



The Spaghetti Dinner was another huge success!! If I am not mistaken, we served around 1500 dinners!! It was a long, steady stream of people all day.

There is so many people to thank for such a great day; especially, sisters Lisa (Lopez) Zamierowski & Linn (Lopez) Rater, Lorraine Squeglia, and the legion of ladies of the Altar Society who made all the meatballs, and helped all day long! We had tons of volunteers in the kitchen, the dish room, serving, cleaning, scraping, sweeping, and everything else! It was such a great effort. Robin Kuntz coordinated all of the young people, looking for "service hours" for school, and they all were a wonderful presence. Thanks so much to everyone!! It might have rained, but there was no snow!!! That sure made the difference from last year!

You may have noticed a beautiful cross that is near the entrance of the Church. It began as a project of Jillian Dunn, a senior from Villa Maria Academy. She wanted to create a special idea along the lines of the "Frogs & Fish" that were seen all around Erie in recent years. She sent word of her idea out to all the local Pastors to do something similar with the cross. Sacred Heart was one of the parishes who wanted to do it. Long-time parishioners, Ed & Jean Hausmann, donated the cross itself, and the Sacred Heart Youth Group created its design and painted it. It is a great idea, and a great effort by many of our own people. Thanks everyone!

As of this writing, the Catholic Services Appeal has climbed over \$91,000 in only 3 weeks! That is unbelievable, and it says so much of the generosity of the people of Sacred Heart. Those gifts and pledges are coming from almost 300 registered parishioners, or about 40% of the parish. That still leaves about 60% of the parish that *has not pledged* yet. It is in the realm of possibility that we could far exceed a record goal of \$100,000 . . . remembering that *anything over and above our goal of \$45,166 STAYS HERE!!* So, to the 60% that hasn't pledged yet, please join in the generosity . . . \$40 a month for 10 months . . . or, pledge ANYTHING!! We'll take it!!!

The issue of stem cell research is back on front pages again. And, this is a serious issue that we all need to be informed about. According to the 2008 statement by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, "*Stem cell research has captured the imagination of many in our society. Stem cells are relatively unspecialized cells that, when they divide, can replicate themselves and also produce a variety of more specialized cells. Scientists hope these biological building blocks can be directed to produce many types of cells to repair the human body, cure disease, and alleviate suffering. Stem cells from adult tissues, umbilical cord blood, and placenta (often loosely called "adult stem cells") can be obtained without harm to the donor and without any ethical problem, and these have already demonstrated great medical promise. But some scientists are most intrigued by stem cells obtained by destroying an embryonic human being in the first week or so of development. Harvesting these "embryonic stem cells" involves the deliberate killing of innocent human beings, a gravely immoral act. Yet some try to justify it by appealing to a hoped-for future benefit to others.*" Two years ago, the speaker for our EMMAUS Convocation of Priests was Bishop Robert Morlino, who is one of the leading experts on this issue for the USCCB. He told us that adult stem cell research has cured, at that time, 70 known diseases. 70! And, embryonic stem cell research has cured 0.

None! He, along with many other noted scientists, believe that there is no need to use embryonic stem cells, which has no proven ability to cure anything, when adult stem cells are just fine, and already proven. Bishop Morlino contends that this is a huge "money issue", because there are billions of dollars in research money available . . . billions that embryonic stem cell researchers are dying to get their hands on. In fact, one of the biggest research facilities is in his diocese in Madison! The USCCB is trying to get the Catholic people informed correctly, and encouraging us all not to be misled by the mainstream media, who *never* promote the moral, Catholic view on anything. If you are interested . . . and, we all should be . . . there are lots of material available on the USCCB website, which can be reached through the "Catholic links" tab on our own website.

I hope Lent has been prayerful and restful for all of you. Please make plans to come to the Easter Vigil in a few weeks! Have a great week! Fr. D

WEEKLY COLLECTION REPORT:

	Mar. 8, 2009	Mar. 9, 2008
Repairs & Improvements	\$179.00	\$95.00
Easter Flowers	\$0.00	\$871.00
Sacrificial Giving	\$7,367.50	\$4,190.06
Amount Needed	\$7,250.00	
Over/(Short)	\$117.50	

(*includes loose money). Last week, out of 680 families of the parish, 336 envelopes (50%) were used, with an **average** Sacrificial Giving donation of **\$21.93**. Your parish depends on you for your weekly donation. *Thanks for your sacrifice.*



Close to 1/2 Million Dollars Available to Families

Bishop Donald Trautman has made available nearly \$500,000 to help our families in this troubled economic time. The new addition of available money is being obtained from accumulated savings in various educational reserves. Other service areas such as Catholic Charities and our Secondary Schools have not been affected.

