

FEBRUARY 5, 2012

Stepping Stones to Stewardship

Like St. Paul in the second reading, the good steward can say, "I do all that I do for the sake of the Gospel in the hope of sharing in its blessings."

Stewardship Live It!

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ALL Women of our Parish are Invited!

ST. RITA SOCIETY COMMUNION BREAKFAST

**Sunday, February 12
following the 9:00am Mass**

Ladies please join us in Church for Mass at 9:00am then over to Glendoveers on Old Browncroft Road for a wonderful breakfast.

We are delighted to have **Betsy McDermott as our Guest Speaker**. She will share her "**Journey of Faith and Family across Four Continents**".

All are welcome! Tickets will be sold after all Masses this weekend and also at the parish office. Cost is \$7.00 for members and \$10 for non-members. **Deadline for reservations is Tuesday, February 7**. Any questions? Please call Kathy Foster at 671-4347.

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St. Rita School Hall of Fame Nominations Needed

We are looking for nominations for our 2nd St. Rita School Hall of Fame Class to be inducted at the 3rd Annual Blue & Gold Ball on April 27, 2012. This year's honorees will join Sr. Katherine Ann and Fr. Francis Kleehammer (posthumously) who were inducted at last year's event.

The St. Rita School Hall of Fame recognizes individuals who embody the ideals, principles and mission of St. Rita, and whose spirit and generosity have greatly influenced not only the school and parish community, but also the communities in which they live and work. Prospective nominees may include St. Rita alumni, parents, parishioners, faculty, staff, friends, and benefactors.

If you know of someone who you believe embodies these qualities and should be considered for recognition as a member of the 2012 Hall of Fame class, please let us know by completing a nomination form by February 10th. Any previous nominee submissions will be reconsidered this year. The form can be found on the school website: <http://schools.dor.org/strita>. If you have any questions please contact Cath Tytler at 248-2138. Thank you!!

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Did You Know? Our bulletin and other parish information is available on-line at www.saintrita.org

Boy Scouting Celebrates Scout Sunday and Awards Religious Emblems to Scouts

Scouting has a tremendous potential for developing Christian leadership. It provides a unique opportunity for young people to grow in faith, life, and leadership. The Boy Scouts of America has consistently stressed the necessity of the spiritual life for youth and the importance of dependence on God.

Youth ministry today demands a total commitment to youth -- a commitment that must be totally Christ leading. Scouting, with its many programs and activities, can bring a Scout to a greater knowledge of God through nature and comradeship.

Through the Religious Emblems program of the Catholic Committee on Scouting, a boy can learn how to put his faith and his Scouting together in an integrated learning experience. By working on the religious emblem for his age, a boy reinforces what he learns in the parish religious education program.

The following emblems were earned this year at St. Rita's chartered units (5 from Cub Scout Pack 163 and 8 from Boy Scout Troop 163). Each will be honored at a special Diocesan Recognition Ceremony at Sacred Heart Cathedral on April 21st. Congratulations!

LIGHT OF CHRIST ~ The Light of Christ emblem (generally grades 1-2) encourages Tiger Cubs and Wolf Cub Scouts to develop a personal relationship with Jesus. With active participation of the parent(s), the Scout comes to see Jesus as a real person and friend.



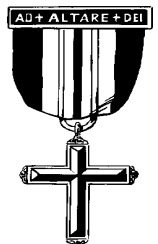
Charles Hurley

PARVULI DEI ~ The Parvuli Dei emblem (grades 3-5) is designed to help Bear and Webelos Cub Scouts become more aware of God's presence in their daily lives, especially in their homes and communities. The program is performed with the assistance of the Scout's parent(s).



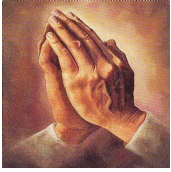
**Nate Cleary Brandon Connor
Mark Dobner Spencer Kohrt**

AD ALTARE DEI ~ The Ad Altare Dei emblem assists Boy Scouts to develop a fully Christian way of life in their faith communities. The program is organized in steps based on the seven sacraments. Adherence to these sacraments is a primary means of developing spiritual growth. The Scout is assisted in the program by an approved religious emblem counselor.



