



St. Patrick

Roman Catholic Parish

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

317 West Pike Street
Canonsburg, PA 15317

Rev. John J. Batykefer, Pastor
Rev. Richard S. Jones, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Mr. Joseph Cerenzia, Deacon

Ph: 724-745-6560 Fax: 724-746-1112
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MARCH 18, 2007

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday (SP) 7:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
Sunday (SP) 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
12:00 Noon and 5:00 p.m.
Mon. - Fri. (SP) 7:00 a.m.
Wed. (SP) 9:00 a.m.
Mon., Tues., Thurs., and Fri. (SG) 8:15 a.m.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and anytime
by request

BAPTISM

First time parents should contact the Parish Office well in advance of an expected Baptism, before birth when possible, to prepare for and to schedule the Baptism. Baptisms during Mass are held the 1st Sunday of the month and Baptisms after Mass at 1:15 p.m. are held the 2nd and 3rd Sunday of the month.

BECOMING A CATHOLIC

Instructions to prepare adults for reception into the Catholic Faith or for any of the Sacraments are offered by our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Program. Please call 724-745-3787 for more information.

BIBLE STUDY

Meet every Monday in Church, 7:00-8:15 p.m.
Bring a Bible, invite a friend. All are welcome!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 724-745-3787

Carol Serbak, Catechetical Administrator
Sunday - 8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.
Pre-school - 8th Grade

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Contact a Priest 6 months before intended date of marriage. Pre-marriage preparation is required. Call the Rectory - 724-745-6560.

ST. PATRICK SCHOOL 724-745-7977

Mr. Stanley Mozina, Principal
Pre-school - 8th Grade

COMMUNION CALLS

Any homebound member or shut-in may receive Holy Communion in their home. A Eucharistic Minister, Deacon or Priest will visit.

COUNSELING SERVICES

Catholic Charities 724-228-7722
CRISIS PREGNANCY 1-888-543-3243
POST ABORTION 1-800-593-2273

CHAPLAIN

Fr. Gabriel Badurina, TOR

Serving Canonsburg General Hospital and area Nursing Facilities. Fr. Badurina can be reached by calling 724-745-6560, Ext. 21.



In the coming Sundays of Lent, you will see those preparing to enter the Catholic Church come forward after the Homily so the Faith Community can pray for them through Intercessory Prayer. In response to the intercessions which name the emptiness of sin, there is an exorcism, an acknowledgement of the breath of God being welcomed into their hearts. We celebrate these rituals, which are called Scrutinies, they are celebrations of strengthening and healing, their purpose is to help the elect uncover all that is sinful in their lives and to raise up and encourage all that is good. Please continue to pray for and love the RCIA candidates.

THANK YOU: An anonymous parishioner has donated a new coffee pot (replacing the "missing one") for use in the cafeteria. Special thanks to this person for their generosity and thoughtfulness.

FISH FRY Join us on the Friday's of Lent (**except Good Friday**) for our delicious freshly breaded fried (or baked) Fish and sides for Lunch or Dinner in the school cafeteria.



Lunch is served 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Dinner from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Takeouts at lunch or dinner by calling 724.745.6560. **LUNCH:** Fish Sandwich and Sides: (coleslaw, haluski or mac and cheese); **DINNER:** Baked or freshly breaded fried Icelandic Cod, Baked Potato or Mac and Cheese, Coleslaw, Roll, Beverage and Dessert. **FISH SANDWICHES** will also be available at dinner. Our volunteers have been tremendous by helping anywhere they are needed; and every Friday we become more efficient in operating a FISH FRY.

Thank you to all our Fish Fry volunteers and our great customers for supporting our Lenten Fish Frys.

Special thanks to Richard Ziack (Rich's Barber Shop) for his donation of a "bull horn" for use at the Fish Frys and the Festival. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

March 11, 2007

Envelopes (948).....	\$16,182.00
Children's Envelopes	84.00
Loose Cash and Coin	891.92
St. Patrick School	316.00
Parish Total	\$17,473.92

Weekly Budgeted Expenses	\$ 13,241.00
Weekly Loan Expense	2,885.00
TOTAL NEEDED each week	16,125.21

YOUR SACRIFICE IS APPRECIATED!

CANONSBURG FOOD BANK: Last week our second collection for the Food Bank amounted to \$1,777.39. Thank you for your generosity!

