



First Sunday of Lent

February 10, 2008

“The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.”

-Matthew 4:10

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

There will be a meeting for all parents who have children being prepared for First Eucharist. This Sunday February 10, the meeting will begin at 10 AM and will be held in the large meeting room in the family center. Please pray for the children and their parents as they begin to prepare for the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

We are still in need of substitutes and class room aides for the religious education program. If you can help please call, 656 7185. Many thanks for those who have responded.

Lenten Program for Adults

The Lenten Program for Adults begins this week with Jim Linehan's presentation on *The Last Days of Jesus: Mark's Story* (for those who have previously registered). There is still time to participate in the remaining two events: the Sunday afternoon program on *God's Beloved Daughters* with Sr. Carol Gaeke and the Sunday afternoon program on *St. Augustine: Teacher and Fellow Traveler* with Neil Kane. Today's bulletin insert contains more details. Tom Vresics's recent presentation, *Puzzling Passages from the Bible*, attracted a lively audience of 45 participants! Come participate in these opportunities for prayerful reflection and see what others have discovered about the parish's religious education offerings for adults.

DELAWARE PRO-LIFE COALITION TO HOLD ANNUAL CONVENTION

The Delaware Pro-Life Coalition will hold its 21st annual convention on Saturday, March 8th, 2008 at the Holiday Inn Select in Claymont. This day-long event includes five nationally-renowned speakers including Phil Klein, Esq., former Kansas City Attorney General who is currently suing Planned Parenthood for 107 offenses, as well as Pastor Luke Robinson. The costs for the event are as follows: \$45 for learning sessions only; \$35 for banquet only; and \$70 for learning sessions and banquet. For further information or registration call Joanne Laird at 302-479-5613, or email jlaird7851@aol.com or Bmcaneny@aol.com, or visit www.delawareprolife.org.

Leave A Legacy

What *Light* would you like to leave as a legacy? Don't put off planning your estate...even though "it is good for us to be here," we will not be here forever. Good stewardship means that we look ahead and make provisions for our family and our Church. Contact Sr. Margaret E. Mahoney, RSM, Director of Planned Giving, (302)573-3125, P.O. Box 2030, Wilmington, DE 19899-2030 or email mmahoney@cdow.org.

PASTOR'S NOTES

Growing In Love

Dealing with temptation and growing as spiritual persons are two sides of the same coin. Each of us is tempted in ways that threaten to pull us away from the love of God and others. So we need to really pay a lot of attention to temptation in our lives. Temptations tell us exactly where we need to grow. That makes sense because a temptation is directed towards our weakness.

If something appeals to your pride, or triggers your anger, or gets you into a lustful mood, then you know what you have to work on. That's what you need to bring before the Lord. That's what you need to pray about as if your life depended on it. That's also perhaps what you need to bring to a spiritual counselor or a trusted friend. And that's exactly where God wants to bring growth and healing into your life. And so, in a strange sort of way, temptation is a gift. It points to those areas in life where we still need growth and healing.

So what should we be doing during Lent? Is there some plan we can all follow, so that when Easter comes we will be satisfied with the way we spent the Lenten season? I'm afraid not. But having said that, there are certain paths we can explore in our Lenten journey. For some of you, your path might be more quiet time spent in the presence of God. For others it might be reading something which addresses your specific spiritual needs. Or it might be that you need to spend more time sharing your thoughts and feelings with your spouse or a special friend – trying to break down your personal isolation.

Lent is above all an opportunity. We are invited into the desert, not alone, but along with Jesus. Not to beat ourselves unmercifully by concentrating on how terrible we are, but to discover, with God's help, where we are able to increase the love we have for God, others and self.

Stewardship Update

Many parishioners have turned in pledge cards for the 2007 fiscal budget year. Pledge cards will be in pews and on the windowsills again this week for those who did not turn in cards last week. We know that we will be hearing from those who were not with us last weekend through the mail. Also, we know that some must reflect some more before committing. Thanks again to all who responded. May God bless you.

Awakenings

Weekdays of Lent: No obligation to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial is recommended.

Good Friday: Days of Fast and Abstinence from meat. There is a limit of one full meal on these days for all between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive.

Days of Abstinence: (All Fridays in Lent) - All who have reach their 14th year are bound to abstain totally from meat.

