

MARCH 28, 2010

Stepping Stones to Stewardship

Christian stewardship is at the heart of what it means to be a Christian. God gives us the precious gift of life along with all of our talents, skills, and earthly possessions. We are not the owners of our worldly goods or resources. God is the rightful owner and we are compelled – not by law but by gratitude and our Christian faith – to use them according to God’s will.

Stewardship Live It!

OPERATION RICE BOWL

As part of our parish’s Lenten observance, we have participated in Catholic Relief Services’ Lenten program, Operation Rice Bowl. Please return your Lenten Coin Folders to church next weekend.



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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Registration for this year’s Vacation Bible School is now open. The program, The Fruits of the Spirit, will be held July 19-23 from 9:00am to

Noon each day and is limited to 200 participants entering Pre-K through Grade 6. For more information or to sign up a student, please visit the on-line form at <http://www.saintrita.org/committ/faith/VBS.shtml> or pick up a form in the back of church. If you would like to volunteer, you may fill out the form online at <http://www.saintrita.org/committ/faith/VBSvolunteer.shtml>. If you have any questions, please email saintritavbs@yahoo.com or call Elizabeth Kwiatkowski at 671-1997.

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St. Rita Society Presents:

A Spring Fashion Show and Luncheon

Tuesday, April 20 at 12:00 Noon
In our Parish Center.

The St. Rita Society is hosting its annual Spring Fashion Show with a catered lunch of Chicken French, broccoli, rice pilaf, salad, plus dessert! The Dress Barn in Webster will present their spring and summer fashions on our very own Ladies Society models and friends! **ONLY advanced sale tickets are available at the parish office for \$20. Deadline for reservations is April 13.** Don’t miss this wonderful opportunity to be with friends, see the latest fashions, and enjoy a delicious meal catered by Jim Waver of Classic Fare, and win raffles and gift baskets! For more information call Sharon Brennan at 545-4205.

SUNG EVENING PRAYER for Palm / Passion Sunday

Sunday, March 28 at 4:00pm in Church

Join together in Church for this wonderful opportunity to reflect on music and readings for Passion (Palm) Sunday, led by an a capella vocal ensemble.

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EASTER WEEKEND NEWS

Due to the anticipated crowds at the 9:00am and 10:30am Masses we will fill the church to capacity first and then direct folks to the gym where we have arranged for closed circuit video telecasting of the Mass in Church.

Please note that we will have the back door of the parish center (next to the school) unlocked for all Masses, which will allow you to walk up through the gym and into Church. Parking will also be available at the Armory across the street.

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CHILDREN’S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Due to the anticipated large crowd, we will not have Children’s Liturgy on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. We apologize for any inconvenience.

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BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD (and Easter Baskets!)

Saturday, April 3
11:00 am in Church

Come and be part of this wonderful Easter tradition. Children are invited to bring their Easter baskets.

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GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY PLACES

On Good Friday, our parish will take up the annual Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land. Your financial contribution helps to support the struggling Christian community and to protect Christianity’s holiest places. Please be generous.

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LENTEN FISH DINNER on Good Friday 5:00-7:00pm in the Parish Center



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.**



EUCHARIST INTENTIONS

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

MONDAY, MARCH 29, 2010

9:15AM JOHN THOMAS – Roland & Ruth LaCroix

TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 2010

9:15AM ELLENMARIE SMITH Coty & Natalie Brennan

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 2010

9:15AM MORNING PRAYER

Pastor's Perspective



Today's Palm Sunday liturgy begins with the blessing of the palms and the procession commemorating the Lord's entrance into Jerusalem. The Church sings out with "Hosanna to the Son of David". As we are about to begin the procession, the Deacon invites us: "Let us go forth in peace, praising Jesus our Messiah, as did the crowds who welcomed Him to Jerusalem"

As we begin this holiest week of the church year we are called to more than acting out an annual pageant. We are called to make this week different – to set aside other activities and priorities in order to follow Him with our hearts and to absorb all that He does for us . . . "One who did not know sin, became sin and died for us, that we might be redeemed."

Please note in the bulletin and the Lenten program, the schedule of the wonderful celebrations of the Sacred Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. This is the very heart of our faith journey. Paul said, "If Christ is not raised, then neither are we - indeed we are the biggest fools of all!"

I invite you this week to stop – and to follow: "Let us go forth in peace, praising Jesus our Messiah ..."

May this indeed be a Holy and Life-giving week for all of us.

Peace,

RESTORING OUR NORMAL LITURGICAL PRACTICES

Beginning with the celebration of the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, we will resume the distribution of the Precious Blood in the cup and the shaking of hands at the Sign of Peace.



If people are sick they should refrain from these practices. As always they are an option and we must respect people's freedom in this regard.

The Priests, Deacon and Communion Ministers will continue to sanitize their hands prior to and following the distribution of Communion.

Did You Know?

Our bulletin is available each week on-line at www.saintrita.org – check it out

The Parish Offices will be closed on Friday, April 2 in observance of Good Friday.

