

Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday April 19, 2009

Stewardship is a way of life.

Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

Tithing income: April 12, 2009	\$ 1995.50
Income for April 13, 2008	\$ 1620.25
Income for April 15, 2007	\$ 2188.50
Student Offerings	\$ 3.75

Next week's tithe: Next week's tithe will be for the Catholic Home Missions..

From the pastor: As the parish CEO, I am overwhelmed with joy and gratitude that tithing has generated additional funds for us just when we needed them the most as we work towards the paying of our debt for the new construction.

Comments on Tithing from the pews: Although tithing is not always easy for us financially, it has given my wife and I a renewed outlook on many things in our lives, we spend more time doing family activities that don't cost "money", and now our children look forward to game night and movie and popcorn night at home!

My Good Deed for the Week: Here's what several of our young people offered as their tithe, in addition to their financial gift: A 3rd grader said, "I helped brother and sister make cards for Mom's birthday." A 6th grader said, "I dusted all the furniture and put away the laundry for my mom." A 1st grader said, "I picked up all my toys without being told to."

FROM THE PASTOR

Weekly Reflection: "Oh, I see!" someone may say to us. Little children play peek-a-boo and say "I see you!" "Go and see who's at the door," a parent might say to one of their youngsters. The word "see" has many meanings, although in one way or another they are all related. When we "see" in the literal sense of using our eyes, we mean to regard or notice something. Metaphorically, to see means to comprehend, understand, have something dawn on us; it always implies an awakening. As Thomas says to the other disciples in this Sunday's gospel, he must see the risen Lord for himself, or he "will not believe." Thomas is actually bridging the literal and metaphoric meanings. He wants to "see" in the sense of real-he wants to put "his" finger into the nailmarks and put (his) hand into his side." He also wants to go from disbelief to belief.

With the appearance of the risen Lord on Easter evening, the disciples (less Thomas) pass over from fear to rejoicing, from disbelief to belief. This transformation however, is incomplete-a week later, the disciples are still hiding behind locked doors. Yet the risen Lord does not abandon them, but continues to make his presence known not only to the disciples who saw him the week before, but now also to Thomas who is present, sees, and comes to belief. This is good news for us. No matter how halting our belief in the resurrection, the risen Lord is relentless in leading us to belief and to the new life this belief brings.

Thomas is convenient stand-in for all of us as we strive to deepen our belief in the risen Lord. Unlike Thomas, however, we do not literally "see" the risen Lord. We do encounter Christ in the ministry

of the believing community being of "one heart and mind," bearing "witness," sharing our goods so that there is "no needy person among" us (first reading). This is also how the risen Lord comes among us in those in need, in those who reach out in self-giving to help those in need. Going from disbelief to belief is not a mental exercise. It is encountering the risen Lord in the people and circumstances around us.

Easter octave: Two great festivals still retain an octave on the 1969 Revised General Roman Calendar: Christmas and Easter. For eight days we celebrate with great solemnity the joy of the festival; for example, we may sing the sequence every day during the octave of Easter and no other celebration may take the place of these eight days.

Eight is an important symbolic number and its meaning for an octave is something of the same meaning as when the early Christians called Sunday the "eighth day." Our week has seven days and so to speak of an eighth day is to speak of a day beyond our human reckoning of time-beyond time, belonging to the end times. Theologically, this refers to "eschatological" time when Jesus Christ will return in all his glory to gather everything back to God at the end and fullness of time. Thus, the Easter octave means more than simply going from one Sunday to the next, it heightens our expectation that the risen life we celebrate is the same life that we will one day share the Trinity in everlasting glory.

PARISH NEWS

Thank you: We would like to thank the Women's Guild for sponsoring the Easter Egg Hunt after mass on Sunday, the children as always had a good time looking for the eggs.

CAP (Caring About Parishioners) needs you! CAP has been doing great things for the parishioners of Saint Jude's Church by providing meals, gifts, prayers, etc. to those who have lost a loved one, had a baby or is just in need of a little caring. In fact, we have been doing so much that we need some more volunteers to help out. Please consider volunteering! A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. If you think you are already signed up, please check and make sure I have your name on the list. With more help, we will be able to do even more for those in our parish. Thank you and God Bless! Contact Elizabeth Armstrong with questions or if someone you know needs CAP call 527-4869.

