



What a phenomenal week with Pope Benedict! The smile never left his face the entire time! I am sure that he was just as overwhelmed with all the people as they were with him.

Everyone probably thought that there was going to be a lot of scolding and lecturing of the American people for all kinds of valid reasons. But, he spoke to us, the entire time, like our Shepherd . . . like someone who just wants us to follow him on the journey of faith that, we hope, leads us to the very Glory of God. I am not sure if you were able to watch a lot of the coverage or not. But, I tried to catch it all. It was so very touching in the Chapel of St. Joseph Seminary in New York, when he prayed with those children with special needs. He went up to each one, and blessed them, and touched their faces. It was very, very emotional and powerful. And, I was especially touched by the emotion of all the young people immediately following, as he drove through the crowd for that rally behind the seminary. The multitude of young people present was just heartwarming. What a phenomenal week. We are truly blessed for having the Vicar of Christ come to our country, for we do need his guidance, his wisdom, his encouragement, and his prayerful presence.

During dinner after Confirmation at St. Patrick's in Franklin, Msgr. Herbein was telling us of his experience for the papal Mass in Washington. As they were processing in, there were these protesters that were just screaming at the priests. He said that he was absolutely horrified at what these people were saying to them, calling them "drunks" and "child molesters", and all kinds of hateful things. He said that he was just so horrified and stunned by one man in particular, that he didn't know what else to do. So, he went over and gave a blessing to one man who was screaming the loudest. And, he said that upset him even more! How sad. We all realized that the clergy sex abuse crisis has been painful . . . but, so many seem to forget the pain that it has caused to the other 99% of the Catholic American Clergy that are truly living up to our vows of ministry, and working long hours for many years just to serve the Lord and His people, and serving with great dedication and loyalty. We are the "other victims" that the media never, ever talks about. Ever. In all of this time, I have yet to hear an interview or read an article of any kind of what this has done to the hard-working "parish guy" or teacher or priest in the chancery. Nothing. Ever. That is even sadder.

But, this past Tuesday, the 22nd, was the 20th anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood. And, I have been the last week just reflecting on those two decades, wondering where they went! Every bit of it is as vivid as if it happened yesterday! But, after 20 years, I am still "just getting into it". I know that the mistakes have been countless, and there were plenty of rough days and hard times. But, I have been having a blast! I would do it all over again, if given the chance. And, I would recommend it to anyone! I struggle with the reality that this generation wants to make huge amounts of money as soon as they graduate. And, it doesn't seem like there is a desire to make an impact in life . . . but, to just make huge amounts of money. I am very proud of my friends that I went to Prep with, who are truly my "brothers", and we will all die as best friends. And, some of them *are* making huge amounts of money. (One of them cleared \$600,000 last year!) But, they will tell you, that the money brings problems and issues that our parents never had to deal with. All of us long for the simpler times of when we grew

up, since none of us came from any money. All of the parents of my group of friends were just simple, hard-working people of faith. All that money and all that success can bring such problems in family life, and they *all* will attest to that! I did not, and do not, make a lot of money. But, the priest gives praise to God for so much more in life . . . the chance to make an impact on the lives of the people of God just by serving them, and Him. I just wish this generation would give up on quest for the cash, and listen to what God is telling them to do with their lives. The vocations here at Sacred Heart Church are astounding! And, we need to truly encourage these young people to devote their lives to God and His people. Tell them! Pray for them! Push them if you have to! I know they won't regret it. Who cares what the media says about us? The day I give a hoot about what the Erie Times has to say is the day that I can get communion from a Rabbi!! The Church has survived 2,000 years because of the dedication of its servants and the prayer of the people!

Thanks, again, to Msgr. Malene for covering this weekend. I had the chance to go visit my nephews at Baylor University for the weekend. See you next week!

Fr. D.

WEEKLY COLLECTION REPORT:

	April 20, 2008	April 22, 2007
Repairs & Improvements	\$158.00	\$135.00
Sister Parish - Haiti	\$40.00	\$75.00
Sacrificial Giving	\$5,410.47	\$5,161.09
Amount Needed	\$7,250.00	
Over/(Short)	(\$1,839.53)	

(*includes loose money). Last week, out of 701 families of the parish, 291 envelopes (42%) were used, with an **average** Sacrificial Giving donation of **\$18.59**. Your parish depends on you for your weekly donation. **Thanks for your sacrifice.**



SPECIAL OFFERING

The second collection today is the **Catholic Relief Services Collection**. This Collection makes possible the American Catholic Church's global mission to combat poverty, provide relief and development, assist refugees and immigrants, and advocate for justice and peace in situations of conflict and neglect of basic human rights.

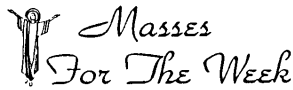
"Through the eyes of faith, the starving child, the believer in jail, and the woman without clean water or health care are not issues, but "Jesus in disguise."

Please help by giving to the *Catholic Relief Services Collection*. If you were not able to give today you can still contribute next Sunday.

ATTENTION WOMEN 40 AND OVER -

The Regional Cancer Center is providing mammograms in your neighborhood at the Erie Presbyterian Lodge at 2628 Elmwood Ave on Wednesday, May 7th from 9:00AM until 3:30PM. Grant monies are available for lost cost or no cost mammograms for women without insurance or who have a high deductible. All insurances will be billed. If you have a family doctor, you must bring an order from him/her to have a mammogram done. Area residents can schedule by calling 838-9000 or 1-800-477-6647.





