

Stewardship is a way of life.

Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

Tithing Income: January 18, 2009	\$8,417.00
January 20, 2009	\$7,643.00
Children's Offerings	\$23.00

Next week's tithing: Next week's tithing will be for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith (a diocesan collection) This society is an international association for the assistance by prayers and alms of Catholic missionary priests, brothers, and nuns engaged in preaching the Gospel in heathen and non-Catholic countries.

From the pastor: I will not bombard you with comments about bills and needing to make ends meet – in these economic times, we are all well aware of this need. It's not my job to beg you for money for lights, heat, water, insurance, etc. It IS my responsibility to remind you of God's invitation to tithing. Are you giving back to God in gratitude for God's goodness to you? This is a question on which we should all reflect. Thanks to all who regularly offer God their thanks through their weekly tithing.

Comments on Tithing from the pews: "It's scary to think we can afford to tithing: 3 kids, a house payment, cost of living, etc. But if I believe everything else the Bible tells me, why shouldn't I believe God when He tells me to tithing? We are willing to take the *leap of faith*; every week I pray we survive – and we do."

My Good Deed for the Week: Here's what several of our young people offered as their tithing, in addition to their financial gift: Several 4th graders said: "I helped take the tree down, I made lunch for myself and my brother, I helped take care of my Grandma." A Kindergartner said, "I fed my cat." A 7th grader said: I helped my grandmother get drinks ready for supper." A 5th grader said: I let my sister use my Nintendo DS games."

FROM THE PASTOR

Weekly Reflection: The great English churchman, theologian and writer, John Cardinal Newman, meditated on how Paul's conversion prepared him for his missionary role: "...his awful rashness and blindness, his self-confident, headstrong, cruel rage against the worshipers of the true Messiah, then his strange conversion, then the length of time that elapsed before his solemn ordination, during which he was left to meditate in private on all that had happened, and to anticipate the future – all this constituted a peculiar preparation for the office of preaching to a lost world, dead in sin. It gave him an extended insight, on the one hand, into the ways and designs of Providence, and, on the other hand, into the workings of sin in the human heart, and the various modes of thinking in which the mind is actually trained."

So much of the story of the early Church can be traced back to the contemplative and enthusiastic heart of Saint Paul ignited by his intimacy with the Risen Lord. Saint Paul understood how sin works in human nature and how the Holy Spirit can completely transform habits of corruption. Saint Paul also understood how to influence

non-Christian and anti-Christian mindsets with charity so as to be able to be an instrument of another mind's enlightenment.

The best way we can celebrate this special "Year of Saint Paul" is to go to the Risen Lord and ask Him about what deep and intimate conversion of life He is calling us to.

We know from Paul's life that at the heart of conversion is a surrender to the love of the Risen Lord. Any interior movement leading from pride to humility, anger to mildness, greed to detachment, lust to a chaste spirit, envy to joy in the talents of others, sloth to zeal, gluttony (including internet, television, cell phone and Blackberry glutton!) to temperance is a surrender to the power of Christ's love within. This love allows us to let go of the fear of surrendering completely to Christ so that we can see others with the eyes of Christ.

About Liturgy: *The Conversion of Saint Paul:* As part of the 2008-2009 celebration of the special year devoted to St. Paul, today Catholic parishes mark the traditional Jan. 25 feast of the Conversion of St. Paul even though it falls on a Sunday this year. The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments issued a decree saying Pope Benedict XVI, "in an extraordinary manner," has given permission for parishes and churches to use the prayers and readings for the feast day instead of those for the third Sunday of ordinary time. The decree was released back on May 30 at the Vatican. Generally, the Mass texts for feasts such as the Conversion of St. Paul are not used when the feast day falls on a Sunday. "The apostle St. Paul, who proclaimed the truth of Christ to the whole world," and who converted after having persecuted followers of Christ, "always was and still is venerated by the faithful, especially in this particular year," which marks the 2,000th anniversary of his birth, the decree said. For that reason, "only for the year 2009," Pope Benedict has decided that parishes may use the prayers and readings for the feast day Jan. 25. Because the feast day Mass does not include a second reading, the second reading from the third Sunday of ordinary time should be used and the Creed, often not recited at Mass was used.

