

Stepping Stones to Stewardship

A Stewardship Prayer for Lent

Lord Jesus,
At this time of year, our thoughts are turned to the ultimate sacrifice you made for us on the cross. Inspire us to make whatever personal sacrifice that will bring us closer to you, and strengthen us in that sacrifice. Pope John Paul II reminded us that "simplicity, moderation, and discipline, as well as a spirit of sacrifice, must become a part of [our] everyday life, lest all suffer the negative consequences of the careless habits of a few." May our practice of sacrificial stewardship during this Lenten season lead us to the victory of the Resurrection. In your holy name, we pray, Amen.

Stewardship Live It!

CELEBRATION OF THE SCRUTINIES!

The celebration of the scrutinies is the last step in the preparation for receiving the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. The scrutinies are rites for self-searching and repentance and have above all a spiritual purpose. The scrutinies are meant to uncover, and then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, and then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good. The scrutinies are celebrated in order to deliver the elect from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life. These rites, therefore, should complete the conversion of the elect and deepen their resolve to hold fast to Christ and to carry out their decision to love God above all.

Because they are asking for the sacraments of initiation, the elect must have the intention of achieving an intimate knowledge of Christ and his church, and they are expected to progress in genuine self-knowledge through serious examination of their lives and true repentance.

* * * * *



MILITARY PHOTO PRAYER BOARD

There is a photo board of military members of St. Rita Parish located in the greeting area. PLEASE feel free to bring a photo of your loved one serving. We offer this board to ALL active duty and reservists; soldiers here as well soldiers serving overseas. It is important to know at this time we ask all of you to please remember all military members and their families in your prayers. If you have any questions or you need support please call Chrisann Collins at 671-1410.

Please keep in your prayers: John J. Collins, Jr., Nicholas Greco, Roger Herbert, Gretchen Specht-Herbert, Scott Hollander, Ryan Kohlmeier, Sean Leavy, Brandon Loveless, Jacob Perryman, Jonathan Specht, Eric Smith, Sasha Waver, Andy Zaiger, James Zaiger.

SPECIAL NEED: One of our youth is working on her Senior Project and is collecting items to send to those serving in our military.

If you are able to donate any of the following items there is a box for donations located below the Military Prayer Board in the greeting area in church or at the parish office: **Items needed are:** toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, magazines or newspapers, hard candy, gum, eye drops, lip balm, dental floss, sunscreen, single serve coffee, nuts, beef jerky, boot socks, paper, shoe laces, contact lens cleaner. Small sizes are best. Thanks for your help!

* * * * *

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

LENTEN FISH DINNERS

Served every Friday during Lent
5:00-7:00pm 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!** Fish dinners include coleslaw, french fries and a roll ~ \$9 for adults and \$8 for Seniors. Children's portions are available for \$5 - as well as Soft Drinks, Milk, Coffee & Tea.

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

* * * * *

SAVE THE DATE!!

Sunday, March 21 at 5:00pm

YOUTH FAMILY MASS at St. Rita Church

Hosted by the Catholic Webster Youth Committee (CWYC). Following the mass will be a "pot-luck" dinner and some community sharing. We are asking everyone to bring a dish to pass.

* * * * *

PARISH EASTER EGG HUNT

Sunday, March 28
from 1:00-3:00

in the Parish Center Gym



The Youth Group is hosting the annual Easter Egg Hunt for all children of the parish ages 1-11. Please pick up a registration form in the back of church. The "entrance fee" is 12 small plastic eggs and one (1) small bag of candy along with your registration form. **Please return your form and "fee" to the parish office no later than Tuesday, March 23.**



EUCCHARIST INTENTIONS

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

MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2010

7:00AM GLADYS HICKEY'S Birthday – Stella Beahan
9:15AM ANGELINA MAIASCO – Son & Family

TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2010

9:15AM JOSEPH MARASCO – Son & Family

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2010

7:00AM ANDREW CEGLINSKI – Barbara & Family
9:15AM ARTHUR CONN – Wife Phyllis

THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2010

7:00AM TINA RINERI – John & Edith Pastorella
9:15AM JAMES MORABITO – Elizabeth Dempsey

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2010

9:15AM ANTONIETTA CARMOSINO – Joseph Artari

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 2010

5:00PM VICTOR MACIEJEWSKI – Anne and Carol

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2010

7:30AM WILLIAM MYKINS, JR. and SR. –
The Reinhardt Family
9:00AM LUCILLE BUFANO –
Janice Coleman & Family
10:30AM ELLENMARIE SMITH –The Staszak Family

This week the Tabernacle Light will burn for healing and for the intentions of Kathleen Borgaro.

