

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

Tithing Income: March 8, 2009	\$ 10,582.26
March 9, 2008	\$ 8,046.50
Children's Offerings	\$ 9.25

Next week's tithing: Next week's tithing will be the annual national collection for Catholic Relief Services. For more information about CRS, visit www.usccb.org/crscollection.

From the pastor: As I watch our weekly collection, I truly am in awe at your weekly and consistent response to tithing! At a time when our economy is making things very difficult for many people, you have continued to show your trust in God by offering your weekly tithing – this week giving the parish its largest ever Sunday collection! This is a testament to your faith – and is a clear sign to me, your pastor, of the health of the faith in our parish. Thank you for your sacrifices and for embracing the Lord's call to "trust Him" with your life and your finances.

Comments on Tithing from the pews: "Recently I had my monthly bills out on the desk to begin writing checks. It really struck me that the cheapest 'bill' was what I put in my monthly envelope. I looked at all the other bills and realized that none of them give me the peace, the joy and the support that my faith gives. I hope to slowly set my priorities straight."

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 take care of my Grandma." A Several 4th graders said: I did the dishes, I gave up chocolate for lent, I helped my sister fix her hair." A kindergartner said: "I gave my sister one of my cookies." A 6th grader said: "I helped my four year old neighbor fix his bike." A 1st grader said: I used good manners."

FROM THE PASTOR

Weekly Reflection: Most of us get lost in the demands of our everyday living. WE get up in the morning, spend our day working, prepare and clean up after meals, shop and clean, drive the kids to soccer practice, worry about them, and do countless other things before we fall into bed at the end of the day – usually totally exhausted. In the midst of all this it is pretty difficult to be single-minded about anything except the immediate task at hand. Today's Gospel strikingly challenges us to do all these everyday tasks – but with the right frame of mind: a *zeal* for God.

Ultimately, we are to offer up the temple of our own bodies by dying to self and only in this way can we share in the new life God offers us. This is our daily dying: not necessarily doing something different, but doing what is demanded of us out of zeal for God and the good of others. This is our daily rising: that we have kept our sight on God, have conformed ourselves more perfectly to Christ, and have believed the signs of God's presence to us.



Bishop's Annual Lenten Appeal 2009: Thank you to all of you who have contributed to the Bishop's Annual Lenten Appeal. To date, we have raised \$ 31,157 toward our parish goal of \$ 33,200. This week we will begin contacting parishioners who have not yet responded. During this season of Lent, we give to those who suffer by offering our prayers and financial generosity. Thank you for helping us reach our parish goal for this year's Lenten Appeal.

Text Messaging in Church? Several people have come to me concerned about the number of young people (and even their parents) who are sending and receiving text messages during Mass. While we have become very skilled at "multi-tasking," text messaging during Mass is probably not the most appropriate way for us to give ourselves to God in the Sacred Liturgy. I ask you to please consider leaving your telephones at home during Mass – lest the temptation be too much.



PARISH NEWS & ACTIVITIES

More Information on our Lenten Mission – Learning from Archbishop Fulton Sheen - April 2, 3 & 4, 2009

I've spoken several times this past week with Fr. Apostoli, and he is excited about coming to our parish. The times for the mission are: Thursday, April 2 at 7:30pm; Friday, April 3 at 8am & 7:30pm; Saturday, April 4 at 8:30am. 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.



Lenten Penance Service: Sunday, March 29 at 3pm here at Sacred Heart. (6:30pm at St. Jude in Mifflintown). There will be several priests here to assist in the celebration of Reconciliation in preparation for Easter. If you plan to celebrate the Sacrament before Easter, please use this opportunity. Thank you.



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Thursday, March 19. The Ten Commandments & Forgiveness.

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.

LITURGICAL NOTES

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. 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 22. April 26

The Sanctuary Lamp this week is in honor of Ann Palyocsik from Bob & Joyce Sanders and the Russler family.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, March 15

7:30 AM Anna E. Hackenberry

11:00 AM Joseph Miriello

Monday, March 16

7:00 AM Irene Drozda

Tuesday, March 17 (Feast of St. Patrick)

7:00 AM Robert Gill

Wednesday, March 18

7:00 PM Erdene Smith

Thursday, March 19 (Solemnity of St. Joseph)

7:00 AM Helen Berich

9:00 AM Virginia Doster

Friday, March 20

7:00 AM Marge & Tom Connare

Saturday, March 21

8:00 AM Isabel Hallett

4:00 PM Vanda Petrella

Sunday, March 22

7:30 AM People of the Parish

11:00 AM Intention of Kitty Perry on her 100th birthday.

