

✠ Welcome to St. Mary's of Dorrance ✠
 Reverend Mark Honhart, Administrator
 (stmarysofdorrance@gmail.com)



Finances for March 21/22, 2009
 Loose \$ 68.00 White Offering \$ 2265.00
 Total: \$ 2333.00
 Envelopes used: 188/538
 Last Year: \$ 4100.00
 Thank you.

Mass Schedule

Monday, 3-30-09
 8:00 A.M. Special Intention, requested by
 The Calabro Family

Tuesday, 3-31-09
 8:00 A.M. Albert Kozloski, requested by
 Murray Ufbug

Wednesday, 4-1-09
 8:00 A. M. Dan Jankowski, requested by
 Helen Bachanas

Thursday, 4-2-09
 8:00 A. M. Mary M. Dudasko, requested by
 Michael Vavrosek

Friday, 4-3-09
 8:00 A.M. Mr. & Mrs. Pedro Rubiano, requested by
 Clara Dolan
 7:00 P.M. Stations of the Cross

Saturday, 4-4-09
 5:00 P.M. Florence Pazgan, requested by
 Nephew, John Adamski

Sunday, 4-5-09
 8:30 A.M. Parishioners
 10:30 A.M. John Kania, requested by
 The Calabro Family



★ Military Prayer List ★

Jonathan Cupina	Michael Rokitko
Richard Beck	Anthony Rodgers
John Folmar	Matthew Erwine
Kirk Lehman	

† Parish Sick List †

Loretta Albanese	Dorothy Gandzyk	James Concannon
William Baker	Jennifer Haydt	Henry Davenport
Carissa Barrett	Marion Honhart	Anna Hrevnack
Ron Black	Tyler Jaworski	Rose Kutzmonich
Luke Charton	Anthony Maleski	Mike Kutzmonich
Michael Columbo	Bret Melworm	Dorothy Novicki
Lea Cooper	John Miller	Harry Ratnieks
Karen Corn	Donald Murray	Samantha Selecky
Abby Cresci	Alex Ney	Adrienne Wanyo
Dennis Law	Andrea Padden	Helen Taney
Susan Doty	Michael Popiak	Emily Zelinka
Miriam Dotzel		Kim Krakauski
Joseph Evancho		Andrew Ostrazewski
		Christopher Badman
		Romayne Gajdowski

Please remember to pray for the happy repose of the souls of the faithful departed especially Frank Wydra and Heather Oney. May their souls and all of the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Please remember in your prayers and thoughtfulness their families.

✠ Lector Schedule ✠

Saturday, 4-4-09 5:00 P.M. Norb Dotzel, Sr.
 Norb Dotzel, Jr.

Sunday, 4-5-09 8:30 A.M. Mary Lapsanki
 John Baab

10:30 P.M. Joan Davenport
 Stephanie Grubert

✠ Altar Servers ✠

Saturday, 4-4-09 5:00 P.M. Gabrielle Konopczyk
 Ryan Konopczyk

Sunday, 4-5--09 8:30 A.M Curt Yenchik
 Cole Rosner

10:30 A.M. Alyson Klush
 Sarah Klush

Upcoming Events

3-28-09 Catholic Men's Holy Hour (rescheduled from 3/14)
 St. Joseph's Oblate, Pittston.

3-29-09 Confirmation Practice - 11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
 Candidates and Sponsors
 Seder Meal, Social Hall - 12:30 P.M.

4-3-09 First Friday - Youth Group Stations & Dye eggs

4-4-09 6:00 P.M. - Youth Group Egg Hunt

4-6-09 St. Mary's Penance Service 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

St. Theresa's Guild

The next meeting for the St. Theresa's Guild will be on Tuesday, April 14 at 7:00 P.M. in the rectory meeting room. All ladies are invited.

Lighthouse Catholic Media

"Pick of the Week"

Former Satanist Becomes Catholic - Betty Brennan

How great a threat is the occult? In this provocative testimony, former Satanist, Betty Brennan shares the store of her remarkable journey from a dark existence of devil worship to the fulfillment of truth in Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. You will be enlightened by her amazing sojourn, her search for deliverance, and her mission to open the eyes of others to the truth of the devil.

Altar and Rosary Society

The Altar and Rosary Society will be selling beautiful **Palm Crosses** after all of the Masses. They will be located in the front entrance of the Church.

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

St. Mary's Knights of Columbus will be hosting its annual fish fry on Good Friday (April 10). All are welcome. Brothers are needed to help in the kitchen.

Interested in becoming a "Brother Knight?" Would you enjoy being a part of a great organization? For details, please contact Marc Mickowski at 868-8566.

Easter Egg Hunt

The youth group will host an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4 after 5:00 P.M. Mass. **Please note the time change.** Children will be divided into groups. Preschool, K-2, and 3rd -5th grade. An RSVP is appreciated but not mandatory, Mrs. Mendofik 868-3955.

5th Sunday of Lent: Heb. 5: 7-9

Did you know? St. Paul wrote the most books of the New Testament, but St. Luke, who wrote the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles, is the writing champion, having authored over half of the New Testament.

