

## January 11, 2015 – Baptism of the Lord



### Stewardship is a way of life.

#### Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

<b>Tithing Income: Jan 04, 2015:</b>	
Regular:	\$ 5,811.00
Loose:	\$ 1,249.00
<b>Children's Offering:</b>	\$ 1.20
<b>Coffee and Donuts</b>	\$ -0-
<b>ONLINE GIVING:</b>	\$ 1,830.00
<b>Tithing Income TOTAL For January 04, 2015:</b>	<b>\$ 8,890.00</b>

**Tithing Income: January 05, 2014**      **\$ 8,174.00**

<b>Tithing Income: Dec 28, 2014:</b>	
Regular:	\$ 5,894.00
Loose:	\$ 468.00

<b>Children's Offering:</b>	\$ 1.00
<b>Coffee and Donuts</b>	\$ -0-
<b>ONLINE GIVING:</b>	\$ 655.00

**Tithing Income TOTAL For  
December 28, 2014:**      **\$ 7,018.00**

**Tithing Income: December 29, 2013**      **\$7,591.00**

#### Mass Attendance:

<b>Weekend of January 04, 2015</b>	<b>-392</b>
<b>Weekend of January 05, 2014</b>	<b>- 402</b>
<b>New Year's Day 2015</b>	<b>- 206</b>
<b>New Year's Day 2014</b>	<b>- 221</b>
<b>Christmas 2014</b>	<b>- 695</b>
<b>Christmas 2013</b>	<b>- 722</b>
<b>Weekend of December 28, 2014</b>	<b>- 410</b>
<b>Weekend of December 29, 2013</b>	<b>- 520</b>

#### Next Week's Tithe:

**Benedictine Mission Home**

#### This Week's Tithe:

**Aid to the Catholic Church in Central & Eastern  
Europe, Latin America and Africa**

#### Tithe Week of 1/4/2015:

**Port Ministries**      **\$889.00**

#### Tithe Week of 12/25-28/2014

<b>St. Emma Monastery</b>	<b>\$360.00</b>
<b>Carmelite of J.M.J</b>	<b>\$360.00</b>
<b>St. John Paul II</b>	<b>\$585.00</b>
<b>CRS</b>	<b>\$350.00</b>
<b>ICMC</b>	<b>\$975.00</b>
<b>CNEWA</b>	<b>\$250.00</b>
<b>DLI</b>	<b>\$250.00</b>

**Pastor's Comments:** With baptism, we begin the life of stewardship, cultivating the spiritual gifts and virtues within us and sharing them with others. Baptism is not ours to keep. We give it away, baptizing others with our love.

## **PASTOR'S COLUMN**

### **BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

"Christian, know your dignity!" That was the cry of Pope St. Leo the Great in the early centuries, speaking of our status as sons and daughters of the Most High, especially through our baptism. This feast of the Baptism of the Lord reminds us of this, as does the Bible, in repeated passages. One of my favorites is Titus 3: 4-7, which says "But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of deeds done by us in righteousness, but in virtue of His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit, which he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by His grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life."

That packs a lot of theology and doctrine and the reference to the "washing of regeneration" and to "poured out" are all clear references to the actions of baptism. "Regeneration" says that when that water is poured and the formula is said, according to Matthew 28:19, then something really happens, a real change in the person, a "regeneration" or transformation (transfiguration?) really takes place: Original sin is taken away, the Holy Spirit comes into the person for the first time, and the individual is slated for Heavenly glory. What a deal.

Some Christian denominations do not espouse "regenerational baptism," seeing the water ritual as symbolic, with the real interior change taking place only with the adult's proclamation of faith in Christ as Savior.

The Catholic Church, and many Christian denominations, teach "regenerational baptism," meaning that a wonderful change takes place immediately when the baptism is done. I think Titus 3 backs that up – even for infants! Although there is no clear indication of an infant baptism in the New Testament, some early church Fathers attest to its practice in the early Church. The profession of faith is important and is to come in the child's life later, through parental instruction and catechesis. In a way, every time we recite the Creed or come up for communion, we are renewing our baptism, answering an altar call, publicly standing up for Christ.

Some may see this teaching on regenerational baptism – or the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist – as "magical" thinking: Just recite these words and poof! God comes or a change takes place.

But I see it as promise. Baptism, Eucharist, and the other sacraments are not magic. In them, God is saying, "When you do this, I promise I will be there. You can count on me. I will not fail you." Regarding Eucharist, Paul says in 1 Cor. 11:26, "As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes." The same is true of baptism. I will be there for you, fear not.

The Catholic Church accepts Protestant baptism as valid, when done with poured water (immersion is permitted too; even optimal) with the Matthean 28 formula, i.e. "I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." I remember once arguing with a very strict anti-Protestant Catholic who was against ecumenism and the Catholic charismatic movement. "Do you actually

believe that the Holy Spirit resides in the Protestant churches?" he demanded to know. "Do you believe in the validity of Protestant baptism?" I shot back. He was silent. Because he knew that the Church teaches the validity of Protestant baptisms and if those baptisms are valid, then obviously the Holy Spirit is at work there.

With continual, ongoing sanctifying grace, Baptism is the gift that keeps on giving. Enjoy it and work it, through faith, hope and love. Christian, know your dignity! Fr. Bill

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### January

**Sunday: 01/11/15: Baptism of the Lord!**

CCD/9am/SHS

Mass/7:30 & 11am/Church

**Monday: 01/12/15:**

Mass/7am/Church

**Tuesday: 01/13/15:**

Mass/7am/Church

**Adult Bible Study/7pm/Parish Office Basement**

**Wednesday: 01/14/15:**

Confessions/6:30 pm/Church

Mass/7 pm/Church

**W.I.S.S.H Mtg/5:30pm/ Parish Office**

**Thursday: 01/15/15:**

SHS Mass/9am/Church

**Friday: 01/16/15:**

Mass/7am/Church

**Saturday: 01/17/15:**

**Recollection Retreat/9am/St. Jude – OPEN TO ALL**

Confessions/3:00pm/Church

Mass/4pm/Church

**Sunday: 01/18/15:**

Mass/7:30 & 11am/Church

CCD/9am/SHS

**Monday: 01/19/15:**

Mass/7am/Church

**Tuesday: 01/20/15:**

Mass/7am/Church

**Wednesday: 01/21/15:**

Confessions/6:30 pm/Church

Mass/7 pm/Church

**Thursday: 01/22/15:**

SHS Mass/9am/Church

**March for life, D.C./leaving from St. Jude's**

**Friday: 01/23/15:**

Mass/7am/Church

**Saturday: 01/24/15:**

Confessions/3:00pm/Church

Mass/4pm/Church

## LITURGICAL NOTES:

Mass Intentions  for the Week 

### *And Weekly Readings*

**Sunday, January 11 Baptism of the Lord!**

Isaiah 55:1-11; Psalm Isaiah 12:2-6; 1 John 5:1-9;

Mark 1:7-11

7:30 AM People of the Parish

11:00 AM For the Intentions of Linda Calkins and Family

**Monday, January 12**

Hebrews 1:1-6; Psalm 97:1,2,6,7, & 9

7:00 AM Catherine Armstrong

**Tuesday, January 13**

Hebrews 2:5-12; Psalm 8:2,5-9; Mark 1:21-28

7:00 AM Ronald Sneed

**Wednesday, January 14**

Hebrews 2:14-18; Psalm 105:1-9; Mark 1:29-39

7:00 PM Kathryn Porpotage

**Thursday, January 15**

Hebrews 3:7-14; Psalm 95:6-11; Mark 1:40 -45

9:00 AM Ed Cesati

**Friday, January 16**

Hebrews 4:1-5,11; Psalm 78:3 &4,6-7,8; Mark 2:1-12

7:00 AM Louis Ianelli Jr.