**Joseph Aldridge
Chris Helber
Brandon Link
Jeremiah Smith**

**Michael Facci
Francis Heroux
Paul Padgett
Peter Swovick**



EUCCHARIST INTENTIONS

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2012

7:00AM ALICE O'CONNOR – Diane & Family
9:15AM ELEANOR HANLEY – Chuck & Jackie Volo

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2012

9:15AM CHARLES EWANOW – Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Kennelly

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2012

7:00AM WILLIAM BUSHART – The Ushers
9:15AM ADELE ARSENAULT – Daniel & Miriam Kennelly

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2012

7:00AM LENA VARGAS – Ed & Carol Wynne & Family
9:15AM JOSEPH PILATO – Wife & Family

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2012

9:15AM DENNIS MURTAUGH – Family

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2012

5:00PM RICHARD, MARILYN & DAVID DI MARIA – Dick DiMaria

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2012

7:30AM JOSIE & CRAIG AUSTIN – John Lawlor
9:00AM CHRISTINE CANNITO & ELEANOR HANLEY – The St. Rita Society
10:30AM CHARLES FASCHINI – Josephine Kompanijec

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This week the Tabernacle Light will burn in loving memory of William Del Proice

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COMPANIONS IN GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Wednesday, February 15
7:30pm in the Youth Center

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

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WEDDING JUBILEE MASS WITH BISHOP CLARK

Bishop Matthew Clark will celebrate a Wedding Jubilee Mass to honor couples who have been married 25 years or more on Sunday, May 6th at 2:00pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Rochester. A reception will follow the Mass to honor the attendees. If you would like an invitation to this Mass please send your name and address to Sylvia Mancuso at smancuso@dor.org or call her at 1-800-388-7177 or 585-328-3228, ext. 1295.



Pastor's Perspective

In Mark's Gospel today Jesus is surrounded with a crowd of folks who come to him with all sorts of needs. "When it was evening after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons . . . The whole town was gathered at the door." After caring for each of them, he must have been exhausted.

Even Jesus needed to go apart for silent prayer to keep things in balance and to be in touch with his Father. Like him, in our busy and noise-filled lives we too need to go apart . . . "To be still and know that he is God" and that he is present for us in the stillness.

Many years ago, Fr. Henri Nouwen wrote a meditation on this passage. It's found in his book Out of Solitude and it goes like this:

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there." In the middle of sentences loaded with action – healing suffering people, casting out devils, responding to impatient disciples, traveling from town to town and preaching from synagogue to synagogue – we find these quiet words: "In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there." In the center of breathless activities we hear a restful breathing. Surrounded by hours of moving we find a moment of quiet stillness. In the heart of much involvement there are words of withdrawal. In the midst of action there is contemplation. And after much togetherness there is solitude. The more I read this nearly silent sentence locked in between the loud words of action, the more I have the sense that the secret of Jesus' ministry is hidden in that lonely place where he went to pray, early in the morning, long before the dawn.

In the lonely place Jesus finds the courage to follow God's will and not his own; to speak God's words and not his own; to do God's work and not his own. He reminds us constantly "I can do nothing by myself . . . my aim is to do not my own will, but the will of him who sent me" (Jn 5:30). And again, "The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work" (Jn 14:10). It is in the lonely place, where Jesus enters into intimacy with the Father, that his ministry is born.

I want to reflect on this lonely place in our lives. Somewhere we know that without a lonely place our lives are in danger. Somewhere we know that without silence words lose their meaning, that without listening speaking no longer heals, that without distance closeness cannot cure. Somewhere we know that without a lonely place our actions quickly become empty gestures. The careful balance between silence and words, withdrawal and involvement, distance and closeness, solitude and community forms the basis of the Christian life and should therefore be the subject of our most personal attention.

