

5th Sunday of Lent March 9, 2008

Stewardship is a way of life.

Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

Tithing income: March 2, 2008	\$ 1880.45
Income for March 4, 2007	\$ 2631.50
Income for March 5, 2006	\$ 1868.00
Student Offerings	\$ 6.10

Next week's tithe will be for expenses incurred during our Confirmation retreat for our youth.

From the Pastor: The fact that we have been able to pay so much on our parish debt, make general repairs and maintenance, and pay all other bills for the parish indicates how powerful we can be as a parish who tithes. . . All of you work hard to earn your money; we promise to use your contributions wisely. We appreciate your generosity. Thank you for your support.

Comments on Tithing from the pews: "Though my intentions were always good, I never did begin tithing. There was some excuse every time I thought the time was right. Enclosed is a check for \$500. It certainly does not make up for my not tithing, but it is a start. The Lord has blessed me with so much. Because of that I am able to make a good living. I am aware that tithing is my way of saying 'thank you' to God."

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 1st grader said, "I listened to my mom." A 4th grader said, "I shoveled the deck for dad." A 1st grader said, "I read to people."

Building Fund / Construction Update: Things continue to go well for our new construction and things are on track for our July 4 completion date. As mentioned last week, the week or so after Easter we'll be hosting a parish-wide meeting to talk about remaining colors (tile under the pews and carpet for the aisles and curtains) as well as a preferred pew configuration (2 or 4 sections of pews). Watch the bulletin for information about this meeting.

Weekly Reflection: Jesus promises Martha (and us) that whoever "lives and believes in me will never die." The amazing fact is that we already share in this eternal life. Its fullness will be known only after we die, to be sure; the grace of it, however, is already received. This is so because we already live in the Spirit. We readily see the dying in our everyday lives – pain, sickness, suffering, death, sinfulness, self-emptying, discipline, giving up our wills. This Gospel challenges us to see and believe equally signs of the grace of new life – glory, joy, peace, forgiveness, mercy, trust, kindness. Living the Paschal Mystery draws us to see these dyings and risings as two aspects of the same mystery. The "now" of eternal life is God's grace already working in our lives. This is why the dying isn't all there is. This is why in the very dying is the rising and new life.

About Liturgy: Lazarus Gospel and Funerals: This Gospel about Lazarus is sometimes chosen for the Gospel at funerals. Proclaiming this Gospel at funerals puts into perspective what the Mass of Christian Burial is really about. Rather than focusing on the deceased person who has "gone" (a reality more appropriate to reflect on at the Vigil or wake service), the Mass is a celebration of risen life – of Jesus' risen life and of our hope and belief that the deceased person now shares fully in that life. Because the funeral

Mass is a celebration of resurrection, the Church also discourages eulogies at Mass and, if they are to occur, they are to be rather short and take place before the Final Commendation. This is not insensitivity on the part of the Church (remember, eulogies are permitted and encouraged at the Vigil or wake), but helps us keep in perspective that the Rite of Christian Burial consists of several parts (joined together by processions) and no one part must carry the whole weight of this solemn and important time in the life of a family and parish.



Lenten Penance Service: TODAY, SUNDAY, March 9 at 3:30pm here at St. Jude (6pm at Sacred Heart in Lewistown). There will be several priests here to assist in the celebration of Reconciliation in preparation for Easter. If you plan to celebrate the Sacrament before Easter, please use this opportunity. Thank you.

Bishop's Annual Lenten Appeal: As we contemplate our Lord's loving sacrifice on the cross, the source of our salvation, we realize also that Jesus left us an example. He calls us to follow in His steps in faith, hope and charity. Through our sacrifices to the Bishop's Annual Lenten Appeal, we share in the Church's mission of making His salvation and love known. Once more, thanks to all of you who have already participated in the Lenten Appeal. To date we have raised \$ 12,128, **well over** our parish goal of \$ 8,600. I am absolutely overwhelmed at your generosity! You have **OUTDONE** yourselves in your response. Thank you!

Lenten Ecumenical Services: This Wednesday evening at 7pm the ecumenical service will be held **here at St. Jude's at 7pm. Please plan to attend!** Pastor William Esborn of Messiah Lutheran will offer the message.

It's time for the Fish Dinners! The Knights of Columbus are looking for help with the upcoming fish dinners. They need: youth to help serve (a sign up sheet is in the back of the church); Knights or men to work set-up, clean-up and at the fryers; women to make your delicious deserts. Please speak to Joe Schilling.

MASS SCHEDULE



Sat. Mar 8 – (Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53)
6:30pm (bilingual) – People of the Parish
Sun. Mar 9 – (Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45)
9:15am – Madeline Brubaker
Mon. Mar 10 – (Dan 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Jn 8:1-11)
9:00am – Father Patrick D'Alessandro
Tues. Mar 11 – (Num 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30)
Wed. Mar 12 – (Dan 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42)
Thurs. Mar 13 – (Gen 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59)
Fri. Mar 14 – (Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42)
9:00am – Intention for Josh Tilzer
Sat. Mar 15 – **St. Joseph** (2 San 7:4-14; Rom 4:13-22; Lk 2:31-51)
6:30pm – Frank & Mary Schilling
Sun. Mar 16 – (Mt 21:1-11; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14-27:66)
9:15am – Deceased of the Schilling Family

Pilgrimage to Poland/Rome: There are still some seats available for our parish pilgrimage "in the Footsteps of John Paul" to Poland and Rome. The deadline is FAST approaching and all payments

are due in full by April 11. If you had been thinking of joining us, act now. The registration form soon is available on the parish website.