Helpers of God's Precious Infants

Saturday: April 18, 2009

Join other young adults as we pray the rosary at Allentown Women's Center (1409 Union Blvd., rear entrance) at 9:00 a.m. till 10:00 a.m. for an end to abortion. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at St. Ann's Basilica in West Scranton. Rides are available!

Pregnancy Assistance Available

Resources for women seeking assistance during their pregnancies are available through Catholic Social Services and Saint Joseph's Center. Programs that provide counseling, housing, parenting education and life skills training are offered through these agencies. For more information, call the Catholic Social Services Hotline, 1-800-982-4310 or St. Joseph Center, 963-1261.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

"But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days", says the Lord. "I will place My law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God and they shall be My people. All, from least to greatest, shall know Me, says the Lord, for I will forgive their evildoing and remember their sin no more." ... and he was heard because of his reverence"

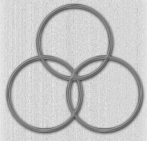
The renewed promise of the covenant by Jeremiah fills us all with hope. A new pact with a new spirit leading to forgiveness of sin. This is the goal of my Lent this year, renewing the covenant and knowing His forgiveness. They are like two sides of the same coin. Where do I stand today after so many weeks of Lent?

Philip was approached: "Sir, we would like to see Jesus." He spoke with Andrew and they approached the Lord. Many persons feel their faith would be different if they had known Jesus during His ministry. His teaching, preaching, healing they feel would evoke a different response. But Jesus continues His ministry among us. He can be seen in the works of mercy, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, welcoming the immigrant, seeking a more just penal system, looking to help those without insurance to get medical assistance.

The face of Jesus is found in those who seek us out in need. The hands and heart of Jesus are found in the care and concern we express toward the less fortunate. When the dying thief prayed: "Jesus remember me" he was assured of salvation as the Lord remembered not his sin. His words fall from my lips.

May I enter more deeply into the closing days of Lent aware that He has chosen me to live out the covenant with Him.

Take as your mantra this week the words of Jesus: "Whoever serves Me must follow Me, and where I am, there also will My servant be."



THE LINK

Newsletter for the linked parishes of Saint Jude, Saint Mary & Saint Patrick

What is the meaning of a "Linked" Parish ?

Many parishes are already linked in the Diocese of Scranton. Linked parishes happen when two or more parishes share a pastor. Linked parishes do as many things as possible cooperatively especially given that the pastor is striving to serve two or more separate parishes.

Characteristics of linked parishes include:

- The parishes remain distinct independent canonical entities.
- The parishes are separate communities of faith.
- The parishes each have a separate parish council but common meetings, and some common committees.
- The parishes are encouraged to work toward combining parish pastoral council meetings and to establishing common committees where possible.
- According to Canon Law, linked parishes must have separate finance councils.
- Linked parishes do many things cooperatively, such as programs and in-services.
- Joint staff meetings where cooperative planning happens and marks of well functioning linked parishes.

Given the above characteristics of a linked parish, the Cluster Implementation Team has met and prayerfully decided on the following Value Statement for the linked parishes of St. Jude, St. Mary, and St. Patrick:

Our Catholic Community consisting of Saint Jude, Saint Mary, and Saint Patrick values:

- God as the center of our daily lives especially in the Eucharist.
- Sacramental Prayer
- Faith Formation for all ages
- Hospitality
- Evangelization
- Youth and young adults
- Outreach to the elderly
- Care for the poor and marginalized
- Promoting Vocations
- Diverse gifts that build God's House of Charity
- Opportunity for synergy

The following prayer reflection is offered for your own prayer and meditation. Please continue to pray for our parishes and our Diocese during this time of profound parish renewal.

Scripture—Matthew 13:31-32

The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.

Reflection

Many if not all great undertakings
begin in small and often hidden ways.
Seeds need the darkness, isolation and cover of the earth
in order to germinate.
Therefore, for something to begin small, hidden, anonymous,
is an advantage.
It means it can develop away from publicity.
There are no pressures. No burden of expectations.
It can develop at its own pace. There is no hurry.
Hurry ruins so many things.
Hence the importance of beginnings,
of taking care of things in their beginning,
of the small in the accomplishment of the great.

How did Christ begin his great work, the salvation of the world?
How began simply, quietly. No fanfare. No fireworks. No public launching.
He began by calling a few people—two in fact.
It was as simple as that.
He began with personal contact
and that is how his work developed.
It was passed on from person to person by word of mouth.

We shouldn't be surprised at this.
Things which begin with a splash often peter out.
Whereas those which begin quietly put down deep roots,
grow steadily, and survive to produce fruits that last.

So, if there is something which we want to do,
let us not hesitate and think too much.
Let us make a start, however small.
Let us take one step. Let us plant one seed.
Let us trust that if our cause is good, God will support us, and it will grow and prosper.

(Flor McCarthy, *Windows on the Gospel* (Dublin: Dominican Publications, 1992), 38-40)

Prayer

O God of small beginnings, fill us with confidence in our work. May your presence in what we do encourage us to dare. May solidarity and togetherness be our strength. Amen.