maria will be sung in various forms (solo, duet, full choir) and styles (Gregorian chant, Renaissance polyphony, 20th Century anthems). A prayer intention/meditation will be listed in the program booklet. All attendees are invited to bring a set of rosary beads to this concert. Saint Patrick Cathedral is located at 212 State Street, Harrisburg. For more information, call 232-2169.

Golden Anniversary? Fifty Years Married?

Were you married in 1960? In honor of your 50th Wedding Anniversary, there will be a special mass and reception on Sunday, June 6, 2010, at Good Shepherd Parish in Camp Hill. To receive an invitation, please contact the parish office.



The Diocese of Harrisburg is seeking dedicated Catholic educators for our Catholic Schools who are rooted in their faith and prepared to share the message of

the gospel. Positions are available for September 2010 from Pre-K through 12th grade. For more information contact the Diocese of Harrisburg, Secretariat for Education, 4800 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111-3710, 717-657-4804 or visit our website www.hbgdiocese.org

World Day of Prayer for Vocations: In 1963 Pope Paul VI designated Good Shepherd Sunday



as World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, protects us as his flock and promises us the gift of eternal life. As followers of Jesus we are called to remain faithful to the grace of God.

“Any country that accepts abortion is not teaching its people to love, but (rather) to use any violence to get what they want. That is why the greatest destroyer of love and peace is abortion.”
Mother Teresa of Calcutta

PCC Internship Announcement: Pennsylvania Catholic Conference (PCC) in Harrisburg, PA is seeking an intern for the summer or fall 2010 term.

Candidates must be third or fourth year college students majoring in public relations, communications, marketing, journalism or disciplines related to those fields; or in 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 at abhill@pacatholic.org for more details.

Interested in making your home a safer place to live? If you are 65 and older and live in Mifflin County, you may qualify to participate in the REACH Network. The REACH Network is a research project taking place in your community. By participating, you will receive:

- ? A home safety assessment
- ? Flu vaccine survey
- ? A personalized home safety recommendations brochure
- ? Visits from a local trained health professional

There is no charge to take part in the project. The REACH Network is a collaborative effort between Penn State Cooperative Extension, Penn State Hershey Medical Center and Penn State University. If you are interested in participating, please call Leigh Gordon at 248-9618.

IN SEARCH OF PHOTOS

The Holy Union Sisters are going to open a **Heritage House** in 2011 in Groton, MA. This will be a museum displaying various artifacts and historical documents relating to their 125 years in the United States. If you have

any pictures or memorabilia that you would be willing to contribute to the museum, the Sisters would be very grateful to receive it. They are especially interested in photos relating to the first years in each of the schools and ministries they staffed. For more information contact their Milton office at (617) 696-8765.

On the Web – “Catholic Perspective”, a local program of News, Information and Inspiration to help you know and to grow in your Faith is available at www.hbgdiocese.org. Log on and tune into stories of faith and issues of importance for all people of faith. “Catholic Perspective” is broadcast Sunday mornings on: WIEZ-AM 670, Lewistown at 8:00am. “**Catholic Perspective**” is brought to you in part by The Catholic Communication Collection and our parish.

A Time for Prayer:

...if my people,
who are called by my name,
will humble themselves
and pray and seek my face
and turn from their wicked ways,
then will I hear from heaven
and will forgive their sin
and will heal their land.

-2 Chronicles 7:14

Second Chronicles 7:14 contains a remarkable promise from the Almighty God that speaks of forgiveness and healing for nations and believers. But as awesome a prophetic promise as it is for America, many believers forget that it is a conditional promise. When believers meet His conditions, God will honor His promise.

As we look at this country, we see a nation that is morally bankrupt and in spiritual decline. Vulgarity, indecency, obscenities, lies, and corruption are today's norm. Economic struggles, terrorist threats, sexual immorality, and the breakdown of families are just a few problems our country faces. We are a fractured people and nation, and we need healing through God's divine intervention.

The solutions to the nation's problems lie not with politicians, reformers, educators, or business leaders, but with God's people. Today, God's people are those who worship Him, who accept and follow the Lord Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior – men and women who are His, not just in name, but in every aspect of their lives. In the darkest of situations, the Church can call out to God, and He will hear. This promise has not expired, but remains the key that makes it possible for all His people to take full responsibility for our condition and turn back the spiritual decline.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL



NEED TO RENEW A MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION? INTERESTED IN A NEW MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION? You can help Sacred Heart School in the process! Simply go to the school's website (www.sacredheartschool.com) and click on the QSP logo. Renewing and/or ordering magazines has never been so easy...and the school receives 40% of the purchase price in profit! This can be done at any time throughout the year. Thanks for your support of SHS!

IT'S NOT TOO LATE to register for the 2010-2011 school year AND receive scholarship monies! Thanks to the support of Sen. Jake Corman, Sacred Heart School has received a gift of \$12,500 from the Bravo Foundation for scholarships for the coming school year. We are still accepting registrations for grades K – 5. Please call the school to set up a visit!

April 27: Grade 5 trip to Shaver's Creek

April 29th: 9AM School Mass

April 30: First Communion Practice 6-7PM church

May 1: First Communion Mass 4PM; children are to meet in the church basement at 3:30

Thank you to the families who attended our recent Academic Fair. The children did a fine job with their projects.

