

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

Tithing Income: February 22, 2009	\$ 8,060.69
February 24, 2008	\$ 7,584.00
Children's Offerings	\$ 9.50

Next week's tithing: Next week's tithing will be used to help our parish reach her goal for the Bishop's Annual Lenten Appeal. This year's goal is \$33,200. Our tithing will help us achieve that goal.

From the pastor: Thank you for your sacrificial support of our parish. Having just ended February and Valentine's Day, we can talk about a love gift, a gift of love which is always sacrificial because it has to be the best we have even when it hurts a little. Now we're in Lent, and we focus on the Lord's sacrifice for us. It didn't "hurt"? With His 100% sacrifice in mind, our dedicated 10% will keep us on the path to giving our all for Him.

Comments on Tithing from the pews: "It has taken me a whole year to get up the courage to begin this [tithing]. I started it as a Lenten sacrifice and I have decided to continue. I feel wonderfully free."

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 6th grader said: "I helped my Gramma with her laundry." A 1st grader said: "I fed my dogs." A 4th grader said: "I helped my brother with homework." A couple of Kindergartners said: "I prayed for Grandpa Collinash., I held the door open for someone who had their hands full." A 3rd grader said: "I will be good to the poor." A 5th grader said: "I helped my Gram fold towels."

FROM THE PASTOR

Weekly Reflection: There are certain times in our lives when we need to go off and be alone to confront the "demons" that haunt us. A grieving person may need time alone to confront the pain of loss. People serious about their spiritual life take a retreat to examine their spiritual growth. Someone contemplating a job change might spend hours alone searching out possibilities on the internet. Although we are social creatures, there are times and circumstances that dictate we be alone. Jesus in the Gospel today went out "into the desert" alone. He is on the brink of inaugurating His public ministry. Something new and important is about to happen. He does the natural thing: going off alone to think things through and confront the demons that would dissuade Him from His mission.

Jesus goes "into the desert" to confront Satan; then he goes into Galilee to begin His mission to "proclaim the Gospel." We enter our own Lenten desert – spend more time by ourselves – to confront our temptations and turn ourselves more perfectly toward God and each other so we can emerge as an Easter people ready to proclaim the

Gospel. Lent is an intensification of what our day-to-day Christian living is all about: conversion and proclamation.

Confronting temptation and the sinfulness that keeps us from righteous Christian living is a necessary first step in the ongoing process of conversion. We first turn from our sinfulness before we assume to continue Jesus' mission. Proclaiming the Gospel means that we turn from our sinful ways, forgive others, and express our belief by saying "yes" to God's will for us. But conversion and proclamation are related: turning from sinfulness toward God enables us to proclaim, by the goodness of our lives, the Gospel of repentance and forgiveness.

About Liturgy: Signs & Symbols: This year our parish theme for Lent is the Stations of the Cross. You will notice in the sanctuary a beautiful display of various Stations of the Cross. Many of you will remember these, as they are from the church in Burnham. The display, together with the large wooden cross containing the relic of the True Cross, will be our central focus throughout the season of Lent – as we journey with Christ into the desert and to the cross, all in preparation for the joy of Easter.

Part of our effort to renew the liturgy is to maximize the sacramental signs so that they can more fully speak of the grace they signify. Since Lent is a period of Christian discipline, there are any number of ways we might practice maximizing the liturgical symbols we use. For example, we might pay particular attention so that our sign of the cross at the beginning of Mass be well formed and deliberate. When receiving Holy Communion we might intentionally and carefully make our sign of reverence (a bow) and then place one hand within another, making a fitting and reverent "throne" on which to receive the Body of Christ. Even making a concerted effort to sign the music and hymns at Mass (even if we don't have a very good voice) can be a fuller participation in the sacramental signs with which our Church is full.



Bishop's Annual Lenten Appeal 2009: Next weekend, March 7-8, our parish will conduct the Bishop's Annual Lenten Appeal Campaign using the In-Pew Program. It works like this. I will speak for a few minutes about the Bishop's Annual Lenten Appeal after a brief homily. Then, I'll ask a member of our Lenten Appeal Team to walk through the program with you. The ushers will then assist you with the Response Envelopes and we'll take a few minutes to fill out the Response Envelopes together. Then, the ushers will collect the envelopes with a special separate pass of the basket and bring your commitments

to the altar with the offertory gifts. Please come to Mass that weekend prepared to make your pledge. You do not have to bring a check or cash to Mass that weekend for the In-Pew Program since coupon booklets will be sent out again this year – allowing you to spread your pledge payments out over a period of months. If you want to make a down payment or pay in full, that's fine, too. Thank you so very much! **This year's goal (actually assessment from the Diocese) is \$33,200.** Your help will enable us to reach (and even exceed) this goal. Thank you for your generosity to the work of the Diocesan Church.

PARISH NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Lenten Mission – Learning from Archbishop Fulton Sheen - April 2, 3 & 4, 2009 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) who was a personal friend of Archbishop Sheen. More information coming soon. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**



Thank you to the members of the **Women's Guild** who baked cookies and visited the shut-ins. The women visited 39 parishioners on Saturday, February 7.

Women's Guild - Saturday, March 7 - Mass at 8:00 am followed by breakfast at Honey Creek Inn.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Thursday, March 5: Reconciliation: Mercy & Justice. Continual Conversion & Penance.

Knights of Columbus Fish Sandwich Sale: Fridays during Lent the Knights of Columbus will be selling fish sandwiches for \$3.00 each in the school cafeteria. Sandwiches will be sold 3-6pm. Call in orders are accepted after 3pm at 248-5351.



Adult Education: This Wednesday, March 4 will be our monthly adult education session. This month, Fr. Thoms will offer an introduction to the "Theology of the Body," the beautiful teaching of Pope John Paul II on human sexuality and what the body reveals about the true meaning of human



THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

sexuality. The class is held at 7:30pm (immediately following the 7pm Mass) in the church basement. All are invited!

Women's Guild - Saturday, March 7 - Mass at 8:00 am followed by breakfast at Honey Creek Inn. All the women of our parish are invited and welcome to join us!

LITURGICAL NOTES



The Stations of the Cross: Each Friday during Lent, we pray together this wonderful devotion following the Way of the Cross. You are invited to join us each Friday at 7pm throughout the season of Lent. Join us!

Memorialize Flowers: During the season of Lent, flowers are not used at the altar to help remind us of the starkness and simplicity of the season. If you would like to memorialize flowers at the altar or ambo (podium) during the Easter Season, please call the parish office to schedule. You order the flowers from the florist of your choice. The next available date would be First Holy Communion the weekend of May 1-2.

Memorialize the Sanctuary Lamp: The following dates are available to memorialize the Sanctuary Lamp: Dates available: March 8, 15, 22, 29.

The Sanctuary Lamp this week is in loving memory of Jane Drozda from her mother-in-law Mary.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, March 1

7:30 AM Kay Smith

11:00 AM Wright & Zeigler families

Monday, March 2

7:00 AM Guerino Preite

Tuesday, March 3

7:00 AM Richard Quilter

Wednesday, March 4

7:00 PM Jean Ricciardi

Thursday, March 5

7:00 AM Paul Ritter

9:00 AM SHS

Friday, March 6

7:00 AM Thomas McFadden

Saturday, March 7

8:00 AM Special Intention

4:00 PM Lolita Perez

Sunday, March 8

7:30 AM People of the Parish

11:00 AM Gaetana Cole



Remember man that you are dust and into dust you shall return.

First Friday Adoration & Holy Hour:

This Friday, March 6, is the first Friday of the month. There will be all day adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 7:30am until 7pm. During Lent, the schedule is slightly different: we will pray Evening Prayer and, after a brief period of silence, have Benediction immediately followed by the Stations of the Cross. The entire liturgical service will conclude at 8pm. There is a sign-up sheet in the entryway for people to make the time commitment to come and spend time with the Lord in the Holy Eucharist. Remember that the Eucharist cannot be left alone – so please make the sacrifice to come and spend some time with the Lord.



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

- March 8 – Mel Reed
- March 15 – John Potts

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March

- 1 – CCD / 9am
- 1 – St. Monica Prayer Group / 7pm / church
- 3 – Bible Study / 7pm / office
- 4 – Choir Practice / 7:30pm / choir loft
- 5 – RCIA / 7pm / office
- 6 – All Day Adoration / Evening Prayer & Stations / 7pm
- 6 – Fish Sandwich Sale / 3-6pm / school cafeteria
- 8 – CCD / 9am
- 8 – St. Monica Prayer Group / 7pm / church
- 10 – Bible Study / 7pm / office
- 11 – Choir Practice / 7:30pm / choir loft
- 12 – RCIA / 7pm / office
- 13 – Fish Sandwich Sale / 3-6pm / school cafeteria
- 13 – Stations of the Cross / 7pm / church
- 13 – Confirmation / 7pm / St. Jude Church

MORE THAN AN AUCTION NEWS

More Than An Auction: A Family Fun Fest: Sunday, April 26 at the Reedsville Youth Park. If you are able to help on a special committee the day of the auction please contact the appropriate committee chairperson:

Auction Committee Chair: Annemarie Swineford (248-3599)

Publicity: Kim Bubb (667-6941)

Raffle: Elizabeth Grumbine (667-6020)

Children's Activities: Ruth Allison (242-0984)

Baked Goods : Dot Conti (667-3197)

Gift Baskets: Connie Quinn (667-6507)

School Baskets: Sherry Hutchinson (348-9838)

Fudge Contest: Marie Bender (242-2781(w) or 242-1673 (h))

Solicitation: B.J. Newcamp (436-9572)

Set Up & Tear Down: Dave Sheetz (667-3227)

Plant Sale: Patti Fleegal (248-2209)

Decorations: Theresa Dybach (667-6893)

Food committee: Cyndi Shoemaker (667-9312 / 994-4948)

Auction Booklets: Tracy & Trevor Miller (436-5306)

Auction Items Needed: We are looking for any type of donations to be auctioned off for the silent or oral auction. If you would like to donate an item call B.J. Newcamp at 436-9572 or e-mail beedgewolf@aol.com

Doors will open at 11:00am and food will be served at 11:30am for lunch, Your participation is valuable in making this auction a success! If you are **interested in making a gift basket** with a specific theme, or donating money for items to make a basket, call Connie Quinn.

New!! “More Than An Auction” Event: We will hold a parish rummage sale on Saturday, April 25th at the Reedsville Youth Park. Start saving or stacking your stuff. Any questions, call Gordon Parker at 667-9714(H) or 248-3643 (W).

Plants Needed: Attention Gardeners (professional or amateur)! We need your help again this year with donations for the plant sale. We are excited to see what kind of beautiful flowers and plants you have to share with us again this year. You will be able to bring your donation in a disposable container with a description, to the auction the day before 4/25 or the day of the auction April 26. If you need any information contact the Plant Sale chair person Patti Fleegal at 248-2209 or you may e-mail patriciafleegal@aol.com

Fudge Contest: This year we are changing our contest to delicious fudge, 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 26 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.

COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land & Oberammergau Passion Play – July 14-23, 2010: Experience the Passion Play surrounded by the beauty of the Bavarian hills in the village of Oberammergau, Germany. A fulfillment of a promise to God for sparing this village from the black plague, every villager participates in this presentation, which is done on a magnificent scale every 10 years. Your pilgrimage begins with a visit to Israel, walking the same shores, streets and towns Jesus walked during his ministry on earth. Complete this “once-in-a-lifetime” journey with the Passion



Play in Oberammergau and come to know scripture in a new light. Dates for this program are July 14 – 23, 2010 and package price is all-inclusive out of Newark Airport – approximately \$4,600, but costs are fluctuating a great deal. If interested, please contact Fr. Bateman at the parish office.