Monday, April 28th - St. Peter Chanel & St. Louis Mary de Montfort

8:30 - Frank Alberstadt - Family

Tuesday, April 29th - St. Catherine of Siena

8:30 - Gary "Fergie" Kaiser - Jean, Theresa and Danny

Wednesday, April 30th - Pope Pius V

8:30 - Dominick and Mary Abate - Family

Thursday, May 1st - Ascension of the Lord - Holy Day

7:00 - Marianne and Bill Straub - Daniel Straub

9:30 - Robert Sigler - Linda and Thomas Mish

7:00 - Bud Healy - Family

Friday, May 2nd - St. Athanasius - First Friday

8:30 - Kathleen Tirpak - Mary Ann and Gene Runser

Saturday, May 3rd - St. Philip and St. James - First Saturday

4:30 - Lawrence Quinn - Family

Sunday, May 4th - The Seventh Sunday of Easter

9:30 - Patricia Runstedler - Dick and Jane Mawhir

11:30 - For the Parishioners of Sacred Heart Church

Priest Schedule for May 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 1: 12-14 1 Peter 4: 13-16 John 17: 1-11a

<p align="center">CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL</p> <p align="center">Diocesan Goal: \$43,000 Parish Goal: \$86,000 Pledged to Date: \$93,223.00 217% of Diocesan Goal 109% of Parish Goal 298 contributors = 43% of the Parish</p>



Senior Adults

GOLDEN HEARTS NEWS - The Golden

Hearts **will not** be meeting on Thursday, May 1st (Holy Day). They will be hosting *Coffee & Donuts* after the morning Masses on Sunday,

May 4th. Our next meeting will be at the **Erie Center for Health and Aging at 11:00AM on Thursday, May 8th.**

Attention All Serious Gardeners - Although it is a month away, our date to accomplish the Church's Annual Spring Yard Clean Up is scheduled for **Saturday, May 17th** beginning at 8:30AM. So mark your calendars so you do not miss it. As per usual we will be weeding, raking, edging and much more to make the yard a place of beauty. As we get closer to the date more on the event will be published in the bulletin.

Please remember in your prayers our departed:
†**Anne Vendetti**, sister of Mary Salibrici, and
†**Stephen Batcho**, cousin of Fr. Detisch.

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

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

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

Thursday - Ascension Thursday is a *Holy Day of Obligation* and the Masses will be celebrated at **7:00AM, 9:30AM and 7:00PM.**

Saturday - Church Cleaning **Team #3** (Annette and Mike Ahrens' team) is scheduled for Saturday, May 3rd.

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

Sunday - Coffee and Donuts will be served in the audi following the morning Masses. Our hosts will be the members of the *Golden Hearts* of Sacred Heart Parish.

First Eucharist will be celebrated at the 11:30 Mass.

BIG GIVEAWAY NEWS AND WINNERS

Congratulations to these first winners of the 2008-09 Big Giveaway year: 4327 - Jackie Meinhart, 0173 - Marge Altzman, 4189 - Richard and Sue Travers, 5698 - Don Wickwire, 5653 - Allan D. Pitzer, Jr., 2237 - Meleana Emerick, 4373 - Nancy Abbey 8817 - Norm Zambrzycki, 5831 - Sam Petruso, and 6113 - Ellen Schauerman.

As of the turn-in of April 15th, **1,292 tickets** have been reported as sold. We are now approaching the end of April, one full month into the new Big Giveaway Year. **Sellers:** Please do not fail to turn in all tickets you have sold to date. **Buyers:** Have you purchased your ticket for this year yet? If not, and you are unable to connect with any ticket seller, do not hesitate to call Jim Nuber at 864-9838.

The next **Big Giveaway turn-in** will be on **Tuesday, April 29th**, from 7:00 to 8:00 PM, in the Auditorium.

To the Women of Sacred Heart Parish

The Sacred Heart Altar Society, as we know it today, has been serving the parish for more than 81 years. There were other women's groups before this, but in 1926 the "Sacred Heart Altar Society" was officially set into motion, and we haven't given up yet!



May is the month we officially welcome new members, and on Wednesday, May 14th, at 6:00 o'clock, the evening will begin with Mass celebrated by The Very Reverend Father John Detisch. During this Mass members who have gone to their eternal reward are remembered by a candle-lighting ceremony

A light sit-down supper will be served and new members will be inducted. Present-day members are waiting to welcome you into our circle of friendship.

We meet the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm for about 2 hours to pray the rosary, discuss old business and plan fundraisers like the spaghetti dinner and the rummage sale. We have a picnic in August, help with the roast beef dinner in October and have a Christmas Party. There are no meetings during July, August and December.

Every once in a while we enjoy some lively entertainment or a fascinating speaker. The meeting comes to a close with a light snack, friendly chitchat and laughter.

The Ladies of the Altar Society extend a warm and friendly invitation to all women of the parish at least 18 years old to consider joining our productive group. It's a wonderful way to serve God and have fun at the same time.

The board will meet at 5:15.

PS - The dates for the rummage sale have been set: **June 19, 20, 21.** Circle these dates on your calendar and remember us when you do your spring cleaning.

(Please, no furniture or large appliances.)