Peace,

PLANS FOR THE WEEK FEBRUARY 5, 2012

SUNDAY 2/5

8:30-11:00am Breakfast Club – Gym

MONDAY 2/6

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

TUESDAY 2/7

9:00am MOMS Group – Rm 3
10:30-Noon Prayer Shawl Gathering – Youth Center
1:00pm Recovery – Rm 3
4:30-5:30pm Faith Formation Classes
7:00-8:30pm Lite Choir – Rm 3

WEDNESDAY 2/8

2:30-3:15pm Children's Choir Rehearsal – Rm 3
7:00-8:30pm Choir Rehearsal – Rm 3
7:00-8:30pm Bible Study Group 1 – Rm 1
9:00-10:30pm Men's Basketball – Gym

THURSDAY 2/9

7:00-8:30pm Bible Study Group 2 – Rm 1
9:00-10:30pm Men's Basketball – Gym

BIBLE READINGS:

- 5 Sun **Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time** Jb 7:1-4,6-7 Ps 147:1-6 1 Cor 9:16-19,22-23 Mk 1:29-39
- 6 Mon **St. Paul Miki and Companions** 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13 Ps 132:6-10 Mk 6:53-56
- 7 Tue 1 Kgs 8:22-23,27-30 Ps 84:3-5,10-11 Mk 7:1-13
- 8 Wed 1 Kgs 10:1-10 Ps 37:5-6,30-31,39-40 Mk 7:14-23
- 9 Thu 1 Kgs 11:4-13 Ps 106:3-4,35-37,40 Mk 7:24-30
- 10 Fri **St. Scholastica** 1 Kgs 11:29-32;12:19 Ps 81:10-15 Mk 7:31-37
- 11 Sat 1 Kgs 12:26-32;13:33-34 Ps 106:6-7,19-22 Mk 8:1-10
- 12 Sun **Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time** Lv 13:1-2, 44-46 Ps 32:1-2,5,11 1 Cor 10:31-11:1 Mk 1:40-45

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**ALTAR SERVERS SCHEDULED
Next Weekend ~ February 11 & 12**

Saturday, 5:00pm

Neil LaVigne, Ben Meisenzahl, Bryan Meisenzahl

Sunday, 7:30am:

Brigid Flaherty, Maggie Flaherty

Sunday, 9:00am:

Victoria Ritzel, Michael Facci, Danielle Salina

Sunday, 10:30am:

Vincent Waver, Edmund Stubbings, Arielle Atmosfera

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SACRISTAN: Week of February 5

Shirl Mintz

LINENS: Week of February 12

Thelma Benwitz

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**PARISH SUPPORT
For Last Weekend ~ January 28 & 29**

Last Week	Weekly Goal For Jan. 2012	Variance
\$10,983	\$15,000	-\$4,017
Year to Date	Year to Date Goal	Variance
\$469,184	\$477,350	-\$8,166

(Our fiscal year is 7/1/11 – 6/30/12)

Our Catholic Ministries Appeal Goal	\$137,008
Pledges Received to Date	\$121,010
Balance Due	\$ 15,998

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

We all grow spiritually when we share.

ACT Now ~ Automatic Contribution Transfer

It is easy to make your financial contribution to St. Rita Church by automatic withdrawal directly from your bank account – with no charge to you! Sign-up sheets are available in the back of Church or for more information please call Lisa at the parish office at 671-1100 x 12.

You can initiate **"Direct Bill Payment"** through your own electronic banking account by directing your bank to mail your monthly/weekly contribution to St. Rita Church at 1008 Maple Dr., Webster, NY 14580.

BREAKFAST CLUB NEWS!



Join us in the parish center every Sunday morning from 8:30-11:00am. We offer full service with a complete breakfast menu and special of the day!

