



How was your Easter week? The last 8 days were known as “The Octave of Easter”, and they were to be celebrated as one, Easter Day. Each year, I try to remind people not to

overlook the sacred season of Easter, which is to be the MOST celebrated time of the year . . . so much more so than Christmas or Lent. And, I am not sure that we are doing that. Our Lord Jesus was victorious over the tragedy of the Cross! He dispelled the darkness of sin! He conquered the sadness of the tomb, the prison of death with the glory, the power, and the truth of new life! We should be in great celebration! Again, so often we do so much in Lent. What will we do for Easter? May we all understand the truth of what Easter really is: like the two Mary’s who came to the tomb, we are to *embrace* the Risen Lord, and quickly go out and proclaim the Good News by what we say and do . . . by how we show our faith . . . by how we live our lives. Let us remember that the Risen Jesus doesn’t want us to just embrace Him. He wants us to *embrace Him, and then quickly go out and share the embrace!* May these weeks of Easter be a time for all of us to truly show the world that we are committed to the power and the glory of the Risen Christ!

Congratulations to our new Youth Minister and his wife, Jesse & Jessica Spanogle, on the birth of their new baby daughter! (However, as I write this, I am drawing a complete blank on her name! Sorry!) But, she is a beautiful little girl, and the Spanogle’s are truly blessed by God!

March 25th has always been the celebration of the Annunciation, the feast where we celebrate the announcement of Gabriel to the Virgin Mary that she was to become the mother of the Christ. The feast is always celebrated 9 months before Christmas. However, this year, March 25th has fallen into the Octave of Easter . . . and nothing is to surpass the celebration of the Octave, since it is one, long Easter Day. So, the feast of the Annunciation has been moved to Monday, March 31st. May we all offer a prayer to the Blessed Mother on that day, praying for her guidance, strength, and protection to come upon all expectant mothers . . . especially, those who are considering the tragedy of abortion. My mother, Jeanette, always taught us, *“There is nothing like the power of prayer!”*

With the presence of Spring, I do so hope to be able to bring the new Mustang Roush “Blackjack” up to begin displaying it. I was hoping to have it up here for the Easter Masses, but there is no way in the Name of God that I will put that out in the snow! I just want to make sure that we are DONE with the white “stuff” before that goes out on the lawn. We will be printing tickets very shortly, so get ready!

There is still about 70% of the parish who have not made a contribution to the Catholic Services Appeal as of this writing. A letter will be going out to those people, if it hasn’t already, inviting them to join the others. It is so important that we remind ourselves that we are part of a larger Catholic family beyond 26th & Liberty, and that Bishop Trautman needs the help of all of the Catholic people. If we are going to be able to maintain the services and ministries of the Diocese of Erie, it is vital that we all participate. And, if we are going to be able to fix the exterior windows over the stained-glass, everyone’s help is necessary. I know gas is high. I realize everyone’s expenses are growing. But, if we all live within our means, and each of us

contribute *something . . . anything!* . . .we will easily reach our goal. If you are looking for me to beg, I’ll do it! It’s not beneath me!

Have a great week, and a very special and holy Easter season!

WEEKLY COLLECTION REPORT:

| | Mar. 23, 2008 | Mar. 24, 2007 |
|------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Repairs & Improvements | \$215.00 | \$56.00 |
| Easter Flower Offering | \$926.00 | \$1,838.00 |
| Sacrificial Giving | \$7,926.34 | \$6,241.44 |
| Amount Needed | \$7,250.00 | |
| Over/(Short) | \$676.34 | |

(*includes loose money). Last week, out of 700 families of the parish, 336 envelopes (48%) were used, with an **average** Sacrificial Giving donation of **\$23.59**. Your parish depends on you for your weekly donation. Thanks for your sacrifice.



The ladies of the Altar Society will get together on **Wednesday, April 9th for a tureen dinner**. The scrumptious buffet will include many of your “tried and true” favorites and perhaps a few new dishes to tantalize the taste buds.

Meat, rolls, beverage and dessert will be provided. **You are asked to bring your own table service.**

Last names starting with A-H are asked to bring a cold salad, such as: (toss, pasta, potatoe, broccoli, 3 bean etc.) You name it.

Last names starting with I-P are asked to bring a hot dish, such as: (beans, scalloped potatoes, mac & cheese. German potato salad, veggies etc.) Whatever.

Last names starting with R-Z are asked to bring a cold dish, such as: (cole slaw, relishes, fruit, cheese, deviled eggs, etc.) Whatever you’re hankering for.

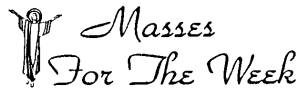
The board will meet at 5:30. Dinner is at 6. There will be a short meeting after dinner. The tureen dinner is always a lovely affair to welcome the arrival of spring. We hope all members will join us for this evening of fun and friendship.

NEWS FROM PASTORAL COUNCIL - Grocery Certificates are still being sold Sunday after Masses. This terrific fund raiser is so easy for you to use. Just stop in after Mass to the Sacristy and we will help. The monthly \$10 raffle is still in full swing. Norm Zambrzycki was the January winner of a \$10 grocery gift card and the Last Family was the winner of the February drawing. Congratulations! We also want to thank you all for your wonderful suggestions in the suggestion box. Keep in mind that box is located at the 26th Street side entrance by the Pastoral Council bulletin board. We discuss the suggestions at our meetings and will post answers on the board as needed. We want to wish you all a wonderful Easter Season and speedy Spring!



CATHOLIC SCHOOL GRANTS - Sign-ups for 15 minute contract signing sessions will occur after all Masses on March 29th and 30th in the Sacristy. **And, as part of the Grant, you must purchase/sell 3 Big Giveaway Tickets. Please contact Jim Nuber ASAP to receive your tickets at 864-9838.**





Monday, March 31st - Annunciation of the Lord

8:30 - Kathleen Tirpak - Bob and Betty Smith

Tuesday, April 1st

8:30 - Julia Berarducci - Rebecca Pruevanti

Wednesday, April 2nd - St. Francis of Paola

8:30 - John and Ruth Ronan - Family

Thursday, April 3rd

8:30 - Scott Murphy - Ruth and Bob Wehrer

Friday, April 4th - First Friday

8:30 - Antoinette Grossi - MM Tony Vitelli

Saturday, April 5th - St. Vincent Ferrer - First Saturday

4:30 - Pauline Leone - Family

Sunday, April 6th - The Third Sunday of Easter

9:30 - For the Parishioners of Sacred Heart Church

11:30 - Leonard Przybyszewski - Family

Priest Schedule for April 3rd and 4th

Saturday, 4:30PM - Fr. Detisch

Sunday, 9:30AM and 11:30AM - Fr. Detisch

The Sanctuary Candle is burning in memory of †Pasquale "Pat" DiPaolo by the Family.

Scripture Readings for Next Week

Acts 2: 14, 22-33 1 Peter 1: 17-21 Luke 24: 13-35



Easter Flower Memorials were given in memory of Angelo and Connie Casella; and for the Dec'd of the Klemen and Viglione Families.

Gifts were given by Mr. Paul Griesacker, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Mangold, and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Buseck. Thank you for all of your gifts.

Sacred Heart's **PRAYER LINE** Coordinators are:
Debbie Knecht at 504-0294
and
Jeannie Van Buskirk at 866-3235
Any prayer requests should be called in to either
Jeannie or Debbie.

The **Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program** is looking for men, women or couples to provide guidance and to share life experiences in a one on one relationship with a child in Erie County. Training is provided for your convenience. To ask how you can make a difference in the life of a child, please call Paula Hayes at 866-4566.



Please remember in your prayers our departed: †**Jean Pakulski**, mother of Toni Oldach; †**Beverly Schneider**, sister of Bill Schneider; and †**Anthony Sivillo**, uncle of Nick Sivillo.



Monday - Boy Scout Meeting at 6:00PM in the audi.

Monday Night Scripture Group will meet at 7:00PM in the sacristy.

Tuesday - The **Rosary** will be prayed at 2:00PM in church.

Thursday - The **Golden Hearts** will meet at 12:15PM in the audi. *New members over 55 are welcome!*

Choir Rehearsal from 7:30PM until 9:00PM in church.

Friday - Church Cleaning **Team #9** (Julianne and Jeff Rossi's team) is scheduled for Friday, April 4th.

Saturday - **Angelus Choir Rehearsal** from 5:30PM until 6:45PM.

Sunday - **Coffee & Donuts** will be served in the audi following the morning Masses.

Benefit for Burns' Weekend - Join Our Lady of Mt. Carmel as they hold fund-raisers for the family of a pediatric brain tumor patient next weekend: Bowling for Burns, Bingo for Burns, and Banquet for Burns. Flyers are available on the table at the 26th Street entrance of the Church. Please call 451-2400 for additional information or contact Pam Zirola at 825-1010.

BIG GIVEAWAY NEWS AND WINNERS

Congratulations to these most recent **Big Giveaway winners**: 6905 - Lori Bourgeois, 3907 - Stacey Feige, 9412 - Kevin and Cyndi Simpson, 4300 - Don and Diane Murphy, 7267 - Ken and Kathy Baer, 5648 - Diane Wiest, 7795 - William and Betty Tucker, 8372 - Tammy Hayes, 5058 - Steve Parker, 3145 - Cathy Krill, 3627 - Shelley Zimmer, 1368 - Dr. Mark Minichelli, 0329 - Dean and Jan Messenger, 0319 - Anne Matuscak, and 7185 - Dave and Anthony Maggio.

As of the turn-in of March 18th, 377 tickets have been recorded as sold, well ahead of last year's sales on that date. Needless to say, we are very pleased by these early returns.

The next Big Giveaway turn-in will be on Tuesday, April 1st, from 7:00 to 8:00PM, in the Auditorium. Unable to make that time, call Jim Nuber at 864-9838.

Mercyhurst Prep's Spring Break and Casino Night will be held on *Saturday, April 5th* from 6:30 until 11:00PM. Your \$25 ticket includes music and dancing to "Acoustic Buffet", fabulous food stations prepared by the Mercyhurst College Culinary Institute and Johnny B's Restaurant, a wine tasting booth hosted by the Mercyhurst College Culinary Wine Institute, and a "clam hut," featuring freshly steamed clams throughout the evening. You can enjoy exciting games of chance including blackjack, betting wheels and more. Spring Break will feature "horse racing" betting on local alumni celebrity jockey personalities including Jessica Horan-Kunco, Maureen Barber Carey, and Brian Sheridan.

Enjoy the expanded silent auction that offers some unique items from talented individuals including the popular student art oil paintings of famous art pieces. You can participate in the raffle of over one hundred theme baskets for both men and women.

Be sure to purchase raffle tickets for one year full tuition, with a value of approximately \$6000 or your choice of a cash prize of \$2,500. Tickets are also available ahead of time and can be picked up at the school. Winning name: -must be present to win tuition prize, -tuition only for 2008-09 school year, -tuition is non-transferable outside of immediate family, -no refunds or differences will be awarded. For tickets call Wendy Weber at 824-2066.