



LENT 2006

Lent is the penitential season of the church's year. It begins on Ash Wednesday and ends with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. Lent has six Sundays. The sixth Sunday is called Passion or Palm Sunday and marks the beginning of Holy Week. The Easter Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, It commemorates the Lord's passion and death on Good Friday., reaches it high point at the Easter Vigil and ends with evening prayer on Easter Sunday. Then the joyful Easter Season of 50 days begins. Traditionally the Lenten Season is a time of penance throughout the Catholic Church. Lent is a season in which prayer, the reception of the sacraments, charity and almsgiving are emphasized.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Weekdays of Lent: There is no obligation to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday: These are days of Fast and Abstinence from meat. There is a limit of one full meal on these days for all between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive.

Days of Abstinence [All Fridays of Lent]: All who have reached their 14th year are bound to abstain totally from meat. *In order to celebrate the patronal feast of the diocese, Catholics in the Diocese of Erie will be dispensed from abstinence on Friday, March 17th [St. Patrick's Day] but only provided that they observe abstinence on the day before, March 16th as a substitute. For those not substituting March 16th as a day of abstinence, St. Patrick's Day remains a day of abstinence.*

Easter Duty Obligation: After they have received their First Holy Communion, Catholics are bound by the obligation of receiving Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept should be fulfilled during the Easter Season. Catholics are also bound to confess serious (mortal) sins at least once a year, but it is not limited to the Lenten/Easter Season.



This Wednesday, March 1st, is Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of Lent. Ashes will be distributed at all the Masses. Mass times are at 7:30am, 9:00am, 12:15pm and 5:15pm.

LENTEN FISH DINNER This Friday, March 3rd is our first Lenten Dinner. Please join us from 4:30-7:00pm in the cafeteria. This year we are featuring three different dinners: baked scrod, cheese ravioli or macaroni & cheese.

BAKE SALE Stop by our bake sale after dinner and pick up something special for dessert! We are counting on all of our famous bakers to donate their baked goods. All baked goods can be dropped off at the Parish Office (Samples are welcomed!!) during the day on Friday.

LENTEN MASSES We will have a 5:15pm Mass Monday-Friday and an 8:00am Mass on Saturday during Lent. Masses will be held in the Rectory Chapel (with the exception of Wednesdays which will be held in the Church).

SOUP, SALAD AND BIBLE STUDY Every Wednesday during Lent [beginning on March 15th], Fr. Mike will celebrate 5:15pm Mass in the Church followed by soup and salad in the cafeteria (free will offering) followed by Bible Study at 6:30pm.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held every Friday evening at 7:00pm in the church. This Friday, March 3rd, the 9th grade religious education class will present the **Stations of the Cross**. Please plan to join them in this

Lenten Devotional.

OPERATION RICE BOWL As part of our faith community's Lenten observance, we will participate in Catholic Relief Services' Lenten program, Operation Rice Bowl. For thirty-one years, Operation Rice Bowl has inspired Catholics in the United States to **pray, fast, learn and give** as we increase our understanding of our global community and connect that with the principles of Catholic Social Teaching throughout our Lenten journey. We encourage you to participate in Operation Rice Bowl at home with your family and loved ones. Rice bowls are available in the vestibule of Church.



Today is Commitment Weekend for the 2006 Catholic Services Appeal. Hopefully everyone has taken time to reflect upon all the information that has been shared over the past few weeks. We hope that all parishioners will prayerfully consider the opportunity today to offer a gift to this appeal. No gift is too large or too small. Our parish share to the Diocese is \$54,280 and we would like to see all members of our parish make a gift to support this appeal. Anything pledged above that amount stays here for our parish projects; which this year will be repairing the church roof and painting the interior of the church. The theme of this year's appeal is "The Love of Christ Compels Us." Christ's love does compel us to join together to further the mission and ministry of our Diocesan Church. Thank you in advance for being a part of the Catholic Services Appeal.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE There is a good parenting lesson in today's gospel. As children face new challenges, parents need new parenting strategies. Many methods that may have worked years ago may not make sense to children today. This Lent examine your parenting style so that you are not "putting new wine into old skins."