* * * * *  * * * * *

The **Catholic Relief Services Collection** will take place next weekend. In the regular collection basket you may place the CRS envelope located in your packet or a drop in a check made payable to CRS. These donations help to fund six Catholic organizations that improve the quality of life and protect human dignity. Your gift will support agricultural development to strengthen economies and create food sustainability, provide outreach services to survivors of human trafficking, and supply pastoral care and advocacy for immigrants and refugees. By helping the marginalized and impoverished, you give hope to Jesus in disguise.



COMPANIONS IN GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Thursday, March 18
7:30pm in Room 1

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

Pastor's Perspective



Through all the centuries, the three pillars of Lent have been: Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. Yet how we live out these exercises can offer many variations.

This past week on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday we had our Lenten Retreat, sponsored and held in all four parishes of the Webster-Penfield Catholic Connection (WPCC). We were privileged to have Dr. Joseph Kelly to lead us and I know that all of you who joined in found his presentations and insights very helpful. His theme was "Be still and know that I am God". He began the first day with the passage from 1 Kings 19 where Elijah hears God not in wind, or the earthquake or fire but, rather in a "tiny whispering sound".

Throughout the three days we were reminded that the most important part of prayer is not what we do or say, but rather in finding quiet - so that we can let God speak and act in us.

Here are some of the reflections he shared to help create that quiet space in our lives:

O rest in the Lord,
Wait patiently for him,
And he shall give thee thy heart's desires.
Mendelssohn's Elijah

For thus says the Lord God,
The Holy One of Israel:
In returning and rest shall you be saved,
In quietness and in trust your strength lies.
Isaiah 30:15

The words of the wise heard in quiet
Are better than the shouting of a ruler among fools.
Qoheleth 9:17

The life of a Christian ought to be like the ocean,
With the surface constantly battered about by storms,
but miles and miles below,
Deep peace, unmoved tranquility.
Archbishop Michael Ramsey

Peace ~ may this Lent help you to find quiet and hear God speaking to you in the "tiny whispering sound".

J. Clark

PLANS FOR THE WEEK

MARCH 7, 2010

SUNDAY 3/7

8:30-11:00am Breakfast Club – Gym

MONDAY 3/8

4:30-5:30pm Faith Formation Classes – School
 6:30-7:30pm Faith Formation Classes – School
 7:00pm Finance Council – Parish Office

TUESDAY 3/9

9:00am MOMS Group – Rm 3
 10:00-Noon Stephen Ministry – Rm 1
 1:00pm Recovery – Rm 3
 4:30-5:30pm Faith Formation Classes – School
 7:00pm Liturgy Committee – Parish Office

WEDNESDAY 3/10

2:30-3:15pm Children's Choir Rehearsal – Rm 3
 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal – Rm 3
 7:00-8:30pm Scripture Study Group – Rm 1
 7:00pm First Reconciliation – Church

THURSDAY 3/11

7:00-8:30pm Scripture Study Group – Rm 1
 9:00-10:30pm Men's Basketball – Gym

FRIDAY 3/12

5:00-7:00pm **FISH FRY – Gym**

PARISH SUPPORT
For Last Weekend February 27 & 28

Last Week	Weekly Goal For Feb. 2010	Variance
\$15,469	\$14,800	+ \$669
Year to Date	Year to Date Goal	Variance
\$525,486	\$532,300	- \$6,814

(Our fiscal year is 7/1/09 – 6/30/10)

Monthly Parish Center Mortgage Payment	\$2,725
Mortgage Balance as of February, 2010	\$164,227
Catholic Ministries Appeal Goal	\$112,502
Pledges Received to Date	\$106,416

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

ACT Now ~ Automatic Contribution Transfer
 Make your donation to St. Rita Church by automatic withdrawal directly from your bank account – with no charge to you! For information call Lisa at the parish office at 671-1100x12 ~ or initiate **"Direct Bill Payment"** through your own electronic banking account by directing your bank to mail your monthly/weekly contribution to St. Rita Church.



EASTER CANDY SALE

The St. Rita Society will hold their annual candy sale in the greeting area after all Masses until they're sold out! **Solid Milk Chocolate bunnies are \$4.00 each and Mint-Melt-Aways are \$2.00 per box.** Proceeds will be used for St. Rita Society Outreach Projects.

