

3th Sunday of Lent March 15, 2009

Stewardship is a way of life.

Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

Tithing income: March 8, 2009	\$ 1981.08
Income for March 9, 2008	\$ 1683.40
Income for March 11, 2007	\$ 1838.50
Student Offerings	\$ 5.55

Next week's tithe: Next weeks tithe will be for Catholic Relief Services.

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

Comments on Tithing from the pews: "Tithing is the ultimate act of faith. . ."

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-School child, "I helped load the dishwasher." A 5th grader said, "I helped find clap erasers." A 6th grader said, "I helped my brother make a contraption." A 1st grader said, "I shared my valentine candy with my sister."

FROM THE PASTOR

Weekly Reflection: Sometimes we admire single-minded zeal and sometimes we don't. When the zeal helps others (for example, social workers who put in long hours out of compassion for the poor or for parentless children), we admire it. When the zeal hurts others (for example, when desire for promotion causes and employee to walk all over others), we disdain it. Jesus' zeal for his Father's house in this Sunday's gospel is certainly to be admired. As disciples, our driving force (zeal) must be as compelling as that of Jesus.

The zeal that drove Jesus to purify the Temple in such a dramatic way ultimately consumed him: the temple of his body was destroyed—only to be raised from the dead. His zeal was rooted in the conviction that life can come from death. Later, his disciples "remembered that he had said this" and came to believe in the resurrection. The zeal of Jesus must consume us who are his disciples today and bring us to the same belief as the disciples in the gospel—that our "deaths" can lead to new life. It is natural and good to seek life, even at all costs. The real issue becomes, however, that the life we ultimately seek can come only by embracing death. Christian commitment calls us to the same destiny as Jesus: our own bodies must be destroyed by self-giving and in this way we, too, are raised to new life.

The simple call of the gospel is to see the signs of God's presence in our midst. Unlike the signs the Jews asked to see in the gospel—signs that would justify Jesus' extraordinary action in the Temple—we are to ask and look for different signs, ones that draw us into the deepest reality of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. Jesus showed us the signs so clearly: he was crucified (see second reading) and then raised up. Like Jesus, the zeal that ought to consume us, too, is a single minded willingness to die to ourselves so that we, too, can live. Just as surely as God raised up Jesus from the dead, so will we be raised up. The signs are there for us to see and believe. Oh,

the jealousy and fidelity of the Divine (see first reading)! Yes, God can be trusted with our very lives.

The Lenten Lectionary: There is perhaps no other portion of the Lectionary that has such strong paschal mystery motifs as the selections for Lent. Already on the first two Sundays of Lent the gospels—the temptation in the desert and the transfiguration—speak eloquently of dying and rising. In this year B the gospels of the third to fifth Sundays of Lent (which we begin this Sunday) also focus on the dying and rising mystery which is clearly evident in the selections. Although year B draws on Mark's gospel, we notice that all three of these Lenten Sunday gospels are from John. One of the earliest ways of keeping Lent (probably dating from the third century) was to read John's gospel through, culminating in the proclamation of John's passion on Good Friday. We see this patten clearly this year.

Unlike other Sundays of the year, the first readings don't specifically relate to the gospels (although often there are converging themes). Instead, the first readings recount major salvation history events; these remind us that the paschal mystery is already foreshadowed in God's plan of salvation unfolding from the beginning of creation.

The second readings are the least related to each other but all of them speak of Christ's dying and rising and, therefore, are commentaries on the paschal mystery. As often occurs during the festal seasons, the second readings give us insight into the meaning of the season and feast that is being celebrated. To more fully appreciate the careful construction of the Lectionary, it is always helpful to see the readings in relation to each other and the season.

Bishop's Annual Lenten Appeal 2009: Thank you to all who contributed to the Bishop's Annual Lenten Appeal last weekend. To date, we have raised **\$7,900** toward our parish goal of **\$8,700.00**. This coming week we will begin home visits to those who have not yet responded. During this season of Lent we give to those who suffer by offering our prayers and financial generosity.

PARISH NEWS

Please remember in your prayers the soul of Anne Kivlin, the mother of Karen Thome, who passed away Sunday, March 8, 2009. She was buried from St. Phillip and James Catholic Church in Exton on Friday.

Stations of the Cross: Each Friday during Lent we pray together this wonderful devotion following the Way of the Cross. You are invited to join us each Friday at 7:30pm throughout the season of Lent. Join us!

St. Jude Parishioner who are 60 and over, come and celebrate St. Patrick's Day with us at the social hall at 12:30pm to 2:30pm. There will be light refreshments (sorry, no green beer). Just a green dessert, board games, and cards for those who wish to start up a game. It's just a couple of hours for us 60+ folks to get together for fellowship. Bring a friend or tow, all denominations are welcome. Any questions call Frances @ 463-3078.

