



By the time you all read this, the election would have been over for almost two weeks. So, by now, the dust should be settling. We have a new President-elect, Barack Obama. And, in

about 2 months, he will be the leader of these 50 states. I have lived through 12 Presidential elections. But, the effect of this one is different. And, each day since November 4th, I am understanding more and more the impact this one has really had on the African-American community . . . an understanding I really didn't have before. I want to share the following article with you, which came from November 7th's USA Today. It is entitled "How Far We Have Come", a commentary by Robert Robinson, their Deputy Managing Editor of Sports. Sacred Heart Church is about 99% Caucasian. I felt this article would give great insight into the excitement that Barack Obama's rise to the Presidency has done for the African-American community, and help us all understand the excitement much better. Honestly? I voted for McCain. But, I want President-elect Obama to succeed. There is an excitement out there about him that I want to be a part of. Understanding Mr. Robinson's and other peoples' excitement may help:

As I watched the election results on the big screen with my family Tuesday night and heard the announcement that the 44th president of the United States would be Barack Obama, I found myself fighting back tears as I thought of just how far we have come as a country.

I thought about growing up in the Deep South and about my grandparents, who lived in a George Wallace-governed Alabama.

I thought about traveling to visit them from our home in the Florida Panhandle and how my Uncle George always had a .38 pistol under his car seat for protection as we drove the lonely dark Southern roads from our home to Alabama. I thought about how we always had to pack dinner in brown paper bags because we couldn't stop at restaurants. I thought about how we had to stop alongside the road because we could not use public bathrooms.

I thought about being born in 1955 and growing up in a city that was clearly black and white. I thought about how we'd go to the movies on Saturday, pay at the front box-office window and then have to go around to the side of the building and up the long iron steps to the balcony where the blacks had to sit. That was just the way it was.

I thought about never having a school textbook on the first day of the new school year that didn't already have someone else's name written in it. I thought about how it wasn't until I was bused across town to an all-white junior high school when schools were integrated in 1968 that I received a brand new school book.

I thought about that day in seventh grade world history class when a white classmate shouted, "I'm glad they got that King guy," on the morning after the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated. That was the only fight I was ever involved in.

I thought about all the racial fights that interrupted my freshmen year of high school because people still had not accepted integration. I can still see the rebel flags flying to this day.

I thought about the NAACP "mass meetings" — as they were called by black radio broadcasters — that seemingly were held weekly in the city to plan protest marches or boycotts to combat unfair treatment of blacks.

I thought about nearly being run over by a white man who was apparently upset because I was walking across the parking

lot of my high school football stadium where a George Wallace presidential campaign rally was being held.

I thought about at the age of 17 driving my granddad to his county commissioner's home near Selma, Ala., pulling into the long driveway and watching my granddad walk all the way to the back of the house because even in 1972, he understood the unspoken rule that blacks did not go to the front door of a white person's home.

I thought about my single-parent mom working as a maid for most of her life, leaving her home to clean other people's homes and wash their clothes just to feed her six children.

I thought about in the early years of my journalism career being sent to cover a city council meeting and having to explain why I was there — that I was a part of the news media.

I thought about all the wonderful opportunities that I have been afforded in my 53 years. I thought about how blessed I've been to travel to nearly every state of the union and to travel abroad. I thought about how far we have come, but how far we yet have to go.

But Tuesday night, Nov. 4, 2008, showed me that if you persevere, anything is possible. That things can change and will change if we would work together as one, believe in each other and look beyond our differences. Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2008, said that it is our differences that make us who we are and what we can be as a people and as a nation.

I didn't think about the war, job layoffs, the sinking economy, the high cost of gas or the rising cost of food. None of that seemed to matter.

Instead, I thought about what a great time it is to be alive and living in America.

WEEKLY COLLECTION REPORT:

	Nov. 9, 2008	Nov. 11, 2007
Repairs & Improvements	\$236.00	\$166.00
All Saints Day	\$74.00	\$24.00
Sacrificial Giving	\$7,084.50	\$7,335.48
Amount Needed	\$7,250.00	
Over/(Short)	(\$165.50)	

(*includes loose money). Last week, out of 668 families of the parish, 301 envelopes (45%) were used, with an **average** Sacrificial Giving donation of **\$23.53**. Your parish depends on you for your weekly donation. Thanks for your sacrifice.

BLIZZARD OF BLANKETS for Erie's poor and homeless will be held at the gazebo in Perry Square on Saturday, November 22nd from 9:00AM until 3:00PM. The Upper Room, a shelter for homeless people, will be collecting good, used blankets in clean useable condition. **Please no bedspreads, pillows, mattress pads, sheets, or crocheted items.** We will also gladly accept cash donations toward the Upper Room's heating costs, or warm winter clothing in good, clean condition. Items received will be distributed free to needy individuals and to various organizations with a similar mission. For more information, call Tom Schlaudecker at 868-8465.





