

## First Sunday in Lent

February 21, 2010

### Stewardship is a way of life.

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

Tithing income: for Feb. 14, 2010	\$1618.25
Income for Feb. 15, 2009	\$1609.25
Income for Feb. 17, 2008	\$2338.00
Students	\$ 1.35
Parish Debt	\$364,571.00

**Next week's tithe** will be for International Catholic Migration.

**From a Pastor:** "As Catholics, we 'hear' a lot of talk about money. Maybe [that's because] so few 'listen'. Frequently, I tell others of the generosity and sacrificial giving of the people of College Point. Your love of St. Fidelis is clearly demonstrated in your financial commitment to our parish. May God bless you one hundred-fold for your tithe."

**Rev. Arthur Minichello**

St. Fidelis, College Point, NY

**Comments from the pew:** "Since adopting tithing, I am more aware of making a fair return to God *first* as well as experiencing greater control of my overall finances."

A parishioner

**Rev. Peter Gillen**

St. Rose of Lima, Rockaway Beach, NY

**My Good Deed for the Week:** Here's what several young people offered as their tithe, in addition to their financial gift: A 5<sup>th</sup> grader said, "I emptied the dishwasher and swept the kitchen." A 1<sup>st</sup> grader said, "I made get well cards for my neighbor." A 3<sup>rd</sup> grader said, "I helped my father shovel the sidewalk."

### ASSISTANT PASTOR'S COLUMN

#### The Domestic church

#### La Iglesia Doméstica:

Vamos a continuar nuestra pequeña reflexión sobre La Iglesia Doméstica con el rol de esposa y madre. Hay un dicho que dice: "La mano que mueve el pesebre de balanceo domina el mundo." Es decir, la persona que atiende y forma a los niños tiene una influencia a la cual jamás se puede comparar.

Puede ser que a veces el hombre se queda en casa y cuida a los niños. Sabemos que la mujer muchas veces es más apta por Dios a cumplir este rol—y a cumplirlo bien. Es casi imposible para la mayoría de los hombres, ser madre (y también para las mujeres ser padre).

La realidad es que las madres solteras (o padres solteros) cumplen ambos papeles, mientras están consciente de lo que se hace falta. Es el plan de Dios que todos sean criados en una familia COMPLETA, y que tengan una madre que los cuida y los ama.

Hoy en día hay mucho en contra el rol de "ama de casa". Necesitan nuestras oraciones, las mujeres que son madre y esposa, porque van "contra la corriente" de la sociedad en que vivimos. De hecho, son *signos de contradicción* en el mundo que dan testimonio del mismo amor de Dios.

San Pablo nos recuerda en su carta a los Efesios, capítulo 5, "Sed sumisos los unos a los otros en el temor de Cristo. Las mujeres a sus maridos, como al Señor, porque el marido es cabeza de la mujer, como Cristo es Cabeza de la Iglesia, el salvador del Cuerpo. Así como la Iglesia es sumisa a Cristo, así también las mujeres deben estarlo a sus maridos en todo" (21-24).

Es quizás el pasaje más controversial de la Biblia, pero cuando el esposo se comporta como Cristo—manso y humilde—se hace más fácil para su mujer de obedecerlo.

De hecho es una obediencia mutua en el amor y respeto. Es tan importante también que la ama de la casa crea un ambiente de oración, primero con su propia conducta y oración personal, y después enseñando a sus hijos como rezar y actualmente rezando como una familia con su esposo. El rosario es una forma de oración muy buena por eso. (Vamos a continuar con **La Iglesia Doméstica** en la semana siguiente.)

(English translation of **The Domestic Church**):

Let us continue our little reflection on the Domestic Church with a look at the role of the wife and mother. There is a saying that goes: "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world." That is to say, the person who tends to and forms the children has an influence that cannot be matched.

There are men who stay at home and take care of the children, and for this we applaud them. We know, however, that many times the woman is more suited by God to fulfill this role – and do it well! It is almost impossible for most men to be a mother (and for women to be a father).

The reality is that single moms (or single dads) fulfill both roles, while there still may remain something lacking. The wisdom of God dictates that everyone be raised in a COMPLETE family and have a mother who loves them and is present to them (I wrote about fathers last week).

Today there is a lot going against "stay at home moms". They need our prayers – women who are both mother and wife – because they are living in a way that is "going against the current" of society. In fact, they are *signs of contradiction* in the world, as they bear witness to the very love of God.

St. Paul reminds us in his letter to the Ephesians, chapter 5, "Be obedient to one another out of love for Christ. Women are to be obedient to their husbands as to the Lord because the husband is head of the woman, just as Christ is head of the Church, the Savior of the body. As the Church is submissive to Christ, so wives are to be to their husbands in all things" (21-24).

This is perhaps the most controversial passage in the Bible, but when husbands behave like Christ towards their wives and children – meek and humble – it makes obeying them easier for their wives.

