

May 10, 2009 – Fifth Sunday of Easter – Mothers Day

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

Tithing Income: May 3, 2009	\$ 9,530.00
May 4, 2008	\$ 9,287.75
Children's Offerings	\$ 6.00

Next week's tithe: Next week's tithe will be for the charitable works of our parish St. Vincent DePaul Society.

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 have been a lifelong parishioner of Sacred Heart and can never really thank all the Priests and Sisters for the wonderful education I received."

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 4th grader said: "I found my brother's shoes." A kindergartner said: "I planted flowers for my Mommy." A 4th grader said: "I helped with the yard." A 5th grader said: "I made the bed for my Gram." A 4th & 8th grader said: "We took turns culling grass."

FROM THE PASTOR

Weekly Reflection: In this weekend's 1st reading, the disciples were afraid to relate to Saul because of his past reputation for persecuting Christians. Barnabas, a member of the community, took Paul under his wings and witnessed to the community on his behalf. In this way, Paul was accepted so that he could preach the Word. Barnabas witnessed to how Paul was "pruned" by his encounter with the Risen Jesus, an encounter so intense that he was "pruned" from his old, zealous hatred of this new Jewish sect and became a disciple himself – one who "remained" in Jesus.

Part of our living the Paschal Mystery – its dying and rising – requires that we be willing to be pruned. We must allow God to tend us, so that we might rid ourselves of whatever gets in the way of our being a faithful disciple who not only proclaims the Gospel, but also lives it in "deed and truth." First of all, this means that we must witness to an intimate relationship with God. We do this through prayer and worship – both private and public acts of glorifying God. We also witness in "deed and truth" through how we relate to others. Taking someone

troubled under our wing to help them is but one example of how we remain in Jesus through our caring for others.

About Liturgy: *The Liturgy of the Word:* One way to remain in the Risen Christ is to allow God's words to remain in us, shape us, and help us bear fruit. This suggests that the Liturgy of the Word during Mass is more than just moral exhortation or a structural element of the liturgy that brings us to the Liturgy of the Eucharist. In the proclamation of the Word, we are being "pruned" so that we can remain in Christ. Clearly, good proclamation of the Word is essential if the Liturgy of the Word is to be fruitful. Proclamation is more than good reading – it implies that the lector has lived the Word in his or her own life (in "deed and truth"), is committed to its message, and allows the Word to remain in him or her. Without this, the Word cannot be a living Word, nor can it be as fruitful in our lives.

Would you like to get 3.25% on your savings? Try the Diocesan Savings and Loan! In the 1920's, Monsignor Joseph Schmidt assisted our parishes by establishing the Mission Board of the Diocese of Harrisburg, which is today known as the Diocesan Saving & Loan. Deposits invested with the Diocesan Savings & Loan allow our parishes to borrow funds for worthy projects at below market rates over generous periods of time. In turn, your investment earns interest at higher than current bank checking and savings accounts (**currently 3.25%**), which is compounded daily, with no minimum balance requirement. You can deposit and/or withdraw funds at any time.

When you deposit money with the Diocese of Harrisburg, you invest not only in yourself, but in the whole Diocesan Church. Your funds are invested in people and programs throughout the fifteen counties of central Pennsylvania. More information on the Diocesan Savings and Loan is available in the pamphlet rack in the vestibule of the church.

PARISH NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Rectory Open House – May 31, 3-6pm:

As the porch on the front of the house nears completion, I felt it was finally safe to schedule an open house. Since the office moved out of the rectory in November, a crew of parishioners has been

hard at work "transforming" the office into a home. I invite you into our home to see the renovations. Our parish Knights of Columbus will provide wine & cheese for the event. All are welcome to come and see the recent renovations and improvements.

ATTENTION Graduating High School Seniors: The Mass on Sunday, May 31st at 7:30am



will be to honor our High School graduating seniors. Breakfast will follow in the school cafeteria. Please attend to receive the blessing of God and your parish community as you venture to new horizons in your life. Please call Marie at the Parish office, 242-2781 if you plan to attend.

Octogenarian Dinner Workshop, Sunday, May 17 after the 7:30am Mass for all committee members and those interested in helping at the July 25 **Octogenarian dinner**. Note change in date of the dinner from original date. Meeting will be held in the church basement.

Women's Guild Fundraiser: Hoss's Restaurant Community Night - Sunday, May 17. Women's Guild members will be distributing Hoss's cards after Masses this weekend. Just present the card when paying for your meal. Card can ONLY be used on MAY 17. Women's Guild will receive 20%. Thank you.

Ascension Thursday, May 21: Holy Day of Obligation: Masses for the Holy Day will be Wednesday, May 20 at 7pm and Thursday, May 21 at 7am and 12noon. (at St. Jude in Mifflintown, Thursday, May 21 at 9am & 7pm)

Fr Bateman Appreciation Day DVD - Thanks to the efforts of Ashley Henry and Chad Reed, SHS Alumni, a DVD in honor of Fr Bateman's involvement with Sacred Heart School was presented at the reception. We are currently working on making copies of the DVD and they will soon be available to anyone in the parish and school for a nominal fee. We will let you know when they are available. In the meantime, the DVD will be uploaded onto YouTube, so you can look for it there.

More Than an Auction – The winners of the raffle are:
\$1,000 – John Czerniakowski **\$500** – Thomas Verdi
\$250 – Sharon Stallone **\$150** – Irene Regan
\$100 – Mike Gamble

Winners of the Fudge Contest are:
1st Place Penny Ferguson **2nd Place** – Patti Vogt
3rd Place Barron Vogt

Knights Of Columbus Council 1338 meeting Tuesday May 12th is rescheduled for Wednesday May 13th at 700pm.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May

- 10 – St. Monica Rosary Prayer Group
- 16 – SVDP free meal w/ bingo / 11:30am / cafeteria
- 17 – St. Monica Rosary Prayer Group
- 18 – Pastoral Parish Council / 7pm / office
- 18 – SVDP meeting / 7pm / cafeteria

21 – Ascension of Our Lord – Holy Day of Obligation

LITURGICAL NOTES

Memorialize the Sanctuary Lamp: The following dates are available: Dates available: None in May

The Sanctuary Lamp this week is in loving memory of my dear husband Enoch from his wife Mary.

Save the Date – Coming soon! Parish Picnic, Sunday, July 19. More information to follow

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 May 17, 24, 31.

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

- May 17 – Russell Krug
- May 24 – Dave Kaniecki
- May 31 – Mel Reed

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, May 10

- 7:30 AM Clyde “Butch” Goss & Mabel Goss
- 11:00 AM Angeline Ross

Monday, May 11

- 7:00 AM William Smith

Tuesday, May 12

- 7:00 AM Pete Ricciardi

Wednesday, May 13 (Our Lady of Fatima)

- 7:00 PM Judith Gers

Thursday, May 14 (Saint Matthias)

- 7:00 AM Joseph Cibellis
- 9:00 AM Alys Franko

Friday, May 15

- 7:00 AM Alice Alpaugh

Saturday, May 16

- 8:00 AM Virginia Doster
- 4:00 PM Deceased of the Drozda & Zampelli families

Sunday, May 17

- 7:30 AM Anna E. Hackenberry
- 11:00 AM People of the Parish

COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land & Oberammergau Passion Play – July 14-23, 2010: If you would like to join us on this pilgrimage, note the deposit deadline of July 1, 2009. Brochures are available in the pamphlet rack or you can contact Fr. Bateman directly. Join us on this wonderful pilgrimage as we visit 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. Package price is all-inclusive out of Newark (EWR): approximately \$4,600, but costs are fluctuating a great deal. **Information and registration forms are available on the parish website and the pamphlet rack in the entryway.**

Quo Vadis Days 2009 "Where are You Going?"

