

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

Tithing Income: February 28, 2010	\$9,728.00
Tithing Income: March 1, 2009	\$8,277.89
Children's offering:	\$9.00

Next week's tithing: Catholic Relief Services

From a Pastor: "The witnesses who were here in the fall to share their tithing experiences with us testified again that *tithing is about faith, not finances*. Thanks to all who are trying God's plan."

Rev. Peter D. Gillen

St. Rose of Lima, Rockaway Beach, NY

Comments from the pew- "I am 16 years old. I would like to know if I can have my own envelope system to tithe because I have a job and I feel thankful. I figure what is 5% or 10% to give to the church who really needs it to help others."

A (very special) parishioner!!!

Rev. William Cosgrove

St. Denis, Hopewell Junction, NY

My Good Deed for the Week: Here's what several young people offered as their tithe, in addition to their financial gift: A 7th grader said: "I helped my neighbor fix her window blind." A 6th grader said: "I helped my Dad work on our car." A few 5th graders said: "I helped my brother with his homework, I shoveled the driveway, I made a cake for my family." A 7th grader said: "I folded some of my Gramma's laundry." A Kindergartner said: "I helped my Nana clean off the table."

Pastor's Column

OFFER IT UP

If you have to suffer – and sometimes it's unavoidable – then this column is Good News for you. It's called the Catholic theology of sacrifice and suffering. And Lent is the perfect time to review it.

Simply put: We can "piggyback" our sufferings onto the Grand Suffering of Christ on the Cross and thereby derive blessings and graces for ourselves and for others. We can spiritually place ourselves on the cross with Christ in reparation for our sins or for other intentions of our choice.

How do we do that? During a period of suffering, whether physical, mental or spiritual, we pray something like: "O Lord Jesus, I offer you this suffering, in union with your suffering and death on the cross, as a gift for your honor and glory." Then you can name what is called

an "intention," which is a certain cause or need to be addressed by God. You add "I offer you this suffering in reparation for my sins" or "for the healing of Uncle Fred's cancer" or "for the safe return of our troops from overseas." It's your call. You can even say "I offer this for the intentions of the Sacred Heart of Jesus" or "for the intentions of the Immaculate Heart of Mary." That basically says, I offer this for whatever intention God or Mary desire.

This is mostly done with voluntary suffering, such as fasting or giving up TV or sweets. For instance, when faced with the serious illness of a loved one, family members may add fasting to their prayers, beseeching God for a healing. I know Catholics who take on extra prayers, fasting and other voluntary sufferings for retreats and spiritual conferences, that those attending would be especially blessed. Some fast and pray for an end to war or abortion.

All of that is voluntary suffering, which we choose to take on ourselves. But we can also offer to God our everyday sufferings that life sends our way, unsolicited. When the arthritis kicks up, or the car breaks down, or things are bad at work or school, or we contract a serious illness, we can give that suffering to God, once again naming an intention: "God I offer this up for the salvation of sinners" or "for someone considering an abortion, that they would be dissuaded..."

The suffering is then to be endured patiently, prayerfully, if possible cheerfully. If we're grouchy, mean, impatient, or demanding while undergoing the suffering, whether voluntary or involuntary, its value is, if not eliminated, at least reduced.

How is all this possible? Well, we are, after all, "Christians," which means "little Christs." This is what Jesus meant when he said "if any man would come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me" (Matt. 16:24). And so we turn our sufferings into little crosses, mirroring the big one which redeemed the world. We become partners in that redeeming, sanctifying function. It's also what St. Paul meant when he wrote "Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake and in my flesh I complete what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of His body, the Church" (Col. 1:24).

Paul rejoiced in his sufferings. That may seem like a stretch but for him this was all good news. It should be for us as well. Suffering now is not a complete waste. We can turn it into spiritual gold by offering it up. Allow this to put a new look on Lent and on suffering. Take up your cross and follow Him.

Fr. Bill



Scripture Readings for the week:

Monday: March 8 – 2 Kings 5:1-15; Psalm 42:2-3, 43:3-4; Luke 4:24-30

Tuesday, March 9 – Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Psalm 25:4-9; Matthew 18:21-35

Wednesday, March 10 – Deuteronomy 4: 1, 5-9; Psalm 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; Matthew 5:17-19

Thursday, March 11 – Jeremiah 7:23-28; Psalm 95:1-2, 6-9; Luke 11:14-23

Friday, March 12 – Hosea 14:2-10; Psalm 81:6-11, 14-17; Mark 12:28-34

Saturday, March 13 – Hosea 6:1-6; Psalm 51:3-4, 18-21; Luke 18:9-14

Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 14 – Joshua 5:9-12 (33C); Psalm 34:2-7; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

PARISH ACTIVITIES

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Open to all Women of the Parish

Day of Reflection Retreat

Fr. John Bednarik

Saturday, March 27

School Cafeteria

8:00 am Mass

Light breakfast

Retreat: 10:00am - 2:00pm

Catered Lunch:

Soup: Crab Bisque

Salad

Assorted Sandwiches

Assorted Desserts

Coffee, Tea, Cold Drinks

School Cafeteria

Cost: \$15.00

Contact Timi Wills 248-1955, Dottie Peiffer 248-1804

Reservations by March 20



Youth Group upcoming events:

.World Youth Day Celebration at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Harrisburg on Palm Sunday, **March 28th**, starting at 2:15 p.m.

