

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 9, 2010

Stewardship is a way of life.

Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

Tithing income: for May 2, 2010	\$2270.50
Income for May 2, 2009	\$2042.25
Income for May 4, 2008	\$1890.59
Parish Debt	\$359,371.00
Payment on debt	\$ 3,000.00
New Balance	\$356,371.00

Next week's tithe will be for: Catholic Communications Campaign

The smallest gift



Three Reasons for Giving Materially (#1 this week)

1. Matthew 25:35 For I was hungry, and you gave me to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave me to drink; I was a stranger, and you took me in; naked, and you

covered me; sick, and you visited me; I was in prison, and you came to me. Then shall the just answer Him, saying: Lord, when did we see you hungry, and feed you; thirsty and gave you drink... And the king answering, shall say to them: Amen I say to you, as long as you did it to one of these my least brothers, you did it to me.

From the very beginning Christians have brought, along with the bread and wine for the Eucharist, gifts to share with those in need. This custom of the collection is inspired by the example of Christ who became poor to make us rich. Those who are well off, and who are also willing, GIVE as each chooses. What is gathered is given to him who presides to assist orphans and widows, those whom illness or any other cause has deprived of resources, prisoners, immigrants and, in a word, all who are in need.

God blesses those who come to the aid of the poor and rebukes those who turn away from them: "Give to him who begs from you, do not refuse him who would borrow from you", "you received without pay, give without pay." It is by what they have done for the poor that Jesus will recognize His chosen ones. When "the poor have the good news preached to them," it is a sign of Christ's presence. The Church's love for the poor...is part of her constant tradition." This love is inspired by the Gospel of the beatitudes, of the poverty of Jesus and of his concern for the poor.

My Good Deed for the Week: Here's what several young people offered as their tithe, in addition to their financial gift: A 3rd grader said, "I helped with my cousins birthday party." A 6th grader said, "I made lunch for my parents anniversary." A 2nd grader said, "I helped carry out the porch furniture."

Pastor's Column

MOTHER'S DAY

Women are the gateway of life. Face it. We all come into the world through women. They nurture us both inside themselves, in their wombs, and outside themselves, in their

loving arms and through their kind words and teaching. How fitting that we devote a day especially to them.

There is one special mother who is the model for all others. That would be the Blessed Virgin Mary, of course, because she brought the Son of God, the Savior of mankind, into the world. It is fitting, then, that we devote this month to her, which contains Mother's Day.

I was trying to make this point to some Hispanic evangelical Protestants last week when I was visiting door to door in Mifflintown. First, let me tell you, you would be surprised how many Hispanics are Protestant or, as they would say, "evangelicos" (evangelical). Muchos! Many! And that's been true for decades now. I have my work cut out for me in Mifflintown.

Twice last Sunday I ran across Hispanic evangelicals and almost immediately the big subject matter for discussion, in both cases, was Mary and the saints. They asked me "Why do you 'worship images?'"

I made the case that Mary is our spiritual mother because she gave birth to the Savior of the world. We can ask her to pray for us, just as we can ask one another in this life for prayers. That is all done within the power of Jesus Christ who is supreme. Mary and the saints are not our saviors. Christ is. But Mary and the saints are our friends, around God's throne, able to take our requests.

I quoted Hebrews 12:22-23 which says "you have come to Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to the innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the first born who are enrolled in heaven...and to the spirits of just men made perfect." If we've drawn near to those spirits and to those first born and angels, does that mean we can't speak to them? That would be ridiculous. Of course we can, in union with Jesus Christ.

The "images" and statues are reminders, like photos of loved ones in our rooms. The ban on images was very important in the Old Testament when the true God was invisible, not able to be seen. Come the New Testament, God came down as a walking, talking image.

Why not represent Him – and the saints – accordingly?

Mary holds pride of place among the saints and among mothers. May we honor our earthly mothers and our spiritual one, all of whom lead us to Christ.

Bill



Scripture Readings for the week:

Monday: May 10- Acts of the Apostles 16:11-15; Psalm 149:1-6, 9; John 15:26-16:4

9:00 a.m. – Dr. Lorne A. Querci

Tuesday, May 11 - Acts of the Apostles 16:22-34; Psalm 138:1-3, 7-8; John 16:5-11

Wednesday, May 12 - Acts of the Apostles 17:15, 22-18:1; Psalm 148:1-2 11-14; John 16:12-15

Thursday, May 13 – ASCENSION OF THE LORD – Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11; Psalm 47:2-3, 6-9; Ephesians 1:17-23; Luke 24:46-53

7:00p.m. - Brian Gorel

Friday, May 14 - Acts of the Apostles 1:15-17, 20-26; Psalm 113:1-8; John 15:9-17

9:00 a.m. – Charlotte A. Holsinger

Saturday, May 15 - Acts of the Apostles 18:23-28; Psalm 47:2-3, 8-10; John 16:23-28

5:00 p.m.- Marie Holstrom

6:30 p.m.-Stella Showokis

Sunday, May 16 - Acts of the Apostles 7:55-60; Psalm 97:1-2, 6-7, 9; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20; John 17:20-26

9:15 a.m. – Dorthy Chuba

Annual Pentecost Collection

Most priests of the Diocese of Harrisburg work long after the retirement age of seventy-five. They continue to help in parishes by celebrating mass, hearing confessions, and providing a wonderful priestly presence for God's people. Before retirement these priests gave their lives to God and His Church offering many years of selfless priestly service. Because of their love for God and His people they go on bringing Christ to us by their celebration of the Sacraments and their preaching. The annual Pentecost Collection provides funds for their salary, health care and other needs that they may have. Please let them know how much you appreciated their dedicated priestly ministry by making a generous donation to this year's Pentecost Collection on May 23.

PARISH NEWS & ACTIVITIES

ATTENTION GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

The 9:15 mass on Sunday, May 29th will be to honor you, our high school graduates. Please contact Mary Zangrill at 436-2936 with your information and a picture. Please plan to attend to receive the blessing of God and your parish community as you venture to new horizons in your life

Monday Morning Masses transferred to Tuesday: May 17, 24, 31 and June 7. Father Thoms will be covering Father Palomino at Corpus Christi, Chambersburg, over this time period when he goes home to Peru to visit his family after a number of years. This transfer of Masses will allow Father Thoms to stay overnight Sunday into Monday to be with his parents. We will still have Friday, 9:00 AM Mass as usual.

"Clean the Kitchen" party organized by the Women's Guild is organizing. Anyone who would like to help is invited. The date is May 29th. We will start at 8:30 and finish when we are done. No sign-up is necessary - mark your calendar, show up and bring your rubber gloves.

Our fourth annual YARD SALE May 22, 2010 - - - As always, the proceeds from this yard sale go toward the school assessment. Please look at this as an opportunity to turn your time and "treasures" to benefit the monetary needs of the parish. More information and sign-up sheet is on the Welcome Table.

Women's day of recollection June 5, 2010. Again, more information will be available as the plans are made. As always, our meetings are the last Tuesday of each month in the social hall.

Meeting time is 6:30, but we try to meet at 6 to pray the rosary together. We hope you can join us.

The Knights of Columbus meeting has been moved from this afternoon to next Sunday, May 16th at 3:00pm

COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summer Programs and Adventures in New England: The Thomas More College of Liberal Arts, located one hour north of Boston, has an array of summer programs for students and adults alike. The Collegiate Program for High School Students offers a challenging introduction to the liberal arts, the history of New England and the Catholic tradition. Offering three college credits, The Catholic Leadership Institute examines inspirational leaders while also providing a means to develop your own leadership skills in the great outdoors and through a service project. Lastly, The Way of Beauty Atelier offers art programs for those of all ages in Iconography and Naturalistic Drawing.

For more information, please visit:

www.thomasmorecollege.edu/summer or contact Mark Schwerdt in the Admissions office at (800) 880-8308

Curtis Martin, best-selling author, President and Founder of FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) will be a featured guest speaker for a men's retreat at Malvern Retreat House, June 18-20th entitled the Six-Three Group. All men are invited to attend this life-changing weekend based on Martin's best-selling book, "Made for More." Call 610-644-0400 to register or online at: www.malvernretreat.com

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

IT'S NOT TOO LATE to register for the 2010-2011 school year AND receive scholarship monies! Thanks to the support of Sen. Jake Corman, Sacred Heart School has received a gift of \$12,500 from the Bravo Foundation for scholarships for the coming school year. We are still accepting registrations for grades K – 5. Please call the school to set up a visit!

Monday, May 10: School Board Meeting 6PM

Tuesday, May 11: Faculty Meeting 3-4PM

Thursday, May 13: Ascension--Mass at 12 noon
HSA Meeting--school 6PM

SHS cookbooks offered by the Wellness Committee and containing favorite student recipes are available for sale at school for \$3.00

SHS chocolate candy bars from Asher's Chocolates are available for sale in the school office for \$2.00.



