

## March 22, 2009 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent – “Laetare Sunday”

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

<b>Tithing Income:</b> March 15, 2009	\$ 7,272.50
March 16, 2008	\$ 7,810.90
Children’s Offerings	\$ 8.00

**Next week’s tithing:** Next week’s tithing will be to aid with various expenses related to our Fulton Sheen Mission on April 2-4.

**From the pastor:** The entrance antiphon for today says: “Rejoice, Jerusalem! Be glad for her, you who love her...and you will find contentment.” Each week, we show that we don’t rejoice in the things the world offers, but in God. Our faithful, weekly tithing is evidence that our joy is in God. Thank you for your overwhelming trust in His goodness!

**Comments on Tithing from the pews:** “I found out the best time of the year to consider my generosity to God is at tax time when I can see in black and white what percent of my income went to God in comparison to what I spent on other items I felt I didn’t have and I wanted.”

**My Good Deed for the Week:** Here’s what several of our young people offered as their tithing, in addition to their financial gift: A couple of 5<sup>th</sup> graders said: “I dried lots of dishes, I took my Uncle’s dog for a walk.” Several 4<sup>th</sup> graders said: I helped Nana with my brother’s homework and did the dishes, I cleaned my room, I helped check on my Grandma.” A kindergartner said: “I watered the plants.” A 6<sup>th</sup> grader said: “I helped plant onions.”

### FROM THE PASTOR

**Weekly Reflection:** The contradiction in the Paschal Mystery is that what we abhor – the cross – becomes the instrument of redemption. God saves the Israelites from death but in the Paschal Mystery we must embrace death for the only way to eternal life is by dying to ourselves, by allowing ourselves to be lifted up like Christ. Our good works (reaching out to others, doing our daily tasks with love and care, acting justly and charitably, etc.), are our way of being “lifted up.” This is how we are crucified, so that we might live. There are only three weeks of Lent left. NOW is the time to renew our resolve to embrace dying to self so that we might truly rise in joy and life on Easter morning.

**About Liturgy: *The Best Way to Prepare:*** Because Scripture and the Lectionary are open to many interpretations, it is especially important that we reflect on the Scriptures BEFORE we come to Sunday Mass so that we can be ready to hear God’s word with all its depth and richness. The best preparation for the Liturgy of the Word is by reading the Sunday Scriptures over early in the week before and then see how God’s word begins to play itself out in our daily living. Let that word challenge us to live differently. Let that word invite us to new understanding.

Let that word encourage us to die to ourselves every day so that we might more perfectly live the truth that only comes from God’s light.

There is no substitution for good preparation – and the best preparation is the way we live. A wonderful celebration of liturgy will be greatly aided by preparing well to hear the word of Sunday and by the kind of Christian living that evidences we are consciously trying to live God’s word in our everyday lives. This is when liturgy comes alive and is, indeed, a true celebration.



**Bishop’s Annual Lenten Appeal 2009:** Again, I thank you for your tremendous generosity to the Bishop’s Annual Lenten Appeal. So far we have pledges of \$41,002.00 toward our goal of \$ 33,200. This week, we will begin some follow up with parishioners who have not yet responded to this year’s appeal. By doing our part to give generously to those who are in need and are suffering – we continue to share Christ’s love by supporting the mission of the Church through this year’s appeal.

### PARISH NEWS & ACTIVITIES

**Lenten Mission – Learning from Archbishop Fulton Sheen - April 2, 3 & 4, 2009**

Don’t forget about our upcoming mission with Fr. Apostoli. Many people are very excited about having this well-known personality come 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: NEXT 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.

**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.



Thursday, March 26. The Kingdom of God.

The Parish Advocacy Committee for and with People with Disabilities suggests that, if at all possible, meetings of the various parish committees be held at the new office on Brown Street. The new office is accessible for those parishioners whose disabilities do not allow them to attend meetings in the church basement. Also, meetings in the school cafeteria create difficulty because items stored in the entranceway at the accessible basement door have to be moved every time someone using a wheelchair must enter. Since the new office is accessible and can be used at night as well as during the day, the Parish Advocacy Committee humbly makes this suggestion. If you wish to use the new office for meetings, please contact Marie Bender, the Parish Secretary, at 242-2781 or email: [mbender@sacredheartlewisstown.com](mailto:mbender@sacredheartlewisstown.com).

