



Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

January 27, 2008

Wait for the Lord with courage; be stouthearted,
and wait for the Lord.

-Psalm 27:14

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Classes for Grades for Pre K through grade 7 will resume this Sunday, January 27. Confirmation classes will resume on February 3rd.

The parish council has put together a survey for the parent of the children who are in the Religious Education Classes. The purpose of the survey is to get feed back from the parents regarding the various aspects of the Religious Education Program. The surveys are to be back by February 1st. We would like to thank the parents for their thoughts, suggestions and impute.

We are still in need of classroom aides as well as substitute catechists. Please call 6567-7185 if you can help.

Lenten Series 2008

Capture details in today's bulletin!

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

If you have had a baby or you are going to have a baby and want to have the baby baptized at St. Joseph's on the Brandywine it is necessary for the new parents (or parents to be) to attend a Baptism preparation class. The next class will be held today at 11:30 am in one of the classrooms on the first floor of the Family Center. Please call or email Deacon Ed Lynch if you want to attend this class at 302-477-3200 during the day or at 302-654-7571 in the evening. His email address is felynych@wlnglaw.com. The ideal time to take the class is before the baby is born when you life will not be quite as hectic but if you cannot find a baby sitter to attend the class, bring the baby with you to the class.

Catholic University & Catholic Communications Collection

This weekend's second collection is a combined collection. *Catholic University of America* trains priests, religious and lay leaders. The Catholic Communications Collection helps the church spread God's word through media. Your support is appreciated.

Church Etiquette

To help our faith community respect the sanctity of the Mass, here are some gentle reminders: Please turn off all cell phones (or leave them in your vehicle). Dress and attire also show our reverence and respect for the special presence of the Lord found in the church. So, a gentle reminder at this time of the year that dress and attire of both young and old, should show that we are not headed to the beach, gym or pool. *Here's to you!*

Our cemeteries are beautiful with winter flowers this time of year! However, we will begin to remove holiday decorations the week of February 4th to enable spring preparations. If you'd like to retain your keepsakes, please remove them by then.

PASTOR'S NOTES

Commitment Sunday

A letter is being distributed to all registered parishioners with a summary of the parish budget for fiscal year 2007-2008 and a financial statement for the year 2006-2007 upon which to a large extent the budget is based. In the letter I'm asking you to make a commitment of financial support to the parish so that we can be assured that we will make the budget when June 30, 2008 comes. I trust you will review the material and come prepared on Commitment Sunday February 3rd to fill out a financial commitment card.

I do our financial reporting and request for an annual commitment at this time of the year hoping that as you evaluate your finances from a previous year to prepare your income tax forms you might better be able to evaluate the priority you can give to your obligation to support your parish. We need regular, weekly contributions to pay the daily expenses for essential personnel, utilities, and building and grounds maintenance. Your regular weekly offering is the backbone of our financial security and as you know from your own life, expenses do increase and we want to know that we can meet them.

While you may have to reach for an atlas to determine that Isaiah is speaking about Galilee, today's first reading (part of which was read at Christmas) is prophetic of Jesus' future ministry in that province. The light that brings salvation and rejoicing is, ultimately, Christ. Liberation is the theme: liberation from both ignorance ("darkness") and sin (the "yoke").

As Isaiah identifies a place, so Paul describes an attitude: the attitude that develops, even among good people, of equating their own will with the common good. This always brings dissension, and so it has done in Corinth. Paul will not allow this; we are all members of "Christ's party." The gospel is not to divide us.

Matthew quotes from Isaiah in today's Gospel, presenting Jesus as the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecies. The theme is "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 4:17). To spread this message, Jesus begins to select disciples, four of whom we meet today: Peter, Andrew, James, and John.

X GENTLY USED X

The Parish has a pre-owned car for sale. It is a 2003 Chevrolet Cavalier with 37,000 miles on it. It's a four door sedan in good condition, bronze in color. Retail value per Kelley Blue Book is \$8150. All reasonable offers considered. Call Bob Gutekunst at 658-1018.



DRIED BLESSED PALMS will be burned on Sunday, February 3, after the 10:30 a.m. mass. The ashes produced will be used on Ash Wednesday. Baskets are available in the vestibule to collect any dried blessed palms you received in past years that you would like burned.