Help Needed: If you ever check out the back of the bulletin, you may notice that there are very FEW advertisers – it's mostly "fillers" from the bulletin company. We are in GREAT NEED of more advertisers for our parish bulletin – in fact, we receive some percentage of each of the ads. If you would be willing to help solicit new advertisements for the back of our bulletin, please contact Fr. Bateman at the parish office.

Fr. Thoms goes on Mission Trip: This Thursday Fr. Thoms will be headed to El Salvador for a one-week mission trip to attend to the needs of the poor in that

country. Many of the Spanish-speaking parishioners at St. Jude are from El Salvador, so this mission trip (which Fr. Bateman made 3 years ago) provides a wonderful opportunity – both pastorally and spiritually. Please remember him and the mission team in your prayers.

PARISH NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Catholic Schools Week Pancake Breakfast: Today Sunday, January 25 Catholic Schools Week kicks off with our annual Pancake Breakfast in the school cafeteria from 8:30am until 1pm. Everyone in the parish is invited to enjoy a great breakfast, through the hard work of our CSW committee and our parish Knights of Columbus Council. Cost is only \$5 for adults; \$3 for children (6-10); free for children 5 and under. Join us!

Pennies for Life: Remembering this week the anniversary of the infamous Roe V Wade US Supreme Court decision which deprived pre-born children of legal personhood, our parish is participating in the Pennies for Life program. We ask every parishioner (children and adults) to bring pennies equal to each year of their lives to church or school during the month of January. The pennies will be counted on January 31 and a check for the amount sent to the Respect Life Office. The pennies collected will help mothers who are poor and or afraid to have their babies. They will provide medicine, food, clothing and shelter for the babies' mothers and help them to learn how better to care for their babies. Thank you for your support!

Monthly Adult Education: Wednesday, February 4 at 7:30pm in the church basement we will have our monthly opportunity for adult education on aspects of faith. This month our topic will be **Confession: Why do I have to go?** Even among Catholics, Confession is a greatly misunderstood and greatly under-used Sacrament. Yet its power can be a true aid to our spiritual lives. If you have ever wondered about this Sacrament or want to learn more – you are welcome. There will be no pre-judgments about anyone who may come questioning the need for the Sacrament, but an open, inviting environment to learn more about its beauty. Join us!

Attention Men of the Parish: Many of us are already planning our 2009 summer vacations. The 31st annual Corpus Christi Men's Retreat at Mt. St. Mary's in Emmitsburg MD is set for July 24-26. **Msgr. George Tomicheck** will lead the retreat this year. Msgr. Tomicheck is from the St. John Neumann Shrine in Philadelphia and has led many retreats and parish missions across the US and is currently serving in the Philippines. Mark your calendar and watch for more details.

Women's Guild Meeting: The Women's Guild will meet on Saturday, February 7 after the 8am Mass. All women are asked to bring 3 dozen coolies with them so that they can be "bagged" and taken to the shut-ins of our parish.

Attention Computer "Geeks": The Sacred Heart School Technology Committee would like to expand its focus to become a **parish-wide technology committee** to accommodate the future plans of a **campus-like network between parish office, rectory, and school.** If you have any knowledge of computer hardware and/or software, and would like to help with planning, implementation, and/or maintenance of such a network, please contact Dave Sheetz at 667-3227 or dhseetz@jardenplastics.com or call the school at 248-5351. Thank you!



The Wellness Committee of SHS is beginning to collect labels off of Nestle Sure Life water bottles. We are asking you to please buy this brand for your function and saving the labels for us. The water can be bought at Wal-Mart, Lowes and Sam's Club. It is cheaper at Sam's because you get 30 bottles for \$3.88 (at Wal-Mart you get only 24 bottles). We will be able to get products for Phys Ed and field trip transportation with the labels. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Lenten Mission: April 2, 3 & 4, 2009 - Archbishop Fulton Sheen. We all remember watching Archbishop Sheen on TV. Join us as we remember him and reflect on



his words during our Lenten Mission. Our preacher will be Fr. Andrew Apostoli, CFR (probably known through his appearances on EWTN) is the Vice-Postulator of the Cause for the Canonization of Archbishop Sheen and was a personal friend of Archbishop Sheen. The purpose of the

Sheen Foundation is to make known the life, works and thoughts of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, to educate people in the values that he taught, to assist the missions to which he dedicated his life, to assist others in seeking his intercession, and to undertake and pursue all acts ancillary thereto, including, but not limited to, the advancement of the Cause of Canonization of Archbishop Sheen in the Catholic Church, according to the process prescribed in the Code of Canon Law under the supervision of the bishop of the Diocese of Peoria, Illinois. More information coming soon; **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

*Rite of Christian
Initiation of Adults*

Thursday, January 29: The Two Great Commandments & The Universal Call to Holiness.