The next meeting of the Parish Advocacy Committee will be held on Monday, March 30, 2009, at 2:00 p.m., in the new office on Brown Street. It is not too late to become a member of this committee. We welcome all who are interested in finding ways to encourage greater participation among our parishioners with disabilities. We are continuing to work on an Action Plan due to the Diocese in May. Please call Mary Lou Sigler at 667-2890 if you have any questions, or come to the meeting.

## 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: April 26

The Sanctuary Lamp this week is in honor of the birthday of Patti Vogt from the family.

**Another Lenten Break – The Annunciation:** Once again this week, we have a “break” from our Lenten fasting as the Church celebrates the Annunciation. It is on purpose that we celebrate this Solemnity on March 25 – nine months before Christmas. On this day, we recall the Archangel’s visit to Mary announcing that she has been blessed above all women – and has been chosen by God to

be the Mother of God. We venerate Mary for her faithful response to God and in our liturgical celebration, pray that we will be just as faithful to all that God asks of us.



### **Sunday, March 22**

7:30 AM People of the Parish

11:00 AM Intention of Kitty Perry on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### **Monday, March 23**

7:00 AM Richard & Elizabeth Showers

### **Tuesday, March 24**

7:00 AM Thomas Trosko

### **Wednesday, March 25 (The Annunciation of the Lord)**

7:00 PM Madeline Wear

### **Thursday, March 26**

7:00 AM Rev. James Byrne

9:00 AM Elizabeth Foresman

### **Friday, March 27**

7:00 AM Leonard McCoach

### **Saturday, March 28**

8:00 AM Mid Rocco

4:00 PM People of the Parish

### **Sunday, March 29**

7:30 AM Terry Attivo

11:00 AM Charles Lennartz

**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**

22 – CCD / 9am

22 – St Monica Rosary Prayer / 7pm / Church

24 – Bible Study / 7pm / office

26 – RCIA / 7pm / office

27 – Fish Sandwich Sale / 3-6pm / cafeteria

29 – CCD / 9am

**29 – Penance Service / 3pm / church**

29 – St. Monica Rosary Prayer / 7pm / church

31 – Bible Study / 7pm / office

### **April**

2 – RCIA / 7pm / office

**5 – Palm Sunday (11am Mass begins at school)**

## MORE THAN AN AUCTION NEWS

**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](mailto:beedgewolf@aol.com)

**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)

**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](mailto: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, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize is \$50, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. **Information and registration forms are now available on the parish website.**

**50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary Mass – May 17, 2009:** If you are celebrating your 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this year, please contact the parish office so that we can submit your name to the Diocese to receive a formal invitation to the

annual Mass. The deadline for submission is March 26. Hurry!

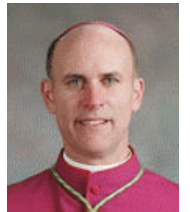
**Lawn Work:** Do you need help with your lawn work this spring & summer? Nolan Schaff (one of our high school age parishioners) is available to assist you with lawn mowing and other outdoor work. If you could use help, please contact the parish office and we will get you in touch with Nolan.

**Lenten Luncheon & Reflection:** The Lewistown Ministerium is sponsoring a lent lunch each Wednesday at 12noon at First Baptist Church on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. **Our own parish will be sponsoring the event this 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.

**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 20<sup>th</sup>. Parishes will receive tickets by May 19. Forms are available in the vestibule of the church or at the office.



**Husbands, Fathers, and Disciples: Diocesan Conference for Men** Sponsored by the Diocese of Harrisburg in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus: Saturday - April 4, 2009 9:00 am to 3:30 pm (Doors open at 8:00 a.m.) Cardinal Keeler Center- 4800 Union Deposit Road - Harrisburg, PA 17111. Keynote Address by Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Speaker and Author, on *The Role of Catholic Men in the New Evangelization*.



