

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

Tithing Income: June 28, 2009	\$7,570.00
June 29, 2008	\$7,801.75
Children's Offerings	\$ 8.00

From the pastor: Did Mary tithe? If she didn't, it was only because from her first moment she was 100% God-directed. She and Joseph took the risk from the beginning. They understood nothing of what God was asking of them as they accepted her pregnancy, went to Bethlehem for the census, escaped to Egypt, gave the gift of the poorest at the Child's presentation in the temple. Joseph died, Jesus went off impelled by the Spirit. What was left to Mary but soon to stand at the foot of the Cross? . . . She was sinless from the outset. We are not. She gave that 100% every moment. We do not. With all God's poor, thank you for growing in our Lady's example. The sacrifice of the first 10% of the riches God entrusts to us leads us on the journey of dedicating all God's bounty to God.

Comments on Tithing from the pews: "I used to be afraid to tithe because I was afraid that I could not pay my bills. I thought I had to be 'careful', even in giving to the Lord. But I was forgetting something so important. What I was trying to be careful with was from the Lord in the first place. I am not afraid to tithe anymore because I know that God is watching over me. My tithing shouts it loud and clear! I believe in you, Lord!"

My Good Deed for the Week: Here's what several of our young people offered as their tithe, in addition to their financial gift: A 1st grader said: "I helped Mom carry bags from the van." A 2nd grader said: "I mowed." A few 5th graders said: "I helped Grandpa pick up his golf balls, I helped Dad clean the hot tub, I cut grass." A 7th grader said: "I helped dry dishes." A 4th grader said: "I helped Dad carry items for the church rummage sale.""

READY FOR BOARDING

My first weekend of Masses was a glorious experience and I wish to thank all who made it possible. The warm welcome which I received took me back to 1989-1990, when I first came to Mifflin/Juniata counties as an assistant pastor under Fr. John Schmalhofer. In both cases, love and hospitality were the order of the day.

My official installation was at the 11 a.m. Sunday, June 28 Mass, with my friend Fr. Francis Karwacki, dean of the Northumberland Deanery, doing the honors of "putting me in my place," so to speak, appointed as he was by the bishop to do so.

The ritual is rather impressive. The bishop, or his delegate (in this case, Fr. Frank), presides at the beginning of the Mass from the presider's chair. The new pastor is "off to the side." Then a second priest, in this case, Fr. Jeff Thoms, presents the new pastor to the presider, who in turn presents the new pastor to the congregation, to the councils (in this case, of Saint Jude, Mifflintown and Sacred Heart of Jesus, Lewistown) and then to the office staffs.

The new pastor then takes his chair and presides throughout the rest of the Mass. After the Creed, he takes a solemn oath out loud, promising to be faithful to Christ and His Church and to be obedient to the pope and the bishops.

After each Mass, the receptions for me in the school cafeteria were wonderful. I am very grateful to everyone who worked so hard getting things ready and assuring that such vibrant celebrations took place. It all made a first great impression on your new pastor for his first week on board.

Now I face weeks, maybe months, of unpacking, organizing things, and meeting with staff, volunteer leaders, and parishioners. I look forward to "learning the ropes" little-by-little, now that I'm on board.

I also have a mountain of thank-you notes to write to family, friends and former parishioners. That's because I had double-whammy celebrations right before my transfer: my departure from Danville (where I had been pastor 12 years) but also my silver anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. For me, it was a flood of love, good-wishes (and gifts) washing over me.

So be patient with your new pastor. It will take all summer (and maybe then some) to complete all of the above. But I'm up to the task.

And, yes, I am getting to know the town a bit. I'm a jogger and I took my first run through the streets last evening, even stopping by the railroad station. According to the historical marker, it is the oldest building constructed by the Pennsylvania Railroad, in the 1840s. I checked train times for departures to New York, Harrisburg, and Philadelphia and I think a train ride for yours truly might be in the future. As I stood on the platform, a long freight train went lumbering by.

Well, I'm ready to board these trains of Sacred Heart and Saint Jude, as we ride down the tracks toward the complete fulfillment of the Kingdom of God. That finally happens when we pull into the station of Heaven, but, hey, we're almost there. As they say, half the fun is getting there.