The Parish Advocacy Committee will meet in the Church on Sunday, February 8, from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. (This meeting will **not** be in the basement but in the Church.) Anyone interested in helping to develop an action plan for the committee should attend. The purpose of the Parish Advocacy Committee is to enable Sacred Heart Parish to become a more inclusive parish for persons with disabilities. Both the Diocese and our parish are committed to working toward full participation of people with disabilities and their families in all aspects of the life of the Church. If you have any questions regarding the meeting or the committee, please contact Mary Lou Sigler at 717-667-2890.

2008 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

If you wish to receive a tax statement, please fill in the information below and drop this form in the collection basket or send or drop it by the office (9 N Brown Street). Statements will be mailed to your home. Thank you.

Name _____

Address _____

LITURGICAL NOTES

Memorialize the Sanctuary Lamp: The following dates are available to memorialize the Sanctuary Lamp: Dates available: February 8, 22.

Memorialize Flowers: If you would like to memorialize flowers at the altar or ambo (podium) please call the parish office to schedule. You order the flowers from the florist of your choice. The following dates are available: February 8, 22.



Sunday, January 25 (Conversion of St. Paul)

7:30 AM People of the Parish
11:00 AM Intention of Carol O'Brien

Monday, January 26 (Sts. Timothy & Titus)

7:00 AM Francis Storm

Tuesday, January 27

7:00 AM George Metro

Wednesday, January 28 (St. Thomas Aquinas)

7:00 PM Fred Mitchell

Thursday, January 29

7:00 AM Brynne Schuenemann
9:00 AM Charles Lennartz

Friday, January 30

7:00 AM Anna Marie Jones

Saturday, January 31 (St. John Bosco)

8:00 AM Special Intention
4:00 PM Julia & Roland Stravolo

Sunday, February 1 (4th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

7:30 AM Vera Helwig
11:00 AM Int. of Dorothy Ammerman on her 100th birthday

Van Transportation to Mass: The following is the van schedule for the next several weeks:

February 1 – Russell Krug
February 8 – Mel Reed
February 15 – John Potts

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

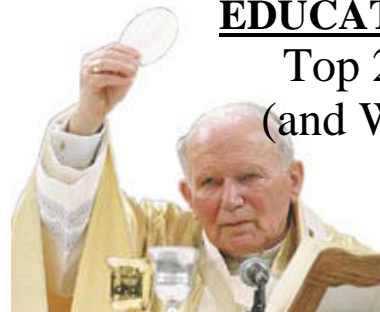
25 – CCD / 9am
25 – St. Monica Rosary Prayer / 7pm / church
26 – Parish Pastoral Council / 7pm / office
27 – Bible Study / 7:00pm / office
28 – Choir Practice / 7:30pm / church
29 – RCIA / 7pm / office

February

1 – CCD / 9am
1 – St. Monica Rosary Prayer Group / 7pm / church
3 – Bible Study / 7:00pm / office
4 – Baptism Class / 7:30pm / office
4 – Adult Education / 7:30pm / church basement
5 – RCIA / 7pm / office
6 – Eucharistic Adoration / Holy Hour / 7pm / church
7 – Women's Guild / 8am Mass / church basement
8 – CCD / 9am
8 – St. Monica Rosary Prayer Group / 7pm / church

EDUCATION

Top 20 Reasons How (and Why) to return to Sunday Mass



Reason 1: It's your way to relive the Last Supper
Reason 2: When was the

last time you prayed *too much*?

Reason 3: If you want to spend eternity with Christ, you need to get to know Him now.

Reason 4: It's the central necessary activity of Christian worship (Lk 22:14-23; Jn 6:53; 1 Cor 11:23-26)

Reason 5: It's your best way to identify yourself with Christ's sacrifice on the Cross.

Reason 6: Some of the greatest people in history were Mass-goers (St. Francis, Blessed Mother Teresa, Pope John Paul II)

Reason 7: Wise people invest money for the future. How much more should we invest in eternal life?

Reason 8: It has to be better for you than TV.

