



If I may correct myself from last week's bulletin, *today's feast*, the Baptism of the Lord, is the conclusion of the Christmas season. Last week, I mentioned that Christmas ended last

week, and it did not! Tomorrow, Monday, begins the season we call Ordinary Time, which will run until the day before Ash Wednesday. Today, we recall how Jesus allowed Himself to be baptized in the Jordan, so that others would follow Him into baptism, and then into a life of devoted faith that will, one day, lead to eternal life. This feast reminds us all of the commitments and promises that were made at our own baptism, and how we have promised to *"Reject sin, so as to live in the freedom of God's children . . . reject the glamour of evil, and refuse to be mastered by sin . . . reject Satan, the father of sin and the prince of darkness."* And, we all answer *"I DO!!"* May we allow ourselves not to use those words so loosely, but may we be faithfully determined to truly follow our promises to live a life of faith in the power of God as Father, Son, and Spirit.

I wanted to welcome Dawn DiPaolo Romeo to the Finance Council. Dawn is a life-long member of Sacred Heart Church, and an alumnus of Sacred Heart School. She is the Office Manager for the Sixth Ward District Court, where her father, Dominick, serves as District Judge. Dawn takes care of all the financial reporting and transactions of the District Court, and will be a great asset to the Finance Council. She and her husband, Michael Romeo, have two wonderful, and feisty children, Gino & Gianna. At the same time, I wanted to thank Helen Boback for her years of serving on the Finance Council. Helen has been with PNC Bank for a number of years, and was a huge help to us on Council. It is so nice for the Pastors to have such talented people advise us in the temporal care of the parish.

Congratulations to our own Joe Schember, Jr. on his appointment to the Chair of Erie City Council. The other members of Council must have great respect for Joe for honoring him with such an important position in City Government after only a few short years of service. I know that he will do very well for the people of Erie, and we certainly offer him our prayers and support. And, we cannot forget to congratulate Sacred Heart parishioner and State Legislator, Pat Harkins, on his inauguration to a 2nd term in Pennsylvania State Government. Pat ran unopposed for his first re-election, which is almost unheard of! That says so much for the people's confidence in his ability to serve.

Please allow me to say a thing or two about the parking lot and driveway. Please remember that the area in front of the sidewalks are *NOT parking spaces!* That area is to *be always kept open* for wheelchairs, and for people who need assistance walking into Mass. On several occasions, when there is snow on the ground, many people are parking there and blocking access to the sidewalks, making it virtually impossible for anyone with wheelchairs or walkers to get into Church. *Please do NOT park there.* And . . . there are many people using the front driveway to pick up, or drop off people before and after Mass, which is perfectly fine. However, some people are driving *around* the cars that are there, and driving *across the lawn.* The ground is not frozen solid, and there are now several tire tracks that have sunk into the lawn, which . . . I might add . . . sends me into a grand-mal convulsive fit! So . . . if you have to use the driveway, for the love of all that is holy, *keep your wheels ON the driveway!!!!!!* It takes me until August to get the lawn back

to what it was before everyone feels a need to drive across it!! You have all just discovered "Father's Pet Peeve #3". (#1 is cell phones going off in Church ... #2 is anyone parking in front of the garage doors!)

I hope that 2009 has been good so far! Have a great week!
Fr. D.

WEEKLY COLLECTION REPORT:

	Jan. 4, 2009	Jan. 2, 2008
Repairs & Improvements	\$634.00	\$159.76
Christmas	\$10.00	\$209.01
Sacrificial Giving	\$7,077.47	\$3,797.30
Amount Needed	\$7,250.00	
Over/(Short)	(\$172.53)	

(*includes loose money). Last week, out of 676 families of the parish, 307 envelopes (46%) were used, with an **average** Sacrificial Giving donation of **\$23.13**. Your parish depends on you for your weekly donation. Thanks for your sacrifice.

ATTENTION LADIES OF THE ALTAR SOCIETY

It's time for our annual "Birthday Bash" and everyone is invited to come celebrate all birthdays on Wednesday, January 14th, at 7:00PM in the audi. (the Board will meet at 6:00PM.) Ladies your annual dues of \$2.00 is due this month.



After recitation of the rosary, a brief business meeting will be held. Our annual spaghetti dinner is sure to be on the agenda, so your participation would be greatly appreciated.

Feel free to bring a friend along. I'm sure she has a birthday she wants to celebrate.