PARISH NEWS & ACTIVITIES

**Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine—
October 24, 2009 in Washington DC.** Bishop Rhoades

announced the Diocesan Marian Year to take place from October 2009 to October 2010. To begin this year-long celebration honoring our Blessed Mother, the Bishop will lead a pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Saturday, October 24, 2009 with the theme *Mary, Gate of Heaven*. This is a wonderful opportunity for the faithful of the parish to gather for a day of prayer and spiritual renewal. Men, women, teens please mark your calendar.

Coordinated efforts are being arranged with the Council of Catholic Women, the Knights of Columbus, and the Legion of Mary. For information on the agenda call Dottie Peiffer (248-1804) or Nora Torquato (667-6551). Bus details and costs will be forthcoming.

July 8th., Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. all rummage sale volunteers are asked to attend an organizational meeting at McCusker Eye Care, 2 E. Market St., Lewistown. Final plans and new ideas will be discussed. Call Theresa at 667-6893 or Gordon at 248-3643 or 667-9714 if needed. Here's a chance to drop off some items not being used anymore!

Sacred Heart Rummage Sale

– **July 25:** Don't throw away that old fishing pole! The 1st Annual Sacred Heart rummage sale is set for Saturday, July 25th from 8am until 4pm at the Reedsville Youth Park. I know your basement is just chuck full of stuff you just don't use anymore. Any and all items will be accepted (please use common sense). The two drop-off points are the parish office basement or the basement at Dr. McCusker Eye Care at 2 E Market St., Lewistown. Please feel free to contact Gordon Parker at 248-3643 (work) or 667-9714 (home) or Theresa Dybach at 667-6893 for more information. More details will follow in coming weeks.



Octogenarian Mass & Dinner – Our second annual Mass of Thanksgiving and dinner honoring those of our parish who have devoted their lives to serving Sacred Heart of Jesus Church will be held Saturday, July 25. Mass will be at 4pm and dinner at the Lewistown Recreational Center on Montgomery Ave. will be at 5:30 pm. Please call either Sister Mary at 242-0472 or Marie Bender at 242-2781 to confirm your reservation. If you are 80 or older and have not received an invitation please call Marie Bender at the office.

Attention !! Octogenarian Dinner workers. There will be a meeting after the 7:30am Mass on Sunday, July 12 to make our final plans.



Knights of Columbus Parish Picnic Sunday, July 19th - 1pm at Derry Park, Burnham, PA

Rain or shine (we will be under a pavilion) Chicken, Drinks and Kid's Games will be provided. Bring a covered dish and a place setting!

The Knights of Columbus will be in front of the church after Masses on the weekends of **July 4 & 5** and **July 11 & 12**. There will not be mass at the park.

Please feel free to attend even if you miss the sign-ups.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July

- 5 – St Monica Rosary Prayer Group / 7pm / church
- 12 – St. Monica Rosary Prayer Group / 7pm / church
- 19 – St. Monica Rosary Prayer Group / 7pm / church
- 19 – Parish Picnic / Derry Park / 1pm**
- 20 – SVDP meeting / 7pm / office
- 25 – Octogenarian Mass 4pm & Dinner / 5:30pm**
- 26 – St. Monica Rosary Prayer Group / 7pm / church

The **Ladies Guild of Sacred Heart of Jesus** in Lewistown is sponsoring a **pilgrimage to Loretto, PA on August 1**. We will be visiting the residence and chapel of Fr. Demetrius Gallitzin, a former Russian prince and is in the process of beatification in Rome. We will also visit Our Lady of the Alleghenies Shrine, the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel, one of only six designated Minor Basilica's in Pennsylvania. We will also visit the Carmelite Monastery, St. Francis University, and the Schwab Sunken Gardens at the former home of the famous and late Charles Schwab and present home of the retired T.O.R.S. of the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese. This is a walking tour; however, all is covered in a one half mile area. Yoder Tourways will pick us up at the Lewistown Library at 9am. You may wish to take a bag lunch. There will be a dinner stop at 4pm at the Prime Sirloin Steak House in Duncansville and is included in the price of the bus ticket of \$32.00. For further information contact Martha Cullen at 242-1713, Dottie Peiffer at 248-1804 or Timi Wills at 248-1955. Please respond by July 18.