Quick Tip: Be early. Would you come late to your wedding? (Women, don't answer!)



Quick Tip: Be well dressed. Would you come dressed for jogging if you were invited to the

Reason 9: If you've been to confession, you get to receive Jesus Christ. If you find a better deal, do that instead!

Reason 10: If you knew Jesus would be there, wouldn't you go see Him? *To be continued...*

COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Looking for the perfect Valentine's Day gift? Attend the upcoming **Marriage Encounter Weekend** together! It will be held Feb 27-Mar 1, 2009 at Precious Blood Spiritual Center in Columbia, PA. For more info or to register, please contact Patrick & Jen Najdek at (717) 848-1149 or jenniferandpatrick@comcast.net. The weekend is filling up fast, reserve your spot today!



Special Vespers for the Year of Saint Paul: Bishop Rhoades invites you to join him for *Solemn Vespers on the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul* tonight, Sunday, January 25, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in Saint Patrick Cathedral. This special event, during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, will witness to Saint Paul's work and zeal leaving no stone unturned for unity and harmony among all Christians. A

prelude concert by choirs from local Orthodox Churches will begin at 4:15 p.m. Greek Orthodox Father Demetrius Nicoloudakis will give the Vesper's homily.

Attention Brother Knights: Please RSVP your attendance to this year's Super Bowl party to Dave Sheetz by calling 717-250-1277. Cost is \$15.00 per person payable at the door. This year's menu will include Prime Rib prepared by our local Chef Scott Hallinan. It is very important we have an accurate count! Please RSVP by Wednesday, January 28th. The Super Bowl is scheduled for Sunday, February 1st.

The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a "**Knight at the Races**" on Saturday, February 21st at the Elks Lodge on 3rd Street. Further details will be posted as they are available!

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Catholic Schools Week! Today, January 25 begins our annual celebration of Catholic Schools. This year's theme: "Catholic Schools Celebrate Service." A brief outline of the weeks events follows, but the full brochure and all the information is on the parish & school websites. Get involved!

Sunday, Jan 25 – Celebrate our Parish

Pancake Breakfast 8:30-1pm.

CSW Opening Mass – 11am

Skating Party / Skate for Success – 4:45pm, Carousel



Monday, Jan 26 – Celebrate our SHS Spirit

Dress down day; T-shirt decorating

Pep Rally – 1pm, cafeteria

Tuesday, Jan 27 – Celebrate Service to the Community

Community Service Projects

Wednesday, Jan 28 – Celebrate our Students

Mismatch Day, Reading Games

Mr. Storm's Famous Spaghetti Lunch – 11:30am

Ice Cream Social – 2pm

Thursday, Jan 29 – Celebrate our Future

School Mass – 9am

Cupcake & Cookie Decorating

Open House – 6:30-8pm

Friday, Jan 30 – Celebrate Faculty, Staff & Volunteers

Bus Drive Appreciation Day

Faculty & Staff luncheon

Prayer Service – 2pm

Saturday, Jan 31 – Celebrate SHS

YMCA Night – 5-7pm

Skate for Success: The students and faculty of Sacred Heart School will be "Skating for Success" at the Carousel Skating Rink on Sunday, January 25, to kick off the celebration of Catholic Schools Week. Each student has sent out 10 sponsor letters to family and friends asking for their support of this event. If anyone in the parish would like to support this event, or sponsor a student or teacher, please pick up a sponsor sheet in the church vestibule and send it to school with your donation by February 6th. Our goal for this event is \$10,000, so every donation will help.

Thanks for all you do for SHS!

What is 3rd grade doing? As we begin a new year, 3rd grade also begins a new Language Arts theme: "Getting the Job Done." They will read stories that will help them understand the importance of the things we do. Along with reviewing spelling and grammar skills, this will also lead into writing some comparing and contrasting paragraphs. In Math they will review counting money and telling time. Then it will be on to learning multiplication facts. This is a very important concept in 3rd grade. We will be making flashcards, and parents are asked to review them with their children each evening for reinforcement – after all, "Practice makes Perfect." As the facts are mastered, the students will be creating a "multiplication sundae" bulletin board with the hopes of enjoying a real ice cream sundae in the end. WE will discuss the Christmas season in Religion and then move on to our study of the Holy Trinity, how we worship in church and prayer. Finally at the end of the month, we will celebrate a fun, activity-filled Catholic Schools Week.

