

Thirtysixth Sunday in Ordinary Time December 6, 2009

Stewardship is a way of life.

Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

Tithing income: Nov. 29, 2009	\$1590.00
Income for Nov. 30, 2008	\$1332.00
Income for Dec. 2, 2007	\$1922.50
Students	\$ 1.90
Parish Debt	\$374,049.00
K of C donation	\$ 4,200.00
Campaign Payment	\$ 2,000.00
Debt Balance	\$367,849.00

Next week's tithe will be for Retirement Fund for the Religious

From a pastor: "Again and again we are 'way over last year's giving. Thanks to all who are doing their best . . . and then some . . . out of trust. May God repay you as He promised, a hundred-fold in happiness here and in heaven."

Rev. Edward A. Windhaus, St. Titus, East Norriton, PA

Comments on tithing from the pews: Feb 10, 2008 "My wife and I have learned, Father, the very real spiritual component of tithing. We read and listened to testimony after testimony revealing how the Lord really 'takes over' and enables the tithing program to almost take care of itself. What's truly remarkable is the 'money part' of tithing becomes an afterthought when compared to the spiritual richness and other blessings that have flowed from our commitment to tithe."

A parishioner

Rev. Msgr. John J. Carroll, Our Lady of the Magnificat, Kinnelon, NJ

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 pre-K-er said, "I helped to rake the leaves." A first grader said: "I helped mommy with chores around the house." A fourth grader said: "I helped cook."

From the Assistant Pastor

Our Lady presents herself this week in our Patronal Feast of our Country—the Immaculate Conception, December 8th. On Saturday we celebrate our Lady of Guadalupe, which in the original Nahuatl language means Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception. Literally, Guadalupe means "she who crushes the one who eats us", referring to the Snake God of the Aztecs, to whom they offered human sacrifice. She crushes the head of the Ancient Serpent, bringing hundreds of thousands of Indians to the True and Catholic Faith. In our life Mary "crushes the head of the serpent", when she acquires just the right graces from her Son, Jesus Christ, to turn away from temptation or to break free from a sinful addiction or vice. In this Marian Year, Our Bishop invited everyone to make a Total Consecration of themselves to Jesus through Mary. I would invite everyone, as well, to reflect on Revelation 12 with me a moment and see how strikingly similar the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe

corresponds to the image of the "woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet" (Rev 12:1). It provides a great mediation for Advent in preparation for the great Feast of Christmas. We hear about the Dragon who seeks to destroy the woman. Satan was vanquished by St. Michael the Archangel and the blood of the Lamb. Satan is now roaming the earth seeking the ruin of the children of Mary, namely, "those who keep God's commandments and bear witness to Jesus." Let us pull close to Mary this Advent by place an image of her in a prominent place in our homes and praying the rosary daily. The family rosary is also a very powerful way to deepen our faith in Jesus and ward off the power of the Enemy from our homes.

Father Thoms

MASS SCHEDULE



Sun. Dec. 6 – (Baruch 5:1-9, Phil 1:4-11, Luke 3L1-6)
9:15am – Mike and Grace Puma

Mon. Dec. 7 – **St. Ambrose (Memorial)**
(Isaiah 35:1-10, Luke 5:17-26)

9:00 am – Intention of Theodore Morton)
7:00 pm – Milton Ressler

Tues. Dec. 8 – **Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary** (Gen 3:9-20, Eph 1:3-12, Luke 1:26-38)

9:15am – Ray Bowerman

Wed. Dec. 9 – (Isaiah 40:25-31, Matt 11:28-30)

Thurs. Dec. 10 – (Isaiah 41:13-20, Matt 11:11-14)

Fri. Dec. 11 – (Isaiah 48:17-19, Matt 11:16-19)

9:00 am – Mildred Rocco

Sat. Dec. 12 – (Rev 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab, Judith 13:18-19, Luke 1:39-47)

5:00 pm (English) – Helen and Earl Schilling

6:30 pm (Spanish) – **Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe** – Nick Pazzano

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

9:15am – Frank and Mary Schilling

Advent Theme this year is The Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary – The decorations at the front of the church on the altar each week will signify a different mystery. Last week was the Annunciation when the Angel of God announced to Mary that she was to be the Mother of God. This Sunday, second Sunday of Advent, will be the Visitation when Mary visits and helps her cousin Elizabeth.



PARISH NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Advent Penance Service: Sunday, December 13th @ 7 p.m. The confessors are: Father Bill Wear, Father Thoms and Father George Koharchik, Pastor of St. Catherine of Sienna, Mount Union.

The altar flowers this week are in memory of Mike and Grace Puma by the Schilling Family.

Women's Guild Christmas Dinner

Tuesday, Dec. 8, 2009

6:00 pm - Catered meal

Cost - \$12.50 payable at sign-up You will be notified of the location. A sign-up sheet is on the Welcome Table.

I'm Dreaming of A Catholic Christmas- This year Ignatius Press is having a catalog sale for books and film. A percentage of the sales will come back to the women's guild religious articles corner. Come in and check out the catalog. The first order deadline is Dec. 13.

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.

Reminder to all the wonderful cookie bakers. Cookies should be brought to the social hall Friday, Dec. 11th after 9:00 mass to 7:00pm. Thank you!

White Elephant Table-In addition to the Dec.12 Cookie Walk we will have a white elephant table consisting of Christmas Items in good condition. If you have items you would like to donate please leave them in the Social Hall by Dec. 11.

Open House at the Sacred Heart Rectory: Wednesday, December 9th, after the 7 p.m. Mass @ Sacred Heart. All are cordially invited.

There will be an informational meeting and sign up for the **BLUEKNIGHTS BOYS CLUB** on Tuesday November 24th at 6:00 in the church social hall. All boys ages 5-up are welcome. Thank you, Don Parson.

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 30th 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

Marriage Annulments - The Tribunal of the Diocese of Harrisburg will be giving a presentation in your area concerning divorce and annulments from the Catholic perspective. This presentation will be helpful for divorced Catholics; those divorced who wish to marry Catholics, those parish leaders involved in the

RCIA process and any others who may have a vested interest because of family or friends. This session will be held on December 10, at 7pm, in the Cardinal Keeler Center of the diocesan office building in Harrisburg. No prior registration is required. For further information, please call 717-657-4804, extension 304 or email: tribunal@hbgdiocese.org

Writing in the Michigan Law Review about Oregon's assisted suicide law, two physicians stated that reasonable sounding safeguards, which proponents said were there to protect patients, do not appear to have achieved that purpose and are easily circumvented. "As a result, Oregon physicians appear to have been given great power without being in a position to exercise it responsibly." NEL New, June 2008.

The installation of the Very Reverend William J. King and the Reverend James M. Lyons as **Honorary Chaplains to His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI will take place on Sunday, December 6, during the celebration of Solemn Vespers at St. Patrick Cathedral at 5pm. Bishop Rhoades will preside and preach at Vespers. All are invited to participate in this event commemorating this honor bestowed on our two new monsignors and the Diocese of Harrisburg.**

Please mark your calendars for the 5th Annual Emmanuel Diocesan Christmas concert on December 13 at 3pm (snow date December 20). Bishop Rhoades has invited the entire diocesan family to join him in preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ at this wonderful family celebration featuring traditional and contemporary music, scripture readings, and a live nativity. The concert will be held at Trinity High School Auditorium in Camp Hill. **Mark your calendars now!** You can visit the website at <http://www.hbgdiocese.org/emmanuel>.

Emmanuel Christmas Concert Celebration with Bishop Kevin Rhoades:

Join Bishop Rhoades at the 5th 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 and click on the concert link for audio samples of the concert and much more.

**DECEMBER 8, 2009 – IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION - HOLY DAY**