THE TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2010

8:30AM MORNING PRAYER

7:30PM MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Eucharistic Adoration will follow the Mass of the Lord's Supper until 11:00pm

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2010

8:30AM MORNING PRAYER

11:00AM CHILDREN'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS

3:00PM LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 2010

8:30AM MORNING PRAYER

11:00AM BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD

7:30PM EASTER VIGIL – FOR THE PEOPLE OF ST. RITA PARISH

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2010

7:30AM ROSELYN REMMINGDick & Jane Casper

9:00AM STANLEY POSLUSNY – Family

10:30AM MICHAEL & ANTONIETTA PICCIRILLO – Ralph & Rita Piccirillo

Additional parking for Easter Masses will be available across the street at the Armory.

This week the Tabernacle Light will burn for Eileen Wiesner

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LENTEN PENITENTIAL REGULATIONS ~ Good Friday is a day of both fasting and abstinence. **Abstinence** refers to not eating meat. All persons fourteen years of age and up are obliged to abstain. **Fasting** refers to eating one full meal a day with smaller portions that do not constitute a full meal at the other two meal times. Adults eighteen years of age up to the age of sixty are obliged to fast.

PLANS FOR THE WEEK MARCH 28, 2010

SUNDAY 3/28

8:30-11:00am Breakfast Club – Gym
4:00pm Sung Evening Prayer – Church

MONDAY 3/29

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

TUESDAY 3/30

9:00am MOMS Group – Rm 3
 1:00pm Recovery – Rm 3
 4:30-5:30pm Faith Formation Classes

WEDNESDAY 3/31

7:00-8:30pm Choir Rehearsal – Rm 3

HOLY THURSDAY 4/1

See Mass Schedule

GOOD FRIDAY 4/2

See Mass Schedule

11:00am Children's Stations of the Cross – Church
 5:00-7:00pm Fish Dinner – Gym

HOLY SATURDAY 4/3

11:00am Blessing of Easter Food – Church

BIBLE READINGS:

- 28 Sun **Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion** Lk 19:28-40 Is 50:4-7 Ps 22:8-9,17-20,23-24 Phil 2:6-11 Lk 22:14-23:56
- 29 Mon Is 42:1-7 Ps 27:1-3,13-14 Jn 12:1-11
- 30 Tue Is 49:1-6 Ps 71:1-6,15,17 Jn 13:21-33,36-38
- 31 Wed Is 50:4-9b Ps 69:8-10,21-22,31,33-34 Mt 26:14-25
- 1 Thu **Holy Thursday** Ex 12:1-8,11-14 Ps 116:12-13,15-18 1 Cor 11:23-26 Jn 13:1-15
- 2 Fri **Good Friday of the Lord's Passion** Is 52:13-53:12 Ps 31:2,6,12-13,15-17,25 Heb 4:14-16;5:7-9 Jn 18:1-19:42
- 3 Sat **Holy Saturday (Vigil)** Ex 14:15-15:1 Ex 15:1-6,17-18 Rom 6:3-11 Ps 118:1-2,16-17,22-23 Lk 24:1-12
- 4 Sun **Easter Sunday, The Resurrection of the Lord** Acts 10:34a,37-43 Ps 118:1-2,16-17,22-23 Col 3:1-4 Jn 20:1-9

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ALTAR SERVERS SCHEDULED

Next Weekend ~ APRIL 3 & 4

Saturday, 7:30pm: (Easter Vigil)

Kyle Swovick, Zach Barbeau, Vincent Waver

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

Sunday, 9:00am:

Victoria Ritzel, Noah Ritzel, Mary Grace Charleton

Sunday, 10:30am:

Marisa Rotolo, Sabrina Rotolo, Jamie Farris

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BREAKFAST CLUB

In the Parish Center

APRIL 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!

April 4 Kitchen is closed – **Happy Easter to all!**

April 11 John O'Connor and team will offer Cinnamon Swirl French Toast served with your choice of bacon or sausage and a bottomless cup of coffee for \$4.25.

April 18 Sharon, Jane and Team 3 will feature **Eggs Benedict** served with a bottomless cup of coffee for \$4.50.

April 25 The Clemens Family and Team 4 will offer their delicious **Egg Bake** served with warm buttered toast and a bottomless cup of coffee for \$4.00.

May 16 will be our last Breakfast for the season so if you haven't had breakfast with us yet, plan on attending soon! It's a real treat!

Love, Jane

PARISH SUPPORT
 For Last Weekend March 20 & 21

Last Week	Weekly Goal	Variance
\$11,512	For March 2010 \$14,800	- \$3,288
Year to Date	Year to Date Goal	Variance
\$568,272	\$576,700	- \$8,428

(Our fiscal year is 7/1/09 – 6/30/10)

Monthly Parish Center Mortgage Payment \$2,725
 Mortgage Balance as of March, 2010 \$162,446

Catholic Ministries Appeal Goal \$112,502
 Pledges Received to Date \$ 106,766

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.

SACRISTAN:

Week of March 28 Dan & Miriam Kennelly

LINENS: Week of April 4 Debbie Whitehair

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FOOD COLLECTION FOR THOSE IN NEED

Please remember to bring your nonperishable food items to church with you next weekend. Thank you!