SECOND COLLECTION at all Masses today will be for the **Catholic Campaign for Human Development**. CCHD is the Catholic Church's anti-poverty program in the United States and helps the poor and low-income people to help themselves through job training opportunities and more.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Mar. 18 **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** ((8:30-9:45 a.m.)
- Mar. 18 **Catholic Men's Club** (7:30 p.m.) - Center
- Mar. 19 **RCIA** (7:30 p.m.) – Center
- Mar. 19 **Confession (6:00 p.m.) Mass (6:30 p.m.) followed by Bible Study in Church**
- Mar. 20 **Lenten Vespers (7:00 p.m.) - Church**
- Mar. 14 **PRAY THE ROSARY** (6:30 p.m.) in Church
- Mar. 21 **Christian Mothers Exec. Bd.** (7:00 p.m.) Garden Room (St. Patrick Center)
- Mar. 21 **Pastoral Council Mtg.** (7:00 p.m.) in the Center
- Mar. 23 **FISH FRY—11:00-1:00 and 4:00-7:00 p.m.**
- Mar. 23 **Stations of the Cross** (7:00 p.m.) and 2:20 p.m. with St. Patrick School students.
- Mar. 25 **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** (8:30-9:45 a.m.)
- Mar. 26 **8th Grade Parent Meeting** (7:00 p.m.) in the school cafeteria. Any questions, call Mrs. Serbak (724.745.3787)

Please patronize our advertiser and let them know you appreciate their support of the Parish bulletin.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK
Vocelli Pizza—724.746.4800

Fr. Rich Reflections

“Why is world history a swirl of stupidity, meanness, and brutality?” — Fr. Karl Rahner, S.J.

(one of the greatest theologians of the 20th century)

Today is the 4th Sunday in Lent, traditionally called in Latin *Laetare* (lay-TAH-ray) meaning ‘Rejoice’. This marks the ‘intermission’ or ‘mid-point’ of our Lenten preparation for the Great Feast of Easter. On this day, the altar can be decked with spring flowers, as no other day in Lent. The vestments worn are **rose colored**, signifying ‘joy’.

Last week in the mail, someone sent a new book out—**Mother Angelica’s — Little Book of Life Lessons and Everyday Spirituality** edited by Raymond Arroyo. Of course, anybody affiliated with the Catholic Church is ‘well-aware’ of Mother Angelica’s face on TV. She established Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Birmingham, Alabama in 1961 and 25 years later founded The **Eternal World Television (EWTN)** — channel 22 locally. This station has grown into the largest religious media organization on the planet. This book is a collection of meditations, insights, quotes, and no-nonsense guidance for everyday living. Mother Angelica said that **one of the hardest things is to convince people that God loves them.** And what better or more familiar parable than today’s Gospel, The Prodigal Son or The Forgiving Father (Luke 15:11-32).

The Prodigal son and his older brother are well-known biblical characters. One wasted much of his life and the other suffered from self-righteousness and resentment. Both reveal aspects of our own personality and character and help us to enter into deeper conversion. Most of us are naturally drawn to the main celebrity, the prodigal father who reveals to us the extravagance of God’s gracious mercy.

No matter how long it’s been, no matter how old or young, no matter how often we wander from our Father, no matter how far we have wandered in life’s passageways, no matter what excuses or grudges we hold dear, no matter how tarnished and dusted our Baptismal grace may appear — come home to God’s grace, love, and mercy. Like the second graders who receive the First Reconciliation, we are all children of God. We are all sons’ and daughters of God, who loves us. Everything God has is ours. Come back to God, come back to Home, and come party and celebrate His love for us and everyone! There is no party like God’s party!

Fr. Rich continues...

A poem by Amado Nervo from Central America captures the essence of this parable—

‘Shepherd, I bless you for what you give me.
If nothing you give me, I also do bless you.
I follow you laughing, through roses and thorns;
Through brambles and thistles, I joyously follow.
With you when there’s plenty, with you when I want
Still always with you.’

Are you running towards God or away from God? Are you “fighting the good fight” of sin or are you a defeated victim? Are you filled with graces of joy or grudges of regret? Are we judgmental and unrelenting or forgiving and accepting with our self and others? Are we a mess or miracle in life? Are you resenting or rejoicing in life?

