

NOVEMBER 30, 2008

Stepping Stones to Stewardship

28 families were provided a full Thanksgiving meal last week – turkey included – thanks to the food you donated and the proceeds from our Outreach Needy Fund. Thanks also to our Youth Group who shared their gift of time and talent braving the bitter cold to sort all the food and to the drivers who delivered meals to these families in need.

When I was hungry you gave me to eat. . . .

Stewardship Live It!



**St. Rita Church Boy Scout Troop #163
CHRISTMAS TREE SALE
Starting Friday, November 28
Between Bill Gray's and Staples
on Hard Road**

**TREES UP TO 10 FT: \$35
TREES OVER 10 FT: \$45**

The proceeds that the scouts raise from this fundraiser will pay for camping gear, scout books, awards, badges and camping/backpacking trips.

BOY SCOUT DAILY HOURS:

Monday – Friday: 6:30 to 9:00pm
Saturday: 9:00am to 7:00pm
Sunday: 10:00am to 5:00pm

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Christmas Gifts Angel Project

This year the agencies and centers that we support are in more need than ever. Please help us supply them with games, toys, art supplies, dolls (of various races) and clothing.

Pick up an Angel Tag from the table in the greeting area in Church and return your gift NEXT WEEKEND. Some tags are for specific centers, others are more general.

We understand with the economy, money is tight, but God will never be outdone in generosity when you show love for His poor and needy.

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**First Sunday in Advent
The Shepherds Candle is lit on our altar**

Jeremiah 33:14-15 The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the House of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to swing up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. The prophets spoke to the people telling of a time when God's word would become flesh. The shepherd is a symbol ripe with meaning. Christ is the shepherd that came to teach us his ways that we may walk in his paths and hold hope in our hearts.

UPCOMING ADVENT OFFERINGS

**ADVENT EVENING PRAYER
With Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday, December 4 at 7:00pm**

Join us for a special evening in preparation of the coming of our Lord. Fr. Hoan Dinh will lead us in Evening Prayer followed by Eucharistic Adoration.

**ADVENT CONCERT
Antonio Vivaldi's "Gloria"
Sunday, December 7 at 4:00pm in Church**

Antonio Vivaldi's well-loved Gloria, for chorus and orchestra, will be performed at St. Rita's on Sunday, December 7 at 4:00pm in the Church. This energetic Baroque work will feature the St. Rita Adult Choir, members of the Lyric Chorale, soloists and orchestra. The concert is FREE and all are invited to attend. A reception will follow!

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**MITTEN SUNDAY
The weekend of DECEMBER 6 & 7**

**During Children's Liturgy of the Word
9:00am AND 10:30am Masses**

(Baskets will be available at all Masses)

All children are invited to bring mittens to be given to the needy whether they attend Children's Liturgy or not. Baskets will be put in church to collect the mittens at all Masses NEXT WEEKEND. Children attending Children's Liturgy are asked to bring their mittens to the altar when they come forward.

PARENTS: Additional catechists are always needed to share their faith with these children. Contact Teri Bucks, 671-0388, for information on this rewarding ministry.

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LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH – Sign Up!

This is the first Weekend of Advent. Anyone wishing to light the Advent wreath at any of the weekend Masses should sign up in the narthex. There are still openings! Families, couples and singles are invited to sign up.

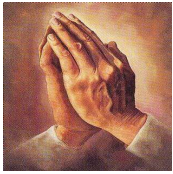
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**COMPANIONS IN GRIEF
SUPPORT GROUP**

Wednesday, December 10
7:30pm in Room 1

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



EUCHARIST INTENTIONS

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2008

7:00AM CHARLES & ANTOINETTE KAESSER – Mary Patel
9:15AM REV. ANGELO BOVENZI - Patty & Joe Janiak

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2008

9:15AM HELEN ROSE YOUNG – Husband Joe

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2008

7:00AM NANCY DI NITTO – Gary & Ruth Spencer
9:15AM SPECIAL INTENTION

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2008

7:00AM DOROTHY ZOYACK – Susan Wallace
9:15AM MIRIAM TRIPI – Dorothy DeLano & Clara Alward

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2008

9:15AM JOHN HUDY - Verna & Phil and Dorothy & Bill

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2008

5:00PM ROBERT CIACCIO – Wife Phyllis

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2008

7:30AM ROBERT NOLAN – Wife Virginia
9:00AM ANTHONY GIORDANO – Mary Cordaro
10:30AM JOSEPH PULICI – Wife Kay

This week the Tabernacle Light will burn in loving memory of Mary Shevlin

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FOR AN UPDATED DAILY MASS SCHEDULE
Please call 671-1100 x 22 anytime! Ask for extension 22 or if the recording comes on you can press 22.

CALLING ALL ANGELS and SHEPHERDS (Mary, Joseph and Jesus, too!)



Children are needed to help with the Gospel story on Christmas Eve at the 4:00 (church) and 6:00 pm Masses as follows:

- Mary, Joseph and Angel- 4th grade or older
- Baby - newborn to 3 months
- Parents to help coordinate during those Masses.

There will be one brief rehearsal in church on Saturday, December 20 at 11:00 am. Small children are invited to come to Mass dressed as angels and shepherds and to be part of the Gospel story. Angels and shepherds ***DO NOT*** need to come to the rehearsal. They will be called up during the Gospel reading. Please contact Teri Bucks at 671-0388.

From the Desk of Fr. Hoan . . .

Sunny blue skies and summer corns have gone. Brown autumn leaves are now buried by snow. Seasons of nature have changed. Perhaps these natural signs are inviting us into a new spiritual season, Advent.

This season can be missed easily when our lives are busy with preparation and planning for the coming holiday season, a time of joy and festivity. Amid our busy schedule, Advent is the time to explore further how we await for the new birth of Jesus Christ in our world. If you get snowed in and cannot travel this year, you are most welcome to travel with me as we explore the Book of Isaiah that is often read during Advent.

Isaiah means "God is salvation." The Book of Isaiah has three main sections – First Isaiah (chapter 1-39), Second Isaiah (36-55), and Third Isaiah (56-66). The First Isaiah (1-39) includes oracles that reflect on the situation of Judea in the 8th century B.C. Under Ahaz's reign (735-715), Syria and Israel attacked Judah, forcing her to fight against Assyria. Under Hezekiah (715-687), peace prevailed in Judah. Hezekiah undertook a religious reform, which lasted only for a short time. In 701, Sennacherib, a new king of Judah, destroyed Judah and besieged Jerusalem.

Against this historical event, one might find a double message while reading Isaiah 1-35. First, the majority of Isaiah's oracles delivered warning of punishment and destruction. In particular, *The Vineyard Song* (Is.5), the unproductive vineyard refers to kingdoms of Israel and Judah. On the other hand, the vineyard also symbolizes wealth. As the parable suggests, if this wealth is not produced by a just society, the vineyard will be overgrown by thorns and briars, literally after the Assyrian invasion. Secondly, amidst of these threats, a view of hope rests upon the birth of Emmanuel, the Prince of Peace who will reign from Jerusalem.

Isaiah sings, "The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him...He shall judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the land's afflicted." This hopeful vision is further painted, "The wolf shall be a guest of the lamb; the cow and young lion shall browse together." (Is.11).

How do these lines speak to us in this coming week?

See you next trip
Your travel agent

Fr. Hoan



St. Rita's has a special blessing for expectant parents held on the first Sunday of each month. Our next **Expectant Parent Blessing** will take place NEXT WEEKEND during all of the Masses.

PLANS FOR THE WEEK NOVEMBER 30, 2008

SUNDAY 11/30

8:30-11:00am Breakfast Club – Gym

MONDAY 12/1

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

TUESDAY 12/2

9:00am MOMS Group – Rm 3
1:00pm Recovery – Rm 3
3:45-4:30pm Children’s Choir Rehearsal – Rm 3
4:30-5:30pm Faith Formation Classes – School

WEDNESDAY 12/3

2:30-3:15pm Children’s Choir Rehearsal – Rm 3
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal – Rm 3
7:00-9:00pm Scripture Study Group 1 – Rm1
9:00-10:30pm Men’s Basketball – Gym

THURSDAY 12/4

7:00pm Advent Evening Prayer – Church with Eucharistic Adoration

SUNDAY 12/7

4:00pm Antonio Vivaldi’s “Gloria” Concert - Church

PARISH SUPPORT		
For Last Weekend November 22 & 23		
Last Week	Weekly Goal	Variance
\$13,293	for Nov. 2008 \$17,700	- \$4,407
Year to Date	Year to Date Goal	Variance
\$307,978	\$321,000	- \$13,022

(Our fiscal year is 7/1/08 – 6/30/09)

Monthly Parish Center Mortgage Payment - \$2,725
Mortgage Balance as of November 1, 2008 - \$195,445

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!
ACT Now ~ Automatic Contribution Transfer

It is easy to make your financial contribution to Saint Rita Church by automatic withdrawal directly from your bank account. There is no charge for this service. Sign-up cards are available in the back of Church or for more information call the parish office at 671-1100 x 12.



BREAKFAST CLUB NEWS!

Join us in the parish center for a delicious breakfast on Sunday mornings! We offer a “Special” and a full traditional breakfast menu as well!

Next Week’s special: Cinnamon Raisin French Toast served with your choice of bacon or sausage and a bottomless cup of coffee for a donation of \$4.00.

Did You Know? Our bulletin is available each week on-line at www.saintrita.org – check it out!

We welcome the newest member of our parish family who was baptized this weekend:



Allison Anna Koomen

BIBLE READINGS:

- 30 Sun **First Sunday of Advent** Is 63:16b-17,19b;64:2-7 Ps 80:2-3,15-16,18-19 1 Cor 1:3-9 Mk 13:33-37
- 1 Mon Is 2:1-5 Ps 122:1-9 Mt 8:5-11
- 2 Tue Is 11:1-10 Ps 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17 Lk 10:21-24
- 3 Wed **St. Francis Xavier** Is 25:6-10a Ps 23:1-6 Mt 15:29-37
- 4 Thu Is 26:1-6 Ps 118:1,8-9,19-21,25-27 Mt 7:21,24-27
- 5 Fri Is 29:17-24 Ps 27:1,4,13-14 Mt 9:27-31
- 6 Sat **St. Nicholas** Is 30:19-21,23-26 Ps 147:1-6 Mt 9:35-10:1,5a,6-8
- 7 Sun **Second Sunday of Advent** Is 40:1-5,9-11 Ps 85:9-14 2 Pt 3:8-14 Mk 1:1-8

ALTAR SERVERS SCHEDULED
Next Weekend ~ December 6 & 7

- Saturday, 5:00pm:**
Nick Wynne, Connor McKenna, Chris Gilbert
- Sunday, 7:30am:**
Kyle Chapman, Kayla Chapman, Sam Dauria
- Sunday, 9:00am:**
Matt Hayes, Joseph Hayes, Tyler Kohrt
- Sunday, 10:30am:**
Erik Rall, Jimmy Marton, Kevin Connell

SACRISTAN:

Week of November 30 Mary Ann Beikirch

LINENS:

Week of December 7 Frances Montagne

FOOD COLLECTION
NEXT WEEKEND



On the first Sunday of each month, parishioners are asked to bring in food for the needy in our area. Food may be left in the greeting area of Church. Please remember to bring your nonperishable foods to church with you next weekend. Your Social Action Ministry Committee thanks you!

CHRISTMAS AND ADVENT GIFTS SALE

St. John’s Religious Shoppe is having an Advent & Christmas Sale, December 6 & 7, at Holy Spirit Church, after all Masses. They’ll have Advent candles, Advent wreaths, rosaries, gifts and books. For more information call Vilmarie at 787-3189.