Attention all Catholic young men ages 15-25. Our Lord Jesus Christ has a great plan and mission for you! You are invited to attend the Diocese of Harrisburg's 5th Annual *Quo Vadis Days* vocation camp to spend time with other young men your age as you listen to the Lord's call in your life while having fun. Activities include – Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, hiking, sports, games, great food, talks and more. Priests and seminarians of the Diocese of Harrisburg staff *QVD*. Bishop Rhoades will join us for a day. *QVD* will be held from June 14-18, 2009 at Mount St. Mary's Seminary and College. Cost is free, due to generous donors. Please contact Fr. Bateman, Fr. Thoms or the Office of Vocations at 657-4804 x 282 with questions or for a registration packet.

EDUCATION

Pope's pilgrimage will take message of peace to land of conflict. by John Thavis: Catholic News Service. VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Benedict XVI [has begun] a weeklong visit to the Holy Land, a pilgrimage in the footsteps of Christ and a journey through a political and interreligious minefield. In many ways, the May 8-15 visit to Jordan, Israel and the Palestinian territories is the most challenging of the pope's foreign visits to date, one that will test his skills of communication and bridge-building in a region of conflict and mistrust.

Although the world may measure the success of the visit in terms of international or interfaith diplomacy, Pope Benedict is going to the Holy Land first and foremost as a religious pilgrim.

"The priority is to witness to the truth of the Incarnation by visiting, as head of the church, the places where the events of our redemption took place. That's the point," Franciscan Father David Jaeger, an Israeli priest and adviser to the Vatican, told Catholic News Service.

The pilgrimage has a special focus on peace. The pope, in announcing the visit, said he would be going to the Holy Land to pray for "the precious gift of unity and peace for the Middle East and all humanity." Father Jaeger said that's extremely important at a time when hopes for peace among the population are the lowest in many years. "The worst thing that can happen is the loss of hope for peace. So for him to speak openly of the possibility and the necessity of peace and reconciliation should thrust those values into the fore," Father Jaeger said.

"It's not a political negotiation of course; he's not going to produce a peace treaty or try to. But the fact that he keeps the value of peace in front of the people of the region, that will be a tremendous contribution by the church," he said.

Much of the pope's itinerary follows in the footsteps of Pope John Paul II's Holy Land pilgrimage in 2000. Pope Benedict, for example, will pray at Mount Nebo in western Jordan, where Moses glimpsed the Promised Land

before dying. And, like his predecessor, he will visit the Jordan River where Jesus was baptized -- the setting of the opening chapter of Pope Benedict's book, "Jesus of Nazareth."

U.S. Cardinal John P. Foley, grand master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem, said the pope's visit would underline the importance of maintaining the Christian presence in the Holy Land. "He will do what Peter always does: encourage the faithful, recognize them, give them a renewed sense of worth and let them know how much the universal church appreciates them and the importance of their faith," the cardinal said.

Protect Your Teens from Harm
Visit: www.ConcernedParents.com

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

What is 2nd grade doing? Spring has finally sprung! 2nd grade has been looking forward to this season for many months. It will give us a time to grow closer to God as we celebrate His beauty in nature and the world around us. We have been hard at work in language arts as we enter our new unit titled "All Aboard!" This unit is all about traveling and will include more non-fiction selections. Our story selection titled "Let's God Dinosaur Tracking!" will bring about discussions and a written report about dinosaurs. Students will also be working on the research portion of the report using our school library and technology lab. 2nd grade has successfully completed two chapters in math pertaining to money and has begun to move on to time. Ms. Corbin.

If any of the following items pertain to you or to your family, please check the box in front of the item. This information will be a great help to us. You may tear off the form and deposit it in the collection basket or mail it to the parish office.

- ? New in the Parish, would like to register
- ? Change of address
- ? Request collection envelopes
- ? Moving out of the Parish
- ? Need information, please call me at _____
- ? New telephone number: _____
- ? Family member (Name: _____) is ill
 - o At home
 - o At Lewistown Hospital (room ____)
 - o At _____ nursing home (room ____)
 - o Would like to receive Holy Communion

Your name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____

Previous address if changing: