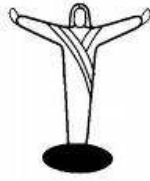


Pastor's Notes

The Lord is Risen! It is true! Alleluia!



A blessed and holy Easter to all! I hope and pray that Lent moved everyone into a true sense of spiritual renewal that now allows Easter to be celebrated as it is meant to be — a day that truly recalls the new life of baptism, a day of fulfillment of God's promises, a day of remembering the life we are given to seek and share, and a day that is meant to move us in faith each and every day of our lives.

As my family and I celebrated my aunt's funeral this past week, the proximity to our remembering the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ had me recalling these events of Holy Week. In turn, her funeral became a powerful experience. In faith, we believe that we are now to realize what we have sought throughout life — the fullness of God's presence. It is death meant to bring life. It says death is okay.



But only people of faith, whose lives are directed toward this promise of God, and whose journey is one with the Risen Lord, can understand this. There is mourning, but also great rejoicing.

People of faith can accept the daily dying and rising to new life as situations occur. People of faith remember that the presence of God, including these times of dying and rising, are always with us.

So, hopefully, we celebrate Easter as an opportunity to grow in God's loving mercy, meant to bring us to the joy and happiness we'll never fully find in this lifetime. Hopefully we are renewed in our understanding of what awaits us in the life to come — all because of God loving us through death into resurrected life.

Many, many thanks to all who assisted in making Lent, Holy Week, and Easter the powerful spiritual experiences they were. It takes many people to make everything work well as a possible life-changing experience for many people.

Special thanks to those who weekly give of their time for the sake of having the Church clean and ready for every liturgy. It's not an easy task as the Church is used for so many liturgies and other events with school and preschool.

MASS & PRAYERS FOR HEALING



The Fraternity of Priests will gather for Mass and prayers for healing at St. Bonaventure Parish in Glenshaw (Mt. Royal Blvd.) on Wednesday evening of this week (March 26) at 7:00PM. Anyone wishing prayer for healing of mind, body soul, for themselves or others are encouraged to attend. This is not the sacramental form of Anointing of the Sick, but a fulfillment of one of the many gifts of the Spirit that empower the Church even today.

The Feast of the Annunciation would normally be celebrated this week. However, since we celebrate Easter Sunday for one whole week, the Annunciation is moved to the first available date, which happens to be Monday, March 31. The Church did the same thing with the memorial of St. Patrick, and the Feast of St. Joseph, both of which were moved just prior to Holy Week.

The moving of these celebrations is a good reminder to us and all that our focus is always, first and foremost, Jesus Christ. All others have their purpose and rootedness in our oneness with God.

The same is true about the Easter. The egg is an ancient symbol reminding us of new life when the chick emerges from the shell, symbolic of Christ coming from the tomb. (I have no clue as to how the rabbit made it into Easter.) So enjoy the candy and the eggs, and the family gathers. And remember, nothing can replace true Easter joy.

Love and prayers,
Fr. Tom



Dear Father Tom,

A note to tell you how much I loved the three day Parish Mission. Mike Patin was a wonderful person to have shared these three days with us. Anyone from 6 to 76 would have really loved this mission. Anyone who missed the experience in this faith journey, I feel very bad for. You missed something that we probably will not have for a long time. If you needed to laugh and be uplifted, this was the time.

We saw both the human and divine side of Jesus in these three evenings. The joy and laughter that Mike brought to his presentations was very refreshing. We saw various ways to clean up our body, soul and spirit. The courage to change who we are inside, to becoming more of what Christ wants us to be. Wanting to take the time both in family and friend relationships to love, listen and be of service to one another. I never thought I was so ridged in some of my thoughts and ways. It was a comfort to be able to rest in joy and laughter right there in Christ's presence. Those who I shared with that evening were a delight. You knew that we had something in common, the love for each other, as well as the love of the Lord. It was great to discover that I am never too old to make the necessary changes in my life, as well as letting go and letting God. Just think, we can be employed by Jesus Christ in His work of loving one another.

A great three evenings, I am so glad that I took the time to come to this mission. Thank you,
Carol Walton

NOTE: Congrats to our staff who sought someone with a different approach that could touch everyone. They were the ones to bring this to completion.

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PARISH

444 Saint John Street (Unity Center Road and Millers Lane)
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15239

Parish email address: stjohnthebaptistparish@comcast.net
Parish Web Site: www.stjohnthebaptistparish.net

WORSHIP

Sunday Liturgy: Saturday 5:00 p.m.,
Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m. and Noon

Weekday Liturgy: Monday-Friday 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.
Always check weekly schedule for any changes.

Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 9:30-10:00 a.m. and
11:30 a.m. to Noon, or by appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism: First and Third Sundays of the month at
1:00 p.m. Contact the Rectory to schedule.

Sacrament of Marriage
Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance.
Contact the Rectory to schedule.

PARISH STAFF AND DIRECTORY

Rectory 412-793-4511
Parish Fax 412-793-4311
Parish Website: www.stjohnthebaptistparish.net

Rev. Thomas J. Galvin, Pastor
Rev. William P. Siple, Parochial Vicar
Mrs. Ginger Vannucci, Office Manager
Music Office, Will Smith 412-793-1617 ext. 256
Social Ministry Office,
Sister Janet Barnicle, OSB 412-793-4511

Religious Education, Mrs. Jane Tarr 412-795-6376
email reled@stjohnthebaptistschool.org
School Office,
Mrs. Sandra L. Stonebraker, School Principal 412-793-0555
website: www.stjohnthebaptistschool.org
Preschool Office, Anna Mae Newmaster 412-793-2180
Youth Ministry/Stewardship,
Christie Smith 412-793-1617 ext. 261
Christian Initiation, Ron Donatelli, 412-793-1617 ext. 260

Readings for the Week of March 23

Sunday: Acts 10:34a,37-43/Col 3:1-4 /
Jn 20:1-9
Monday: Acts 2:14,22-33/Mt 28:8-15
Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41/Jn 20:11-18
Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10/Lk 24:13-35
Thursday: Acts 3:11-26/Lk 24:35-48
Friday: Acts 4:1-12/Jn 21:1-14
Saturday: Acts 4:13-21/Mk 16:9-15
Next Sunday: Acts 2:42-47/1 Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31



Offertory Report

DATE: MARCH 16, 2008

Sunday collection	\$13,358
Needed for Budget	\$12,762
Over/Under	\$ +596
Mardi Gras Dr. Families	\$ 2,373

Second Collection

Parish Social Ministry March 29/30
Capital Improvement April 5/6

We are still collecting donations for the families on
Mardi Gras Drive. Please enclose your donation in
an envelope to the attention of the above.

May God Bless Our Faithful Parishioners

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday, April 4 at 8:00PM to
Saturday, April 5 at 8:45AM

Please sign the Sign-up sheets that are at the
church doors to help us know that all the hours are
covered. Thank you.

This week

Sunday, March 23, 2008

Office Closed

Monday, March 24

6:00 p.m. Altar Server training - church

Tuesday, March 25

9:45 a.m. Mom's Group - convent
11:30 a.m. Preschool Easter Para-liturgy - church
4:30 p.m. CCD - education center
6:30 p.m. CCD - education center
7:00 p.m. Vocation Committee - annex
7:00 p.m. CCD Home Study - cafeteria

Wednesday, March 26

10:30 a.m. Ladies of Charity - RMR
11:30 a.m. Preschool Para-liturgy - church
1:30 p.m. Preschool Para-liturgy - church
3:00 p.m. Altar Server training - church
6:30 p.m. Brownies - cafeteria

Thursday, March 27

6:30 p.m. Webelos - cafeteria
7:00 p.m. School Advisory - RMR
7:45 p.m. Scouts - cafeteria

Friday, March 28

4:30 p.m. Brownies - cafeteria

Saturday, March 29

10:00 a.m. SJBS Open House

Sunday, March 30

10:00 a.m. RCIA Mystagogy - RMR
10:30 a.m. Children's Liturgy - annex class room
5:30 p.m. SYM St. Winifred

Vocation Committee Meeting

All are welcome to the Vocation Committee meeting on Tuesday, March 25th at 7:00 pm. in the annex. New ideas are always welcome!

COME AND SEE WEEKEND

“Celibacy and Chastity:

Priestly Service in Today’s Society”

For High School and College Students

At St. Paul Seminary

From April 4-6, 2008

- Learn more about the Priesthood
- Meet the Seminarians
- Prayer — Recreation — Fellowship
- Parish Vocation Visits

For more information or to register, call Father Wehner at 412-456-3048.

Ladies of Charity



The Ladies of Charity will meet on Wednesday, **March 26th** at 10:30 a.m. in the **rectory meeting room**. Our activities include visiting our parishioners who are in local nursing homes or assisted living facilities, coordinating the Christmas Angel Trees, the winter food drive and funding the Valentine’s Day fruit baskets for the shut-ins. If you are interested, please come to the meeting or call Nancy Urban at 412-795-4116.

Congratulations and Welcome

Congratulations to the following faithful who were received into the full communion of Christian life in the Catholic Church this weekend. Please keep them in your prayers.

**Austin Pryzmenski, Jonathan Crist,
Scott Cooper, John Hovis,
Robert Lauff and Terry Snyder**

If you, or someone you know, has questions about the Catholic Church, please call Ronald Donatelli, Coordinator of the Rite of Christian Initiation at 412-793-1617 ext. 260. All calls are welcome.

GATHERING OF MEN

CATHOLIC MEN PUT OUT INTO DEEP WATER

Wasn’t Lent, the Triduum and Easter great? But what are you going to do about it? Maybe you cannot commit to meet with the St. John’s CMF for 24 Saturdays (36 hours a year). If so, why not consider attending the third annual Gathering of Men at the Palumbo Center of Duquesne University of Saturday, April 12. For a small investment of money (\$40) and time (10 hours) you can take the next step to coming closer to the Lord and savior who suffered through Good Friday in order to give you Easter. Great speakers, good music, decent food and wonderful fellowship. It is well worth the price. Contact Jack Patnik at 412-793-0476 for details.



PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Bereavement Support Group

St. John’s Spring Bereavement Support Group will meet on Thursday, April 3rd and six consecutive Thursdays after that. We will meet in the convent from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Please call Sister Janet at 412-793-4511 ext. 225 if you will attend. It is important that if you begin the Support Group that you come for all seven sessions if you wish to profit from the get-together. If you are able to commit to the time available, kindly mark your calendar. We are going to meet in the afternoon to accommodate those who find it difficult to come out at night.

Our Lady of Joy will begin their Bereavement Support Group on March 26th from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. If evenings are better for you, please call Our Lady of Joy at 412-795-3388 to register

Faithful Citizenship

A Catholic moral framework does not easily fit the ideologies of “right” or “left,” nor the platforms of any party. Our values are often not “politically correct.” Believers are called to be a community of conscience within the larger society and to test public life by the values of Scripture and the principles of Catholic social teaching. Our responsibility is to measure all candidates, policies, parties, and platforms by how they protect or undermine the life, dignity, and rights of the human person, whether they protect the poor and vulnerable and advance the common good. — U S C C B Administrative Committee, *Faithful Citizenship: A Catholic Call to Political Responsibility*, p. 7



Marriage Makes a Difference

Permanency, exclusivity, and faithfulness are essential to marriage because they foster and protect the two equal purposes of marriage. These two purposes are growth in mutual love between the spouse (unitive) and the generation and education of children (procreative).

The family arises from marriage. Parents, children and family members form what is called a domestic church or church of the home. This is the primary unit of the Church—the place where the Church lives in the daily love, care, hospitality, sacrifice, forgiveness, prayer, and faith of ordinary families. Marriage is a personal relationship with public significance.

The Pennsylvania Legislature is considering SB 1250, which will amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to define marriage as the union between one man and one woman, and will prevent civil unions, which are in effect the same as marriage. Your state representative and state senator need to hear from you that marriage makes a difference. Log on to www.pacatholic.org to send a message telling your legislators to support the marriage amendment.



PRESCHOOL

Easter Prayer Services

March 25th at 11:30 a.m.

March 26th at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Please join us as God's little ones give Him praise and thanks.



YOUTH MINISTRY

Senior Youth

Sunday, March 30

St. Winifred's in Mt. Lebanon and Us: combined YM

Leave SJB at 5:30pm return 9:30pm

Will is giving a talk on "Youth Alive"

We'll play games, meet new friends and

also learn about upcoming NCYC in

Kansas City, Kansas. Fall 2009!

Everyone is welcome!!!



Sunday, April 6

Bishop's Welcome by the Youth of Pittsburgh

Leave SJB at 12:40pm

Bishop Canevin High School

Concert, prayer service and food.

Praise Band cantors will be leading music at the prayer service.

Sunday, April 13

YOUTH MINISTRY SUNDAY NIGHT

MOVIES WITH A MEANING — "Signs"

6:30-9pm

Youth Room



SUNDAY, April 20

Sunday Night

"20 Years from Now"

7:30-9pm

Youth Room

2028

Junior Youth

ALL NIGHT BOWLING

Saturday, April 5

12:30am-4:30am

Nesbit's Bowling Lanes

\$10 per person includes bowling, shoes, pizza, pop and snacks.

Meet there with permission form and money in hand.

Extra forms are available at www.stjohnthebaptistparish.net/youth

Saint Vincent College Open House

High School juniors or seniors and their families are invited to a Get Acquainted Day Open House at Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, on Sunday, April 13th. Registration is from 11:30 to 11:45 a.m. followed by an introduction to Saint Vincent College and a student panel as well. The day will conclude at 3:00 p.m. Find out more about this top ranked Catholic, Benedictine, liberal arts college. Listen to financial aid and admission presentations, meet faculty, administrators and coaches and take a campus tour. For information or reservations, phone 1-800-782-5549, email admission@stvincent.edu or register online at www.stvincent.edu.

SJBS NEWS



St. John the Baptist School

OPEN HOUSE

MARCH 29, 2008

From 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Please feel free to stop by.

If you are unable to come to the school, please call

the office at

412-793-0555

to schedule a school tour

- Classes resume on Tuesday, March 25th at 8:40 a.m.
- The Dress Down Day campaign on Friday, March 14th was very successful! The students raised \$1,000 for the Pettinato family who lost their home due to the gas explosion on Mardi Gras Drive. Good going!



**Congratulations to the following Lottery Calendar winners:
From March 10th to March 16th.**

Unsold #061, Nancy Callahan #334, Larry Meinen #624, Richard Ashbaugh #317, Michele Baker #846, Unsold #113, Judy Rogers #046.

NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Afternoon Sessions

Wednesdays from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.

March 26

April 2

April 9

Evening Sessions

Monday, March 24, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 1, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 8, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 15, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.



Oakland Catholic 5th Annual OC Eagle Classic Golf Tournament on Monday, April 28th at Fox Chapel Golf Club. Benefiting Oakland Catholic High School. Penny McKenna, Event Chair and Joseph A. Massaro III, Honorary Chair. For more information, questions and sponsorship opportunities, call Karen Marner in the Institutional Advancement Office at 412-682-6877.

Mass Intentions

SUNDAY – Easter Sunday (03/23)

7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
(Living and Deceased of the Parish)

MONDAY - Annunciation of the Lord (03/24)

9:00 a.m. Mary Ann (Duffy) Stewart (The Polinsky Family)

TUESDAY - Easter Tuesday (03/25)

7:00 a.m. Charles Vogan (Grace Spisak)

9:00 a.m. Tom Colosmo (Noca Family)

WEDNESDAY - Easter Weekday (03/26)

7:00 a.m. Norma Tumbucci (Karen Heiser)

9:00 a.m. Lewis and Agnes Gross (M/M Patrick Guerriero)

9:30 a.m. Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion

THURSDAY - Easter Thursday (03/27)

7:00 a.m. Carol Marney (Bonnie Franciscus)

9:00 a.m. Edward Habjan (Family)

FRIDAY - Easter Friday (03/28)

7:00 a.m. Eileen Lape (Amelia Nix)

9:00 a.m. John Sopcak (Carol Kozak)

SATURDAY - Easter Saturday (03/29)

9:00 a.m. Andrew Gourash (wife, Josephine)

9:30 a.m. *Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament*

SUNDAY - Second Sunday of Easter (03/30)

5:00 p.m. Harry and Jeanna Muzyn
(Charles and Anna Marie Schollaert)

7:30 a.m. Adam Phillips (John and Bernie Flajnik)

9:00 a.m. Timothy O'Toole (Family)

10:30 a.m. For the Living and Deceased of the Parish

12:00 p.m. Minnie Intorre (Elizabeth Barry)

1:00 p.m. *Anointing of the Sick*

NEXT WEEKEND

ANOINTING OF THE SICK



The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated next Sunday following the **Noon** Mass. Those preparing for major surgery and those preparing for hospital stays are strongly encouraged to share in this anointing.

Those of advanced age, those living with terminal illness or emotional difficulties should also plan to seek the healing of mind, body and soul, remembering that God's grace is meant to strengthen the living and not be held off for those nearing death.

Pray for our Seminarians

PLEASE KEEP ALL OUR SEMINARIANS IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS EASTER SEASON

Dean C. Caivano

Eric D. Campbell

Patrick D. Caruso

Jon T. Chuba

Kevin C. Fazio

Daniel C. Gallagher

Frederick W. Gruber

Preston J. Huck

Kenneth M. Malley

Kenneth W. Marlovits

David G. Rombold

Charles M. Scheerbaum

Michael S. Sedor

Michael J. Seeger

Brian E. Wolford

Thomas L. Gillespie

John F. Naugle

Michael J. Roche

Robert W. Fleckenstein

Daniel Langa

Michael R. Peck

Michael A. Zavage

Nicholas J. Argentieri

Christopher D. Donley

Joseph M. Freedy

Brian W. Noel

Nicholas S. Vaskov

Adam M. Verona

Michael R. Ruffalo

The seminarians enjoy hearing from our parishioners and are grateful for all prayers.

VOCATION CROSS



Please join JoAnn Zapata in prayer this week as she displays the Vocation Cross in her home and prays for Religious Vocations. The Vocation Cross is scheduled for EVERY week of 2008! Thank you for your support of Religious Vocations awareness. Watch the bulletin in the fall for scheduling the cross in 2009.

Prayer for Vocations

Father, in your plan of salvation you have provided through the ages shepherds for your people. We humbly ask you to strengthen our diocese by calling forth worthy ministers for your altars and gentle and faithful servants to proclaim the gospel. Lord through the intercession of our Blessed Lady the first servant of Christ, we ask you to give courage to those who you call to say yes as Mary accepted your call so long ago. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Parish Mission Statement

Saint John the Baptist Parish is located in Plum Borough, Pennsylvania and is part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh.

As a faith community, we strive to imitate our patron Saint John the Baptist who led others to Christ. We are committed to keeping our faith alive and growing through prayer, sacraments, faith formation and service. Through evangelization and stewardship we encourage full and active participation of all members.

We hope to reflect the life and love of Christ by strengthening the faith of our parishioners while reaching out to all God's people.

Saint John the Baptist, pray for us!

Confirmation Quiz — No. 11

The confessions of many during Lent help priests to realize that many people are not as knowledgeable of what is expected of them, as we would think.



THIS WEEK'S QUIZ:

Name the Holy Days of Obligation as prescribed for dioceses in the United States

LAST WEEK'S QUIZ:

Name the seven sacraments and group them into initiation, healing, and service, and provide explanation of what is received

Sacraments of Initiation

Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist

Sacraments of Healing

Reconciliation (Penance, Confession),
Anointing of the Sick

Sacraments of Service

Marriage, Holy Order

Remember, all sacraments are meant to strengthen the life of God given us at baptism. This love and life of God is to be maintained and grow within us throughout life. The sacraments are meant to help us in this union.

The Eucharist is that sacrament that contains within it all that we should need to maintain this baptismal life. It calls us into a sharing of life, one with Christ, in the sacramental gift of his Body and Blood. It also reminds us that we are meant to be the presence of Christ in the world for others.

Confirmation affirms our baptismal life and the gifts we have received to live this life.

The sacraments of Service are recognized as those of vocation. They are meant to see how our baptismal life is to be shared in service either in the ordained ministry of the Church or now as a couple, the sign of Christ's oneness with his bride, the Church.

One can never dismiss the grace of the sacraments. Confession is not simply announcing our sins to a priest, and the anointing of the sick is much more than a rubric using blessed oils. As outward signs of Christ, they are meant to give grace — an inner awareness within ourselves, that Christ is truly present.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASS

St. Susanna Church

Master Catechist: Father Martin Barkin

"Spiritual/Moral Character of the Human Person"

Classes begin on Thursday, March 27th at 7:00 PM in the Spirit Room. Remaining class dates, all on Thursdays: April 3, 17, and 24

The cost is \$25 per person; please make check payable to the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Contact Irene Swackhammer at 412-798-3591 ext. 3 or email to saintsusanna@verizon.net

Welcome to St. John's

We are pleased to welcome the following new members to St. John's:

Troy and Rachel Mele
George and Lucille Ranallo

Rest In Peace

Lord, grant eternal rest to the souls of the dearly departed, especially **Fred P. Harchelroad**, husband of Cecilia (Tillie) Harchelroad, who died on March 13th. **Mary Kate Whitaker**, mother of Mary Whitaker, who died on March 9th.

Praying for the Sick

Please pray for our parishioners who are in the hospital or at home and requesting our prayers: William Duffy, Maribeth (Cherok) Chessey, Paul Arndt, Veronica Sacsek, Rachael Faas, Raymond Milleman, Evelyn Komisak, Matthew Smith, Sally Ann Dominkus, Sr. Janet, Mary Svoboda, John Hicks, Anthony DiBello, Betty Telles, John Truxal, Richard Novotny, Ernest Gigliotti, James Polliard, Hayward Markham, Robert Jenkins, Marie Sevcik, Alexis Dickinson.

Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle burns this week
in loving memory of the
Deceased parents of Ernie and Sofia Gigliotti
requested by Ernie and Sofia Gigliotti

FYI

Saint Susanna's Ladies Guild and Christian Mothers

invite you to join them for their annual Day of recollection at St. Emma's in Greensburg on Sunday, April 6th. Father Joseph Sredzinski will be the Retreat Master and Mother Mary Anne Noll, OSB will also have a presentation. The cost for the day is \$25. Make checks payable to Ladies Guild and Christian Mothers. A bus will be provided and will leave promptly from St. Susanna's parking lot at 8:00 a.m. For more/reservations, call Grace at 412-242-1153 or Ginny at 412-795-2729.

St. Benedict Academy Blue and Gold Alumnae Party on

March 29th from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Benedictine Center/former SBA Cafeteria, 4530 Perrysville Avenue. Tickets are \$30 and include a meat carving station, salad bar, pasta and potato bar, rolls, punch, coffee, tea, chocolate fountain, etc.; plus DJ and prizes. All graduates and attendees welcome! Questions or reservations, please contact the Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh at 412-931-8968.

Northern Home Care seeking caring individuals as Home

Health Aids needed in Allegheny and Westmoreland Counties, Competitive pay, flexible hours and paid training. Must have reliable vehicle, PA drivers license and proof of insurance. Call Jodi Barber at 412-781-1176 ext. 2071.