**Featured Workshops and Speakers:** *Chaste and Fruitful Living for Men* – Mr. Christopher Chapman; *Spiritual Headship: Basic Principles for Being a Good Husband and Father* - Deacon Michael Grella; *Ethics in the Workplace* – Dr. Greg Burke; *Life of Prayer for the Busy Man* – Fr. Peter Hahn; *Saints for Husbands and Fathers* – Mr. Ryan Bolster and Mr. Jim Gontis; *Road to Cana* – Mr. Anthony Buono and Fr. Edward Connolly; *Panel Discussion on Marriage*. Registration Fee: \$25 (includes continental breakfast and lunch). Sacrament of Penance available during lunch break. Registration forms available at [www.hbgdiocese.org](http://www.hbgdiocese.org) or 717-657-4804, ext. 229



## EDUCATION

**A Gentlemen's Club in Burnham** has been quite the talk of the town lately. After reading an editorial in the Sentinel (February) entitled, "Club will not be so 'gentle' on community", and after giving the Adult Education class at the beginning of this month, I began to think of the many things that the rich tradition of our Catholic Faith can teach us about the truth of our sexuality. My purpose here is not to point the finger at any one, but to share with all of us the beautiful Christian ideal to which we are all called from our Baptism.

There was some recent discussion in the news about the Vatican's asking that the beautiful patrimony of Italian paintings depicting Mary breast-feeding Jesus is to be re-appreciated. On the other hand, I read in the most recent edition of the Catholic Witness that the Church has expressed horror at a recent Mexican edition of Playboy Magazine depicting a veiled, nude "Virgin Mary" with the inscription "Te Adoramos Maria", which in English is "We adore you Maria." Many wonder just what the difference is between these two forms of "art". While there is no doubt that some would consider both forms "art", our faith and morals have much to tell us about how they *differ*. In short, the answer has everything to do with "what they stir up in the viewer". The beautiful Italian paintings of Mary breast-feeding Jesus stir up in the heart of the viewer sentiments of devotion and admiration at this most tender maternal/filial moment that is necessary for the sustenance of life in those early months and years. The other (on the cover of Playboy Magazine) is meant to stir up lust in the heart of viewer.

The Lord Jesus in His most famous Sermon on the Mount said, "You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' But I tell you that anyone who looks lustfully at a woman has already committed adultery in his heart" (Mt. 5:27-28). The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) speaks more specifically defining lust as: "disordered desire for or inordinate enjoyment of sexual pleasure. Sexual pleasure is morally disordered when sought for itself, isolated from its procreative and unitive purposes" (2352). Allow me to quote a bit lengthier paragraph on the definition of pornography: "*Pornography* consists in removing real or simulated sexual acts from the intimacy of the partners, in order to display them deliberately to third parties. It offends against chastity because it perverts the conjugal act, the intimate giving of spouses to each other. It does grave injury to the dignity of its participants (actors, vendors, and the public), since each one becomes an object of base pleasure and illicit profit for others. It immerses all who are involved in the illusion of a fantasy world. It is a grave offense. Civil authorities should prevent the production and distribution of pornographic materials" (ibid. 2354).

Pope John Paul II in his Wednesday audiences those first years he was a Pope, from 1979-1982 laid out what he called the Theology of the Body. I would encourage everyone to learn as much as they can about this topic. The point I wanted to make from this theology was John Paul's statement about pornography, namely, that the problem with it is "not that it reveals too much, but that it reveals too little about the human person." The fact is the men who view women in this way are not seeking to "get to know" the women they lust after, and in many cases want to maintain anonymity! This takes sex and sexuality out of its God-given context—between man and woman in marriage.

In reading these passages we are hereby *called to action!* Certainly, those you who reside in Burnham should be communicating with the members of the Borough Council there of your displeasure at the proposed establishment. Those who know the owner of the said "restaurant" can tell him yourself. The rest of us can pray that the business will fail. Pray as well for the conversion of all involved to respect the truth about human sexuality and the dignity of women.

## SACRED HEART SCHOOL

**SHS Lenten Projects: Kindergarten:** The children will try to be more like Jesus in all they do, especially during Lent. They will be putting a cross in a chart with family help to identify their acts of kindness, love and prayer. They will also make cards for use during Lent and learn the children's version of 10 commandments. Throughout the season of Lent, they will use stories, activities and acts of love to incorporate God's teaching into their own lives.

**Grade 1:** Students have been given 40 acts of love to perform-one for each of the 40 days. They add these acts to the body of a caterpillar as they complete them. At Easter, they will transform these caterpillars into butterflies as a symbol of our new life in Christ at Easter.

**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.