**Saturday, January 17 St. Anthony, Abbot**

Hebrews 4:12-16; Psalm 19:8,9,10,15; Mark 2:13-17

4:00 PM Special Intentions Musser Family

**Sunday, January 18**

1 Samuel 3:3-10,19; Psalm 40:2,4,7-10;

1 Corinthians 6:13-15,17-20; John 1:35-42

7:30 AM Special Intentions for Nancy Wills

11:00 AM John Lennartz

**Van Transportation to Mass:** The following is the Van schedule:

Jan 11 - Russell Krug

Jan 18 - Dave Kaniecki

Jan 25 - Mel Reed

**Memorialize Sanctuary Candles:** The following dates are **available:** Cost is \$20. Call the office to make arrangements. **Dates Available: Feb 15,22**

*The Sanctuary Lamp is in:*

*Memory of:*

*Frank Guerrini*

*With Love from his Wife Marie and Family*

**Memorialize Flowers:** If you would like to memorialize flowers at the altar or ambo (pulpit) please call the parish office to schedule. During the Advent Season please coordinate the flowers with the colors of purple. **The following dates are available: May 10, 17, 24**

*The Altar Flowers are in:*

*In Honor/Memory of:*

*People of the Parish*



## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Saint John XXIII - Did you know you have a nice window in the back of the church of John XXIII? - yes - even before he was canonized. Lucky us! How God is full of surprises. I also like the votive candle shrine to St. Therese, the Little Flower. Ours is a beautiful church and so well kept. Evangelize - invite someone who has been away to come to church with you. Share the gift of your faith with others. Maybe someone is just waiting to be invited. You could be the one to bring them back to church.**



**Society of St. Vincent de Paul**  
National Council of the United States  
Seeking Charity and Justice

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Sacred Heart; would like to say **"THANK YOU"** to all of the generous parishioners and families who donated food and or money to provide Christmas baskets for local Families.

**\*REMINDER:** Regular Monthly Meeting will be Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the School Cafeteria.



Challenging Young Catholics to Love Christ and Embrace the Life of the Church

A Special day-long retreat for Sacred Heart and St. Jude parishioners Grades 7-12 will be held **Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at St. Jude Church, Mifflintown.** The Retreat will be given by about 12 young adult members of the National Evangelization Teams or NET MINISTRIES, who do this work around the United States, all year long. **Please sign up in the vestibule if interested. We will also need host families to house team members that Friday and Saturday nights. Sign-up sheets for host families will also be available in the vestibule.**

## COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS



**SIGN-UP FOR MARCH FOR LIFE & YOUTH RALLY & MASS:** The March for Life is on Thursday, January 22, 2015. We have 3 places left for this trip. Our group will also be attending the Youth Rally & Mass at the Comcast Center before the March. The cost

of the trip is \$12 per person. Any interested youth or adult should email Karen Thome, [kkthome@centurylink.net](mailto:kkthome@centurylink.net). Checks should be made payable to **St. Jude Youth Crew #463** and mailed to Karen Thome, 1958 Mountain Road, Richfield, PA 17086.



**The annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be celebrated from January 18-25, 2015.** The annual LARC (Lutheran-Anglican-Roman Catholic) **Vespers will be held on Sunday, January 25 at 7:00 PM at Saint Paul the Apostle Church, 125 South Spruce Street, Annville.** Bishop Ronald W. Gainer will preside and will be joined by the Bishops of the Lutheran and Episcopal communities of Central Pennsylvania.



**Adult Education Courses Offered** - Diocesan Institute

2015 Winter/Spring Course listings are now available. If you are an adult interested in continuing to learn about your faith, go to the Diocesan web site at <http://www.hbgdiocese.org/institute>. You can also click on the Diocesan Institute icon on the right side of the Home Page. A variety of courses are offered at the Diocesan Center and at various parishes this winter and spring. Many courses are presented as Webinars and may be accessed from home. Questions, please contact Ryan Bolster at [rbolster@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:rbolster@hbgdiocese.org) or (717) 657-4804 ext. 225.