St. Vincent DePaul Free Meal: On Saturday, March 21 our parish St. Vincent DePaul society will be offering a free lunch in our school cafeteria. The meal is open to all

those in the parish and community that need a free meal or want some fellowship. Please come and join us.

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

March 22 – Dave Kaniecki

March 29 – Russell Krug

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March

15 – CCD / 9am

15 – Knights of the Holy Temple / 6pm / rectory

15 – St. Monica Prayer Group / 7pm / church

16 – St. Vincent DePaul / 7pm / cafeteria

17 – Bible Study / 7pm / office

18 – Liturgy Committee / 7:30pm / rectory

18 – Confessions / 7:30-8:15pm / church

19 – RCIA / 7pm / office

20 – Fish Sandwich Sale / 3-6pm / school cafeteria

20 – Stations of the Cross / 7pm / church

21 – SVDP free meal / 11am / school cafeteria

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 for the silent or oral auction. To donate an item call B.J. Newcamp at 436-9572 or 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.

Plants Needed: We need your help again this year with donations for the plant sale. We are excited to see what kind of beautiful flowers & plants you have to share with us. Please bring your donation in a disposable container with a description to the auction the day before (4/25) or the day of the auction (4/26). If you need information contact Patti Fleegal (248-2209) patriciafleegal@aol.com

EDUCATION

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. We begin with a visit to Israel, walking the same shores, streets and towns Jesus walked during his ministry on earth. Then we complete this “once-in-a-lifetime” journey with the Passion Play in Oberammergau and come to know scripture in a new light. Package price is all-inclusive out of Newark (EWR): approximately \$4,600, but costs are fluctuating a great deal. If interested, please contact Fr. Bateman at the parish office.



Lenten Luncheon & Reflection: The Lewistown Ministerium is sponsoring luncheons and reflections each Wednesday at 12noon during the season of Lent. Each week a different church is sponsoring the luncheon & reflection – which is always held at First Baptist Church on 3rd Street. Our own parish will be sponsoring the event on Wednesday, March 25. Our “funeral luncheon” group will provide the meal and Fr. Bateman will offer the reflection. The entire event is less than one hour (so you can get back to work). Take a few minutes during lent to reflect and grow in the Lord. This is another opportunity.

A Conference on the Teaching and Mission of St. Paul will be held on March 27 – 28 at Knott Auditorium Mount St. Mary’s University Registration fee is \$20.00(includes lunch) Dr. Scott Hahn and Dr. Brant Pitre will be the keynote speakers. Register at www.msmary.edu/StPaul



Discount Tickets are available for purchase to parishioners and their families at a significant

savings. Regular admission tickets for adults are \$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.

Executive Order on Embryonic Stem Cells 'A Sad Victory of Politics over Science and Ethics,' Says Cardinal Rigali:

WASHINGTON—Cardinal Justin Rigali, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, today called President Obama's executive order on embryonic stem cell research "a sad victory of politics over science and ethics." Under the order, for the first time in U.S. history, federal tax dollars will be used to encourage researchers to destroy live human embryos for stem cell research. Cardinal Rigali also cited a January 16 letter in which Cardinal Francis George, president of the USCCB, urged President-elect Obama not to issue such an order. Cardinal Rigali's statement follows:

“President Obama's new executive order on embryonic stem cell research is a sad victory of politics over science and ethics. This action is morally wrong because it encourages the destruction of innocent human life, treating vulnerable human beings as mere products to be harvested. It also disregards the values of millions of American taxpayers who oppose research that requires taking human life. Finally, it ignores the fact that ethically sound means for advancing stem cell science and medical treatments are readily available and in need of increased support.

“In his January 16th letter to President-elect Obama, Cardinal George, writing as President of the USCCB, cited three reasons why such destructive research is ‘especially pointless at this time’:

“First, basic research in the capabilities of embryonic stem cells can be and is being pursued using the currently eligible cell lines as well as the hundreds of lines produced with nonfederal funds since 2001.

“Second, recent startling advances in reprogramming adult cells into embryonic-like stem cells – hailed by the journal *Science* as the scientific breakthrough of the year – are said by many scientists to be making embryonic stem cells irrelevant to medical progress.

“Third, adult and cord blood stem cells are now known to have great versatility, and are increasingly being used to reverse serious illnesses and even help rebuild damaged organs. To divert scarce funds away from these promising avenues for research and treatment toward the avenue that is most morally controversial as well as most medically speculative would be a sad victory of politics over science.”

