

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

Sun Feb 22 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:15-10:15 AM Religious Ed Gr. K-9
10:30 AM Interpreted Mass for the Deaf

Tues Feb 24 6:10 PM Bingo

Wed Feb 25 ASH WEDNESDAY
5:45-6:30 PM Pro-Life Rosary

Thur Feb 26 9:00-11:00 AM Eucharistic Adoration

Fri Feb 27 5:30 PM Stations of the Cross
6:10 PM Bingo

Sun Feb 29 First Sunday of Lent
9:15-10:15 AM Religious Ed Gr. K-9
10:30 AM Interpreted Mass for the Deaf



Mass Intentions

Monday, Feb. 23 St. Polycarp

8:30 a.m. †Viola Fliegerbauer (*Larry, Elaine, Sharon Burk*)

Tuesday, Feb. 24

8:30 a.m. †Mary Grace Goss (*Ted & Mary Beth Westin*)

Wednesday, Feb. 25 ASH WEDNESDAY

7:00 a.m. †Lena Magargi (*Fliegerbauer Family*)
8:30 a.m. †Angela Cataldo (*Husband & Daughters*)
7:00 p.m. †Orlando DeCriscio (*Carl & Pam Leipold*)

Thursday, Feb. 26

8:30 a.m. †Ted Baxter (*Wife, Millie*)

Friday, Feb. 27

8:30 a.m. †Mary E. Fiore (*Faculty & Students of St. Rose of Lima School*)

Saturday, Feb. 28

8:30 a.m. †Paul Condrin (*Tim & Sharon Seymore*)
5:30 p.m. †Nick Orsena (*Sisters- in -Law & Brother- in-Law*)

Sunday, Feb. 29 First Sunday of Lent

7:00 a.m. †Michael Roebuck (*Michael, Cathy, Kevin, Todd & Goug Glunt*)
8:15 a.m. †Marie Enderle (*Paul & Mary Engelman*)
10:30 a.m. †Dorothy Skupien (*Family*)
12 NOON Mass For The People

PARISH SACRIFICIAL GIVING – Feb. 14-15, 2004

Regular	\$ 6947.25	Christmas	\$ 109.50
Capital Campaign	\$ 235.00	Rose	\$ 142.50
Peru	\$ 5.00	Candlemas	\$ 12.00
		Total	\$ 7451.25

OFFERTORY PRESENTERS

Feb. 28	5:30 p.m.	Rose Nasralla & Carmie Maniglia
Feb. 29	7:00 a.m.	John & Connie Glunt
	8:15 a.m.	Jim & Linda Trexler
	10:30 a.m.	Mary Lou Moffitt & Ron Skupien
	12 Noon	Richard & Carol Anslinger

MINISTERS FOR THIS WEEK FEB 23-29, 2004

Altar Servers for the weekdays of Feb 23-28, 2004

8:30 a.m. Mon. Shealyn Eberhardt
8:30 a.m. Tues. Tori Holtz
7:00 a.m. Ash Wednesday: Volunteers
8:30 a.m. Ash Wednesday: Gina Merritts
7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday: Billy Beard, Ben Cossitor, Justine Shultz
8:30 a.m. Thurs. Kyle Haney
5:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross: Lucas Glass, Alyssa Lower, Eugene Ehredt
8:30 a.m. Sat. Volunteers

Altar Servers for Feb. 28-29, 2004

5:30 p.m. Ethan Dombrowski, Joe McDermott, Elliot Haney
7:00 a.m. Maggie McCreery
8:15 a.m. Tim Link, Sean Dillon, Holly Mercer
10:30 a.m. Kyle Haney, Justin Bimle, Joshua Shultz
12 Noon Andy Pagliara, Taylor Villani, Sully McConnell

ASH WEDNESDAY, February 25, 2004

7:00 a.m. Reader: Frank Fochler
Eucharistic Ministers: J. Wustrow, R. Kline
Distributor of Ashes: R.M. Fochler, B. Spinazzola
8:30 a.m. Readers: St. Rose School Children
Eucharistic Ministers: M. Engelman, K. Mrdjenovich
Distributor of Ashes: K. Madariaga, P. Engelman, B. Bartley
7:00 p.m. Readers: Jim Klueg, Bea Shoenfelt
Eucharistic Ministers: R. Fiore, J. Scarfone, S. Askey
Distributor of Ashes: T. Goss, J. Chirdon, K. McGraw