BIBLE READINGS:

- 7 Sun **3rd Sunday of Lent** Ex 3:1-8a,13-15 Ps 103:1-4,6-8,11 1Cor 10:1-6,10-12 Lk 13:1-9
- 8 Mon 2 Kgs 5:1-15b Ps 42:2-3;43:3-4 Lk 4:24-30
- 9 Tue Dn 3:25,34-43 Ps 25:4-9 Mt 18:21-35
- 10 Wed Dt 4:1,5-9 Ps 147:12-13,15-16, 19-20 Mt 5:17-19
- 11 Thu Jer 7:23-28 Ps 95:1-2,6-9 Lk 11:14-23
- 12 Fri Hos 14:2-10 Ps 81:6-11,14,17 Mk 12:28-34
- 13 Sat Hos 6:1-6 Ps 51:3-4,18-21 Lk 18:9-14
- 14 Sun **4th Sunday of Lent** Jos 5:9a,10-12 Ps 34:2-7 2 Cor 5:17-21 Lk 15:1-3,11-32

* * * * *

ALTAR SERVERS SCHEDULED
Next Weekend ~ MARCH 13 & 14

Saturday, 5:00pm:

Jack Meisenzahl, Ryan Meisenzahl, Bryan Meisenzahl

Sunday, 7:30am: Ashley Coumou and Olivia Zucaro

Sunday, 9:00am:

Juliana Cruz, Corina Cruz, Rachael Connor

Sunday, 10:30am:

Gabrielle Mara, Megan Hildenbrand, Kayla Gateson

* * * * *



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: Egg Bake served with warm buttered toast and a bottomless cup of coffee for \$4.00.

* * * * *

SACRISTAN:

Week of March 7

Shirl Mintz

LINENS:

Week of March 14

Jacqueline Volo

* * * * *

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 want to have fun together. **Check our website at www.saintrita.org** for more information and events.

Sunday, March 14 from 12:00-1:00pm

Jr. High Youth Group will meet at the Youth Center. Anyone in grades 6-8 is most welcome!

Sunday, March 14 from 1:30-3:00pm

Sr. High Youth Group will meet at the Youth Center. Anyone in grades 9-12 is most welcome!



St. Joseph Prayer

Saint Joseph, we seek to make a home in our hearts for Jesus, and so we pray for the same courage and trust in God you showed as you cared for Mary and Jesus. Patron and protector of the family, you faithfully fulfilled your duties in the family and in your labor.

Recognizing you as a model of a loving father and a faithful husband, we ask your prayers for us that we might welcome Jesus into our lives and faithfully follow Him until the end of our days. Amen

St. Joseph's Table in the Parish Center **Saturday, March 20** **after the 5:00pm Mass in Church**

Donations of food may be delivered on Saturday, March 21 after 12:00 Noon to the kitchen in the parish center. St. Joseph's Table will then be blessed by Father following the 5:00pm Mass in Church.

Suggestions for food donations are:

Vegetable Lasagna
Celery or Cardone fritters
Eggplant or Zucchini fried
Artichoke French or Casserole
Pasta with vegetables e.g. broccoli, bread crumbs
Pasta of honey toasted bread crumbs
Pasta with white or red clam sauce

Stuffed mushrooms
Meatless frittata
Greens & Beans
Spinach Casserole
Vegetarian pizza
Baked Ziti with meatless sauce

Desserts: Cookies (any kind), Cream puffs, Cannoli, Sfingi, Honey Balls, Pizzelles, Fruit

If you are able to help in any way with food, set up, clean up, or for more information please contact Elaine King at 671-4930 or Felice Armignacco at 671-5177.

May St. Joseph bless you for your help and assistance. Thank You.

Please see reverse side

Please make a visit to our:



St. Joseph's Table

**Saturday, March 20
in the Parish Center
after the 5:00pm Mass in Church**

**St. Joseph is the Patron Saint of
Family, Home, the Universal Church, Workers and of a happy death.**

We invite you to join us as we celebrate St. Joseph. The Table is meant to offer a taste of God's goodness and to honor St. Joseph. Joseph was the foster father of Jesus and husband of Mary, a man of great faith, humble and hardworking, a carpenter.

The tradition of the St. Joseph's Day Table began in Sicily in 1324 in thanksgiving for favors received from God through the intercession of St. Joseph. Legend has it that a small village was suffering from a severe drought. The people prayed for rain and promised that if their crops were spared, they would prepare a feast and feed the poor. Their prayers were answered and the tradition began. Today we offer the Table as a way to express our thankfulness for the blessings that God has bestowed on us, our parish, and for the great example of St. Joseph who cared so compassionately for his family – Mary and Jesus.

The foods on the table are traditional. Most likely they were the foods that were available during the spring season or left from the winter storage. They include green vegetables, beans, grains, eggs, honey and fruits. They are meatless except for fish. Elaborate breads formed in symbolic shapes and sweet baked goods decorate the tiered table as well as candles and fresh flowers. As you leave, each family should receive blessed bread, and an orange. These gifts are intended to remind us of the original tradition of caring for the poor and needy.

A box for a free will offering will be available. This donation will then be given to the HOPE House at Holy Trinity Church. Remember – "Whatever you do for the least of my sisters and brothers you do for me". (Matthew 25:40)

Please see reverse side