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. The parish

photo directory is also a part of this celebration and the committee is hard at work to provide ways for us to celebrate all year long!

The Anniversary committee is asking anyone that has pictures or memories of the parish from the past 50 years that they would like to share to contact Mary Zangrilli (436-2936) or Dave Treaster (436-2968).

St. Jude Knights of Columbus Annual Lenten Fish Dinners: St. Jude Knights' annual Friday fish dinners continue through **April 3** in the church social hall. The meal is all you can eat – pay at the door: \$9.00 for adults; \$5.00 for children 6-12. Children 5 and under are free. Come and enjoy a delicious meal while supporting the fundraising efforts of our Knights.

MASS SCHEDULE



Sun. Mar. 15 – (Ex 20:1-17; Cor 1:22-25. John 2:13-25)

9:15am – Frank Schilling

Mon. Mar. 16 – (Dan 9:4-10, Pro 31:10-31, Mt 22:34-40)

9:00am – Anne Kivlin

Tues. Mar. 17 – (Jer 18:18-20, Mt 20:17-2)

Wed. Mar. 18 – (Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32)

Thurs. Mar. 19 – (Jer 17:5-10, Luke 16:19-31)

Fri. Mar. 20 – (Gen 37:12-28, Mt 21:33-46)

9:00am – Intention of Barb DiGiulio

Sat. Mar. 21 – (Micah 7:14-20, Luke 15:1-32)

5:00pm (English) – Mary Berdanier

6:30pm (Spanish) – Rose Tonorelli

Sun. Mar. 22 – (Ex 20:1-17; Cor 1:22-25. John 2:13-25)

9:15am – Joseph Saia

OTHER NEWS

The Annual Women Afire Retreat will be held at **Malvern Retreat House, in Malvern, PA, March 27-29**, in the Family Life Center. *Stirring into Flame the Gift of God* is the theme of the retreat, directed by the Women Afire team of Anna Iatesta, Kathleen McCarthy, Anne McGlone and June Piola. Fr. Stephen DeLacy will also direct this retreat; music by Grammy nominee, Marty Rotella. Inspirational preaching, teaching, healing services and quiet time just for women. Delicious meals! Register by calling 610-644-0400 or register online at: www.malvernretreat.com Come as an individual or with your parish group. All are welcome!

Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner: Saturday, March 21 at the Mifflintown Presbyterian Church from 3-7pm. Adults: \$8; Children 5-12: \$4; under 5: Free!

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. Information about the trip will soon be posted on our parish website: StJudeMifflintown.org.

Lenten Mission at Sacred Heart, Lewistown – Learning from Archbishop Fulton Sheen – April 2, 3, & 4, 2009: We all remember watching Archbishop Fulton Sheen on TV. Join us as we remember him and reflect on his words during our Lenten Mission. Our preacher will be **Fr. Andrew Apostoli, CFR** (probably know through his appearances on EWTN) who was a personal friend of Archbishop Sheen. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

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

New!! "More Than An Auction" A new event will be held in conjunction with the "More Than An Auction". We will hold a parish rummage sale on Saturday, April 25th at the Reedsville Youth Park. Start saving or stacking your stuff. Any questions, call Gordon Parker at 667-9714 (H) or 248-3643 (W).

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

Sacred Heart School Registration Information: SHS is currently accepting applications for grade K – 5 for the 2009-2010 school year. *Neumann Scholarship applications* are now being processed. This is the first step for new and returning families to qualify for any financial aid for the coming school year. Applications must be postmarked **by April 1**, but to avoid possible disqualification due to missing or incorrect information, we recommend sending it ASAP! Families must be registered to apply for this scholarship. Please contact Sue Parzanese (447-2002) or the school office (248-5351) for more information. **Open House:** another opportunity for prospective families to visit the school will be held in March. **Financial Aid/Prospective Family Open House** will be held on **Thursday, March 19, from 5:30 – 7:00PM** at the school. Meet with the Principal, the Kindergarten teacher, and/or the Director of Finance to answer all your questions and facilitate the completion of your registration and Neumann Scholarship application forms. If you are unable to join us, please call the school to schedule a tour of the school at your convenience.

The BRAVO Foundation, with the recommendation of Senator Jake Corman, has announced that they have \$10,000 in Scholarships for Sacred Heart School available for eligible families for the 2009-10 school year! A family of 4 can earn up to \$70,000 annually and still be eligible for this scholarship. Applications are available in the school office, however, if you applied for the Neumann Scholarship, you do not need to reapply for this scholarship. If you did not apply for Neumann, a \$21 fee is required for application. Deadline for application is April 1, 2009.