



Next Saturday, our parish 2nd Graders will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time! Let's keep them in our prayers this week. Generally, we have the celebration during Lent. But, that was the weekend that we had that huge blizzard. (I wanted to use the famous line from Prep Headmasters, Msgr. Robert McDonald & Fr. John Dollinger, "If I can get there, you can get there!" . . . but, I don't think that would work with 8 year-olds!) I do so hope and pray that our families will continue to nourish and encourage our children in this Sacrament. It is so rare that I hear children's confessions on the 51 Saturdays that I am in the confessional. And, as I said earlier, it really is up to the parents to bring them to the sacrament, since, because of the 11:30 Mass, I am unable to have a Penance Service for our Religious Education children. It is such a beautiful experience for us to truly admit our sinfulness, seek out the forgiveness of God, and then feel the peace of that forgiveness as we go back into our lives refreshed and renewed. I would certainly hope and pray that parents *would want* their children to know that feeling, as well as for themselves. And, when the whole family comes to confession together, it is another binding force in their lives.

And, speaking of children . . . did you happen to hear about those 3rd Graders in Georgia? In Waycross, Georgia, nine 3rd Graders were suspended from school for creating a plot to attack their teacher! Can you imagine this? Apparently, they brought from their homes a broken steak knife, a crystal paper weight, toy handcuffs, tape, all kinds of stuff that could've created a very dangerous situation for their teacher and themselves. Wow. When you think that you have heard everything . . . I am dying to find out the response of their parents on this one.

I know that he is probably going to take a beating on this, but I wholeheartedly stand by Bishop Trautman in his protest against Mercyhurst College. MC is a great institution, to be sure. It is a fantastic place of higher education, where many of its programs are unmatched. But, before all else, it is a *Catholic institution*, and it must stand by the teachings of the church on all issues of life. Bishop Trautman has an obligation as Shepherd of the Catholic people, and *all of its institutions*, to teach and maintain, if not fight for the sanctity of human life, from the womb to the grave. Mercyhurst College should not, under any circumstances . . . academic discussion, or otherwise . . . play host to any candidate that is fighting for the right to an abortion. THERE IS NO ACADEMIC DISCUSSION OR DEBATE ON THE MURDERING OF INNOCENT CHILDREN. PERIOD!!! As a Catholic institution, Mercyhurst College should have respectfully declined the appearance of Senator Clinton, and allowed Penn State-Behrend, Edinboro University, or any of the local public school districts to host the historic event. If this opinion upsets people, so be it. I know many think that we should not consider a candidate's campaign based on a "single issue". But, the sanctity of human life, and the rights of the unborn who cannot fight for themselves, is a pretty huge "single issue". It should never be dismissed, or lumped together with less important issues as "gas prices". Life is God's gift! It is not our "right" to have or to choose! And, we all need to accept this as truth . . . or answer to God for it when we stand before Him. Personally, when they stand before God to be judged, I think this is going to be the question that God will ask all those who are Pro-Choice, "Why did you not protect and defend my children

when I gave you the chance?"

As of this writing, I am planning on bringing the '08 Mustang Roush "Blackjack" to Sacred Heart, and having it out front for this weekend's Masses. If it is out there, and you saw it... well . . . what do you think? Hot, isn't it? So, is \$40,000 in cash, too. Get the word out!

How is your Easter season? Doing anything special and different for the Lord?

Have a great week!

Fr. D.

WEEKLY COLLECTION REPORT:

	Mar. 30, 2008	Mar. 31, 2007
Repairs & Improvements	\$108.00	\$903.00
Easter Flower Offering	\$35.00	\$436.00
Sacrificial Giving	\$6,073.12	\$8,193.00
Amount Needed	\$7,250.00	
Over/(Short)	(\$1,176.88)	

(*includes loose money). Last week, out of 701 families of the parish, 327 envelopes (47%) were used, with an **average** Sacrificial Giving donation of **\$18.58**. Your parish depends on you for your weekly donation. Thanks for your sacrifice.

Why Catholic? Adult Faith Formation Workshop on Prayer

The workshop will be held on Wednesday, April 23rd from 7:00-9:00PM at our Lady of Peace Church. This event is open to all parishioners regardless of whether or not you were part of a "Why Catholic?" group this past Lent.



Come and learn more about prayer, and experience praying alone and with others. Everyone of us can grow in our relationship with God by deepening our understanding of communicating with Him.

If you have any questions, please call Rebecca Flynn at the rectory at 456-6256, x110. No registration is necessary.



ATTENTION WOMEN 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.

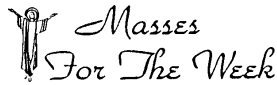
Meat, rolls, beverage and dessert will be provided. **You are asked to bring your own table service.**

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.