Eucharistic Ministers for Feb. 28-29, 2004

5:30 p.m. J. Brown, J. Shoenfelt, G. Baker, B. Shoenfelt
7:00 a.m. R.M. Fochler, C. Sharbaugh
8:15 a.m. P. Engelman, D. Cree, M. Engelman, R. Novack D. Smith
10:30 a.m. K. Irwin, D. Fraundorfer, T. Heiss, B. Gentile, K. Zelnosky
12 Noon C. Anslinger, J. Frena, R. Skupien
Lectors for Feb. 28-29, 2004
5:30 p.m. Ken Haney, Maria Spayd
7:00 a.m. Frank Fochler
8:15 a.m. Linda & Chuck Wolf
10:30 a.m. Dave Karl, Carolyn Kline
12 Noon Michael Nazaruk

FROM OUR PASTOR

MAKING A HOLY LENT For Lent's Forty Days we are conscious of how we sharpen our senses and focus mind and heart on the reign of God. Above all, we are aware of those waters in which we were baptized into Christ's death. His is a death to sin and evil. In baptism's waters we also begin life in Christ. These waters wait at Lent's end for families bringing their youngest member to the font of Christ's life.

Lent asks us to give ourselves to prayer and to the reading of Scripture, to fasting and to giving alms. The fasting that all Catholics do together on Fridays is but a sign of the daily lenten discipline of individuals and households: fasting for certain times, fasting from certain foods, but also fasting from other things and activities.

Likewise, the giving of alms is some effort to share this world equally not only through the distribution of money, but through the sharing of our time and possessions and through work of many kinds for a just world.

During Lent, our Ash Wednesday and second collections are our alms for our brothers and sisters in Lima, Peru and the diocese of Mandeville. We also invite your daily home alms to Operation Rice Bowl.

Our participation at daily Mass, Eucharistic adoration, Stations of the Cross, and Disciples in Mission further sharpens our senses and focus mind and heart on the grace of God welling up in our hearts.

KEY PRO-LIFE VOTE THIS WEEK The U.S. House of Representatives will vote on Thursday, February 26, 2004, on the Unborn Victims of Violence Act (H.R. 1997), a bill to allow federal and military prosecutors to bring charges on behalf of a "child in utero" when he or she is a victim of a violent federal or military crime.

To pass the bill, it is necessary for the House to first reject the "single-victim substitute amendment" (Lofgren Substitute), a radically different bill backed by pro-abortion advocacy groups. The substitute would increase penalties for a federal crime that victimizes a pregnant woman and causes "interruption" of her pregnancy, but would also write into federal law the doctrine that such a crime has only a single victim.

The House rejected the single-victim substitute and passed the Unborn Victims of Violence Act twice before, in 1999 and 2001. Those bills died without any action in the Senate. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-Tn.) has indicated he hopes to turn to the issue very soon -- perhaps not long after House passage.

For the web savvy go to: <http://www.capwiz.com/nrlc/issues/alert/?alertid=5117116> for more information and a way to e-mail Congressman Shuster and Senators Specter and Santorum. Phone numbers are: 696-6318 or 202-255-2431 (Shuster), 202-244-4254 (Specter), and (202-244-6324 (Santorum).

"SUPPORT BLACK AND INDIAN MISSIONS"

Next weekend the annual National Collection for Black and Indian evangelization will be taken at Mass. It is an important National Collection, vital to the Church today, as it is used to support current and new evangelization programs. Our Holy Father has stressed, over and over again, the importance of evangelizing. Your support will help the many programs begun in the parishes and schools to continue. Please use the envelope that is in your pack of envelopes. Please be generous.

SAINT ROSE SCHOOL NEWS

The school students will attend the 8:30 A.M. Mass on Ash Wednesday (Feb. 25).

During Lent the students will pray the Stations of the Cross each Friday at 1:25 (except Friday, March 19. That week Stations will be on Thursday, March 18 at 1:25). We welcome you to join us.

Registration for Pre K and grades 1 – 8 for the 2004-2005 school year is set for Thursday March 4th at 6:30 P.M. or Sunday March 7th at 4:00 P.M. **Kindergarten registration** will be on Thursday, March 4th from 8:30 A.M. – 10:30 A.M. and from 1:30 P.M. – 2:30 P.M. Kindergarten is a different time because those parents need to meet with the Altoona Area School District nurse. Please call the school office for registration details (942-7835).