The reality is this: The call to married couples is that of mutual love and respect. It is important, as well, that mom and dad create a prayerful environment, first by their own example and personal prayer life, and then by teaching their children how to pray, and then by actually praying with the family. The rosary is well suited for family prayer. (We will continue with **THE DOMESTIC CHURCH** next week.)

## MASS SCHEDULE



**Sunday, February 21** – – Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18, (27c); Psalm 27:1, 7-9, 13-14; Philippians 3:17-4:1, Luke 9:28-36

9:15am – Frank Flaherty

**Monday, February 22** —1 Peter 5:1-4; Psalm 23: 1-6; Matthew 16:13-19

9:00am – Barney McAuliffe

**Tuesday, February 23**– Isaiah 55:10-11; Psalm 34:4-7, 16-19; Matthew 6:7-15

**Wednesday, February 24** - Jonah 3:1-10; Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Luke 11:29-32

**Thursday, February 25** - Esther C: 12, 14-16, 23-25; Psalm 138:1-3, 7-8; Matthew 7:7-12

**Friday, February 26** – Ezekiel 18:21-28; Psalm 130:1-8; Matthew 5:20-26

9:00am – Tina Litwin

7:00pm – Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, February 27** – Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Matthew 5:43-48

5:00pm (English) – Kathy Grella

6:30pm (Spanish) - Joseph Cognetti

## PARISH NEWS & ACTIVITIES

### **SACRED MUSIC CONCERT**

Jim Cowan, a Catholic recording artist, with several CDs to his credit, will give a sacred music concert at St. Jude's Church, at 7 p.m., Friday, March 26, with this wife Mary. Jim sings and plays keyboard, leading the congregation in praise and worship music, as he did for many years at the Franciscan University of Steubenville summer spiritual conferences. Go right from the Knights' fish fry dinner to praise and worship, adding an entirely new dimension to your Lenten spirituality

**ALTAR SERVER TRAINING:** Training for new altar servers will be a 1:00pm to 2:30pm, on all the Saturday afternoons of March in the church. You must be at least in third grade and make three out of the four sessions to "graduate." Current altar servers are urged to attend to refresh themselves. If interested, please fill out the form below and put it in the collection basket or give to the parish office.

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parents First and Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**St. Jude Knights of Columbus Annual Lenten Fish Dinner:** St. Jude Knights' annual Lenten Friday fish dinners began and will run until **March 26, 2010** in the church social hall, 4-7 p.m. The meal is all you can eat and includes fried and baked fish, popcorn shrimp, fried clams, French fries, macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, corn, green beans, coleslaw, applesauce, rolls, puddings, and a selection of homemade desserts.

Pay at the door: \$9.00 for adults; \$5.00 for children 6-12.

Children 5 and under are free. Please come and enjoy a delicious meal and support the fundraising efforts of our Knights.

**Help** is still needed for the fish dinners. There is a sign up sheet at the Welcome Table in the social hall. Please give a few hours of your time, it is greatly appreciated!

## COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Women's Lenten Tea** will be held at St. Jude on Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. Fellowship will begin at 9:30a.m. with a brief prayer service at 10a.m. All the women of St. Jude are urged to attend this ecumenical program especially as we are the host this week. For further information contact Kathy Nash at 436-5021.

**This week's Community Lenten Service** will be held on Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> starting at 7p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church in Mifflin. The speaker will be the Rev. Chris Mathiason.

## SACRED HEART SCHOOL

**NEW REGISTRATIONS FOR SHS:** Sacred Heart School is now taking registrations for the 2010-2011 school year, both for new and current students. A \$50 fee for new students and a \$25 fee for returning student families is required for registration.

Forms are available at the school office or online at

[www.sacredheartschool.com](http://www.sacredheartschool.com)

### **KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE FEB. 25**

Sacred Heart School will hold an Open House/Financial Aid Night for current and prospective families on Thursday, February 25 from 6 - 7:30PM. The Principal, Kindergarten teacher, other faculty, and the Director of Finance and Development will all be available, as well as parents and/or former students to conduct tours of the school and help with completion of Neumann Scholarship applications - a one-stop opportunity to get answers to all your questions and help to complete the application processes for registration and/or financial aid.

### **NEUMANN SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW**

**AVAILABLE:** SHS announces that Neumann Scholarship Foundation applications are now available for families whose children will attend SHS next year. A \$20 application fee is required. Applications must be postmarked **NO LATER THAN April 1, 2010**, but we recommend early application to avoid ineligibility. The Neumann Scholarship Foundation was established by the Diocese of Harrisburg to accept donations through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program for private school tuition assistance. For more information, call the school office or check our website at [www.sacredheartschool.com](http://www.sacredheartschool.com)

**If you would** like your tax information, Please fill out the form below and put it in the collection basket. Thank you.

### Contribution Statement

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_