



I was reading in the local paper a few days ago about the 46 year-old father and his 17-year old daughter, who were both drinking whiskey and vodka at a party last weekend, and crashed the car . . . because the drunken 17 year-old was driving! I sat there stunned reading that! And, it was even more stunning to learn from the State Troopers that it is not so uncommon for them to arrest both parents *and* their children for all kinds of things. What chance do kids have when their parents act like that, and teach them things like that? I love what Trooper William Gilson said at the end of the article, when giving advice to parents: *“Don’t encourage your child to drink under the age of 21. Don’t let them drive without a license. Don’t be a buddy to your daughter or son. Be a parent! A ‘parent’ would not go out partying with their daughter or son.”* I think that is great advice, especially with all the graduation parties coming up. I can’t tell you how many times I have heard of graduation parties with tons of alcohol, hosted by the parents(!), and they think that it is OK . . . as long as they and their friends stay there and, *“we can keep an eye on them”*. And, these parents actually think they are doing the “honorable thing” by confiscating all the car keys, and supervising an alcohol blast for their high-school graduating child and friends. I may be wrong, but I believe that Pennsylvania law gives a \$1,000 fine to the adult for *each* underage person at that party! My oldest friend, Attorney Pat Carey . . . now in private practice . . . was an Assistant District Attorney for a number of years. Pat would tell me all kinds of horror stories about his cases involving graduation parties . . . underage drinking . . . parental support of it . . . young people getting into serious accidents, and permanently disabled . . . parents getting arrested. If only parents would just *be parents*, and not their children’s “buddies”.

This afternoon, I would imagine that there is a huge protest, if not an all-out public relations “mess” out at Notre Dame University. President Barack Obama is the guest speaker at the graduation, which has been a great source of controversy through the American Catholic Church, since many of the President’s policies are completely contrary to the teachings and beliefs of the Catholic Church. The problem is, not so much that he is speaking at graduation. He IS the President, and it IS quite an honor to have him speak. The *real* problem rests with the University of Notre Dame and their President, Rev. John Jenkins. They are in violation of a Vatican directive to *not* give any honorary degrees to anyone that publically opposes the teachings of the Catholic Church. Today, they will bestow an honorary degree upon President Obama, and . . . with all due respect . . . *they can’t!* I think they would’ve been just fine to have him speak, and let it go at that. But, Notre Dame University . . . always having been known as the “symbol” of the Catholic Church in America” . . . is publically turning away from a directive of Pope Benedict and the Holy See. I was hoping President Obama would’ve been gracious enough to decline the degree, once he saw the controversy that this has created in the Church . . . as Governor Ridge did, when he was the commencement speaker at Gannon University several years ago. Personally, I think Fr. Jenkins will be out of a job next school year. The Bishops are not taking this lightly. Stay tuned!

The Knights of Columbus are speaking at all the masses this weekend, inviting the men of the parish to become active in this great fraternal organization. Our Sacred Heart Council is

entering into its 14th year, if I am not mistaken. And, the Knights have become one of the most active and dedicated groups of our parish! We generally have 20-30 guys at each monthly meeting. And, they have responded to everything that I have asked of them in my time as Pastor. I have been a 4th degree Knight for over 20 years, and have always enjoyed being part of them. The Knights of Columbus have always been great supporters of the priesthood and religious life, and sponsor all kinds of different ministries. And, also, they have a fantastic insurance and investment system, too! So, guys, if you are looking for something great to be a part of, come and check out the Knights!

Have a great week!
Fr. D.

WEEKLY COLLECTION REPORT:

	May 10, 2009	May 11, 2008
Repairs & Improvements	\$164.00	\$325.00
Good Shepherd	\$265.00	\$.00
Sacrificial Giving	\$8,302.52	\$6,980.12
Amount Needed	\$7,250.00	
Over/(Short)	\$1,052.52	

(*includes loose money). Last week, out of 680 families of the parish, 343 envelopes (51%) were used, with an **average** Sacrificial Giving donation of **\$24.20**. Your parish depends on you for your weekly donation. Thanks for your sacrifice.

To all Parishioners of Sacred Heart Parish and Friends:



For more than 24 years Rosemary Shewan and Mary Ann Dana have been co-chairs for the yearly rummage sale at Sacred Heart Parish.

This year, the fun begins on Thursday, June 11th, which is “drop off and set up” day. Bring your items to be donated to the audi between 9:00AM & 4:00PM. *Please no large appliances or furniture.*

Members of the parish, men and women, are invited to help unpack and set up on the 11th or help out any way you can. The day of the sale is always busy and extra help would be appreciated.

Also, adults and high school students can use this great opportunity to get service hours.

Friday, June 12th, is the BIG sale. Come early for the best selection. Bargains galore are waiting for you, such as jewelry, clothing, coats, purses, belts, shoes, glassware, holiday decorations, books, toys, small appliances and a great number of other treasures.