2008 Catholic Charities Annual Tribute Dinner

Wednesday, March 12, 2007, the Most Reverend Michael A. Saltarelli, Bishop of Wilmington, will present the Msgr. Thomas J. Reese Award for Outstanding Community Service to Richard V. Pryor, Robert V.A. Harra, Jr. and Linda Brinton Harra. The dinner will be held on Wednesday, March 12, 5:30 p.m. at the Chase Center, Wilmington. Contact Karen Minner, Catholic Charities, (302) 472-0655 or email kminner@ccwilm.org. Visit www.cdw.org

Mt. St. Mary's University is offering a \$15,000 annual scholarship in the name of Bishop Saltarelli. The scholarship program recognizes Catholic students demonstrating outstanding academic achievement as well as leadership, and involvement in parish, community and school activities. A Bishop's scholarship application must be submitted by Feb. 1 to the University. Visit www.msmary.edu/admissions/scholarships-aid/undergraduates/scholarships-grants/bishops.html

IGH SIGHT & SOUND TRIP FOR ADULTS

Treat yourself to a Saturday away from chores by joining adults from Immaculate Heart of Mary parish as they travel to Lancaster, PA, for lunch and a viewing of the acclaimed presentation *Daniel and the Lion's Den*, live at the Sight & Sound Millennium Theatre. Date: March 1, 2008; board bus at 11:15; cost: \$95.00, which includes transportation, lunch, theater tickets, and snacks. Call Terry Gerlach at 302-764-4693 to reserve a seat. Visit the Sight & Sound web site to learn more about these live presentations that bring the stories of the Bible to life: <http://www.sight-sound.com>

Silent Prayer Community

This powerful ministry of prayer at SJOB intercedes to Jesus and Mary for your intentions; prayers at all hours of the day and night from the intention book in the back of church and for intentions phoned in to Cindi Clare 654-6344. Additional prayer partners welcome - no formal meetings.

Prepare for Lent

Sunday, Feb. 3rd, the Sunday before Ash Wednesday, we shall have holy litter in the church. Pamphlets to help you and your families to enter into the spirit of the lenten season will be scattered throughout the church. Come prepared to make your choice and/or take a pamphlet to send to a college student or a shut in.

Saturday (Jan 26)

5:00 p.m. Special intentions Jack Tepe by Claire Hanavan

Sunday (Jan 27)

7:30 a.m. Parishioners
9:00 a.m. Theresa Nicaastro Wahl by Chuck
10:30 a.m. Joseph Campanella, Sr., by M/M Joseph F. Campanella

Monday (Jan 28)

7:00 a.m. Joan L. Kaiser by family
12:05 p.m. Paul Carl Spaerl by Mark Christian

Tuesday (Jan 29)

7:00 a.m. M. Cecilia VanDerhoef by Jane Jones
12:05 p.m. Larry Gropp by Reid family

Wednesday (Jan 30)

7:00 a.m. Amelia by Luigi & Dominique Colantuoni
12:05 p.m. Stanley T. Czajkowski by Arlene & Bernard Daney

Thursday (Jan 31)

7:00 a.m. Christopher Battaglia by Mom & Dad
12:05 p.m. Robert J. Schumacher by Loretta Carlson

Friday (Feb. 1)

7:00 a.m. Judge Collins J. Seitz by Margaret Seitz

12:05 p.m. Patsy Otwell by George, Ruth & girls

Saturday (Feb. 2)

8:00 a.m. Special intentions for the teachers & staff at St. Catherine of Siena School from the Harkins family
5:00 p.m. Dr. Garrett B. Lyons, Sr., by the Beatson family

RECEPTIONIST POSITION AVAILABLE

Applications are being accepted for the position of Receptionist for the parish office at St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Hockessin. Candidates would need to be a welcoming presence to visitors and guests during the workday hours, and have a pleasant telephone demeanor. This is a part-time, share position. Qualified candidates should forward a resume directly to the Parish Manager, Fran Harty. Call (302) 239-7100, Ext. 11 or mail to 7200 Lancaster Pike, Hockessin, DE 19707. Fax: (302) 239-8219.

Sunday, Feb. 3, at 3:00 p.m., St. Hedwig Church, meeting on the alleged apparitions of *Our Lady Queen of Peace in Medjugorje*. Update, personal witness, video clips and refreshments. Questions, call Linda Prince, 302-373-3405.

CHOOSE LIFE - In every election, life isn't the only issue; but it's the most important one. Life is the foundation of all other issues. If a human being doesn't have the right to be born, do the other issues matter?