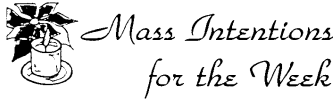
The ladies of the Altar Society have taken on a new project for the New Year, and beyond. Jesus said: "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink". Matthew 26:35.

Now at every meeting, the ladies will bring a nonperishable item to be donated to the Sacred Heart Food Bank. This will help stock the shelves for the needy in our parish neighborhood. Come on ladies, let's show the Food Bank what we can do! Thank you for supporting this project. The Board thanks you, and someone's hollow stomach thanks you too. "As often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for me" Matthew 26:40.

If you would like a statement of your contributions to the parish for 2008, please call the rectory and leave your name and envelope number with Patty at extension 102.

Please remember in your prayers our departed:
†**James Rupp**, the father of Jamie Rupp.





Monday, January 12th

8:30 - Mary Salibrici - Elaine Lamm

Tuesday, January 13th - St. Hilary

8:30 - Frances Whitmore - Robert Brabender

Wednesday, January 14th

8:30 - Elizabeth Verdecchia - Mrs. Thomas DeDad

Thursday, January 15th

8:30 - Ruth Meyer - Family

Friday, January 16th

8:30 - Lawrence Brei - Eleanor, Theresa and Mary Grace

Saturday, January 17th - St. Anthony

4:30 - Donald Zimmerman - Tom Yeager

Sunday, January 18th - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 - John Rastetter, Sr. - The Big Giveaway Committee

11:30 - For the Parishioners of Sacred Heart Church

Priest Schedule for January 17th and 18th

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 the Family.

The Altar Bread and Wine are given in memory of †**Cas Klemen** by Mary and the Family.

Scripture Readings for Next Week

1 Samuel 3: 3b-10, 19 1 Corinthians 6: 13c-15a, 17-20 John 1:35-42

Sunday - Confirmation Parent Meeting at 1:00PM in the school. All parents and confirmation candidates are expected to attend.

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

Knights of Columbus Meeting at 7:30PM in the audi.

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

Pastoral Council Meeting at 7:00PM in the sacristy.

Wednesday - Altar Society Meeting at 7:00PM in the audi.

(The Board meets at 6:00PM.)

Thursday - PARENT MEETING for children who will receive **RECONCILIATION** and **FIRST EUCHARIST** in 2009 in the school.

Friday - Church Cleaning Team #10 (Kim and Jim Malone's team) is scheduled for Friday, January 16th.

Sunday - NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES.

BIG GIVEAWAY NEWS AND WINNERS

Congratulations to these most recent **Big Giveaway winners**: 6019 - Paul R. Amendola, 9268 - Pat and Beth DiPaolo, 7782 - Betty Ann Rush, 7243 - Karen Jarski, 4716 - Patrick F. Donohue, 5680 - Paul Marnella, 3881 - Dave Maggio, 8406 - Barb May and 5449 - Carole Ferraro.

Attention: Committee people, Captains, and Sellers. The Sellers' Dinner is scheduled for Friday, January 30, 2009. You will be receiving a telephone call inviting you to this annual event.

There will be no turn-in until further notice.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS - After reading the recent polls concerning New Year's resolutions, I found it interesting that the number one resolution in 2009 was to spend more time with family. In past years it has been



to lose weight or quit smoking. The family is the core of a strong faith life. Most youth learn their faith from their parents. That is why Satan attacks the home so that he can uproot the very heart of God's creation. Even religious live in a community so that they can grow closer with their new faith family. In 2009, we must focus on our family life, it will take sacrifice and suffering but only true love has these conditions. If you are interested in coming to youth group, we meet every Thursday from 7-8:30pm in the Sacred Heart Auditorium. Please pray for us as we prepare for our NET retreat on January 22nd. Peace. Jesse



What Our Heavenly Father said to Jesus in today's gospel, "You are my beloved. My favor rests on you" is not earned love; it is given freely. The unconditional love we experience in our families is sacramental for it gives us a glimpse of God's freely given, all accepting love.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



There will be a **CONFIRMATION PARENT MEETING** today, Sunday, January 11th at 1:00PM in the school. All parents and confirmation candidates are expected to attend. Confirmation will be celebrated on September 13th at St. Andrew Church.

There will be a meeting for all **PARENTS** of children who are in the **RECONCILIATION** and **FIRST EUCHARIST** Class on Thursday, January 15th at 7:00PM in the school. All parents are expected to attend this meeting.



There will be **NO** Religious Education Classes next Sunday, January 18th. Classes will resume on Sunday, January 25th.