

# Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2009

## Stewardship is a way of life.

### Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

Tithing income: Dec. 6, 2009	\$2248.50
Income for Dec. 7 2008	\$2013.50
Income for Dec. 9, 2007	\$1919.00
Students	\$ 2.25

**Next week's tithe** will be for the helping hands.

**From a 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 completion of our construction project. But as Pastor and Spiritual Leader of the parish, I am most grateful that so many people are trusting God enough to adopt His biblical Plan for giving and are thereby reaping the spiritual and material benefits thereof."

**Rev. Edward R. Scott**

St. Thomas More & St. Mary, Lake Ariel, PA

**Comments on tithing from the pews:** "I heard a mission appeal during vacation. It described all the many things that I have taken for granted and that other people neither have nor have ever experienced. I have learned to appreciate what I have instead of complaining about what I would like to have. I have also learned to share what I have with other people who don't have."

A parishioner

**Rev. Marcello J. Latona**

Holy Trinity, Whitestone, NY

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> grader said, "I helped stack wood." A 5<sup>th</sup> grader said, "I put bikes away." A 6<sup>th</sup> grader said, "I helped bake cookies to take to the nursing home."

## From the Pastor:

### **March for Life**

Meditating on Christ's birth from Mary this season – and throughout the year – draws our attention to the sanctity of human life in the womb. Drawing near is the Jan. 22 anniversary of the infamous 1973 Roe v. Wade U.S. Supreme Court decision, which legalized abortion. This parish will be ready with a response to that decision. It is our planned trip to the annual March for Life.

This is the huge people's procession through the streets of our nation's Capitol every Jan. 22, witnessing to citizen support for life and opposition to abortion.

I have attended many times and find it very inspiring. Though technically not an official religious event, the Catholic Church is out in full force. Before the march, speeches are given from the high central stage, and many Catholic bishops are up there, visible to the crowd. They are always introduced by the emcee, name-by-name.

It is edifying to hear congressmen and senators step up to the microphone proclaiming their legislative support for life. Listening to them I think that, hey, maybe we pro-lifers are not so alone in society after all. Some in the corridors of power do support us. Other clergy and pro-life leaders also speak. .

Hundreds of thousands do the main walk from the Mall to the Capitol building, maybe 2 miles. Some go a few blocks further to the U.S. Supreme Court building and continue the sign waving, praying and singing. What a thrill to see the big number of high school and college students among us. That gives hope for the future. Are we looking toward a pro-life generation of leaders coming up? Sweet.

Our bus will arrive in Washington D.C. on Jan. 21 for a lunch and tour of the John Paul II Cultural Center, followed by the 6:30 p.m. pro-life Mass at the huge nearby National Shrine of the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception (one of the largest churches in the world). As always, there will be about 30 bishops in the sanctuary, hundreds of priests celebrating and thousands attending.

We will be overnight at the Days Inn Pentagon. The next day we will be for brunch and a 9 a.m. Mass back at the Basilica and then, via the Metro, off to the Mall for the speeches and then the march itself. We will be back to our area by about 10 p.m.

Along with adults, we are encouraging teenagers to go. Yes, it is two days off school but so what? Take the plunge for God and God will bless you. With permission from parents, you can get the okay from school officials.

Registration is \$100 per person. More information is in the church vestibule and at the parish office. Also, ask Fr. Thoms who is organizing details. Come and cap Christmas with the March for Life.

Fr. Bill

**Empire Kosher Sign:** Parish Council is considering permission for Empire Kosher Poultry plant (located about a ½ mile from our Church), to put up a directional sign on the far corner of our property, near the corner of Old Route 22 and Chicken Plant road. Council passed a motion, 5-2, at their December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, tentatively approving the plan, contingent upon approval of the final contract, to voted on at the next Parish Council meeting, Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup> @ 7 p.m. The contract would be renewable on a year-to-year basis, with either party able to terminate the agreement at the expiration of the contract year (December 31<sup>st</sup>), with Empire then removing the sign within about a month. Empire would pay the Parish \$1,200 per year for placement of the sign, payable in full at the beginning of each contract year. The sign would show the Empire logo with an arrow pointing in the direction of the Plant. Final approval, of course, is also contingent upon all municipality permits being obtained and all fees paid by Empire. As Pastor, I have talked with a parishioner who was a former company employee and is now an independent union representative of the Empire employees. He said that he believed allowing the sign would be a good thing for good relations between the Parish and the Plant, which employs many parishioners. He said that worker conditions at Empire have improved greatly over the years and that it is a good place to work. Anyone wishing to offer input on the final vote my talk to either priest, to Parish Council members, or may show up at the January 4<sup>th</sup> meeting @ 7 p.m.

Fr. Bill

## MASS SCHEDULE



**Sun. Dec. 13** – (Zep 3:14-18, Phil 4:4-17, Luke 3:10-18)

9:15am – Frank and Mary Schilling

**Mon. Dec. 14 – St. John of the Cross (Mem)**

(Num 24:1-17, Matt 21:23-27)

9:00 am – Dorothy Spanglo

**Tues. Dec. 15** – (Zep 3:1-13, Matt 21:28-32)

**Wed. Dec. 16** – (Isaiah 45:6-25, Luke 7:18-23)

**Thurs. Dec. 17** – (Gen 49:2-10, Matt 1:1-17)

**Fri. Dec. 18** – (Jer 23:5-8, Matt 1:18-25)

9:00 am – Dorothy Redmond

**Sat. Dec. 19** – (Judges 13:2-25, Luke 1:5-25)

5:00 pm (English) – Joe and Mary Puma

6:30 pm (Spanish) – Charles Boyer

**Sun. Dec. 20** – (Micah 5:1-4, Heb 10:5-10, Luke 1:38)

9:15 – People of the Parish

## PARISH NEWS & ACTIVITIES

**Advent Penance Service: Today, Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> @ 7 p.m.** The confessors are: Father Bill Weary, Father Thoms and Father George Koharchik, Pastor of St. Catherine of Sienna, Mount Union.

**Traditional Latin Mass retreat at St. Jude:** We want to ascertain how many people would be interested in participating in a retreat on the Traditional Latin Mass at St. Jude. If we have enough people, we will then schedule a date and time for Fr. Frank Parrinello, Pastor of the *Mater Dei* Community in Harrisburg, to come to St. Jude and give a workshop on the Traditional Latin Mass. Following catechesis, he will offer the Traditional Latin Mass here at St. Jude on that day.

Anyone interested, please sign-up at the table in the social hall. (Signing up is not a firm commitment on your part, as we realize the ultimate date and time scheduled may not suit everyone who is interested.) Any questions, see Fr. Thoms or Karen Thome.

**Christmas Cards:** Christmas cards are available in the social hall as part of the Knights of Columbus "Keep Christ in Christmas" campaign. Your support is appreciated.

**Food Pantry Needs for December:** Baby Diapers sizes. 3-6, pull-ups-all sizes, baby shampoo, baby lotion, diaper rash ointment, and wipes.

## SACRED HEART SCHOOL

**School Play – “The Legend of the Christmas King”** Come and join our school children, in the church, perform their annual Christmas play. This will take place on December 18 at 10am and 7pm. The children do a wonderful job. Let’s show our support for their efforts. They are fantastic!!! The teachers do a great job.

**“Please circle Jan 30<sup>th</sup> on your calendar for “Savor Flavors From Around the World”.**

Treat your taste buds to delicious foods from various cultures. Enjoy entertainment provided by Tommy Wareham...or you may join in and be part of the entertainment. **Tickets are \$50** and are

available at Calkins Automotive, The Downtown OIP & Grill, and the Parish office. Come celebrate and support Sacred Heart School and Catholic Education. Questions can be directed to: Sue Reinke, Crista Bobb, Yvonne Hopple, Claire Acker, or Jacquie Bennett.

## COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Emmanuel Christmas Concert Celebration with Bishop Kevin Rhoades:**

Join Bishop Rhoades at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Emmanuel Diocesan Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 13 at Trinity High School Auditorium Camp Hill at 3:00pm (Snow date December 20). Doors open at 2:30pm.

The concert will be at an earlier time than last year and will feature wonderful music by Martin Doman and The Bishop McDevitt High School Concert Choir. There will also be a Living Nativity with readings from scripture by our beloved shepherd, Bishop Rhoades.

Tickets are \$10.00 (children 6 and under are free), and there are group rates available. For more information, visit [www.hbgdiocese.org](http://www.hbgdiocese.org) and click on the concert link for audio samples of the concert and much more.

## **Our Lady of Guadalupe**



**Santa Maria Tecoaatlazopue**  
**“She who crushes**  
**the head of the serpent”**