

FEBRUARY 22, 2009

Stewardship News!

This month the **Dove Program**, which helps parishioners in need at St. Rita and is administered by our pastoral associate Drew Desmarais, is featured on the Stewardship Board in the greeting area.

Please look over the needs for this ministry. If there is an area that you could help with please contact Drew at 671-1100 x 15. This ministry, the Dove Program is only successful by our being able to respond to immediate needs of parishioners in whatever way we can.

Stewardship Live It!



OPERATION RICE BOWL

As part of our faith community's Lenten observance, we will again participate in Catholic Relief Services' Lenten program, Operation Rice Bowl. Since 1975, Operation

Rice Bowl has inspired Catholics in the United States to **pray, fast, learn and give** as we increase our understanding of our global community. We will connect this understanding with the principles of Catholic Social Teaching throughout our Lenten journey. We encourage you to participate in Operation Rice Bowl at home with your family and loved ones.

As part of our *Spirit Alive!* Initiative throughout the diocese we are focusing on the Gospel of Mark

**For the week of February 22
Read the Gospel of Mark Chapter 11**

Mk 11:1-11 What is the closest you have ever come to meeting a world leader or celebrity? What do you find most significant about the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem? How did Jesus ride into your life?

Mk 11:12-19 If Jesus came to clean up your town, where would he start? How do you describe your response to injustice, abuse or moral corruption? Where is God calling you now to get involved?

SPECIAL LENTEN PRESENTATION!

Journey to the Cross

Follow your heart this Lent by following the Lord!

Journey to the Cross is a WPCC four parish Lenten program scheduled for **Sunday, March 8, beginning at 4:00 pm at Holy Trinity Church** in Murphy Hall. The presentation will show the Stations of the Cross from each parish and include a general history of this tradition and prayer. After the presentation there will be a potluck soup supper. Bring your favorite soup or a free-will offering. Those attending are asked to sign up at their parish office (St. Rita's 671-1100). All are welcome!

LENTEN PENITENTIAL REGULATIONS

Ash Wednesday (Feb. 25) and Good Friday (April 10) are days of both fasting and abstinence. All other Fridays during the season of Lent are days of abstinence. Abstinence refers to not eating meat. All persons 14 years of age and up are obliged to abstain.

Fasting refers to eating only one full meal a day with smaller portions that do not constitute a full meal at the other two meal times. Adults between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.

BAPTISMS ~ Official instructions that accompany the Rite of Baptism state that Baptisms are not to be celebrated during the Lenten Season. To remember the Paschal character of this Sacrament, we will resume Baptisms at Easter time.



LENTEN FISH DINNERS

**Served every Friday during Lent
Starting Friday, February 27**

**5:00-7:00 PM
in the Parish Center**

Each Friday during Lent Fish Dinners will be served from 5:00-7:00pm in the Parish Center Gym. It is staffed by a wonderful team of volunteers sharing their stewardship of time and talent.

Fried or Baked Haddock are available as well as **Cheese Pizza** for those who do not care for fish! Fish dinners include coleslaw, french fries and a roll ~ \$8 for adults and \$7 for Seniors. Children's portions are available for \$4 - as well as Soft Drinks, Milk, Coffee, Tea, and Ice Cream cups.

Come in for great sit down table service or take out.

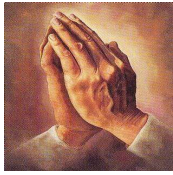
**FOOD COLLECTION
NEXT WEEKEND**



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!

HAVE YOU BEEN AWAY? ~ Contribution envelopes and year-end tax statements have been returned to the parish office for those who have been "Temporarily Away". If you were away and did not receive these please call the parish office at 671-1100.

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



EUCCHARIST INTENTIONS

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2009

9:15AM JAMES & HANNAH KELLER –
Daughter, Joyce Hollander
7:00PM CONFIRMATION at Sacred Heart Cathedral

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2009

9:15AM JAMES KNAPIK – Family & Friends

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2009

With distribution of ashes at all Liturgies

9:15 AM DONALD EVANGELISTA – Wife & Children

10:30AM ST. RITA SCHOOL MASS - All are Welcome!

FOR OUR SCHOOL FAMILIES WHO ARE IN NEED

7:00PM FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF ST. RITA PARISH

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2009

7:00AM DOROTHY ZOYACK –
Bernice & Connie Wallace
9:15AM ARTHUR CONN – Wife Phyllis

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2009

9:15AM HELEN PUTNAM –
Ruth & Roland LaCroix and Family

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2009

5:00PM BERT C. DE LANO – Dottie DeLano

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2009

7:30AM KARL, PAULA & THEO REUS – Family
9:00AM ANNA MARIE GANDL – 9:00 Mass Ushers
10:30AM KATHLEEN KAISER – The Kaufman Family

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This week the Tabernacle Light will burn for a Special Intention

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Webster-Penfield Catholic Connection
(Holy Spirit, Holy Trinity, St. Paul & St Rita Churches)

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES
at our WPCC parishes

(all services include distribution of ashes)

Holy Spirit Masses at 7:00am, 5:30pm, 7:45pm
Holy Trinity 6:30am (Comm. service), 5:30pm Mass
St. Paul's 8:30am, 12:00 Noon (Liturgy of the Word)

Pastor's Perspective



In the fine homes of old, one often entered through a beautiful dramatic foyer, perhaps looking on a dramatic stairway and lit by a beautiful chandelier. It was meant to impress and draw you into the grandness of the rest of the manse.

This Sunday we open the doors into the "foyer of Lent". Lent and Easter are after all the grandest of the Church's liturgical seasons. Between now and next Sunday we are invited to anticipate what is ahead.

Instead of endurance there should be some excitement and anticipation. In the words of Ash Wednesday: "May we keep the Lenten season in preparation for the joy of Easter". Indeed the whole season of Lent is a foyer inviting us into the grandness of "Risen Life" with Christ.

During this week let's take time to prepare and plan our grand entrance. Instead of "giving things up" we really ought to focus on "gaining things" ~ things that will help us to grow and to live the Gospel more faithfully.

I like to choose the three areas of life that give us wholeness and holiness: Mind, Body & Spirit. (Another way of looking at prayer, fasting and almsgiving). Our parish flier and our Little Black Book have some wonderful suggestions – take some time with them in quiet before simply hurrying through the hallways of God's manse! See if you can choose one step in each of these three areas that will lead you slowly and deliberately toward our God.

Welcome to God's foyer and to a deeper experience of our God's love. There is no greater love than His.

Happy Lent,

Fr. Chuck

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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 during all of the Masses the weekend of February 28 / March 1.

PLANS FOR THE WEEK FEBRUARY 22, 2009

SUNDAY 2/22

8:30-11:00am Breakfast Club – Gym
 5:30-7:00pm Youth Group (grades 6-12) – Gym

MONDAY 2/23

No Faith Formation Classes
 7:00pm Confirmation at Sacred Heart Cathedral

TUESDAY 2/24

No Faith Formation Classes
 9:00am MOMS Group – Rm 3
 1:00pm Recovery – Rm 3

ASH WEDNESDAY 2/25

See Mass Schedule
 8:00pm Choir Rehearsal – Rm 3
 8:30-10:30pm Men's Basketball – Gym

FRIDAY 2/27

5:00-7:00pm Fish Dinner – Gym
 7:00-7:45pm Family Stations of the Cross – Church

PARISH SUPPORT			
For Last Weekend February 14 & 15			
Last Week	Weekly Goal	Variance	
	for Feb. 2009		
\$12,499	\$14,900	- \$2,401	
Year to Date	Year to Date Goal	Variance	
\$495,790	\$513,800	- \$18,010	
(Our fiscal year is 7/1/08 – 6/30/09)			
Monthly Parish Center Mortgage Payment		\$2,725	
Mortgage Balance as of February 1, 2009		\$188,914	
Catholic Ministries Appeal Goal		\$105,051	
Pledges Received to Date		\$103,860	
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!			



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 with your choice of bacon or sausage and a bottomless cup of coffee for \$4.00.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
 Save the dates!

Vacation Bible School will be held the week of July 13-17 for children entering grades Pre-K4 through grade 4 in the fall, 2009. Registration will begin in late March. Watch the bulletin for more information.