Dear Friend of Sacred Heart Ladies Guild:

We are excited to team up with Hoss' Steak and Sea House to raise money for a very worthy cause. Please consider visiting the Hoss' location, in Lewistown on 3/14/2010 to aid us in raising money to benefit Sacred Heart Ladies Guild.

Hoss' will then donate 20% of your total check paid to **Sacred Heart Ladies Guild**. You may pick tickets up at the Parish Office or you may cut out the form below and present it to Hoss' Steak House on March 14.

LADIES GUILD FUNDRAISER: Present this coupon (Group #7235) March 14, 2010 to Hoss' Steak House in **Lewistown**. Hoss' will then donate 20% of your total check to Sacred Heart Ladies Guild.

The search for items for the 12th Annual More than An Auction is beginning to wind down. But, there is still time to donate!! We are looking for unique, handmade, antique or collectable items. Other options for donation could include gift certificates, gift baskets or monetary donations. If you have an item(s) for donation or if you have any questions, please contact either Kim Bubb at 717-994-0885 or Heidi Gingerich at 717-994-0540.

Fudge Contest, Fudge Contest: It's time for our Fudge Contest again,

in conjunction with our More than an Auction. First prize is \$100, 2nd prize is \$50, 3rd prize is \$25.00. All fudge is due at the Auction site in Reedsville (Youth Park) on Sunday, April 25 between the hours of 9:30 and 11:30am. After judging, all entries will be sold at the dessert table. Forms are in the vestibule. Any questions, call the parish office.



Knights of Columbus

Fish Sandwich Sale

during Lent. Serving is 3-6 pm in the school cafeteria. Cost of sandwiches are \$3.00 each. Call-in orders may be placed at 248-5351 after 3pm.



SAVE THE DATE!! Parish Picnic, June 20th, Derry Township Park. More info to follow.



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults will meet Thursday at 7 pm – March 11. Priest of the Faithful & Evangelization. Social Teachings of the Church.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March

7 – CCD / 9am

7 – St. Monica Rosary Prayer Group / 7pm / Church

9 – Bible Study / 7pm / office

- 10 – Lenten Luncheon / St. John’s Lutheran / 12pm
- 10 – Confessions / 7:30pm
- 10 – Choir Practice / 7:45pm
- 11 – RCIA / 7pm / office
- 12 / Fish Sandwiches / 3-6pm / Cafeteria
- 12 – Stations / 2pm & 7pm
- 14 – CCD / 9am
- 14 – St Monica Rosary Prayer Group / 7pm / Church
- 15 – SVDP / 7pm / office
- 16 – Bible Study / 7pm / office basement
- 17 – Lenten Luncheon / Lewistown Presbyterian / 12noon
- 17 – Liturgy Committee Meeting / 7:45pm / Rectory
- 18 – RCIA / 7pm / office
- 19 – Stations / 2pm & 7pm
- 19 – Fish Sandwiches / 3-6pm / Cafeteria
- 20 – SVDP free meal / 11:30am -12:30pm / Cafeteria /
Bingo afterwards
- 21 – CCD / 9am
- 21 – St. Monica Rosary Prayer Group / 7pm / Church
- 22 – Parish Council / 7pm / office
- 23 – Bible Study / 7pm / office basement
- 24 – Lenten Luncheon / Sacred Heart 12noon / Cafeteria
- 24 – Choir Practice / 7pm
- 25 – RCIA / 7pm / office
- 26 – Fish Sandwiches / 3-6pm / Cafeteria
- 26 – Jim Cowan Concert / 7pm / St. Jude
- 27 – Women’s Retreat / 8am Mass / Breakfast / Retreat /
10am-2pm / Lunch / Cafeteria
- 28 – CCD / 9am
- 28 – Companions of Pauline – 3-5pm / Convent
- 28 – St Monica Rosary Prayer Group / 7pm / Church

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

- March 14 – Dave Kaniecki
- March 21 – Mel Reed

LITURGICAL NOTES

Mass  for the Intentions  for the Week

Sunday, March 7 (3rd Sunday of Lent)

- 7:30 AM Doris Helwig
- 11:00 AM James Stundon

Monday, March 8 (St John of God)

- 7:00 AM Deceased of the Wright & Zeigler families

Tuesday, March 9

- 7:00 AM Deceased of the Battista family

Wednesday, March 10

- 7:00 PM George Mammerella

Thursday, March 11

- 7:00 AM Honey Gers
- 9:00 AM Stella Dulack

Friday, March 12

- 7:00 AM Ottie Olnick

Saturday March 13

- 8:00 AM People of the Parish

- 4:00 PM Marjorie Ann Kaufman
- Sunday March 14 (Third Sunday of Lent)**
- 7:30 AM Stella Dulack
- 11:00 AM Joseph Miriello

Memorialize Sanctuary Candles: The following dates are available: March 14, 28.