**Hershey Bears Hockey** – All are invited to celebrate Catholic Schools Week with the Hershey Bears Hockey team at the Giant Center in Hershey. The Annual Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg Night will be Saturday, January 31, 2015 at 7 p.m. Tickets are discounted to \$13.25 each for all ages from the regular admission price of \$19. For tickets get an order form from your school or parish office or contact Janet Dize - [jdize@HersheyPA.com](mailto:jdize@HersheyPA.com) Forms are also available for download at [www.hbgdiocese.org/schools](http://www.hbgdiocese.org/schools). The deadline for orders is Monday, January 26, 2015.





All are welcome to attend a day of recollection at St. Jude, Mifflintown, 9am – 2pm, Saturday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, with the theme of evangelization. Bring

your own lunch. Mass is at 9am, followed by talks given by Fr. Weary and small group discussion. Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed and the day will end with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration and Benediction. If you plan to attend, please email me your name, email and phone number so that we can contact you if the weather does not cooperate. Walk-ins on the day of the gathering will also be welcomed. St Jude's is located off of Route 22/322 at 3918 William Penn Hwy, Mifflintown, PA. please contact Steve Troelsch at [stroelsch@comcast.net](mailto:stroelsch@comcast.net) or [717-898-6178](tel:717-898-6178) if you have any questions.

**Mass in Celebration of African American Faith and Culture**, On Sunday, January 18, 2015, Bishop Ronald W. Gainer will be the Principal Celebrant and Homilist for a Mass celebrating African American Faith and Culture at 12:15 p.m. at Saint Patrick Cathedral, 212 State Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101. The Diocesan Black Catholic Committee has planned a dynamic liturgy celebrating African American faith and culture, featuring the choir from Saint Francis Xavier Parish, Baltimore, Maryland. All are invited to join us as we celebrate in conjunction with the national holiday honoring the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. For more information, please contact Gwen Summers at (717) 232-6285 or [gsummers@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:gsummers@hbgdiocese.org).



**School office hours are Monday - Friday  
7:30am to 3:30pm**

## Sacred Heart School News



**A note from the Principal...**

We are in the process of launching a new website for the school. We have a testimonial page and would love to include any comments from parents, alumni, and friends. In addition, if anyone has any new or old school photos we would love to add them to our gallery page. Please forward any testimonials or photos to [principal@sacredheartschool.com](mailto:principal@sacredheartschool.com)

## Save the Date



**Sacred Heart School Gala: A Night on the Red Carpet**

**Saturday, February 14, 2015**

Lewistown Rec Park Community Center 5:00P.M. -11:00 P.M.

\$50 per ticket; \*\*Purchase a table of 8 and receive a complimentary bottle of wine and wine glasses. \*\*This year all seats will be reserved. So even if you can't get a table of 8 you and your friends will be able to sit together without a worry. **When purchasing tickets please let us know who you would like to be seated with.**

### **SHS HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION NEWS:**

Sacred heart School will be having a **Marianna's pizza and hoagie sale from January 6-21 with delivery scheduled for January 28<sup>th</sup>**. Profits from these sales pay for field trips, field day, special items for the classrooms, activities during Catholic Schools Week, and a number of other activities and events for the students. **Contact the School or any SHS Parent to place an order or to pick up an order form**

**Save the Date!**

### **Sacred Heart School Benefit Auction**



As you are hanging up your calendars for the New Year, please be sure to mark **SUNDAY, APRIL 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 (at the Reedsville**

**Youth Park)** as the date for this year's **Sacred Heart School Benefit Auction!** The name is a little different, but the family fun, school support, and awesome auction items remain a tradition! You won't want to miss it! Also, as you are visiting family and friends and shopping for gifts, please keep your eyes open for unique items and/or services that you could purchase and donate to the auction! Please contact Rowena Klein, Development Director, with any questions; 717-242-2781; [shsdevelopment@sacredheartlewisstown.com](mailto:shsdevelopment@sacredheartlewisstown.com). The school appreciates your time and your support!