PONDEROSA STEAK HOUSE REBATE

If you eat at the Ponderosa Steak House mention St. Rose School when you order your meal, and each month Ponderosa will send our school a check for 10% of the "St. Rose School sales". We would appreciate your support! Thank you.

St. Rose of Lima Home School Association will sponsor a Basket Bingo on Monday, March 29, 2004 at St. Rose of Lima Bingo Hall from 6:00 p.m. –9:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20.00 with an additional value pack available for \$35.00. You may purchase tickets at the St. Rose of Lima School Office during school hours or before/after the Saturday 5:30 p.m. Mass and the Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass.

WITHIN OUR PARISH FAMILY

IN THE HOSPITAL: Altoona: Harry McConnell
Bon Secours: Marie Elder
Altoona Center for Nursing: Sondra Frederick, Lawrence Beiswenger

MAY HE REST IN PEACE

We pray for the repose of the soul of Orlando DeCriscio whom we honored with Christian Burial during the past week. May God give comfort to his family

CANDLES: For the Men & Women in the Military who are serving our Country by The Christian Mothers, Fritz & Mary Werkmeister by Joyce & Toby Kjarsgaard, Ankle Operation by Kathy Williamson Vigliotti,
WELCOME!

Last weekend Matthew James Haines, son of M/M James Haines received the light of Christ in the sacrament of Baptism.

STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS: Parishioners who would like a statement of their contributions are asked to call the Rectory between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

PRAYER CHAIN- If you would like Our Prayer Chain to pray for your intentions, please call Bernice Shoenfelt at 942-5659

Did you enjoy Disciples in Mission? Would you like to participate in a similar Lenten scripture group this year?

Name _____
Phone Number _____
Preferred time: a.m. p.m. Day: _____
I would consider leading a group: yes no

Please return to rectory or place in the collection basket.

EVERYONE WELCOME

Adult Faith Enrichment Class will be held February 22, 2004, 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. in the school reading room.
Subject: **Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

Please remember to renew your membership in the ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY. As a member of the society you partake in the graces of a Mass each month and at the time of your death. The Altar Society provides flowers, candles and altar linens used throughout the year. Please use the envelope provided in your box of envelopes.

"IN DEFENSE OF LIFE."

To claim the right to abortion, infanticide and euthanasia, and to recognize that right in law, means to attribute to human freedom a perverse and evil significance: that of an absolute power over others and against others. This is the death of true freedom.

LITURGICAL REFLECTION... Ash Wednesday (February 25) and Good Friday (April 9) are days of fast and abstinence.. All Fridays of Lent (February 27, March 5, 12, 19, 26; April 2) are days of abstinence. **FASTING** refers to only one full meal, with two small meals and no eating otherwise for the day. Those who have reached their 18th birthday and not yet they 59th are obliged to FAST. **ABSTINENCE** refers to not eating meat at all during the day. All those who have reached their 14th birthday are obliged to ABSTAIN. The Church encourages the faithful to fast and abstain throughout the other days of Lent. This is not obligatory and can take a variety of forms other than that of food.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, 806 11th St. Altoona, Pa. will sponsor a Fish Dinner –Baked or Fried on Ash Wednesday, February 25, 2004 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Tickets \$6.00 -take outs available. Tickets may be purchased at the Rectory from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

St. Patrick Church, Newry will have a Seafood Buffet all Fridays during Lent, including Good Friday. St. Patrick School Cafeteria. From 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Children under 6 free, Ages 6-12 \$4.00, Ages 13-55, \$8.50 and Seniors 56+, \$7.50.

Families and the Gospel

February 22 Luke 6:27-38
Jesus exhorts us to "love, expecting nothing in return." This is the kind of love that bonds a family together. Jesus is not speaking of a romantic feeling but a personal decision and commitment to serve, forgive, bless and pray for others...especially when we don't FEEL like it!

The Cathedral Parish will be celebrating Evening Prayer and Benediction throughout the Lenten and Easter seasons. Please feel free to join us in our celebration Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m.: March 7, 14, 21, & 28; April 4, 18, 25; May 2 (May Crowning), 9, 16, 23 & 30. The Cathedral Parish is located on Thirteenth Street and Cathedral Square in Altoona.