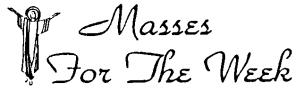
Saturday, June 13th is BAG DAY from 9:00AM until Noon. This is your last chance to bag a bargain this year so be sure and set your alarm clock.

Anyone wishing to help should call Rosemary Shewan at 455-1961 or Mary Ann Dana at 868-4026.

Thanks to all of you who donate items to our rummage sale. We appreciate your generosity, and we couldn’t have a rummage sale without your help.

There will be NO Altar Society meeting in July. Watch the bulletin for information about the summer picnic in August.

Now get out there and get those flowers planted, and enjoy your summer.

**Monday, May 18th - Pope John I**

8:30 - Alice Cost - Aunt Jeannie

Tuesday, May 19th

8:30 - Gerard Uht - The Wilhelm Family

Wednesday, May 20th - St. Bernardine of Siena

8:30 - John Vergelli - The Timko Family

Thursday, May 21st - Ascension of the Lord - Holy Day

7:00 - Gerry McCarthy - Family

9:30 - John and Ruth Ronan - Family

7:00 - Ed and Fay Orehek - Family

Friday, May 22nd - St. Rita of Cascia

8:30 - Santo and Assunta Colao - Family

Saturday, May 23rd

4:30 - Donald Zimmrman - Earl Meyer

Sunday, May 24th - The Seventh Sunday of Easter

9:30 - Bob and Ann Ohmer - Family

11:30 - For the Parishioners of Sacred Heart Parish

Priest Schedule for May 23rd and 24th**Saturday, 4:30PM - Fr. Detisch****Sunday, 9:30AM and 11:30AM - Fr. Detisch**

The Sanctuary Candle is burning in memory of the
†Deceased members of Sacred Heart Parish.

Scripture Readings for Next Week

Acts 1: 1-11 Ephesians 1: 17-23 Ephesians 4: 1-13

If you will be attending the 7:00AM Mass on Ascension Thursday, please be advised that you can only park along the east side of the parking lot next to the hedges and in the street. The parking places next to the school and to the south of the school (where the convent used to be) all belong to the Roosevelt faculty and staff during the school days. You can also park in a row behind the cars next to the hedges.



The 2009 Diocesan Anniversary Celebration for couples celebrating 25th, 50th or 60th wedding anniversaries will be held on Sunday, August 2nd, at 2:00PM at St. Luke's Church. To register, please contact the church office at 456-6256.

Please remember in your prayers our departed:

†Eleanor Pepicello; and †John L. Carr.

Sunday - Coffee and Donuts will be served in the audi following the morning Masses.

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.

Friday - Church Cleaning Team #9 (Julianne and Jeff Rossi's team) is scheduled for Friday, May 22nd.

BIG GIVEAWAY NEWS AND WINNERS

Congratulations to these **Big Giveaway winners**: 9900 - Ronnie Allen, 4827 - Bib Lee and Jack Marta, 7606 - Cosimo Pellican, 6012 - Dick VanTassel, 0742 - Robin Davis, 2752 - Eddie Yarrington, 4836 - Susan Zuck, and 3644 - Katrina Schaeffer and Del Sivillo.

Special congratulations to Bus Blakeslee who was the \$1,000 winner for the final Wednesday of April.

1,366 tickets have been recorded as sold as of Tuesday, May 5th. That is 36 fewer tickets than were sold as of that date one year ago. **Once again, we urge School Families to make their returns on the tickets that they will buy or sell as soon as possible.**

The next **Big Giveaway turn-in** will be on Tuesday, May 19th, from 7:00 to 8:00PM, in the Auditorium.

**YOUTH GROUP NEWS** - The readings this

week reflect on the simple fact that God is love. In John's Gospel Jesus says "It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain ... this I command you: love one another." This is the only commandment that Jesus ever gave us. As a Catholic youth, we need to search more deeply for Christ in others. Many of us kill each other with our words and actions. Society tells us to constantly build ourselves up no matter who gets in the way! This is not love, love is forgiveness, love is mercy, and love is a sacrifice! Jesus calls us to love today; he didn't say it would be easy!

If you would like more information about youth group or our upcoming Catholic Connection Lock-in on May 22nd and May 23rd, please e-mail me at catholicconnection@gmail.com. Peace. Jesse

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL - The opportunity still exists for those who have not yet responded to the 2009 CSA. A gift to the CSA - no matter how great or small - can go a long way. A pledge of \$5 or \$10 a month can add up. Even a one-time gift is helpful to the cause. Since our parish has made its goal, your gift will stay in the parish to be used for a fire protection system in the Church, one that will give immediate notice to the Erie Fire Department, if in the event of a disaster. We need to put in new sidewalks along 26th Street, before someone trips and falls on the broken concrete that is there now. And, if able, we need to replace the 43-year old bell system ... a system, in which, we can no long find parts available if it ceases to work. But with your help, we may be able to do ALL of these necessary projects.

Please consider making a pledge. We're counting you!