Next Week's Special: Waffles with a Special Toppings Bar served with your choice of bacon or sausage for a donation of \$4.25.



2011 Catholic Ministries Appeal

The Catholic Ministries Appeal provides funding for important programs, services and ministries that strengthen our whole Church. We need your financial support to reach our potential. St. Rita's share of the CMA goal for 2011 is \$137,008 and we are currently \$16,000 short of our goal which is our responsibility. So far 834 of our 2500 households have responded to the CMA. (33% participation) If you have not yet responded, please give consideration to your financial participation. Extra pledge cards are available in the greeting area. Thank you to all those who have pledged! Every gift is needed and important! For more information or to give online please go to www.dor.org

National Catholic Youth Conference Reflections - and Thanks!

On behalf of all of the youth and chaperones, who attended the National Catholic Youth Conference in November 2011 in Indianapolis, IN, we say Thank You! A special thank you goes out to Fr. Chuck, St. Rita Staff, St. Rita Parish Community, the St. Rita Society, the Knights of Columbus, the K of C Ladies Auxiliary and Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks for their donations, support and prayers as we embarked on this amazing pilgrimage. The following is a gathering of comments and reflections from some members of the group who traveled from St. Rita's to the NCYC in Indianapolis.
~ Mary Jo DiNoto

Only once in a lifetime can someone have an experience such as mine at NCYC. For one weekend, thousands of Catholic youth just like me had the privilege of gathering in a place where there was no pushing or shoving, and youth were eager to give "free hugs." The guests, including Steve Angrisano and Jesse Manibusan, were extremely touching and had very powerful messages. One of my most powerful God moments was the moment of silence. I found it truly amazing that a stadium full of 25,000 people could create complete silence, when many of my teachers can't even quiet a class of 25. The true meaning of this experience to me was profound, beyond the reach of words, and helped me to take another step in my relationship with God.
Abby Wezelis

NCYC really gave me the chance to get closer to God, good friends and other Catholic youths from all over the United States! This was my second time attending NCYC and the experience was a new journey to Christ compared to the first. I would advise any one who is able to go on the next pilgrimage to go because it is a really heart warming, eye opening pilgrimage.
Leah Hecht

My experience at NCYC was one of the greatest in my life. The motivational speakers that shared some of their life experiences were so powerful and moving. This pilgrimage is now a memory that I will carry for the rest of my life.
Eric Philippone

My mind was absolutely blown!! It was amazing to see so many teenagers gathered together because they all believe in the same faith. There's a sense of community, of oneness, and an energy that explodes inside you. Those kids, most of whom have probably fallen asleep once in school after staying up too late, were so filled with the Holy Spirit, they were jumping up and down in perfect synchrony at 8:00am in the morning, running on about 6 hours of sleep over the past 2 days. Going to something like NCYC, changes you, wakes you up inside, and you go home a new person, ready to spread the joy and love you felt with others.
Sami Scott

I cannot put into words what we experienced at NCYC in Indianapolis. 25,000 people gathered together in a stadium sharing the same faith is very moving and emotional – definitely the Holy Spirit working its power. Having the opportunity to watch and listen to our own youth share their experiences with one another was truly awesome. After attending the workshops, I came home feeling very much at peace with myself and my life. We all shared a very special bond for the five days we were together – one I will never forget. Thank you for the wonderful opportunity, and I look forward to attending other NCYC's in the future.
Carol Wezelis

National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) is the greatest experience of my life and if you go it will easily be one of the best experiences for you as well. Being with 25,000 other Catholic youth who share the same views as you is awesome! The people you will meet there are the nicest, coolest people you will ever meet. Trust me you do not want to miss this opportunity, you won't regret it because you don't know what happens but yet you will. IT'S GONNA BE HUGGGE, ST RITA'S YOUTH, HUGGEE!!!
Ray Smith