LITURGICAL NOTES

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

- July 12 – Dave Kaniecki
- July 19 – Russell Krug
- July 26 – Mel Reed

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, July 5

7:30 AM Charles Heindl

11:00 AM Deceased of the Battista family

Monday, July 6 (St. Maria Goretti)

7:00 AM Special Intention

Tuesday, July 7

7:00 AM Vergie Mitchell

Wednesday, July 8

7:00 PM Mary Zarkovich

Thursday, July 9

7:00 AM Caroline Fletcher (St. Augustine Zhao Rong)

Friday, July 10

7:00 Marcella Harris

Saturday, July 11

8:00 AM Emma Zawada

4:00 PM Estelle Weymouth

Sunday, July 5

7:30 AM Charles Heindl

11:00 AM People of the Parish

Memorialize the Sanctuary Lamp: The following dates are available: July 12, 19, 26.

The Sanctuary Lamp this week is in loving memory of Frank Ross from the family.

Memorialize Flowers: If you would like to memorialize flowers at the altar or ambo (podium) please call the parish office to schedule. The next available dates are: July 19, 26.

COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fiat Days 2009 – Young women 15 -25 years old. Sunday, July 19 – Tuesday, July 21 at Mount St. Mary's College & Seminary, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Fiat Days is a retreat for



young Catholic women who want to deepen learn more about consecrated life, to deepen their faith, and to better discern God's call in their lives. Activities include prayer (Holy Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Liturgy of the Hours, Rosary, etc.); talks from religious sisters about vocation discernment and their communities; recreation and sports; great food and discussions. For more information or to request a registration packet please contact The Office of Vocations, Diocese of Harrisburg, 657-4804 x282 or email vocations@hbgdiocese.org.

“Catholic Perspective” is your award winning Sunday morning radio alternative. Tune in for a half-hour of news,

information and inspiration for all people of faith. Join hosts Michael Parks and Brenda Klinger for features about people, their faith, their ministries and their lives. That's “Catholic Perspective” Sunday mornings on **WIEZ-AM 670**, Lewistown at **8am**. Catholic Perspective” is brought to you in part by the Catholic Communication Collection and your parish.

Harrisburg Beginning Experience (BE) Weekend – August 14-16 – If you or someone you know is struggling with the loss of a spouse from separation, divorce, or death, we can help. HBE is a peer ministry focused on spirituality, healing and a sense of community. The next BE weekend will be held at the Precious Blood Spiritual Center in Columbia. 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 Greg at 717-763-0977/Eva Marie at 717-246-1035 or email: HarrisburgBE@gmail.com

EDUCATION

The Banns of Marriage: At one time in the Church, it was a requirement that, before every marriage, the banns” be announced three times. The purpose of this public announcement was to determine whether or not the parties were truly free to marry. Anyone who had knowledge of why they should not marry were obliged by their conscience to bring their objection to the priest in order to protect the sanctity of marriage from someone who might try to marry when they were, in fact, not free to do so.

It is no longer required to publish the Banns for this purpose, however they are sometimes published for a different purpose: to allow parishioners to know that a wedding between a Catholic and non-Catholic which is occurring outside the Catholic Church building is valid. As Catholics, we have an obligation (with some cautions) NOT to attend the marriage of a Catholic that is not recognized by the Church – because such a marriage impedes the Catholic from receiving the Sacraments until the marriage would be validated.

Because Catholic marriages occurring outside the Catholic Church building requires the special permission of the Bishop, the publication of the Banns helps parishioners to know that this couple IS free to marry and that their marriage will be valid in the Catholic Church. Over the next several weeks, you will be seeing a publication of Banns for several upcoming marriages between a Catholic and non-Catholic – both of which are taking place in a protestant church building. The publication of the Banns lets you know that it is alright for you to attend the marriage, since it will be considered valid in the eyes of the Church.



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GOSPEL TODAY

JULY 5, 2009

MARK 6: 1-6



Not everyone in Jesus' hometown treated Him with the honor and respect He deserved. Jesus said to them "only in his hometown, among his relatives and in his own house is a prophet without honor". He went on to other places where people had more faith in Him.

Always honor & respect God, our parents/families, our communities, country and world.



Draw you and your family/friends on the ground watching fireworks as we gather in our hometowns.



May Jesus always have a place of honor in my heart.



