

APRIL 6, 2008

SOMETIMES WE FEEL LIKE BURNT POPCORN

**Stepping Stones to Stewardship**

Our role as a Christian steward is about faithfully developing and utilizing our time and talents for the benefit of others within the amount of time God has given us here on earth.

*Stewardship . . . . Live It!*

St. Rita Society Presents:

**A Spring Fashion Show and Luncheon  
to benefit Ellen Smith**

**Tuesday, April 15 at 12:00 Noon**  
In our Parish Center.

Tickets are \$12 per person and includes the show and lunch (Chicken French with angel hair pasta, tossed salad, rolls, beverage and dessert). Advanced sale tickets only may be purchased at the parish office or call Elaine King at 671-4930. Deadline for reservations is Friday, April 11. Fashions provided by Dress Barn.

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**ST. RITA'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2008**

**July 14 through 18 from 9:00am to Noon.**

Registration forms are available in the Narthex.

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**SAVE THE DATE**

**Arthritis; Everything You've Been Aching to Know**

The WPC Health Ministry is pleased to present their spring health program, **Arthritis; Everything You've Been Aching to Know.**

This program will be presented by Joanne Insull, Program Director for the Upstate Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation. As part of her job, Joanne develops education programs and exercise programs for people with arthritis as well as for professional education and public health programs.

The program will focus on prevention, maintenance and treatment and will be held on **Sunday, April 20, from 2:00 - 4:00 pm,** at St. Paul's Church, 783 Hard Rd.

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**Fiesta Plant Sale Puts Down Roots:** Now is the time to prepare for the Fiesta Plant Sale! When you are digging and dividing your plants and shrubs for the sale, please mark the name and flower color on each pot. This will make it easier for customers to be able to find the specific plant they want and know the color of the plant they are purchasing. We are in need of different varieties of Hostas, flowering shrubs, perennials, as well as planting containers. Please call Carol Van Atta at 671-7832 (for digging and dividing of plant donations) by mid April or Joyce Hollander at 671-3281 (to volunteer at the plant booth).

I am the Bread of Life, whoever eats this bread and drinks this blood will have eternal life. That's the promise we hear from Jesus. It's meant to be a message of hope and comfort to the followers of Jesus. Yet, there are times when this message of hope doesn't seem to be meant for us.



There's a story about a kindergarten class acting out a song about popcorn. As the children "popped" all around the room, there was one boy crouched down motionless on the floor. When asked what was wrong, he answered, "I'm burning on the bottom of the pan." He wasn't feeling any of the joy or hopefulness that his classmates were experiencing. Many times we feel like that boy, really down or troubled. Sometimes all we can see or feel is pain and sorrow. It can get so bad that we almost give up hope.

We're reminded that Jesus had times like these as well. We think particularly of the night before He died. He turned to his dearest friends (Peter, James, John) and said, "Watch with me while I pray, for my heart is nearly broken with sorrow" (Mark 14:34). Jesus is God, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity: and this God needed someone to keep him company in His suffering! Jesus was almost broken with sorrow. He asked for help.

Some of us are facing life situations that make us feel like we're burning on the bottom of the pan. It's just more than we can handle alone. Eventually, it happens to all of us. We need each other. That's how God made us. At St. Rita's we have a group of people who want to help those who are in such a spot. They're called Stephen Ministers. As Stephen Ministers, they've been trained in the art of being present to those who suffer. They don't offer miracle solutions to life's problems, but they do offer to "be with you" in the midst of them.

Remember, Jesus asked for help. You don't have to go it alone.

Please call Rose at the parish office at 671-1100 x 17 if you are interested in learning more about this ministry.

**ODE TO A STEPHEN MINISTER**

By Lori Marks @ 2006 Stephen Ministries

Where will I find someone to call  
when I feel like my back is against the wall?  
Where will I find someone to share  
the brokenness my soul does bear?  
Where will I find someone who will understand,  
who will listen, and maybe hold my hand?  
Where will I find someone to help me pray  
that I'll get through another day?  
Where will I find someone who will help me see,  
I'm not alone, it's not just me?  
Where will I find someone with an open heart to lend,  
someone I could even call a friend?  
Where will I find a Christian brother or sister,  
that would be my Stephen Minister?



### EUCCHARIST INTENTIONS

Among the intentions for those who gather for the Eucharist this week will be:

#### MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2008

7:00AM STANLEY POSLUSNY – Wife & Children  
9:15AM SHIRLEY VITALE – Family

#### TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2008

9:15AM YOLANDA URSO – Sandy Traino

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2008

7:00AM JOHN RICHARD HUDY –  
Verna & Phil and Dorothy & Bill  
9:15AM DOREEN ROTH – John & Julie Odenbach

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2008

7:00AM PHILIP & AGNES RYAN - The Douglas Family  
9:15AM THOMAS TAYLOR – Joanne Carr

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2008

9:15AM MIRIAM TRIPI – Eleanor Hanley

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2008

5:00PM JOAN ADAMS – Jack & Joan McCarthy

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2008

7:30AM MARY ANTETOMASO –  
Mr. & Mrs. Cosmo Dell'Anno  
9:00AM ART YAEGER – Family  
10:30AM ANTHONY GALIOTTI – Wife & Family

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This week the Tabernacle Light will burn  
in loving memory of Kevin Cook  
(25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his death)

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### PARISH VISITATION

Do you have a loved one at home, in a nursing home, or hospital that is in need of a visit? Our pastoral staff is here for you. Please call Rose Leisenring at 671-1100 ext. 17 or Drew Desmarais at 671-1100 ext. 15.

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### Companions in Grief Support Group



Wednesday, April 16  
at 7:30pm at Holy Trinity Church

**Speaker:** Jim Mulcahy

All who have experienced the loss of a loved one through death are invited to attend. All are welcome!

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### DAILY MASS PARTICIPANTS

Please Call the parish office at 671-1100 x 22 –  
anytime for the most up to date daily Mass schedule!

## Pastor's Perspective

It's impossible to miss the joy and hope of the disciples in those early days after Easter. They were bursting with Good News that had to be shared.



Cardinal Hume of London speaks of this Easter hope:

*The great gift of Easter is hope – Christian hope which makes us have that confidence in God, in his ultimate triumph, and in his goodness and love, which nothing can shake, Christ shared our experience; he suffered as we suffer; he died as we shall die, and for forty days in the desert he underwent the struggle between good and evil. But now it's all different, and whatever the future holds in store, Christian hope gives us inward peace and inward joy. That's what matters.*

The overwhelming Joy of Easter is captured in a 19<sup>th</sup> century prayer by George Herbert:

*Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:  
Such a Way, as gives us breath:  
Such a Truth, as ends all strife:  
Such a Life, as killeth death.*

*Come, my Light, my Feast my Strength:  
Such a Light, as shows a feast:  
Such a Feast, as mends in length:  
Such a Strength, as makes his guest.*

*Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:  
Such a Joy, as none can move:  
Such a Love, as none can part:  
Such a Heart, as joys in love.*

May the joy and hope of Easter be ours in these fifty days of celebration and always.

Easter Peace,

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**Did You Know?** Our bulletin is available each week on-line at [www.saintrita.org](http://www.saintrita.org) – check it out!

**PLANS FOR THE WEEK** **APRIL 6, 2008**

**SUNDAY 4/6**

8:30-11:00am Breakfast Club – Gym

**MONDAY 4/7**

4:30-5:30pm Faith Formation Classes  
6:30-7:30pm Faith Formation Classes

**TUESDAY 4/8**

9:00-11:00am MOMS Group – Rm 3  
10:00-Noon Stephen Ministry – Rm 1  
1:00pm Recovery – Rm 3  
3:45-4:30pm Children’s Choir Rehearsal – Rm 3  
4:30-5:30pm Faith Formation Classes  
7:30-9:00pm Lite Choir Rehearsal – Rm 3  
7:00-9:00pm Finance Council – Parish Office

**WEDNESDAY 4/9**

2:30-3:15pm Children’s Choir Rehearsal – Rm 3  
7:00-8:30pm Choir Rehearsal – Rm 3  
8:30-10:30pm Men’s Basketball – Gym

**PARISH SUPPORT**  
For Last Weekend March 29 & 30

Last Week	Weekly Goal	Variance
\$11,082	\$13,700	-\$2,618
Year to Date	Year to Date Goal	Variance
\$562,721	\$548,000	+\$14,721

(Our fiscal year is 7/1/07 – 6/30/08)

The surplus in the weekly collection is allocated to reduce the overall budget deficit of the parish.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

**CROP WALK ~ Sunday, May 4 at 1:30pm**

Start at the Webster Baptist Church on South Ave. Choose your walk from a variety of distances – maps available. Call Carol Van Atta at 671-7832 for sponsor forms or to make a pledge. We walk because they have to walk miles for food and clean water. Your participation in any way makes a difference.

From the desk of Mary Jo DiNoto, Youth Minister  
671-1100 ext. 18 or [mdinoto@dor.org](mailto:mdinoto@dor.org)

## Youth News

All youth in grades 6-12 are welcome! Check out our website at [www.saintrita.org](http://www.saintrita.org) for more information.

**Sunday, April 6 from 12:00-1:00pm**  
Jr. High Youth Group will meet at the Youth Center. Anyone in grades 6-8 is most welcome!

**Sunday, April 6 from 6:30-8:00pm**  
Sr. High Youth Group will meet at the Youth Center. Anyone in grades 9-12 is most welcome!

