

Religious Education

Final Registration

Final registration for the 2009-2010 Religious Education year will take place on August 29 and August 30 after Masses. Short forms (returning students) and long forms (new students) will be in the social hall. Cost is \$10.00 per child. Any children registering after this date will be assessed a \$5.00 late fee. The first day of class is Sunday, September 13.

Speakers

How does your spiritual life enhance or impact your professional life? Do you have an extra 30 minutes to share your life experiences? We are currently scheduling guest speakers for our 7th and 8th grade students. Please call the office for more information or to be placed on the schedule.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: Looking for a way to make your good marriage even better? Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend where you can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones – and focus **ONLY** on each other. If you'd like greater depth, growth, and enrichment in your relationship, you'll like the difference this weekend can make!

Upcoming weekends: September 18-20, 2009 in the Reading Area ~ November 6-8, 2009 in Easton ~ February 12-14, 2010 in Bethlehem. Website: wwme-nepa.org
Phone: (800) 787-7679

LifeLine - The twentieth century often tried to do without that cornerstone, and attempted to build the city of man without reference to Him. It ended by actually building that city *against* man! Christians know that it is not possible to reject or ignore God without *demeaning man*. Allow me, dear young people, to consign this hope of mine to you: *you must be those "builders!"* You are the men and women of tomorrow. The future is in your hearts and in your hands. God is entrusting to you the task, at once *difficult* and *uplifting*, of working with him in the building of the *civilization of love*. Pope John Paul II

JMJ 750 AM, CATHOLIC RADIO, will be hosting Father Thomas Euteneuer, President of Human Life International for a talk at The Oblates of Saint Joseph, Pittston. On Sunday, September 13, 2009. Father will speak on Exorcism, and the Spiritual Battle of the Church Militant. Holy Mass will be at 4:00PM, with Father Euteneuer's talk at 5:00 to 7:00PM. Questions, call JMJ Radio 287-4670.

Blood Drive

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 316 S. Mountain Blvd., Mountain Top, will host a "Blood Drive" on Wednesday, August 26 from 1:00 P.M. until 6:00 P.M. Please help to save a life!!!

Entertainment Books

The new Entertainment Books are now on sale. The cost is \$20.00 and there are many new coupons and great deals that are being offered this year. Please call the rectory to order!



Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

"When they stood in ranks before God, Joshua addressed all the people: 'If it does not please you to serve the LORD, decide today whom you will serve... As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD. 'As a result of this, many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him. Jesus then said to the Twelve, 'Do you also want to leave? Simon Peter answered him, 'Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.'"

Life is filled with decisions. Many offer opportunities for growth and advancement, as education or a new job. Sometimes they are short term, as which route to take, or of greater length, as starting a business or career. Whatever the choice, great or small, it should be approached with care and wisdom.

Our lives as followers of Jesus Christ are no different. We make the choice to follow the Lord through baptism. We make other decisions as members of the church, celebrating sacred events as marriage and religious consecration. Sometimes the short term ones are offering service to the church as a catechism teacher or liturgical minister. The common thread, they are choices for good.

Joshua provides the example of a radical decision for himself and his family. Jesus asks us once again if and how we are going to follow Him. Peter once again speaks for me, indicating there is no other way than the Way, for through Him we receive the gift of grace, eternal life.

As we make decisions this week, great or small, may the moment of reflection remind us of Joshua's decision, or Peter's response. May we approach God and our choices with the same care and wisdom. May our yes be yes.