The Prevention Health Screening group is offering you 6 quick, painless, non-invasive health tests to see if you are at risk for a serious health problem. On Friday, March 6th beginning at 9am the prevention program will be at the First United Methodist Church (corner of Third & Dorcas Streets) to offer you and the community several health tests. These will check for such things as: stroke, heart disease, osteoporosis, and pulmonary disease. These tests will make sure your arteries do not have any dangerous blockages. The tests are very low in cost, non-invasive and are read by a local vascular physician before the results are given directly to you and are referred back to your own doctor. Call 1-800-446-0925 for more info.

WANTED: A person who likes to play scrabble and cards in Reedsville area. Interested persons call 250-9615.

EDUCATION

Support fairness in the state budget: Nonpublic school students, like those in our Catholic schools, receive some funding in the state budget for activities and materials, for example, textbooks, materials, equipment and other services such as programs for students with special needs. Although there is a proposed increase of \$300 million to the basic education subsidy for public school students - a 5.4% increase - *the line items that benefit nonpublic schoolchildren are proposed to decrease*. If "education is the best defense against recession" as Governor Rendell suggested in his budget address, then all Pennsylvania students deserve the same investment. The state legislature must pass a balanced budget before June 30, 2009. Urge your state representative or senator to support equal, fair and proportionate funding for Pennsylvania's nonpublic school students.

"Lepers' Apostle" to be Declared a Saint: VATICAN CITY, FEB. 16, 2009 ([Zenit.org](http://www.zenit.org)).- The miraculous healing of a Hawaiian woman with cancer is leading to the canonization of a priest known for his ministry on the island with lepers relegated to a sequestered community. Belgian Father Damien de Veuster (1840-1889) is known as the apostle to the lepers, for his ministry on the island of Molokai. Pope John Paul II beatified Father Damien in 1995.

The priest requested to work with the lepers, providing them with religious and practical support since they were denied necessary medical treatment and provided only with food and basic supplies. Father Damián managed to establish for them a parish, schools and a society. He himself died of leprosy.

The miracle that paved the way for his canonization was the healing of Audrey Toguchi of Honolulu. Her cancer was considered incurable, but she spent nearly a year asking God to heal her through the intercession of Father Damien.

She said that during that period, her prayer was directed to God "exclusively through Blessed Damien. I am convinced that this miraculous disappearance of the cancer is due to the intercession of Blessed Damien."

Article provided by ZENIT News Agency.

Hershey Park Discounts Tickets are available for purchase to parishioners and their families at a significant savings. Regular admission tickets for adults is \$51.95; our price is \$28.50 – a savings of 45%. Regular admission for children (ages 3-8) and Seniors (ages 55-69) is \$30.95, our price is \$24.00. Regular admission for Seniors age 70+ is \$20.95, our price is \$19.95. Tickets are valid any day the Park is open during the regular public season. Orders must be received at the parish by April 20th. Parishes will receive tickets by May 19. Forms are available in the vestibule of the church or at the office.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

What is 2nd Grade Doing? In Religion, the second grade students studied the Sacrament of Reconciliation. They practiced the sacrament with a tour of the confessional as well as mock confessions in the church. Please pray for the second graders as they prepare to receive Jesus in Holy Communion for the first time.

Our Catholic Schools Week theme of "gingerbread" was a huge hit with second grade! We spent a great deal of time preparing by making gingerbread houses, reading *Gingerbread Baby* by Jan Brett, making shields of service, and deciding which ingredients in gingerbread actually give it a terrific smell. The students also have been working diligently on writing, as well as illustrating, a picture book titled *Snowmen at Night*. We began by writing a story plan with a strong lead and ending and continued by writing the book page-by-page. The students have been working with the school laptops to type, print, and illustrate their books. We look forward to the publishing of these wonderful works! Second grade continues to work hard on the memorization of our addition and subtraction math facts to get us ready for third grade. Please continue to practice the flashcards at home with your child, as this will only help their memorization, fluency, and speed.

Daylight Savings Time March 8, 2009