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



Gillian Shea Ferretti
Lucas Antonio Mazzorana

BIBLE READINGS:

- 22 Sun **7th Sunday in Ordinary Time** Is 43:18-19,21-22,24b-25 Ps 41:2-5,13-14 2 Cor 1:18-22 Mk 2:1-12
- 23 Mon **St. Polycarp** Sir 1:1-10 Ps 93:1-2,5 Mk 9:14-29
- 24 Tue Sir 2:1-11 Ps 37:3-4,18-19,27-28,39-40 Mk 9:30-37
- 25 Wed **Ash Wednesday** Jl 2:12-18 Ps 51:3-6,12-14,17 2 Cor 5:20-6:2 Mt 6:1-6,16-18
- 26 Thu Dt 30:15-20 Ps 1:1-4,6 Lk 9:22-25
- 27 Fri Is 58:1-9a Ps 51:3-6,18-19 Mt 9:14-15
- 28 Sat Is 58:9b-14 Ps 86:1-6 Lk 5:27-32
- 1 Sun **1st Sunday of Lent** Gn 9:8-15 Ps 25:4-9 1 Pt 3:18-22 Mk 1:12-15

ALTAR SERVERS SCHEDULED

Next Weekend ~ February 28 & March 1

Saturday, 5:00pm:

Christina Smith, Mary Martellotta, Lauren Navarro

Sunday, 7:30am:

Jack Samuelson, Nick Rieger, Sam Dauria

Sunday, 9:00am:

Rachael Benz, Lauren Benz, Juliana Cruz

Sunday, 10:30am:

Emily Virgil, Caprie Romano, Juliana Baratta

SACRISTAN: Week of Feb. 22 Mary Ann Beikirch

LINENS: Week of March 1 Thelma Benwitz

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



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

Sunday, February 22 from 3:30 until 5:00 p.m.
Leadership Team Meeting in the Youth Center

Sunday, February 22 from 5:30 until 7:00 p.m.
Monthly Youth Group Gathering in the Parish Center gym for any youth in grades 6-12. All are welcome!!!!

Friday, February 27 from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m.
 Lenten Fish Fry Bake Sale in the Gym. Please come and support our Youth.

OLD BARN CAFÉ
In the Parish Center

MARCH SPECIALS

SERVING ON SUNDAYS 8:30-11:00am
Sharon Pucher & Jane Kunzog, Coordinators

We offer a "Special" each Sunday but we always have a traditional menu as well with items such as eggs (any way you like), bacon, sausage, pancakes, etc. So sit back, enjoy and let Breakfast Club serve you breakfast on Sunday mornings from September through May!

March 1 Dick Source and team will start this month with **Cinnamon Raisin French Toast** served with bacon or sausage and bottomless cup of coffee for \$4.00.

March 8 John O'Connor and team will offer **Ham and Cheese Breakfast Casserole** served with warm buttered toast and a bottomless cup of coffee for \$4.00.

March 15 They're Back! Sharon and Jane and Team 3 will feature their once a year special of **German Potato Pancakes** made with all fresh ingredients and cooked on site, served with bacon or sausage, homemade apple sauce and sour cream, plus a bottomless cup of coffee for a donation of \$4.25.

March 22 Team 4 run by the Clemens Family will offer their delicious **Egg Bake** served with warm buttered toast and a bottomless cup of coffee for \$4.00.

March 29 Mary Dailor and team are on the 5th Sunday of the month. Their special is **Cinnamon Swirl French Toast** served with bacon or sausage and bottomless cup of coffee for \$4.00.

*Happy Lent,
Jane*

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SAVE THE DATE!
CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY
Corned beef and cabbage dinner!

Tuesday, March 17 in the Parish Center

Keep watch in the bulletin for the date tickets go on sale. Only 200 tickets will be sold. No sales at the door! The Boland School of Irish Dancers will perform.

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The **WPCC Health Ministry** reminds you that February is Heart month so be Heart Smart. Don't smoke and avoid other's smoke. Have regular checkups and your blood pressure checked often. Limit saturated fat, cholesterol, salt and alcohol. Maintain proper weight. Stay physically active for 30 to 60 minutes/day.

ARE YOU NEW TO OUR PARISH?

Welcome to St. Rita Parish Community!

We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us and hope that your time with us will be prayerful. Here at St. Rita we encourage everyone to participate as fully as possible in our Liturgical celebrations as well as in the ministries of our parish. If you would like more information about St. Rita Church please go to our website at www.saintrita.org. If you would like to register with us please pick up a Welcome Packet (colored folder) located in the Church Library adjacent to the front doors of church. Feel free to call the parish office 671-1100 at any time if you have questions. We are happy to have you with us!

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The Spirituality of Weight Loss

In conjunction with the WPCC Health Ministry, the Church of the Holy Spirit will begin a 12-week program offering a spiritual approach to weight loss. The program merges the practical with the spiritual when used in combination with a credible weight loss program. Participants will seek to develop the willpower and inner strength required to succeed. The introductory session on **Wednesday, March 4 at 7:00pm** and will include a health professional to provide diet resources. Sessions will last one hour, and will **not** include a weigh-in. Our facilitator, Donna Fitch, experienced in Weight Watcher's Diet Workshop, and Ignatian Spirituality, has been involved in church ministry since late 1970's. The cost of the program is \$40/person, \$65/couple. If you are interested in participating, please contact **Deacon Brian** at bmahoney@dor.org, or call **671-8317**.