From the desk of Mary Jo DiNoto, Youth Minister
 671-1100 ext. 18 or mdinoto@dor.org



Youth News

All youth in grades 6-12 are welcome in getting together with other youth who share their faith and beliefs and want to have fun together. **Check our website at www.saintrita.org** for more information and events.

Have a blessed and safe Thanksgiving as there is so much to be thankful for.

2009 ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS ON SALE

It is filled with great discounts on all types of restaurants and entertainment. Cost is \$25.00 and may be purchased at the parish office or call Mary Jo at 671-1100 x18. All proceeds are used toward youth programs and retreats!

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**CRAFT SALE at Sacred Heart Cathedral
 Rectory Hall 296 Flower City Park
 Saturday, December 13 from 10am to 6pm**

Refreshments will be available. All proceeds to help fund youth programs at the Cathedral Community. Join us upstairs in the Cathedral narthex for "A Family Celebration with St. Nicholas" from 10:00am to 1:00pm.

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ST. RITA SOCIETY INVITES YOU ALL!



The Society is happy to host a Christmas Concert

**Tuesday, December 16
 at 7:00pm in the Parish Center**

PADRE BEATINI ITALIAN CHOIR

Parish members, family and friends are all welcome to enjoy a beautiful evening of Christmas Hymns sung in both English and Italian.

Society members are asked to bring an appetizer or a dessert to share. Also bring an unwrapped health care or toiletry product (shampoo, powder, soap, etc.). These items will be donated to local nursing homes and shelters. Any questions please call Carol Van Atta at 671-7832.

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Ceramic Angel's 2008

We will again be selling ceramic angels made and packaged by the School of the Holy Childhood. The proceeds will be shared between Our Little Brothers and Sisters Orphanage in Haiti and HOPE House. They are available at the Parish Office during business hours Monday-Friday 9:00am to 4:30pm or Saturday 10:00am to 2:00pm. Your help is greatly appreciated.

St. Rita School News!

CONGRATULATIONS ~ St. Rita School is very proud of Alex Bednar, a sixth grader who is a winner in the VFW Patriot's Pen Essay contest. He placed second in Webster and first in Monroe County. His essay has now been entered in the New York State district competition which will be judged on December. We wish him well.

St. Rita School earned Middle States Accreditation through the Middle States Commission on Elementary Schools and that accreditation will last through 2015. This achievement attests to the community we've built and continue to build in our school; it sends a clear signal that we are seriously invested in quality education for our students, and that we will continue to reflect on what we do, and to strive toward providing the very best learning experience for our children. Thank you all for the support St. Rita Parish provides our Catholic School.

Annual Barnes & Noble Fundraiser for School

Please come and help support St. Rita's School with their annual Fundraiser at Barnes & Noble on Holt Road in Webster on **Thursday, December 4 and Friday, December 5**. Just stop in, do some shopping and at checkout, let them know you are with St. Rita's and a portion of your sale will automatically go toward our school! Spread the word to your family and friends!

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BREAKFAST CLUB Served Sundays 8:30-11:00am
DECEMBER SPECIALS Sharon Pucher and Jane Kunzog, managers

Dec. 7 The attack on Pearl Harbor – remember those who lost their lives on this day. Also, for the thousands who suffered in any way as a result of WWII.

Dick Sorce and team will be offering **Cinnamon Raisin French Toast** served with your choice of bacon or sausage and a bottomless cup of coffee for \$4.00.

Dec. 14 Team 2 led by John O'Connor will feature **Western Egg Bake** served with warm buttered toast and a bottomless cup of coffee for \$4.00.

Dec. 21 Sharon and Jane lead Team 3 and will offer their **Egg Special**. Two eggs cooked your way with your choice of bacon or sausage, home fries and a bottomless cup of coffee for \$4.00. Santa hopes to make a personal visit to see all the boys and girls this day. If he cannot make it he will leave little gifts.

Dec. 28 No Breakfast Club

**Merry Christmas to all of our guests
 at Sunday Breakfast. Enjoy each and every day
 of this beautiful time of year!**

From all the Breakfast Club Team volunteers!