The Sanctuary Lamp is in loving memory of the deceased of the Porpotage & Zarkovich families from Mary Lou Sigler.

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: **No flowers during Lent.**

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Training for new altar servers will be 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., on all the Sunday mornings of March in the church. You must make three out of the four sessions to “graduate.” Current altar servers are urged to attend to refresh themselves. If interested, please fill out the following form and put it in the collection basket or give to the parish office.


Full Name _____

Parents’ First and Last Names _____

Phone _____

COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

HERSHEYPARK DISCOUNT TICKETS

Discount tickets to  are available for purchase to parishioners and their families at a significant savings. Regular admission price is \$52.95 for adults but our special price is \$29.90 – a savings of 45%. Regular admission for children (ages 3-9) and Seniors (ages 55-69) is \$31.95 but our special price is \$24.50. Regular admission for Seniors age 70+ is \$20.95, but our special price is \$19.95. Tickets are valid any day *Hersheypark* is open during the regular public season. **Orders must be received at the parish by Monday April 26, 2010. Parishes will receive tickets by Tuesday May 25, 2010. Order forms are in the vestibule of the church in the pamphlet rack.**

St. Jude Knights of Columbus Annual Lenten Fish Dinner: St. Jude Knights’ annual Lenten Friday fish dinners will be until **March 26, 2010** in the church social hall. The meal is all you can eat and includes fried and baked fish, popcorn shrimp, fried clams, French fries,

macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, corn, green beans, coleslaw, applesauce, rolls, puddings, and a selection of homemade desserts.

Pay at the door: \$9.00 for adults; \$5.00 for children 6-12. Children 5 and under are free. Please come and enjoy a delicious meal.

CONCERT AND WORSHIP by Catholic recording artist Jim Cowan at St. Jude's, Mifflintown, 7 p.m. Friday, March 24th. We will expose the Blessed Sacrament for a Holy Hour with worship songs led by Jim. All are invited.

The parishioners of St. Jude would like to thank the parishioners of Sacred Heart for their generous donation to our Capital Campaign. It was greatly appreciated!

REGISTER FOR TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS RETREAT AT ST. JUDE THADDEUS: We now have a firm date for the retreat on the Traditional Latin Mass at St. Jude—Saturday, March 27, 2010. It will begin at 1 P.M. and will end with the *Extraordinary Form of the Mass* (a.k.a. the Traditional Latin Mass) being celebrated by Fr. Frank Perinello at 5 P.M. Fr. Parrinello is Pastor of the *Mater Dei Community* at the St. Lawrence Chapel in Harrisburg.

Please register for the retreat on the form in the vestibule of the church. If you have specific topics or questions you would like Fr. Parrinello to address in his workshop, please write them on the page attached to the registration form. More information about the retreat schedule will be forthcoming.

As the Obama administration approved the first human embryonic stems cells for experiments by federally funded scientists, pro-lifers argued that aside from the research being unethical, it is also unnecessary because of the availability of adult stem cells and other more recently identified alternatives. San Diego Union Tribune, 12/3/09



SACRED HEART SCHOOL

NEW REGISTRATIONS FOR SHS

Sacred Heart School is now taking registrations for the 2010-2011 school year, both for new and current students. A \$50 fee for new students and a \$25 fee for

returning student families are required for registration. Forms are available at the school office or online at www.sacredheartschool.com.

NEUMANN SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

SHS announces that Neumann Scholarship Foundation applications are now available for families whose children will attend SHS next year. A \$20 application fee is required. Applications must be postmarked **NO LATER THAN April 1, 2010**, but we recommend early application to avoid ineligibility. The Neumann Scholarship Foundation was established by the Diocese of Harrisburg to accept donations through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EITC) for private school tuition assistance. For more information, call the school office or check our website at www.sacredheartschool.com.

Congratulations to all of our second grade children, in both school and religious education programs, on the occasion of their first penance.

Monday, March 8: School Board Meeting, 6PM in the school faculty room

Tuesday, March 9: Faculty Meeting, 3-4PM

K and New Families Open House: 6-7:30PM

Thursday, March 11: Lenten Mass--Grade 2 prepares

Friday, March 12: Title I Coffee for Parents, 7:30 a.m.; Stations for Children: 2PM

Upcoming Events: School Book Fair, March 15-19

Adam Kurtz will represent Sacred Heart at the Diocesan Geography Bee in April. Congratulations, Adam.

SHS will be selling Gardner's candy for Easter. Enjoy the delicious items and support SHS. Forms are available at the back of church or at school office. Forms with payment are due March 10; delivery March 23; checks payable to SHS-HSA (no cash, please)