We welcome the newest members of our parish family who were baptized this weekend:

*Austin David Brandon-Coene*  
*Ryan Dennis Brown*  
*Lily Ann Hall*



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**BIBLE READINGS:**

- 6 Sun **Third Sunday of Easter** Acts 2:14,22-33 Ps 16:1-2,5,7-11 1 Pt 1:17-21 Lk 24:13-35
- 7 Mon **St. John Baptist de la Salle** Acts 6:8-15 Ps 119:23-24,26-27,29-30 Jn 6:22-29
- 8 Tue Acts 7:51-8:1a Ps 31:3-4,6-8,17,21 Jn 6:30-35
- 9 Wed Acts 8:1b-8 Ps 66:1-7 Jn 6:35-40
- 10 Thu Acts 8:26-40 Ps 66:8-9,16-17,20 Jn 6:44-51
- 11 Fri **St. Stanislaus** Acts 9:1-20 Ps 117:1-2 Jn 6:52-59
- 12 Sat Acts 9:31-42 Ps 116:12-17 Jn 6:60-69
- 13 Sun **Fourth Sunday of Easter** Acts 2:14a,36-41 Ps 23:1-6 1 Pt 2:20b-25 Jn 10:1-10

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**ALTAR SERVERS SCHEDULED**  
Next Weekend ~ April 12 & 13

- Saturday, 5:00pm:**  
Lily Ciszewski, Marisa Bernardi, Breanna Bernardi
- Sunday, 7:30am:**  
Sean McGrath, Sam Dauria, Connor McKenna
- Sunday, 9:00am:**  
Zach Barbeau, Krista Barbeau, Vicky Gammons
- Sunday, 10:30am:**  
Jamie Farris, Abby Geen, Jenny Geen

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- SACRISTAN:** Week of April 6 Shirl Mintz
- LINENS:** Week of April 13 Debbie Whitehair

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~ SPECIAL NEED ~

One of our long-time parishioners is no longer able to drive but she would like to continue attending the 5:00 Mass on Saturdays. She lives on Princeton Road near Bay Road School. If you are able to help her with a ride, please call Drew at the parish office 671-1100 x 15 for further details.

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**No Breakfast Club Next Weekend**

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**Boy Scout Fundraiser** ~ Discounted Delta Sonic car wash and oil change tickets are available through our parish Boy Scout troop. These are great deals if you go there anyway! Call Liz Staszak at 746-3510.

# St. Rita's 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Fiesta

Friday & Saturday, June 6 & 7, 2008

The 2008 St. Rita's Fiesta will be held from 5:00pm – 10:00pm on June 6<sup>th</sup> and from 3:00pm to 11:00pm on June 7<sup>th</sup>. The St. Rita's Fiesta is a combination event, provided as a fundraiser for our Parish, as well as a family-oriented event intended for families of the parish and the community at large. This year we are bringing back the sounds of the '60s with "It's My Party" headlining Friday night. Back by popular demand, The Skycoasters will keep you dancing on Saturday night. In addition to the great entertainment we have games for kids of all ages, plenty of food and a good time for one and all. This year marks the 54<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this event and we'd like you to be a participant in any number of ways.

Proceeds support the efforts of the more than 50 Ministries at Saint Rita Parish which provide help to many worthy causes not only in the Webster area but in other countries as well.

## SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

### GOLD LEVEL \_\_\_\_\_ \$1000

Name/Logo on back of the Volunteer T-Shirts (approx. 500)  
Ability to hand-out promotional literature, coupons etc...  
Mention in all PR  
Announcements/Advertisements  
Double Block Ad in D&C Flyer(cir. 20,000+)

### SILVER LEVEL \_\_\_\_\_ \$500

Ability to hand-out promotional literature, coupons etc...  
Mention in some PR  
Announcements/Advertisements  
One Bulletin Announcement (cir. 1100)  
Single Block Ad in D&C Flyer(cir. 20,000+)

### BRONZE LEVEL \_\_\_\_\_ \$250

Ability to hand-out promotional literature, coupons etc...  
Mention in one PR Announcement/Advertisement  
One Bulletin Announcement (cir. 1100)

### COPPER LEVEL \_\_\_\_\_ \$100

Ability to hand-out promotional literature, coupons etc...  
One Bulletin Announcement (cir. 1100)

The above represents a sample of some of the benefits that sponsors receive from the Saint Rita Fiesta. Traditionally the Fiesta attendance exceeds 4,000 people in a two day period!

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*Return this portion with check payable to: St. Rita Fiesta*

## 2008 St. Rita Fiesta Sponsorship Donation

- GOLD       SILVER  
 BRONZE    COPPER

Amt. Encl. \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor Name \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor Address \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out and return with check by Monday, April 12, 2008.