

Twentyninth Sunday in Ordinary Time October 18, 2009

Stewardship is a way of life.

Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

Tithing income: Oct. 11, 2009	\$2091.00
Income for Oct 12, 2008	\$1732.00
Income for Oct. 14, 2007	\$1700.00
Students	\$ 1.50

Next week's tithe will be for the Special Needs fund

From a pastor: All it takes is time and effort. Think about it: you have a plain bar of iron worth about \$10 to begin with. Made into horseshoes, it's worth \$22.50. Made into screwdrivers or kitchen cutlery, it may be worth \$250. Made into balance springs for watches, it may be worth \$250,000. The same thing is true of another kind of material – **YOU!** Your decision to invest time and effort in the work of Christ's Church is one of the most fateful decisions you'll ever make. To make that decision in your early years is like putting money into the savings bank and allowing it to produce interest – and value – for the rest of your life."

Rev. Msgr. Richard Behl, D.Min

St. Francis Cathedral, Metuchen, NJ

Comments on Tithing from the Pews: "What is the measure of a man? According to people or according to God? I found out that tithing doesn't rely on impressing people or God. It's based on how much we really mean we love God."

A parishioner

Rev. Marcello J. Latona

Holy Trinity, Whitestone, NY

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 2nd grader said, "I found my sisters notebook for her." A 4th grader said, "I played with my little sister so my mother could get some work done." A 1st grader said, "I helped put away the summer clothes."

Pastor's Column

WITNESS (TITHING) TALKS AND DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE

Both of the above events are taking place next weekend.

The witness talks refer to guest speakers coming in from out-of-town, giving testimony at Sunday Masses about tithing. They will speak of blessings they have received triumph over doubt and fear. And, yes, it is scary, at first, dedicating 10 percent of gross income to God. But the results are glorious.

I began tithing years ago, when I started the program at my own parish. I hired the same coaching team that we use here, McKenna Stewardship Ministry, out of New Jersey. This is a lay organization, founded decades ago, to assist pastors and parishes in establishing tithing and related programs in their congregations. They began when tithing was mostly a Protestant thing and virtually unknown among Catholics parishes, where bingo was still the big fundraiser, after the collection.

Tithing does it the right way – no gimmicks or gambling but a simple appeal to the people based on the biblical tithe. I chose McKenna because of the program's simplicity and no-pressure approach: Two mailings to parishioners, weekend talks, and that's it.

There are no pledge cards, phone calls, or house visits, as with some programs. The appeal is made and then it is between the parishioner and God. No follow up, as such, except for one's conscience.

The purpose of the talks is to re-affirm those who are tithing already and to introduce new parishioners to the concept. Joe Sieber, from the Philadelphia area, and Lisa Rohrer, Mechanicsburg, will be our speakers.

This Saturday, October 24, is also the diocesan pilgrimage to The National Shrine of the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. We are taking names up to the last minute, so please sign up. We need more pilgrims to fill the bus. Cost is \$40 per person. Call Sacred Heart parish office to register – you can drop your check off at the office too, made out to Sacred Heart Church.

Bishop Kevin Rhoades will celebrate Mass at the basilica and everyone will consecrate themselves, in a solemn public prayer, to the Virgin Mary and Jesus Christ, in honor of this Diocesan Marian Year that we are celebrating. If you haven't done the de Monfort 33 days of preparatory prayer, don't worry about it. Come anyway.

I will be the opposite. I've done the preparatory prayers but I can't make it to the shrine. I'll make my solemn consecration privately but in spirit with everyone else.

The bus leaves from the Lewistown Public Library at 6 a.m., and returns that night at 9:30 p.m. – in plenty of time to hear witness talks the next day. What a great deal!

Fr. Bill

MASS SCHEDULE



Sun. Oct. 18– Isaiah 55:10-11, Heb 4:14-16, Mark 10:35-45)

9:15 a.m. – Joseph Saia

Mon. Oct. 19 – **Saints John de Brebeuf and Isac Jogues and their companions**(Mem) Rom 4:20-25, Luke 12:13-21)

9:00 am – Mick Pazzano

Tues. Oct. 20 (Rom 5:12-21, Luke 12:35-38)

Wed. Oct. 21 –(Rom 6:12-18, Luke 12:39-48)

Thurs. Oct. 22 –(Rom 6:19-23, Luke 12:49-53)

Fri. Oct. 23 – (Rom 7:18-25, Luke 12:54-59)

9:00 am- Intention of Gorden & Kaaren Denyes

Sat. Oct. 24 –(Rom 8:1-11, Luke 13:191)

5:00 pm (English) – Betty Hall

6:30 pm (Spanish) – People of the Parish

Sun. Oct. 25– (Jerm 31:1-9, Heb 5:1-6, Mark 10:46-52)

9:15 –Kenneth Fike

PARISH NEWS & ACTIVITIES

The weekly recitation of the Holy Rosary: directly following the 5p.m. Saturday Mass. Please come.

We're all Missionaries – Pope Benedict XVI calls all Catholics in the world to celebrated our vocation to be missionary. Today is World Mission Sunday! As Catholics around the world – here at home and in the Missions – gather at the Eucharist around the table of the Lord, we are to pray those awaiting the “Good News” of our Lord’s great love for us and for the missionaries who offer the poor and suffering the light of Christ. And we are o offer financial help through the Society for the Propagation of the Faith for more than 1,150 dioceses in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Pacific Islands.

“This is not a debate about religious doctrine or even about public policy options. It is a debate about our understanding of human dignity, what it means to be a member of the human family, even though tiny, powerless and unwanted.” (Republican Henry Hyde during the House debate on the Partial Abortion Ban Act of 2000, NRL News, 12/00)

First Annual Fishers of Men Dinner

We are faced with a challenge! Many dioceses throughout the United States are facing the challenge of fewer vocations to the priesthood. We in the Diocese of Harrisburg are faced with a different kind of challenge – the need to provide solid seminary formation for an increasing number of men who are studying for the priesthood. What a wonderful challenge to be blessed with! As we have counted on your prayers for young men considering a vocation to the priesthood, so now we need your financial help in providing seminary formation for them. Pease consider attending the first Annual Fishers of Men Dinner on November 13, 2009 in the Cardinal Keeler Center at 4800 Union Deposit Road in Harrisburg. Hors d’oeuvres will be served at 6pm and dinner at 7pm. Please find more information in the vestibule of the church the diocesan website www.hbgdiocese.org/fishersofmen to RSVP or send a donation to this worthy cause. Let us meet this challenge together

St. Jude’s Youth Organization Kick-Off Event: “The Bonfire Within” and Hayride will take place today, Sunday, October 18, 2009. We will meet at St. Jude’s Church at 5:30pm.

ATTENTION: All 7th -12th grade students and young adults please sign-up in the rear of the church.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT AT ST. JUDE: Bring you lawn chairs, sleeping bags, blankets, pillows for the kids and join us in the social hall at 6 P.M., Friday, October 23, 2009, for All Saints Movie Night. Our feature film is Warner Brothers’ classic, inspirational film, The Miracle of Our Lady of Fatima, based on the true story of 1917 apparition of Our Blessed Mother to 3 children in Portugal. For young children, we will have a supervised showing of a 30 minute cartoon version of this story, The Day the Sun Danced. Popcorn and drinks will be provided. A sign-up sheet for this night of fun and fellowship is on the table in the back of the social hall.

Attention Eucharistic Ministers: Please contact Dave Treaster about the schedule. Since we will not be distributing the cup, we will need to make a few schedule changes.

New Bulletin Deadline: Announcements for the bulletin must be in by Wednesdays. If you have an announcement please email it to the church at the address on the cover. If you have a question about it you may call the office at 436-6722 or Mary at 363-0997

Altar Flowers: If you would like to have the altar flowers in memo ry of, or in honor of a loved one, please call Dave Treaster at 436-2968.

The altar flowers this week are in memory of Richard Berrier Sr. from Edith Fogleman

The Hope for Healing Farm would like to invite all the children of the parish to come to their Fall Fest, on Saturday, October 24 from 11-2. Their will be hot dogs, roasting marshmallows, games, and wonderful fellowship. For mre information please call Lorrie Gawryla at 543-5883.\

Youth Choir: Kathy Nash would like to invite the youth of the parish to join the youth choir. You do not have to be able to read music or play a musical instrument! Our first practice will be Sunday. October 25th after CCD.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

SHS WINS DIOCESAN MISSION AWARD: At the recent Diocesan Educational Conference, Sacred Heart School was awarded the Msgr. George V. Lentocho Mission Award for its significant contributions to the Holy Childhood Mission in 2008-09. Many thanks to the leadership of Sister Marie Luu and Mission Coordinator Lorie Torquato, as well as the generosity of the children and families of Sacred Heart of Jesus School! Look for more information about this ministry throughout the coming school year.

After School Reading and Art clubs will begin on October 20th for grades 3-5. These activities will be coordinated by Mrs. Niman and Mrs. Henry.

OCTOBER IS MISSION AWARENESS MONTH AT SHS: During the month of October, SHS will be promoting mission awareness. We offer young children the opportunity to grow in faith through mission education, sacrifice, and service to others. We are excited that our students have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of all children by participating in this Holy Childhood Association (HCA) Program.

FALL FLING DAY: October 30th is Fall Fling Day at SHS. Students who wish to participate can pay \$1.00 to "dress down" for the day. Remember to follow the dress code! All money collected will benefit the missions! Children will enjoy nutritious refreshments and classroom activities in the afternoon.