I think one of the things that stuck out for me is that at the end of the conference a senior was telling me he wished NCYC did not have to end! When you have youth not wanting the journey to end and others already trying to figure out how they are going to do this again in two years because they are enjoying the uplifting spirit of God's presence that speaks volumes. I loved seeing the joy and peace that our group experienced because they were walking and talking and growing in their faith. It is better than any party you could ever go to because it is all about growing in your faith.
Christine Cook, chaperone

For me, it was the most amazing spiritual journey – seeing 25,000 Catholic youth from around the country all gathered in one place to celebrate their faith! There was fun and lots of laughs as everyone traded goofy hats, pins and necklaces but really all that did was help break the ice to meet other people and share stories. The music and dancing, shouting and singing were all so uplifting that we were swept up in the joy and wonder of God. Watching the kids from St. Rita's experience all this and sharing our "God moment" from the day was touching. I got to know some amazing kids and adults on this trip. We prayed, we laughed, we cried, we grew in our faith and deepened our bond with God. I can't wait to go again!
Eileen Philippone, chaperone

My NCYC experience was absolutely amazing. It's hard to describe the feeling in the stadium as you walk in and see over 25,000 teens that all share your faith and beliefs. One of the main high lights of this pilgrimage was getting to meet Steve Angrisano and Jesse Manibusan in person. We just got back and I'm ready to go again in 2013! Will you make the pilgrimage?
Bristol Cook

NCYC this year was an amazing experience. Walking into the stadium and seeing the thousands of other teens with the same faith was unbelievable. Being able to sing and pray with them was honestly a blessing. The key note speakers were so inspirational as well.
Erin Hasso

NCYC was an exhilarating and faith-filled experience for me as a Catholic, a chaperone, and a parent. Being able to participate with over 25,000 teenagers gathered together to share and express their Catholic faith renewed my hope for the future of the Church and our society. It was a phenomenal experience I would recommend to anyone considering attending a future NCYC. Thank you to all who supported our pilgrimage!
Chuck Hasso, chaperone

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 to share their faith and beliefs and want to have fun together. Check out our website at www.saintrita.org.

Sunday, February 12 from 5:30- 7:00pm

Combined Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group will meet in the Parish Center Gym. All youth in grades 6-12 are welcome! Bring a friend!



SENIOR HIGH YOUTH RETREAT!

Over Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend, 16 youth, 6 young adult leaders and 7 adult leaders along with Fr. Hoan, spent a wonderful weekend at Gorham Lodge in Canandaigua.

A time spent sharing, praying, laughing, talking, listening, singing and bonding with God and each other. Through various activities in a large group setting as well as small group sessions, everyone had a chance to get to know God and each other on a deeper level. We enjoyed "free time" for games, sports, walks, talks, listening to music and hanging with friends.

If you will be in grades 9-12 this coming Fall consider joining us next year for this great get-away!



HANDS OF CHRIST AWARD 2012

It is that time of year - time to nominate a high school senior from the graduating class of 2012 for the Hands of Christ Award. The Hands of Christ is a recognition program to assist parishes in affirming their high school seniors who have been the "Hands of Christ" in their church, home, school and community.

A nominated senior needs to meet the following criteria:

- + Demonstrate a Christian attitude by word & example
- + Been actively involved in their parish as well as their school community
- + Been a positive role model for their peers
- + Is a participating Roman Catholic in a parish in the Diocese of Rochester
- + Is currently a High School Senior

Nomination forms are in the greeting area in church, at the parish office or online at saintrita.org and click on the Youth Group page. **All nominations are due by Monday, February 6.**

To nominate a senior please e-mail or send a nomination form or letter stating examples of the above criteria including the nominees name, address, phone number and school to: St. Rita's Church ~ 1008 Maple Dr., Webster, NY 14580 Attn: Mary Jo Di Noto, Youth Minister or mdinoto@dor.org

Thank you for your support of the youth ministry program. We have many great seniors present in this parish and it is important to recognize all of their hard work and dedication to the church community. If you have questions, please call Mary Jo at 671-1100 x18.