Easter Duty Obligation: After they have received Holy Communion, Catholics are bound by the obligation of receiving Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept should be fulfilled during the Easter Season. Catholics are also bound to confess serious (mortal) sins at least once a year, but this is not limited to the Lenten/Easter Season.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Every Friday after the 12:05 mass during Lent.

A Lenten Evening of Community & Prayer

✓ **Rice Bowl Lenten Meal:** Wed., Feb. 13, 5:30 p.m. (Parish Hall) Soup, bread, and beverage will be provided. Contact Virginia Kirkwood (302) 691-5152 or rkirkw9270@aol.com to reserve a spot.

✓ **Tenebrae Service:** Wed., Feb. 13 7:30 p.m. (Church). Join our pastor, deacon, and the choir in the moving service from the early Church, Tenebrae. Tenebrae is the name given to the service of Matins and Lauds belonging to the last three days of Holy Week. Seven readings and seven psalms are sung, and with each, a candle is extinguished as the Church commemorates the death of Jesus Christ and moves from light to darkness.

Operation Rice Bowls (Catholic Relief Services)

Rice Bowls calendars were distributed last week. Giving to Operation Rice Bowl makes a positive difference in the lives of others. Your support is appreciated. Visit www.crs.org/orb to learn more about the work of Catholic Relief Services. Boxes are still available for those who want them.

Black & Indian Mission & Home Missions Collection

Funds are needed to continue present evangelization programs. The second collection this weekend will assist Blacks, Native Americans and rural poor communities. A portion of the collection returns to our Diocese for our own apostolate to our African American brothers and sisters. Thank you.



*Feliz dia de
San Valentín*

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IN LOVE

I met in the street a very poor
young man who was in love.
His hat was old; his coat was
worn;
the water passed through his
shoes;
and stars passed through his soul.

—Victor Hugo

Retrouvaille Marriage Program is a program for stressed/broken marriages. If your marriage is tearing you apart and there is little or no meaningful communication, then Retrouvaille may be able to help you. Visit www.retrouvaille.org or call 1-800-470-2230 for more information.



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Saturday (Feb. 9)

5:00 p.m. Rita Kearns by family

Sunday (Feb. 10)

7:30 a.m. Edith Giacco by family

9:00 a.m. Dr. Garrett Lyons, Sr., by MacKenzie family

10:30 a.m. Parishioners

Monday (Feb. 11)

7:00 a.m. Dorothy Miller by Margaret Seitz

12:05 p.m. Helen Zino by Joan & Barry Snyder

Tuesday (Feb. 12)

7:00 a.m. George Rudkin by family

12:05 p.m. Drs. William & Stephen Butler by the family

Wednesday (Feb. 13)

7:00 a.m. Joseph McCann by mother

12:05 p.m. Eric Billing by Michael & Christy Fleming

Thursday (Feb. 14) *Happy Valentine's Day*

7:00 a.m. Dr. Joseph Armino by family

12:05 p.m. Jacqueline McLaren by Norm & Vi McLaren

Friday (Feb. 15)

7:00 a.m. James Hanavin by Super Fresh 584

12:05 p.m. Eileen C. White by Margaret Seitz

Saturday (Feb. 16)

8:00 a.m. Open

5:00 p.m. Carl Roser by Pat & John Linehan

Clean Up, Clean Up

Cemetery Clean up began last week. Hopefully, you have removed all your treasures off the graves of loved ones from Christmas. This week, in both diocesan and parish cemeteries, spring clean up continues.

A travelogue of Italy will be presented by Gus Costis, Photographer and world traveler on Feb. 17 at 3 p.m. by Wilm Friends of Italian Culture at Padua Academy, Roberto Hall, Broom Street. All are welcome refreshments will be served.

150th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady of Lourdes

February 11th, the Feast of Our Lady begins the anniversary of the apparitions of the Blessed Mother to St. Bernadette Soubirous in Lourdes, France in 1858. Eighteen visions occurred until July 16, 1858. Thousands of the faithful have come for healing of body, mind and most importantly spirit. The celebration coincides with World Day of the Sick. Please pray for all suffering mental and physical illness in our parish and diocese. Perhaps send a personalize e-card from www.Catholicgreeting.org, a ministry of St. Anthony Messenger Press in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes.