

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

The journey of Lent, our time in the desert with Jesus has begun. We will be fed by word and sacrament as we unite ourselves, not in just recalling Jesus' saving work, but allowing Him to accomplish it again in, with and for us. When we begin a task it requires planning and preparation. Steps must be taken to assure a successful outcome. Provisions for the journey, a clear view of the objective to be secured, are part of the experience for us all.

As Paul addresses the Romans, he makes a fine distinction. It is easy to profess with our lips that we have embarked on the journey with Jesus, but how the heart responds will determine the outcome. Accepting the cross of Jesus during this time of special prayer, accompanied by sacrifice and good works is the norm and expression of our belief.

The fervor of the first week of lent summons me to be deeply aware of my need to respond to God's love as expressed in His becoming one with us and experiencing the Paschal Mystery. How interesting that Jesus' role was to provide a Savior and our goal is to achieve salvation. May I spend time this week appreciating why Jesus came and the steps I can take to both confess and believe that Jesus is Lord.

STEWARDSHIP

Title: Stewards Share Their Best

"Therefore, I have now brought you the first fruits of the products of the soil which you, O Lord, have given me..." (Deuteronomy 26:10a)

This simple line from the Old Testament presents us with two challenges. First, do we bring God our first fruits – the best that we have to offer? Second, do we remember that everything we have has been given to us by God? We brought nothing into this world and we can take nothing from it. Stewardship calls us to share the best we have been given.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTED

Ordinary 2/14/10:.....\$3176.66
 Ordinary 2/8/09:.....\$2904.00
 Preservation Fund 2/14/10:.....\$247.17
 Preservation Fund 2/8/09..... \$ 399.25

BAPTISMS

The merging Parish Family of the Church of the Nativity and St. Catherine of Siena welcome
Karina L. Alduende, Sarah J. Alduende,
Brooklyn N. Rodriguez and
Isabella Lee Wiseburn
 Through the Sacrament of Baptism.
 Congratulations to All!



MASS INTENTIONS:

- Saturday 4:00 PM February 20:**
Franklinville
Don Miller
 r/b wife, Joan
- Sunday 8:00 AM February 21:**
Clayton
Donata E. Britton
 r/b Colleen & Michael Sharkey
- 9:30 AM Clayton**
Joanne Pampel
 r/b The Metz Family
- 11:00 AM Franklinville**
William Matousch
 r/b brother, Charles
- Monday 7:00 PM February 22:**
Clayton
 No Mass –
 First Reconciliation
- Tuesday 9:00 AM February 23:**
Franklinville
Hazel Gambino
 r/b Michael & Betsy Gambino
- Wednesday 9:00 AM February 24:**
Franklinville
No Intentions requested
- Thursday 7:00 PM February 25:**
Clayton
Caesar & Judith Campana
 r/b Lorraine Shaw
- Friday 9:00 AM February 26:**
Franklinville
No intentions requested
- Saturday 4:00 PM February 27:**
Franklinville
Alvaro Dente, Sr.
- Sunday 8:00 AM February 28:**
Clayton
Thomas Nichols
 r/b Lorraine Shaw & Family
- 9:30 AM Clayton**
Eugene Wexler
 r/b The Rollo Family
- 11:00AM Franklinville**
Harry Rohlfing
 r/b The Myers Family



PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE ON OUR SICK LIST – AND THEIR CARE GIVERS:

Dorothy Ball, Peg Bass, Sara Bennett, Pete Bracarello, Katie Breglar, Rose Cassabria, Kathy Cerino, Rob Christian, Troy Clancy, Maureen Corcoran, Mark Cudd, Anna Mae Farley, Crystal Fitzpatrick, George and Anna (baby twins), Carmela Genovese, Jeanie Gettz, Linda Gomeringer, Milton Samuel Haffelfinger, Jr., Carl Hamill, Courtney Heard, Heather Hirst, Jeanette Inverso, Al Johnson, Lisa Juliff, James Keeney, Steve Kozachyn, Sr., Lorraine Kreiner, Andrew Kreiner, Joann Lavery, Alfred LoCicero, John Maher, Ame Lynn Matthews, Michael Miller, Hunter Moore, Dan Napoli, Betty Obst, William Obst, Sr., Amy Otten, Joan Piazza, Peggy Sargent, Isabella Schneeman, Bob Skala, Brian Stroh, Jr, Mary Swords, Richard Vita, Bob Wescott, Leo Wickham, and Mary Wilt.

A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

Jesus was led by the Spirit into "the wilderness." What is the wilderness to which the Holy Spirit is leading you this Lent? Are there uncharted areas in your marriage or family you avoid? Lent is not about working on our agenda, but letting God work His agenda in us.

BIBLE STUDY

St. Catherine's Bible Study Group has begun a study meditation of Lent and Easter liturgical seasons with the text: Lent and Easter: Wisdom of Thomas Merton Jonathan Montaldo, Ed. .

All are welcome. Any new members should email Kevin Laughlin [kevinl@eticomm.net] to make sure we have enough copies of text. Meetings are about one hour immediately following 7:00 pm Mass in Lower Level of St. Catherine's Church.



SPOTLIGHT – This week we recognize and applaud the following people who saw a need and generously responded :

Church Snow removal:

Father Jaromir, Bill Deguenther, Dennis Ellena
Church cleaners: **Rose Yacob, Cindy Julio, Peggy Mezzatesta and Michele Gwartz.**

Altar Flowers have been donated for several weeks by **Kevin Laughlin.**

Your sacrifice of Time and Talent are ALWAYS appreciated!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEKEND:

Sunday, February 21:

8:00AM: Lector: Kevin Arnold

E.M.: Dennis Ellena

Altar Servers: Nick Fabrizio, Brianna Prior, Sydney Rosiak

9:30 AM: Lector: Anna Laughlin

E.M.: Yola Gandy

Altar Server: Anna Metz, Joe Roldan, Mark Tierno

DO YOU ENJOY IRISH MUSIC?

"The Irish Session" will perform a concert of Traditional Irish Music on Sunday, **February 28th** at 3 pm at St. Patrick's Church, 64 Cooper St., Woodbury. The concert benefits St. Patrick's Church. Tickets are \$10. Call 856-853-0019.

COULD THIS MINISTRY BE RIGHT FOR YOU?

Do you have a heart for ministry to young couples? Would you like to be part of the efforts to strengthen marriages and become a marriage-building church? **Feb. 24th** at St. Padre Pio, Vineland. 7 pm. Call 856-583-6118.

SPECIAL PARISH EVENT:

" AS THE LORD GATHERS THE FLOCK AROUND HIS TABLE "

A special program is scheduled for the parishes of the Church of the Nativity and St. Catherine of Siena that addresses a central Lenten theme of Eucharist. At 9:30 a.m. on Saturday morning, **March 13th** in St. Michael the Archangel auditorium, Fr. Leo Patalinghug, host of popular web show **Grace Before Meals** and winner of the steak fajita "Throw Down" with Bobby Flay on the Food Network, will offer a unique catechetical talk to families and children preparing for First Holy Communion and for any members of the parish congregations who would like to attend. Fr. Leo will lead the discussion. He will present Eucharistic themes about The Heavenly Food we share at Church, the food we eat at home within the "domestic church", and also the gift of food that we offer to those who hunger and thirst for God's compassion. This will be a very fun and yet informative presentation on the importance of our Sacred Meal, which is sure to nourish the participants in Body, Mind, and Soul. All parishioners and families are welcome to attend and should email Dr. Kevin Laughlin at kevinl@eticomm.net so we have enough seating set up. For more information about Father Leo's program and to receive complimentary messages filled with weekly inspirations, delicious family style recipes, and encouraging prayers, log on and subscribe to www.gracebeforemeals.com



**Saint Michael the Archangel Regional School
Hot Shot Chili Cook Off!**

**Alumni of St. Catherine's, St. Bridget's
and St. Michael's**

Saint Michael Regional School is hosting our Annual Alumni game and Chili Cook Off event on **March 6, 2010**.

The Alumni game will start at 9 am. There will be a foul shot contest, half time show, raffles and a Chinese auction. Our Chili Cook Off will also be held at St. Michael School and will start at 4:00 pm. We are looking for anyone who is interested in competing in the following categories:

Best Chili, Best Macaroni and Cheese and Best Pie. Space is limited. Please if you are interested sign up as soon as possible.

There are registration forms at the rectory. Contact Monica Dempster at 881-0067 if you have any questions.

Please come join the Saint Michael community for a day of fun, prizes and excitement!

SEVEN-DAY VOTIVE LIGHT

While going about our daily duties or during the silent watches of the night, it is consoling to know that there is a living flame keeping vigil and representing us before the Throne of God.

Keep your intention before Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Envelopes are available at the Delsea Drive entrance of the church for your intention and offering of \$10.

**"GENTLENESS, THE REMEDY FOR ANGER
AND IMPATIENCE"**

On **March 4th**, from 7-9 at St. Pius Spiritual Life Center, 1840 Peter Cheeseman Rd., in Blackwood. Led by Rev. Francis W. Danella, OSFS. Donation: \$25. Presentation only. Call 856-227-1436.

PARENTING POINTERS

(Lent) Lent is not just about "giving up" but also humbling oneself in the service of others. Even children can serve by cleaning up, letting someone else go first, even smiling instead of smirking. Being a willing servant is different from being a slave.

"The last will be first, and the first will be last." (Mt. 20:16)



"P.R.E.P. Corner"

February 21st and February 25th there will be NO CLASSES as it is the regularly scheduled week off.

First Reconciliation will be held for all candidates on Monday, February 22nd, 7:00 PM at Church of the Nativity. All candidates and their parents should arrive by 6:45.

There will be a **special mass** for all candidates preparing for First Eucharist on **Thursday, March 4th at St. Catherine's**. Candidates should **arrive by 6:00 PM** for special instruction, followed by mass at 7:00 PM

If there are any questions about upcoming events, please contact Kevin Laughlin at the above email or call the rectory at Nativity at 694-2349.



HOUSE OF CHARITY
BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

"Feed my Lambs,

Tend my Sheep,

Feed my Sheep"

We are the flock who depend on Jesus for care and nurturing. Yet sometimes we are called to action, as Peter was, to tend to the needs of our brothers and sisters.

The *House of Charity - Bishop's Annual Appeal*, with a 2010 goal of \$7.25 million, invites you to respond as Peter did, and put your love into action by caring for each other, the sheep of the flock of Jesus.

Our combined parish goal for Nativity and St. Catherine's is \$74,000. This amount reflects a decrease in goal for both parishes over last year, reflecting the current economic times.

As in the past, when the parish collects their goal amount, 10% of the funds are returned to the parish for local needs. **After meeting last year's goal, we received a check for \$4,300.**

We invite all parishioners to participate in this important effort. Please make your *sacrificial gift* to help continue the mission of the church here in the Diocese of Camden and in our parish.




LENT

Lenten Fast reflects our care for God's Creation

Adding to last week's suggestions on ways to care for God's creation:

- ☺ **Turn lights off when leaving a room**
- ☺ **Take time to stop Junk mail; Call 888-567-8688 from your home telephone; it will be checked against an address database. Or visit www.optoutprescreen.com**

CAP DATES:



The Office of Safe Environment for Children, Youth and Adults is announcing CAP (Child Assault Prevention) sessions. CAP is the safe environment training program for adults who have regular contact with minors. Attendance is required in order to comply with the USCCB's *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. The policy of the diocese is that adults will attend CAP once every five years.

The following session will be offered in **February:**

CAP Phase 1

Wednesday, February 24, 2010, 7:00pm, St. Patrick, Woodbury, Parish Worship Site

To attend one of these classes, please call the CAP registration line in the Office of Safe Environment for Children, Youth and Adults at (856) 583-6165 or email ddiggon@camdendiocese.org to register.

Please register at least five days before the session you would like to attend. In case of inclement weather please call the location of the CAP session you are attending.

"MASS INTENTIONS"

An individual may ask the priest to offer a Mass for several reasons: **examples: For speedy recovery, in Appreciation for a kindness, For the Intention of another person (such as a birthday or anniversary), or as is most common, for the repose of the soul of someone who has died.**

Presently, at St. Catherine's and the Church of the Nativity, we have only one intention for each Mass. The donation is \$10. and the intention is announced during the Prayer of the Faithful at Mass.

To obtain a Mass card, go to the rectory and make sure you have the correct spelling of the name of the person being honored.

SPECIAL MEETING OF ALTAR SERVERS

There will be a special altar servers' meeting at Church of the Nativity on **Monday, March 29th from 6:30 pm - 7:45 pm.**

This meeting is **only** for those servers who are interested in serving at the altar during the Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and/or Holy Saturday Services).

Pizza and refreshments will be served after the meeting in the rectory basement and altar servers should be picked up at 7:45 pm at side of rectory.

Those who are interested, please email Acolyte Kevin Laughlin at kevinl@eticomm.net or Deacon John Luko at johnlukojr08094@yahoo.com. Any young students from grade 4 and up who are interested in serving should also contact Deacon John Luko or Acolyte Kevin Laughlin. Special individual training program will be established for new candidates.

RETRouvaille...A LIFELINE FOR TROUBLED MARRIAGES

Is your marriage tearing you apart? Are you considering separation or divorce? Do you have a sincere desire to build a stable loving marriage? **Retrouvaille can help. What is Retrouvaille?**

Retrouvaille (pronounced re-tro.vi.) is a French word meaning "rediscovery". It is helping couples put the pieces back together and rebuild loving relationships. Retrouvaille consists of a weekend experience and a series of presentations in the weeks that follow. Retrouvaille is Catholic in origin and orientation, but is open to all married couples regardless of religious background. Retrouvaille is unique in that it is presented by married couples who themselves have experienced disillusionment, pain, anger and conflict who offer hope as they share their personal stories of struggle, reconciliation and healing. There is also a priest who participates in the weekend, although it is not a spiritual retreat, nor is it a sensitivity group, seminar or counseling. **There is hope!**

For more information, call 800-470-2230 or visit the website HelpOurMarriage.com.



LENTEN REGULATIONS

Catholics of age 14 and older must abstain from meat on **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday** and all Fridays during Lent.

In addition, on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, Catholics from age 18 – 59 fast, limiting themselves to one full meal and two smaller meals each day.