St. Jude Parish Celebrates 50 years in Juniata County: Did you see the banner on the way in to church today?!?! Our parish celebration has officially begun! Can you believe, 50 years? We have SO MUCH for which to be thankful. We will officially celebrate our 50th parish anniversary on Sunday, May 3 @ 3 pm. We will have a special Evening Prayer of Thanksgiving and a parish pot-luck supper (meats & drinks provided) to celebrate. Sign up sheets are in the social hall.

Altar Server Workshops: All altar servers are asked to attend 2 of the three Saturday workshops: April 25th from 9 – 11 a.m.; and May 9th from 9-11 a.m. Children who have received First Holy Communion are also welcome to attend as new servers. Questions: call Fr. Thoms: 436-6722.

Please Note: The Women's Guild movie night scheduled for April 24th has been cancelled.

Cleaning Help: Now that we have this beautiful new church, we need help keeping it clean. I am working on a schedule, and am hoping to get enough families to volunteer their time so that they may only have to clean one or two weekends a year. I will be in the social hall with the sign-up sheets, please stop over and sign-up for a cleaning weekend.

MASS SCHEDULE



Sun. April 19 – (Acts 4:32-35; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31)

9:15am – Judith Perez

Mon. April 20 – (Acts 4:23-33; John 3: 1-8)

9:00am – Edward Casey

Tues. April 21 – (Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7b-15)

Wed. April 22 – (Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3: 16-21)

Thurs. April 23 – (Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36)

Fri. April 24 – (Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15)

9:00am – Betty Gregory

Sat. April 25 – Feast of St. Mark (Peter 5:5-14; Mk 16:15-20)

5:00pm (English) – People of the Parish

6:30pm (Spanish) – Betty Szada

Sun. April 26 – (Acts 3:13-19; 1 Jn 2:1-5; Lk 24:35-48)

9:15am – Elizabeth Wesneski

Items needed for Women's Guild Yard Sale: As you are doing your spring cleaning, please remember that the guild is having a yard sale on Saturday, May 16th and would appreciate donations of unwanted items. Remember, your "trash" *could* be someone else's "treasure!"

OTHER NEWS

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land & Oberammergau Passion Play – July 14-23, 2010: Experience the Passion Play surrounded by the beauty of the Bavarian hills in the village of Oberammergau, Germany. A fulfillment of a promise to God for sparing this village from the black plague, every villager participates in this presentation, which is done on a magnificent scale every 10 years. Your pilgrimage begins with a visit to Israel, walking the same shores, streets and towns Jesus walked during his ministry on earth. Complete this "once-in-a-lifetime" journey with the Passion Play in Oberammergau and come to know Scripture in a new light. Dates for this program are July 14-23, 2010 and package price is all-inclusive out of Newark Airport – approximately \$4600, but costs are fluctuating a great deal. If interested, please contact Fr. Bateman. Flyers are in the pamphlet rack or available on the parish website: StJudeMifflintown.org.

Food Pantry Needs for April; Any non-perishable food item, first aid supplies, over the counter pain and cold medicine, bandages, anti-biotic ointments, q-tips and feminine sanitary napkins.

Discounted Hersheypark Tickets: Discounted tickets are available to *Hersheypark* to parishioners and their families at a significant savings. Regular admission price is \$52.95 for adults; *the discounted price is \$ 28.50 (a savings of 45%)*. Regular admission for children (ages 3-8) and Seniors (ages 55-69) is \$30.95; *the*

discounted price is \$ 24.00. Tickets are valid any day the Park is open during the regular public season. Orders must be received at the parish by April 20. Parishes will receive the tickets by May 19. Order forms are available in the pamphlet rack at the entrance.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

WHERE WOULD YOU BE TODAY WITHOUT YOUR CATHOLIC EDUCATION? If you are in a position to financially assist local families to send their children to Sacred Heart of Jesus School, Fr Bateman, Sister Marie, or Sue Parzanese would like to hear from you. An "Adopt A Student" Program is being considered so that those whom God has blessed can "financially" adopt a child who would like to attend our Catholic school. Perhaps you could consider it as your 5% tithe to other charities? If you are a product of Catholic Education (or if your children are), please search your heart to assist our parish children in this way - You will be blessed!

"More Than An Auction" Please note that the rummage sale that was scheduled to be held as part of this activity has been postponed until July, more information will follow.

Auction Items Needed: We are looking for any type of donations to be auctioned off for the silent or oral auction. If you can donate an item call B.J.Newcamp (436-9572) or beedgewolf@aol.com