Carmelite Community of the Word

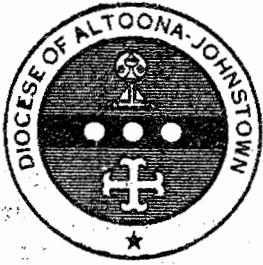
March 6, 2004 a Lenten Day of Reflection: **Clay in the Hands of the Potter** will be offered at the CCW Incarnation Center from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Using clay as a medium for expression, spend a day reflecting on how God has and continues to mold you into His loving creature. Overnight accommodations available. Pre-registration is required. Contact: Sr. Marilyn 886-4098 or Sr. Jane 684-3553 for additional information and/or registration.

Saint Francis University

There will be a series of non-credit compute workshops held on Saturdays at Saint Francis University starting March 13th. Classes on Microsoft Access and Excel will be offered from 9 am. –12 p.m. in beginner and advanced levels. There will also be a two-day seminar just for Senior Citizens followed by two courses in Microsoft Word and Excel geared just for seniors. For more information or to register for any of these programs, please contact the Office of Continuing Education at 472-3012 or (800)457-6300 or email us at oce@francis.edu.

"Benedictine Sampler" Weekend March 5-7, 2004 for single Catholic women to explore the Benedictine charism to seek God in community. Meet the Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh, share our prayer and life. We join contemplation and action for mercy and justice, responding to needs of time and place. Reflect on call and discernment, on Benedictine spirituality, share "lectio divina;" pray Liturgy of Hours. Come listen, and pray. Contact Sister Judith Nero at 412-931-2844 x 118 or email sinero@osbpgh.org. Website: www.orbpgh.org

Attention prayerful single women and men!
The St. Emma Monastery (for women) in Greensburg, Pa. Mary Immaculate and St. Joseph Monastery (for women) in Louisville, Ky., The Mercedarians (for men) in Philadelphia, Pa., the Augustinians (for men) in Villanova, Pa., and the famous Gethsemani Trappist Abbey (for men) in Trappist, Ky. be hosting exciting "Live-in Experience" vocational retreats. Work and pray with the nuns and monks and enjoy the vocational talks. There is no cost but space is limited. These retreats are popular so make your reservations early. Many dates are available which include Feb. 27-29th, March 19-21st, and April 23-25th. For more dates and information call toll free 1-800-221-1807.



Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 22, 2004

Office of The Bishop
126 Logan Boulevard
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Household of God,

Just as I felt a need to write to you during the Advent Season, I now do so again at the beginning of our Lenten observance. It appears that the Lord has chosen to make the holy seasons quite real and appropriately significant for us.

On February 27, an important report will be made public. This comes as a result of the *Charter for the Protection of the Children and Young People*. Through the *Charter*, a review board (now called the National Review Board and made up entirely of lay people) was established. We Bishops asked the Board to commission a study on the nature and scope of the problem of sexual abuse of minors by clergy within the Catholic Church in the United States from 1950 through 2002. That report will contain information about how many clergy are alleged to have perpetrated sexual abuse of minors, how many victims there have been, and the financial costs involved nationwide. A separate report will attempt to make an initial assessment of causes.

The report of February 27 will not reference any local statistics. But, as you know, I have already informed you of our diocesan numbers in my Advent Pastoral letter. At that time, I promised information relative to our financial costs in those cases.

As I informed you in December, we have been able to determine that we have received and followed through on accusations affecting 16 priests, ministering within the Diocese during the time of the study. Of these, three are deceased. Eight are suspended from public priestly ministry. Four cases are currently being reviewed by the Holy See. One priest was dismissed from the clerical state. This represents 2.5% of the priests calculated to have served the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown during the fifty years covered by the national survey. These cases involve approximately 37 victims. In addition, allegations against eleven other priests were received but not able to be substantiated. Even in a number of those cases, we have made counseling and other services available to those bringing forth the charges.

We have found our records to show that the above cases required an expenditure of around \$3,265,000. In order to interpret that figure more accurately, it helps to set the Luddy court case apart. The court judgment paid to Michael Hutchison in the Luddy case was \$1,208,000. Our legal fees for that case have amounted to \$1,326,000. Both of these amounts should be covered by insurance.