Monday, April 7th - St. John Baptist de la Salle

8:30 - Nancy Schlegel - Family

Tuesday, April 8th

8:30 - Rosemary Maloney - Mary Ann and Gene Runser

Wednesday, April 9th

8:30 - Elmer Dahl - James DiLoreto

Thursday, April 10th

8:30 - Joseph Runser - Family

Friday, April 11th - St. Stanislaus

8:30 - A. Jane Fox Lego - Alex Lego

Saturday, April 12th

4:30 - Carmen Italia - The Buettner Family

Sunday, April 13th - The Fourth Sunday of Easter

9:30 - Pasquale Giammarino - Family

11:30 - For the Parishioners of Sacred Heart Church

Priest Schedule for April 12th and 13th

Saturday, 4:30PM - Fr. Detisch

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

The Sanctuary Candle is burning in memory of the †**Philip Froess Family** by Frances Froess.

Scripture Readings for Next Week

Acts 2: 14a, 36-41 1 Peter 2: 20b-25 John 10: 1-10

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

Diocesan Goal: \$43,000
 Parish Goal: \$86,000
Pledged to Date: \$84,658.00
 197% of Diocesan Goal
 98% of Parish Goal
248 Families have contributed = 32%

The Erie Group going to **WORLD YOUTH DAY** in *Sydney Australia* in July is having a Fundraiser on **April 11th** from **6:00 to 9:00PM** at St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 East Grandview Blvd. A delicious Chicken Dinner, homemade deserts and singing entertainment all for only \$10.00 each.



Please call Mary Kubacki at 899-1072 for tickets by **Monday, April 7th; no tickets will be sold at the door.** We would love to have you and your family or friends come and support the youth going to Australia while enjoying a night out.

Easter Flower Memorials were given in memory of Ed and Marie Knecht, Richard Knecht, Dec'd of the Grosso and Verno Families, Dec'd of the Ed and Rita Annick Families, and Dec'd of the Weindorf and Hausmann Families. Thank you for your gifts.



Please remember in your prayers our departed:
 †**John Eppolito**, father of Vincent Eppolito.

Sunday - Coffee & Donuts will be served in the audi following the morning Masses. All are welcome!

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

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

Wednesday - Altar Society Tureen Dinner and Meeting at 6:00PM. *The Board will meet at 5:30PM.*

Thursday - Choir Rehearsal from 7:30PM until 9:00PM.

Friday - Church Cleaning Team #10 (Kim and Jim Malone's team) is scheduled for Friday, April 11th.

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

BIG GIVEAWAY NEWS AND WINNERS

Congratulations are in order for these winners at the final Buyers' Party of 2007-8 at which the \$6,000 Grand Award was drawn.

\$50 winners were 0124 - Louise Cutri, 0796 - Len and Mary Alice Grieco, 0491 - Robert and Kathleen McGowan, 1563 - Kevin Keys, 1904 - John A. Falbo, 1254 - Kathy and Bob Sharples, 1629 - Bob Straub, 1576 - Lisa Bellotti, and 0030 - JoAnn Guilianelli.

\$100 winners were 1848 - Jean Merryman, 0352 - John Plavcan, and 0847 - Michael Palmer.

Larry and Chris Proper were the holders of #1659, which was the second from last number draw, and for which they received \$250.00.

Finally, special congratulations to Michael Rydzewski who was the \$6,000 winner.

Thanks to all who contribute time and energy to making these parties a success. These parties could not take place without the enthusiastic support of all those workers.

Next week, the final daily winners of the 2007-8 Big Giveaway Year will be published. And, at that time, a progress report will be given as to how many tickets have been sold.

The next **Big Giveaway turn-in** will be on Tuesday, April 8th, from 7:00 to 8:00PM, in the Auditorium.

GANNON UNIVERSITY will hold an Open House for prospective students on **Sunday, April 20th** from Noon until 4:00PM. Come and speak with faculty from our academic programs and representatives from many offices, including Admissions and Financial Aid. We will celebrate Mass in the Mary, Seat of Wisdom Chapel at 11:00AM and registration begins at 11:30 in the Waldron Campus Center on the Gannon University campus. For more information call the Office of Admissions at 871-7240 or toll free at 1-800-426-6668.



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH will have a MONTE CARLO NITE on Saturday, April 12th at St. Paul's Center, 453 West 16th Street. There will be door prizes every hour beginning at 6:30PM (must be present to win). There will be free snacks, food and refreshments (while they last) beginning at 6:00PM. The Grand Award is \$1,500, 2nd Prize is \$250, and 3rd Prize at \$200 at 11:00PM (need not be present to win). Admission is \$5 each. (Must be 18 years of age or older to participate). For more information call 864-7033 or 866-6697.