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

The following students have completed their January Service hours (5 hours minimum) and have received **Steward of God's Kingdom** certificates: Grade 10: Kristen McCloskey, Ashley Achille Grade 9: Stephanie Torok Grade 7: Chad VanKoot, Adam Bondi, Katelyn Kosterman, Lauren Kozuchowsky, Alexa Jordano Grade 4: Andrew Hayes Grade 3: Selene Maggio, Emily Finke, Alissa DeSanti Grade 2: Cheyenne Wilson, Thomas Hoh, Skylar DeCarolis Grade 1: Abbey Spizarny, Justin Finke, Nyla Maggio and Cameron Bujnoski.

The following students went beyond the minimum five hours (service had to be completed in January) and are inducted to our **God's Stewards Wall of Fame**: Grade 9: Niko Jarema (7) Grade 8: James Achille (6+) Megan Hayes (8) Samantha Jordano (6) Steve Uplinger (10+) Grade 7: Ashley Cratty (6) Adam Lewis (6) Grade 5: Soni McCloskey (6) Grade 4: Hannah Manczka (10) Bethany Sivak (10) Anthony Achille (8) Teddy DeSanti (10) Grade 3: Stephanie Bujnoski (6+) Grade 2: Kasey Fries (7.5) Grade 1: Ashley Fuller (10+) Conner Hilliard (10+) Alexa Gleason (6+) Emma Manczka (10) and Morgan Sala (10).

THANK YOU to Barb Pronko for donating the matching altar candles for the Easter Season in memory of her parents Stanley and Helen Ciesielski. If anyone is interested in memorializing our Paschal Candle for a deceased loved one, please call the Parish Office.

FIRST FRIDAY is this Friday, March 3rd. Adoration after the 8:00am Mass followed by Benediction at Noon. Why not start Lent off with some quiet prayer time.

BULLETIN Our weekly church bulletin is provided free of charge by those who advertise on our back cover. It is nice to acknowledge and thank them whenever you use their service and let them know that you saw their ad in the bulletin.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

This week we would like to thank

JOHN J. QUINN
Funeral Home

for sponsoring an advertisement in our weekly bulletin.

The Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

OUR PARISH FAMILY

Please pray for all of the sick and shut-in of our Parish Family.

Mass of Christian Burial was given to Janice Bizzaro. The prayers and sympathy of the Parish Family were extended to her family. May she rest in peace.

Baptized into the Christian Community
through the waters of Baptism:
CARTER JOSEPH WILLIAMS
Son of Glenn and Kimberly [Kraus] Williams

Congratulations to the following Villa Maria Academy and Cathedral Prep students who received academic honors in the second grading quarter:

FIRST HONORS: Ali Chojnacki, Jessica Dill, Angela Lombardi, Julia Luthringer, Ryan Bruno, Chris Buzas, Michael Dill, Matthew Lesniewski, Jeffrey Roach, Andrew Schumacher

SECOND HONORS: Kayla Brabender, Kelly Falk, Kathleen Fatica, Stephanie Milhisler, Melanie Moore, Megan Moore, Amy Oldach, Ashley Rabell, Derek Ciesielski, Daniel Coughlin, Matthew Crays, Patrick Dugan, Anthony Little, Christopher Dugan, Kevin Rabell, Jared Szparaga.

**Your Parish Family is proud of
your hard work and accomplishments!**

CAFETERIA VOLUNTEERS

Monday 2/27 Lisa Dietrich, Susan Leach, Marge Wiertel, Jack & Shirley Kenehan

Tuesday 2/28 Marie Elsesser, Mary Fiske, Bill Schriefer

Wednesday 3/1 Cindi Orlando, Margaret DeSantis, Matt Milano, Cheryl Mele

Thursday 3/2 Marianne Zimmerman, Lisa Jones, Mary Jo Polatas

Friday 3/3 Sandy Danch, Janet Fisher, Natalie Kreidinger, Jack Kohler

31 CLUB VOCATIONS – MASS REMINDERS

Monday 2/27 Mary Maloney, Mary Zbach, Jim Zink, Barb Pronko, Martha Lata

Tuesday 2/28 Monsignor Magraw

Wednesday 3/1 Marilyn Balliett, Mary Jo Fulton, Diane Hopkins

Thursday 3/2 Lee Zaremba, Susan Shannon, Ella Flick

Friday 3/3 Holly Konopka, Patricia Brown

Saturday 3/4 Carl Braeger

Sunday 3/5 Marianne Zimmerman, Kathleen Green

“RAISE THE ROOF LOTTERY”

Tickets are \$5...get yours now!!