Fast or Feast?

by William A. Ward

- Fast from judging others; feast on Christ dwelling in them.
- Fast from emphasis on differences; feast on the unity of all in life.
- Fast from words that pollute; feast on phrases that purify.
- Fast from discontent; feast on gratitude.
- Fast from angry; feast on patience.
- Fast from pessimism; feast on optimism.
- Fast from complaining; feast on appreciation.
- Fast from negatives; feast on affirmatives.
- Fast from hostility; feast on non-resistance.
- Fast from bitterness; feast on forgiveness.
- Fast from self-concern; feast on compassion of others.
- Fast from discouragement; feast on hope.
- Fast from lethargy; feast on enthusiasm.
- Fast from suspicion; feast on truth.
- Fast from thoughts that weaken; feast on promises that inspire.
- Fast from idle gossip; feast on purposeful silence.
- Fast from problems that overwhelm; feast on prayer that sustains.



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, MARCH 18—FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

- 5:00 SP (P.M. - Vigil Saturday) John and Elsie Ladzinski by Daughter, JoAnn and Family
7:30 SP Jennie Balzama by Balzama and Romano Families
10:00 SP James W. Mahramas by Ron and Marian Elva
12:00 SP Jack and Larry Bender, Fiory and Mary DaPra by Violet Bender
5:00 SP FOR THE PEOPLE

MONDAY, MARCH 19—Joseph, Husband of Mary

- 7:00 SP Elmer Kerekes by Wife, Dorothy
Pray for Joseph Warabow, Month's Mind
8:15 SG Deceased members of DiTullio and Neil Families by Mr. and Mrs. Roland DiTullio
6:30 SP Special Intention for Mary Rose by Friends

TUESDAY, MARCH 20

- 7:00 SP Peter Brincko and Campagna Family by Catherine Brincko and Josephine Campagna
8:15 SG Henry Shaw Family by E. Harriet Shaw
10:00 a.m. (Charles House) Pete Palfreyman by Josephine

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

- 7:00 SP Mary Prince by Zolton and Jean Popp
9:00 SP Living and Deceased Members of Ciccocioppi Family by Ann Koziel

THURSDAY, MARCH 22

- 7:00 SP Ilario, Margaret, Nick and Anne Salvi by Family
8:15 SG Richard Malpassi, Albert and Anna Franko by Betty, Joyce and Family
2:00 p.m. (Beverly) Edward L. Butka by John and Patty Gruden

FRIDAY, MARCH 23

- 7:00 SP Robert C. Price by Ange Wingard
8:15 SG Birthday of Margie Thornhill

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

- 7:30 SP Frank Pagian, Emily, Mary, Sonny and Joyce Cregut by Rosella Pabian

11:30 TO 12:30 Noon - RECONCILIATION

- 5:00 SP (P.M. - Vigil Saturday) Stanley Ozelski and Deceased Members of Hincy, Wilson, Ozelski and Kirenko Families by Stella Ozelski

SUNDAY, MARCH 25—FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

- 7:30 SP Kulakowski, Schwing and Shoun Families by Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kulakowski
10:00 SP Edward and Kathie Strnisa and Deceased Members of Urbano Maffio Family by Antonette M. Strnisa
12:00 SP Louis Bernard by Edith Bernard
5:00 SP FOR THE PEOPLE

Happiness will never be ours if we do not recognize to some degree that God's blessings were given us for the well-being of all.
- Anonymous

HOME WITH CHRIST: Remember Lord and welcome into your Kingdom those who have died and gone before us marked with a sign of faith, especially **Charles Sandy** (brother of Larry Sandy), **Rev. Paul R. Staud and all the faithful departed. May they rest in peace. Please pray for the consolation of their loved ones.**

MEMORIALS

"My Father's House" Renovation Fund: In loving memory of **Esther Cheverine** by Mary Progar; In loving memory of **Helen V. Hundzinski** by Tom and Lu Cepaitis, Mary Royer, Mary Ann Baker, Suzanne and Jeff Wybranowski, Katie Simpson and Roberta and Jim Bowden.