St. Jude Knights of Columbus Annual Lenten Fish Dinner: Only 1 week left! Dinners conclude this week, March 14, 2008, in the church social hall. 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 while supporting the fundraising efforts of our Knights.

Chicken Bar-B-Que: Morgan Treaster is organizing a Chicken Bar-B-Que to be held on Saturday, April 5th, 2008. Cost is \$4.00 per half. Pick up will be held at the Lost Creek Community Park in McAllisterville from 11:30am – 2pm and at St. Jude Church from 12-1pm. Help and donations are needed. Tickets are available by contacting Morgan at 463-9264 or can be purchased after Masses beginning next weekend. All proceeds benefit the St. Jude Building Fund.

Week at a Glance in our parish:

Sunday	CCD/10:30am/parish house 3:30pm/Confessions/Church
Wednesday	Ecumenical Lenten Service/7pm/church
Friday	Building Meeting/10am/parish house Fish Fry/4-7pm/social hall Stations of the Cross/7:30pm/church
Saturday	Spanish Choir Practice/5:30pm/parish house Confessions/5:45pm/church Mass/6:30pm/church

The Chrism Mass: March 17, 2008 • 5:30 p.m. • Saint Patrick Cathedral, Harrisburg:



The Chrism Mass is celebrated once a year and is one of the most solemn liturgies of the Church. At this Mass, the Bishop blesses the Oil of Catechumens, the Oil of the Sick, and the Sacred Chrism. This Mass also acknowledges the ministry of priest by inviting them to renew their commitment of service and to receive the prayers and support of the people. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

Career Opportunity: Due to the growth of the Knights of Columbus we have a career opportunity for a motivated Catholic gentleman. This full-time position offers complete benefits package including medical along with defined pension and a 401K. To qualify, one must already be a member or be eligible for membership in the Knights of Columbus. To set up your interview contact Arthur Ardire, General Agent at 814-375-1205 or email resume to Arthur.Ardire@kofc.org

Annual Men's Discernment Retreat What is your vocation? Do you think Jesus may be calling you to be His priest? Join other men as we gather in prayer and fraternity to spend a weekend discerning our Lord's voice.

When: Friday March 28 – Sunday, March 30

Where: St. Clement Mission House – Ephrata, PA

Who: Men 18 and older Cost: \$50 Help available

Fr. Raymond LaVoie, Vocation Director, will be the chaplain. For more information or to register, contact the Office of Vocations 657-4804 Email: frlavoie@hbgdiocese.org

50th Wedding Anniversary Mass: The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades will celebrate Mass with you on May 18, 2008 at 2:00pm at Good Shepherd Parish in Camp Hill. A reception will follow in the social hall. If you are celebrating your 50th Wedding Anniversary this year, please contact your parish office with your names and address.

What have you done for YOUR marriage today?

Hersheypark Tickets: The Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg is once again working with HERSHEY PARK to offer discount tickets to families in our parishes. If you would like to order tickets for the 2008 season complete and submit the order form along with full payment to the parish office by April 21, 2008. Tickets are valid any day during the season. Prices are as follows.

Regular (ages 9-54) \$47.95 – your price \$26.50

Juniors (ages 3-8) \$28.95 – your price \$23.00

Seniors (ages 55+) same as juniors

Super Senior (ages 70+) \$19.95 – your price \$18.95

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Neumann Scholarship Applications Available. Parents of children who may be attending Sacred Heart School for the 2008-09 school year are now able to apply for Neumann Scholarships. Any child registered at the school, regardless of faith, may apply. Eligibility requirements: Maximum household income is \$50,000, plus \$10,000 per dependent (a family of four can earn \$70,000 and still be eligible!) Application deadline is April 1, 2008! Applications are available by calling the school office at 248-5351, or at the information night March 4 at St. Jude in Mifflintown.

Sacred Heart School will hold a Kindergarten / Prospective Family Information Night on Thursday, March 13 from 5:30 – 7:00pm at the school in conjunction with the *Book Fair*, which begins at 6:00pm. This is an opportunity to talk to teachers, the Principal, and Finance Director to get all your questions about SHS answered. Registrations and Neumann Scholarship applications are now being accepted. It's a perfect time to check us out! Deadline for scholarship applications is March 28, 2008

Faithful Citizenship Reading & Discussion Questions Readings from Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States:

Our nation faces political challenges that demand urgent moral choices. We are a nation at war, with all of its human costs; a country often divided by race and ethnicity; a nation of immigrants struggling with immigration. We are an affluent society where too many live in poverty; part of a global community confronting terrorism and facing urgent threats to the environment; a culture built on families, where some now question the value of marriage and family life. We pride ourselves on supporting human rights, but we fail even to protect the fundamental right to life, especially for unborn children. The Bishops of the United States seek to help Catholics form their consciences in accordance with the Truth, so that they can make sound and moral choices in addressing these challenges. No one is trying to tell Catholics *how* to vote. The responsibility to make political choices rests with each person and his or her *property* formed conscience. Thus, in the next weeks, I will focus on this document of the US bishops, offering statements from the document and questions for our own reflection.