March tickets are now available.

Our winners for this past week:

2/13 Janiece Peck #714 \$50...Emily Kraus #715 \$10...unsold ticket #713...2/14 unsold ticket #898...unsold ticket #899...Diane Hopkins #897 \$10...2/15 Columbia Vlahos #848 \$50...Josephine Onorato #849 \$10...Dolores Allen #847 \$10...2/16 Jack Hoffman #411 \$50... Louise Galbetti #412 \$10...Cil Jaloszynski #410 \$10...2/17 unsold ticket #527...Phyllis Schumacher #528 \$10...unsold ticket #526...2/18 unsold ticket #299...unsold ticket #300...unsold ticket #298...2/19 Becca Osiecki #206 \$100...unsold ticket #207...Monsignor Magraw #205 \$10...

You can't win if you don't have a ticket!!

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

There will be a meeting on **Monday, February 27th** from 7-8pm in the cafeteria. We will discuss plans for a day trip to St. Mary's on Saturday, March 25th for the **Diocesan Middle School Youth Rally** – a day of awesome songs, games, speakers, workshops, and energizing worship! If you have questions, or you are interested in going to the rally but can't make the meeting call Laurie Buzas at 866-1014. (Parents are invited, too!)

SANCTUARY CANDLE will burn this week before the Blessed Sacrament in Memory of Angeline Ward and Michael Wickham from daughter and family.



Monday, February 27 – Weekday

7:00 +Marietta D'Andrea / Husband

8:00 +Richard Fagan / Wife and children [birthday]

Tuesday, February 28 – Weekday

7:00 +Ann DeDionisio / Daughter – Carol Luczowsky

8:00 +Victor Rotunda / Mildred Donato

Wednesday, March 1 – Ash Wednesday

7:30 *People of the Parish

9:00 +Elinor Wagner / Kane Family

12:15 +John Prassack & William MacKrell / Family

5:15 +Charlotte Marcoline / Peter Bucarelli

Thursday, March 2 – Lenten Weekday

7:00 +Madeline Niebauer / Ted Niebauer

8:00 +Joseph Rodrigues / Mr & Mrs Robert Kalivoda

5:15 +Alex & Stella Dombrowski / Tom & Alice Dombrowski

Friday, March 3 – St. Katherine Drexel

7:00 +Souls in Purgatory / Len & Jen Zawistoski

8:00 +Eileen Gardner / Sister

5:15 +Joseph Grack / Wife [anniversary]

Saturday, March 4 – Vigil: 1st Sunday of Lent

5:15 +Anthony Paul Fedei / Grandparents

– John & Rosemary Winiarczyk

Sunday, March 5 – First Sunday of Lent

7:30 +Helen Messmer / Family

9:00 +Stanley Wisniewski / Anna Wisniewski

11:00 +Gregory Radack / Mom and Dad

7:30 *People of the Parish

SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT – February 19, 2006

Weekly Need:	\$ 9,200.00
Adult Offering:	\$ 6,158.91 468 envelopes (1274)
Loose Collection:	\$ 632.85
Youth:	\$ 55.96 41 envelopes (500)
Young Adults:	\$ 11.95 8 envelopes (192)
Total	\$ 6,859.67

SINCE JULY 1, 2005 (START OF FISCAL YEAR)

Offertory Budget YTD:	\$312,800.00
Offertory Received YTD:	\$283,134.77
Surplus/Deficit	\$ -29,665.23

CHILDREN'S CORNER

During the past week some of our children noted on their church envelopes some ways they shared their time and talents: "I fixed my brother's truck for him, I took care of my cousin's dog, Yogie for three days and two nights, I helped my sister with breakfast, I helped my mom with the laundry, I helped with the dishes all week, I empty the dishwasher for mom by myself, I was a good boy, I stripped my bed, I did my bed, I helped my mom clean the house." We thank them for being true stewards of God's Kingdom through sharing and service and by using their church envelopes.

TRUTHS CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED...

- ❖ No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats...
- ❖ When your Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair...
- ❖ You can't trust dogs to watch your food...
- ❖ You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk...
- ❖ Puppies still have bad breath even after a Tic-Tac.