MASSES were received for **Ora K. Polansky** by Daughter, Barbara Malone, Rich Motto, Mary and Rita Polansky, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Motto, Dana Branik, Bob Ozanich and Lil; for **Helen V. Hundzinski** by Elanor, Gloria and Wayne Alderson, Lorna and Jack Glass, Margaret and Richard Popovich, Katie Simpson and Ida Gass and Family; and for **Jacob Martincic** by Sophia and Richard Kern, Charlotte and Martin Gallagher.

Thinking about Separation or Divorce? Is your marriage or that of a relative or friend heading for divorce? Do you feel helpless? Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) is designed to help troubled marriages regain their health. It helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust, and commitment that originally brought them together. This program is highly successful in saving hurting marriages, even bring reconciliation to couples who have already separated or divorced. For confidential information about or to register for the Spring program beginning with a weekend on March 23-25, 2007, call Eric and Vici John (412.563.0465) or visit the web site at www.helpourmarriage.com.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend: April 20 thru 22 located at the Four Points Sheraton off Montour Run road. Additional weekends are planned for September and November. For more information or to register, contact Mary and Lou Locante at (412) 635.7775. or check us out on the web at wwme-pittsburgh.org.

PRAY FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE!



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: During Lent the High School Youth Group will meet each Sunday (6:30-8:00 p.m.) in the Teen Room of St. Patrick Center. Please join us for a Journey of our Catholic Faith during this Lenten season.

COOKBOOK: Our Youth Ministry will sponsor a fundraiser cookbook that will be ready in time for Christmas 2007. We need your help. Please submit your favorite family recipes; remember to print legibly and sign your name and phone number and write one of your favorite prayers on the back.

Recipe forms will be available in the vestibules of the church. Drop your recipes in the box placed on the table near the parking lot entrance to the church.

Some of the profits will be used for the World Youth Day trip in 2008 to Sydney, Australia.

BLESSING FOR THE KEEPING OF LENT

"Lent is a privileged time of interior pilgrimage towards him who is the fount of mercy...Even in the 'valley of darkness'...while the tempter prompts us to despair... God is there to guard us sustain us. In the desolation of misery, loneliness, violence, and hunger that indiscriminately afflict children, adults, and the elderly, God does not allow darkness to prevail. The gaze of Jesus embraces individuals and multitudes, and he brings them all before the Father, offering himself as a sacrifice of expiation. In turning to the divine Master, in being converted to him,... we will discover a 'gaze' that searches us profoundly and gives new life to... each one of us. It restores trust to those who do not succumb to skepticism.

Pope Benedict XVI

INVITE PEOPLE BACK TO CHURCH — The Lent/Easter Season is a time when many people come back to the Church. Why not ask a relative, a neighbor, a co-worker, a friend or an acquaintance who has been away from the Church to Reconciliation during Lent.

CEMETERY SPRING CLEAN UP

Special thanks to our Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts (Troop 1385), parents and adult volunteers for donating their time and effort in removing all the Christmas decorations in the cemetery. Our apologies to anyone that missed the March 1 date to remove the items that they planned to use again.

FRIDAYS OF LENT ARE DAYS OF ABSTINENCE. The obligation of abstinence (refraining from eating meat) begins at the age of 14. No one should consider this obligation lightly.

MASS at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 12 followed by **BIBLE STUDY.**

LENTEN VESPERS will be held on Tuesday, March 13 at 7:00 p.m. in St. Patrick Church.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Friday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m. in St. Patrick Church and at 2:20 p.m. with St. Patrick School Students.

CALLING ALL MEN! Catholic men are encouraged to join other men throughout the Diocese at the **Answer the Call Catholic Men's Conference** on March 24, 2007 at the A. J. Palumbo Center. Door opens at 8:30 a.m. and ends with Mass at 4:00 p.m. Speakers include Bishop Bradley, Mike Clark (WTAE), Matthew Kelly, Patrick Madrid, Jesse Romero, Fr. Jim Wehner, and Peter Herbek. Men interested in attending or if you have any questions, can call Alan Henderson (724.747.0347) and arrangements will be made to carpool. Tickets are \$35.00 for advance purchase by Wednesday, March 21 and include lunch. Tickets purchased at the door will be \$55.00.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES: We received a thank you note from Christine Wissner, MSW, MDiv, Director of Catholic Charities (Washington) thanking us for your generous monetary donations at all the Masses on March 4. This gift will be used to assist low income individuals and families in need of counseling services. Thank you for helping us to carry out our mission of helping those who cannot help themselves.