Our expenses in the cases involving the other 26 priests were as follows: \$306,000 of insurance monies has been paid in victim compensation and another \$302,000 in legal fees, also of insurance monies. In addition, about \$37,000 has been paid in counseling fees for victims and another \$85,000 covered the cost of counseling for accused priests. These later two are not covered by insurance.

While the financial costs have been burdensome for the Church, we need to think of the terrible cost of these crimes in terms of human suffering. No dollar amount can eliminate that pain. I am also concerned that there may be persons who need our help and support, and who have not yet come forward. I invite them to do so. We need to help them, as that is the only way that healing will occur. We also want to insure that our children will be safe in the future, by creating an environment that does not permit behaviors that put children at risk.

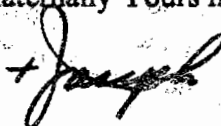
To that end, the following has been accomplished in our Diocesan Church. In 1987, we created a policy regarding improper ministerial behavior on the part of clergy, including the sin of sexual abuse of minors. That policy has been updated periodically and now includes inappropriate behavior on the Internet. We formed an Allegation Review Board, even before it was made mandatory. We are implementing a Safe Environment Program through *Protecting God's Children*. I have appointed a Victims' Advocate and a Victims' Assistance Coordinator. Our Diocese was verified as being compliant with the *CHARTER* by the Gavin Group, which conducted the national audit.

Please keep in mind that the study to be released on February 27 covers a period of 50 years and is unprecedented. There is no comparable study of any other group. As in the past, Christ's Church is able to deal with sin, even that which the recent revelations have made known to us. As difficult as all this has been, we can take some solace in the fact that no known substantiated incidences have occurred within our Diocesan Church during the past 20 years.

We cannot change history, but we can make every effort not to repeat it. Both the bishops and priests of our Church are sorrowfully aware that the misconduct to be detailed in the report is a complete contradiction of what the priest and bishop are meant to be, as well as what the Catholic people have a right to expect. Whatever the study reports about the number of victims and the number of abusers (out of the tens of thousands of priests of the last 50 years), there is a great predominance of dedicated deacons, priests, and bishops joining the Catholic Faithful in remaining authentic to their Christian calling. Nevertheless, we know that even one abuser and one victim is one too many. And, for that, no apology is enough.

Finally, as we enter this holy season of prayer and penance, please consider making every effort to attend one of the four Penance Services being planned for our Diocese during Lent. We will gather for the specific purpose of seeking forgiveness, healing, and reconciliation, particularly with regard to the sin of the sexual abuse of children and teenagers. Together in prayer and action, we can be the Church that God wants us to be. May it happen during this Lenten Season!

Fraternally Yours in the Lord,



(Most Rev.) Joseph V. Adamec
Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown

CATHOLICS COME HOME

What Is It?

- * A chance to welcome inactive Catholics back home to the church!
- * A chance for inactive Catholics to vent feelings. They may have been hurt by something that happened to them or something that was said to them in the past.
- * An opportunity to ask questions: About the Church and what we believe; Marriage and annulments;
- * An update on the Church since Vatican II.
- * A relaxed and very informal program conducted by lay people and guest visits by priests.

Who is it for?

- * Anyone who has left the Church.
- * Catholics who have drifted or become inactive in the Church.
- * You! A chance to open your heart to them.

When are the sessions?

On three successive Sundays from 3:00-4:30 PM in the school reading room. Attend all or any of the sessions! Refreshments will be served and there is no cost. Active Catholics are also welcomed to attend.

March 14 - **Memories of the Church** ~ How has it changed? What is really different?

Prayer ~ The part it plays in our lives!

March 21 - **Marriage & Annulments** ~ Marriage after divorce is often the cause of estrangement.

A Personal Relationship with Jesus ~ Christ loves us unconditionally! He never leaves us. How can I walk with Christ?

March 28 - **Eucharist** ~ What people long away from the church may refer to as Holy Communion. Many are hungry for Holy Communion again!

Reconciliation ~ What some may think of as Confession. How the sacrament heals and blesses the penitent.

What should I do?

- * Think of relatives and friends who are inactive Catholics
- * Invite them to accept our love and support
- * Come with them!

Where should we come?

- * Saint Rose of Lima Catholic Church (School Reading Room) Guides will welcome you.
5519 Sixth Avenue, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16602

How do I get more information?

- * Parish Office: Saint Rose of Lima at 814.944.8509 or frjded@stroselima.com

See you Sundays at 3:00 PM at St. Rose of Lima Church