Masses For The Week



THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, November 17th - St. Elizabeth of Hungary
 8:30 - Dec'd Members of the Iacobozzi - Family
Tuesday, November 18th - Dedication of the Basilicas of St. Peter & St. Paul in Rome & St. Rose Philippine Duchesne
 8:30 - Joni Jones - Family
Wednesday, November 19th
 8:30 - Josephine and Elmer Dahl - James DiLoreto
Thursday, November 20th
 8:30 - Fr. David Findlay - Paul and Kathy Schwetz
Friday, November 21st - Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 8:30 - Ruth Meyer - Family
Saturday, November 22nd - St. Cecilia
 2:00 - Wedding of Michalee Polito and Michael Brown
 4:30 - Nicola Faraglia - Family
Sunday, November 23rd - Our Lord Jesus Christ the King
 9:30 - Suzanna Bihler - Mary Ann Long
 11:30 - For the Parishioners of Sacred Heart Church

Priest Schedule for November 22nd and 23rd
Saturday, 4:30PM - Fr. Detisch
Sunday, 9:30AM and 11:30AM - Fr. Detisch

The Sanctuary Candle is burning in memory of †**Mr. and Mrs. Marcel Klemen** and †**Mr. and Mrs. Mike Viglione** by Mary and Cas.

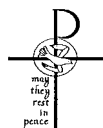
Scripture Readings for Next Week
 Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26, 28
 Matthew 25: 31-46



THE POVERTY LINE - Life at the Poverty Line. Every day is about hanging on. For 37 million Americans, there is a thin line: between eviction and home, between hunger and health, between unemployment and work, between anxiety and stability. This line is the poverty line, and it is set at an annual income of \$20,444 for a family of four. **The Catholic Campaign for Human Development** is dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty by funding community programs that encourage independence. You are essential to its success. Your generous donations will give those in poverty the support they need to make lasting changes. Together, we can make a difference in families and communities. Please donate prayerfully and generously. Thank you.

COMMUNION OF SAINTS - We have begun the month of November when we as Roman Catholics traditionally remember the Dead. One of the beliefs of the Church is in the *Communion of Saints*. Throughout this month we commemorate this belief.

We are members of this "*Communion of Saints*". We ask the intercession of those (All the Saints) who live now in the Glory of God. We remember to pray for All the Faithful Departed. Found at the Baptismal Font is our *Book of Names*. During the month of November, **please inscribe the names of loved ones** who have been called home to God and whom you wish our parish to remember in our prayers. Throughout this month, the names will be kept in prayer. By remembering those who have died, we recall how much a part of our lives these "saints" still are, and we reaffirm our belief that Jesus died for us and because of His death we will all be reunited with our loved ones someday.



Please remember in your prayers our departed:
 †**Nelli Ganza**, sister of Jean MacWhirter
 and †**Raymond Cicero**, brother of Alice Carlotti

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 - A **Baptismal Preparation Session** for parents anticipating the birth or baptism of their child will be offered at 7:00PM in the Sacristy. Parents are expected to attend this session before the child is baptized. Sponsors are also invited to attend. Please call the Rectory at **456-6256**, ext. **100**, and let us know if you will be present.
Friday - Church Cleaning **Team #2** (Marilyn Sharp's team) is scheduled for Friday, November 21st.

BIG GIVEAWAY NEWS AND WINNERS

Congratulations to these most recent **Big Giveaway winners**:
 1938 - Kathleen Chulick, 4601 - Cheryl G. Martin, 8945 - Martin Maly, 0897 - Tom & Geri Bruno, 2995 - Ron & Cindi Ruf, 6185 - John & Julie Hanke, 1892 - Tony Rentz, 5723 - Cara & Tim Kaliszewski, 2847 - John Niebauer, 5111 - Dave Lawrence, 6066 - Bob Straub, and 2610 - Giovanni Carrara.

Special congratulations to David Massella (3701) who was the \$1,000 winner for the month of November.

There will be no turn-in until further notice.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS - As Matthew's



Gospel demands our talents for the good of the Kingdom, we must reevaluate our time spent in giving back. It is very easy to sit back and let someone else volunteer, but then we must realize that we are reflecting the behaviors of the last servant.

Even though the master only gave him one talent, he wasted it by not using it. Today's culture proclaims a life of self-indulgence with little time spent giving back to one another. We need to ask ourselves if we are doing God's will in our lives. Filling our lives with too many earthly commitments can leave us feeling empty by the end of the day. Christ promises us that if we spend at least 10% of our time giving back and doing selfless acts of kindness we will help patch that giant hole in every heart with His everlasting love.

If you are interested in checking out Sacred Heart Youth Group join us Thursday nights from 7-8:30pm in the auditorium. I am still looking for assistant youth ministers who are 18+ years old to help out on Thursday nights, please e-mail me if you are interested. Check out the youth group at mycatholicconnection.com or feel free to e-mail me at catholicconnection@gmail.com with any questions or concerns. Peace. Jesse

Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received - only what you have given: a full heart, enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice and courage. — St. Francis of Assisi

Mercyhurst Prep Lady Lakers Basketball Tip-off Party will be held on *Saturday, November 22nd* from 6:00-11:00PM at the Holy Trinity Social Hall. There will be Casino games, theme baskets and cash drawing. Tickets are \$10. Come out and support the Lady Lakers! For more information, please call 838-2486.



Attention Golden Heart Members - If you missed the November 6th meeting and wish to attend the Christmas Luncheon on Thursday, December 4th at the Colony Pub and Grill, 2670 West 8th Street, you have until Saturday, November 22nd to pay for your reservation. The luncheon is \$12.50 per person. If you have any questions, please call Dick Hart at 866-0049.