

Sweethearts Dance

St. Mary's Knights of Columbus will be hosting their annual Sweethearts Dance on Saturday, February 7, 2009. Come and join in the fun with dancing and a five-piece band, buffet dinner, beer, soda, mixers and many door prizes. Seating is limited to 125 people. The cost is only \$17.50 a person or \$35.00 a couple. Make your reservations early by contacting Marc Mickowski at 868-8566 or see a brother Knight.

Parent Confirmation Meeting

There will be a parent Confirmation meeting immediately following 8:30 A.M. Mass on Sunday January 11, 2009.

Bake Sale

The CCD program is hosting a bake sale to help defray the cost for the March for Life in Washington. Your help is appreciated. Thank you.

Pro-Life

Father Mark Honhart would like all of our Confirmation candidates to attend the March for Life event on Thursday, January 22, 2009. We will have room on the bus for parishioners who would like to attend. Please call the rectory to place your name on the list.

Lectors

We are in need of Lectors to do the Readings at the weekend Masses. If you would like to do a Reading, please call the rectory at 868-5855. Thank you.

FOCA

Today we are facing the most serious and unprecedented threat to the sanctity of human life. This threat is the "Freedom of Choice Act, or FOCA. FOCA is a sweeping anti-life bill that creates a "fundamental right" to abortion throughout nine months of pregnancy. If FOCA becomes law, it will put at risk all the widely-supported laws that for 35 years have promoted women's health, ensured informed consent, protected minors, ensured parental involvement, safeguarded rights of conscience, and respected the desire of most citizens not to support abortion with their tax dollars. What you can do! Sign the postcards, write a letter to Congress, call your Senators and Representatives and meet with them, send an e-mail message, write a letter-to-the-editor, call a radio talk show, speak at a public event, place an ad in the local paper. Visit www.nchla.org and uscgb.org/prolife/issues/FOCA.

Weis Gift Cards

Do you shop at Mr. Z's or Weis Markets? Would you consider buying certificates? Use as cash. For information, please call Pat Osisek at 868-5479.

Baby Bottles

Please remember to turn in your filled or empty bottles.

Thank you

Thank you to all who donated so generously to the Bates Family to help them out after their recent house fire.

Home Visits

If you or a family member are in the hospital or if you are sick, homebound and would like a visit from Father Mark, please call the rectory with the information.



EPIPHANY SUNDAY JANUARY 4, 2009

"You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation ... that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel."

A few short lines with great implications. Paul wrote to his friends at Ephesus, today Turkey, and provided a succinct teaching for us who claim to be followers or disciples of Jesus Christ.

The grace of God is the very life of God, offered to us as a gift, freely, but which must be accepted. Paul was called by the Lord to share this message of salvation to the non-Jewish or Gentile people. Because they accepted the gift, the new life of adopted children was now ours. When one is adopted that person is embraced by the entire family, enjoying all the rights and privileges that family ties include.

He goes on to explain that we are coheirs, what Jesus Christ gained from the chosen people is now ours for the asking. We become members, without distinction, no second class rank. We are copartners, sharers in everything that Christ wants and won for us ... In the gospel of John He tells us that He wants us to enjoy the "abundant life."

We are today children of the promise, made by Jesus Christ and found in the life of the church. Christ made Himself known to the Magi, and through Paul reveals His plans for us as well. Which word best describes how you feel about Christ: coheir, member, copartner?