“If the government wants to invest in hope for cures and promote ethically sound science, it should use our tax monies for research that everyone, at every stage of human development, can live with.”

About Liturgy: *The Lenten “Reprieve”*: Saint Patrick:

This week we have two “breaks” in our observant of Lent. Tuesday, March 17 is, as we all know, St. Patrick’s Day. St. Patrick is the primary patron of the Diocese of

Harrisburg, and as such it enjoys the rank of a Feast in the liturgical calendar. St. Patrick of Ireland is one of the world's most popular saints. This "Apostle of Ireland" was born in Scotland in 387 and died in Ireland on March 17, 461. This is the day when **everyone's Irish**. His parents were Roman citizens living in Britain. As a boy of fourteen he was captured during a raid and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend sheep. He learned the language and practices of the people. Patrick's captivity lasted until he was twenty, when he escaped after having a dream from God in which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the coast. There he found some sailors who took him back to Britain, where he reunited with his family. He had another dream in which the people of Ireland were calling out to him "We beg you, holy youth, to come and walk among us once more." He was eventually ordained a bishop and assigned by the Pope to take the Gospel to the people of Ireland. Patrick began preaching the Gospel throughout Ireland, converting many. Patrick preached and converted all of Ireland for 40 years. Why a shamrock? Patrick used the shamrock to explain the Trinity, and has been associated with him and the Irish since that time.



St. Joseph: The 2nd "break" this week is for the Solemnity of St. Joseph, the Husband of Mary. Everything we know about the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus comes from Scripture. We know he was a carpenter, he wasn't rich, he came from a royal lineage – that of King David, he was a compassionate, caring man, he was a man of faith, obedient to whatever God asked of him without knowing the outcome. Since Joseph does not appear in Jesus' public life, at his death, or resurrection, many historians believe



Joseph probably had died before Jesus entered public ministry. Joseph is the patron of the dying because, assuming he died before Jesus' public life, he died with Jesus and Mary close to him, the way we all would like to leave this earth. Joseph is also patron of the universal Church, fathers, carpenters, and social justice. There is much we wish we could know about Joseph, but Scripture has left us with the most important knowledge: who he was -- "a righteous man" (Matthew 1:18).

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

What is Kindergarten doing? The month of March is an exciting month! For teachers and students, it's a month of change and new beginnings. This month, the concentration area in religion will be Lent. They will begin to understand and prepare for Easter. In Language Arts, They will continue to work hard on letter recognition

and sounds. They will continue sounding out words and writing telling sentences. In Math we finish identifying numbers 1-40 and counting from 1 to 100. Then we will work with money. Think Spring! (Mrs.Torquato)

Sacred Heart School Registration Information: SHS is currently accepting applications for grade K – 5 for the 2009-2010 school year. Read below for important information:

Neumann Scholarship applications are now being processed. This is the first step for new and returning families to qualify for any financial aid for the coming school year. Applications must be postmarked by April 1, but to avoid possible disqualification due to missing or incorrect information, we recommend sending it ASAP! Families must be registered to apply for this scholarship. Please contact Sue Parzanese (447-2002) or the school office (248-5351) for more information.

Open House: If you missed the last few Open Houses at SHS, another opportunity for prospective families to visit the school will be held in March. **Financial Aid/Prospective Family Open House will be held on Thursday, March 19, from 5:30 – 7:00PM at the school.** Meet with the Principal, the Kindergarten teacher, an upper grade teacher, and/or the Director of Finance to answer all your questions and facilitate the completion of your registration and Neumann Scholarship application forms. If you are unable to join us, please call the school to schedule a tour of the school at your convenience.

Why Choose Sacred Heart School?

- ☞ *We create a friendly nurturing environment and challenging curriculum, which allows students to become intelligent, caring, and responsible leaders.*
- ☞ *We greatly encourage parental involvement in various areas of your child's educational career.*
- ☞ *The small student/teacher ratio allows for greater enrichment and individual attention.*
- ☞ *Our students consistently score above grade level on standardized tests. More than 65% of the alumni can be found on middle and high school honor rolls and also pursue higher educations.*
- ☞ *Families of all faiths are welcome to enroll.*
- ☞ *We reinforce the family unit, presenting timeless values and positive living to a new generation.*
- ☞ *We offer a secure and disciplined learning environment.*
- ☞ *We include growth in religious awareness and an appreciation of morals and values.*
- ☞ *We believe in providing a safe, nurturing and disciplined environment in which every child will strive for success.*
- ☞ *We prepare students to become loving and active members of their families, their church, and their community*