The deadline for applying for available financial aid has been moved from March 16th to March 31st, 2009. The diocese hopes to increase the number of families able to receive tuition assistance. There is a special incentive for Kindergarten families who register their children for the 2009-2010 school year.

Applications for tuition assistance are available at the individual school or can be obtained from the diocesan website at www.eriecd.org.

Attention Families Eligible for the Educational Grants

Sign-ups for 15 minute contract signing sessions will be conducted after all Masses on March 21st, March 22nd, March 28th, and March 29th in the Sacristy.

Third Sunday of Lent

† † † Masses
For The Week

- Monday, March 16th**
8:30 - Raymond Walczak - Family
- Tuesday, March 17th - St. Patrick**
8:30 - Mark James Chulick - Chuck and Carol Baker
- Wednesday, March 18th - St. Cyril of Jerusalem**
8:30 - Luigi Ferrante - Family
- Thursday, March 19th - St. Joseph**
8:30 - Catherine Marino - Carmela Ferrante
- Friday, March 20th**
8:30 - Pat and Frank Klein - Jim and Kathy Sertz
12:15 - Stations of the Cross in church
- Saturday, March 21st**
4:30 - Donald Zimmerman - Family
- Sunday, March 22nd - The Fourth Sunday of Lent**
9:30 - Tina Trigilio - Rita and Tom Timon
11:30 - For the Parishioners of Sacred Heart Church

Priest Schedule for March 21st and 22nd

- Saturday, 4:30PM** - Fr. Detisch
Sunday, 9:30AM and 11:30AM - Fr. Detisch

The Sanctuary Candle is burning in memory of †A. **Jane Fox Lego** by Alex Lego.

The Bread and Wine are given in thanksgiving for many †**Blessings** by the Zamierowski Family.

Scripture Readings for Next Week

Exodus 17: 3-7 Romans 5: 1-2, 5-8 John 4: 5-42

SACRED HEART'S CONFIRMATION CLASS

<p>CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL Diocesan Goal: \$45,166 Parish Goal: \$90,000 Pledged to Date: \$91,585 202% of Diocesan Goal 102% of Parish Goal 298 contributors = 40% of Parish</p>

"KNOCKING OUT HOMELESSNESS"

Concerned about the plight of the poor and homeless, the Sacred Heart Confirmation class has embarked upon a project to help "knock out homelessness" by holding a food, toiletry and gently worn clothing drive.

Parishioners are asked to bring in food, toiletries and clean, gently worn clothing. Items may be dropped off during March in boxes placed in the vestibule. Please see the enclosed insert in the bulletin for a list of items that are needed.



Lenten  Schedule

- 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.
Friday - Church Cleaning **Team #9** (Julianne and Jeff Rossi's team) is scheduled for Friday, March 20th.
Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 12:15PM in church.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS - Our youth group as of last Friday has decided that during this season of Lent we will refrain from using text messaging on all Fridays during Lent and from Palm Sunday till Easter Sunday. This action is a response to our Holy Father's request for the young people of the world to engage into "real" relationships. Our world is full of distractions and entertainment that fills our days with everything except God. Sometimes we need to step out of the daily bump and grind of our daily life and be more focused on God's presence in our lives. Lent is the perfect season for this task! This statement of faith by our young people is a true testament to the sacrifice that one needs to make during these forty days. Please keep our youth in your prayers during this season of Lent and know that we are praying for you as well. If you have any questions about our youth ministry program or events please feel free to contact me at catholicconnection@gmail.com. Peace. Jesse



TO ALL PARISHIONERS -

Another successful spaghetti dinner has come and gone.

The recipes for the secret savory sauce and the mouthwatering meatballs have been safely returned to the vault until next year.

The ladies of the Altar Society want to express our gratitude to everyone who helped make our 56th spaghetti dinner a success. We served 1,482 dinners!!

A big "bouquet" of thank yous to Lorraine Squeglia, Linn Lopez Rater, and Lisa Lopez Zamierowski for cooking up the largest batch of spaghetti sauce and meatballs.

Thanks to all the men who helped out in the kitchen. We could never in a million years pull this event off without your help.

We would like to express our gratitude to Robin Kunz and her crew for setting up and managing the dining room; Nancy Fries and her bake sale buddies; the dishwashing crew; the ticket ladies; the coffee brewer and all those who set up and cleaned up the audi.

The Italian theme basket made by **Karen Nies** was won by **Millie Grutkowski**. Congratulations to **Eileen Grow** who won the big prize of \$500 and to **Sara Scavella** who won \$250.

We are extremely appreciative to Allburn Florists, Erie County Farms, and Teresa's Deli for their generous contributions that are essential to this event. You're awesome!