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Vocation Awareness

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's gospel, the people have trouble believing that Jesus can forgive sins. Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we have a powerful sign of God's mercy to those who are truly sorry for the sinfulness of their lives. The Catholic priest becomes God's minister to visibly assure those seeking forgiveness that God's mercy is theirs. Thank God for the priests of our diocese and please pray that others will answer God's call to serve in that way. If you'd like to know more about the path to priesthood in the Diocese of Rochester, contact the Office of Vocation Awareness @ 585-461-2890, www.dor.org/vocations, or by e-mail: vocations@dor.org

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SPEEDERS BEWARE !!!!

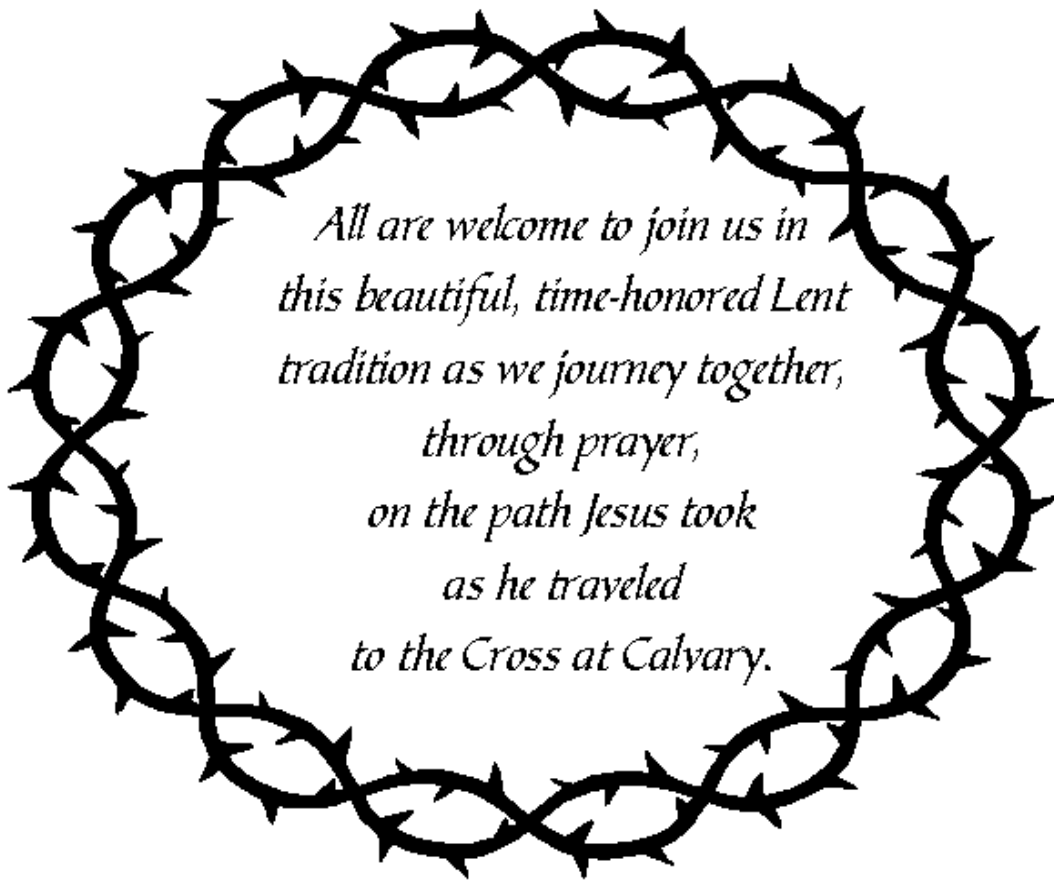
Those who use the St. Rita Facilities would appreciate your being considerate of them in your driving habits.



PLEASE SLOW DOWN! When entering, leaving or driving on this property! In the recent past accidents have occurred and now the Webster Police Department will be patrolling the lot at peek traffic times.

*St. Rita Church
Faith Formation Program
Presents*

"The Stations of the Cross" for Families



Friday, February 27, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, March 6, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, March 13, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, March 20, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, March 27, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, April 3, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Please note - this is not the "Living Stations" version.