

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

Sun Mar 12 Second Sunday of Lent
9:15-10:15 AM Religious Ed. Gr. K-9
10:30 AM *Interpreted Mass for the Deaf*

Tues Mar 14 6:10 PM Bingo

Wed Mar 15 5:45-6:30 PM Pro-Life Rosary
6:30 PM 8:15 Choir Rehearsal
7:30 PM 10:30 Choir Rehearsal

Thurs Mar 16 9:00-11:10 AM Eucharistic Adoration

Fri Mar 17 5:30 PM Stations of the Cross
6:10 PM Bingo

Sat Mar 18 9:00-11:00 AM Penance Retreat-Grade 1
9:30-10:30 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal

Sun Mar 19 Third Sunday of Lent
9:15-10:15 AM Religious Ed. Gr. K-9
10:30 AM *Interpreted Mass for the Deaf*



Mass Intentions

Monday, March 13

8:30 a.m. William Eichenlaub (*Dorothy Eichenlaub & Family*)
7:00 p.m. Mildred Crookston (*Family*)

Tuesday, March 14

8:30 a.m. †Minnie Ciccarella (*Vicky & Joe Ruggiero*)

Wednesday, March 15

8:30 a.m. †James Meintel (*Tab & Julia Scarfone*)

Thursday, March 16

8:30 a.m. †Tom Helffrich (*Bob & Lucia Donnelly*)

Friday, March 17

8:30 a.m. †Dr. Joseph A. & Margaret M. Ronan (*Pat & Rosemary Ronan*)

Saturday, March 18 St. Cyril of Alexandria

8:30 a.m. †Geraldine E. Brown (*St. Rose of Lima Parish Council*)
5:30 p.m. †James Sanders (*Dave & Pat Shellenberger*)

Sunday, March 19 Third Sunday of Lent

7:00 a.m. †Clarence S. Adams (*Francis & Margaret Adams*)
8:15 a.m. †Charles E. Dillon (*Mike, Cindy, Travis & Troy Sharbaugh*)
10:30 a.m. †Matthew P. Zakrzwski (*Linda & Family*)
12 NOON Mass For The People

PARISH SACRIFICIAL GIVING -March 4-5, 2006

Regular	\$8829.32	Christmas	\$ 95.50
Capital Campaign	\$ 276.00	Rose	\$ 521.48
Easter Flowers	\$ 137.00	Candles	\$ 10.00
Ash Wednesday	\$ 616.00	Candlemas	\$ 17.00
Black & Indian	\$ 307.00		
Catholic Relief Ser.	\$ 5.00	Total	\$10814.30

MINISTERS FOR THIS WEEK

Stations of the Cross, March 17, 2006

5:30 p.m. Tim Link, Kathryn Nazaruk
Altar Servers for March 18-19, 2006
Saturday, March 18, 2006
5:30 p.m. Ally Sheedy, Molly McCall, Maggie McCall
Sunday, March 19, 2006
7:00 a.m.
8:15 a.m. Daniel Lersch, Kaitlyn Lersch, Alex Askey
10:30 a.m. Erica Wiley, Becky Hughes, Patrick Irwin
12 Noon Kathryn Nazaruk, Elizabeth Jacobs, Jamey Brumbaugh
Eucharistic Ministers for March 18-19, 2006
5:30 p.m. M. Tillard, J. Shoenfelt, S. Askey, B. Bartley, J. Scarfone
7:00 a.m. B. Altiero, D. Leahey, R. Fox
8:15 a.m. J. Woomer, K. Woomer, D. Cree, R. Novack, D. Smith
10:30 a.m. R. Skupien, K. Mrdjenovich, K. Zelnosky, C. Rickens., T. Goss
12 Noon J. Eberhardt, J. Frena, J. Heiss
Lectors for March 18-19, 2006
5:30 p.m. Vi Bettwy, Maria Spayd
7:00 a.m. John. Kenny, Ray Kline
8:15 a.m. Chuck Wolf, Tom Irwin III
10:30 a.m. Chris Danison, Jim Klueg
12 Noon Bob Helbig

FROM THE PASTOR

PARISH AND AREA RECONCILIATION Our Lenten reconciliation service is Sunday, April 2, 4:00 P.M. We will have three priests in the reconciliation rooms as well as other priests stationed throughout the school. **Other opportunities for your celebration of sacramental reconciliation are:** St. John's, Lakemont ~Monday, March 27, 6:30 P.M.; St. Demetrius, Gallitzin- Tuesday, March 28, 7:00 P.M.- Cathedral ~ Wednesday, April 5, 6:30 P.M.; Our Lady of Lourdes ~ Friday, April 7, 5:30 P.M. and St. Mary's, Hollidaysburg ~ Sunday, April 9, 4:00 P.M. Additionally Sacred Heart will have sacramental reconciliation nightly at 7:00 P.M. during its Novena, March 27 - April 4. These communal services heighten our awareness that we are a pilgrim people in need of forgiveness and that as a community we celebrate God's saving grace. Times for individual celebration of reconciliation at St. Rose are the usual Saturday times (Noon and after the 5:30 evening Mass), and following morning Mass Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week.

LENTEN AND HOLY THURSDAY ALMSGIVING

As we pray with God throughout our Lenten journey, we reach out to those in need and grow in solidarity with them. Our 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. We gather your Rice Bowls during Holy Week.

Your participation in Operation Rice Bowl is yet another way to reach those in need both in our own community and around the world. 75% of your Operation Rice Bowl contribution helps fund Catholic Relief Services

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

overseas development projects that bring clean water, small enterprise development and agriculture enrichment to the poor overseas. The remaining 25% stays here in our Diocese to help the poor in our own community.

Holy Thursday, the day of the Lord's Supper, is also our occasion to honor the continuing good work done in the name of the rectory's former cook, Gloria Gates. We forward the gathered Holy Thursday offering to the Gloria Gates Foundation. The Foundation helps the youth of Evergreen Manor. Be abundantly generous in your Lent and Holy Thursday almsgiving

ST. ROSE SCHOOL NEWS

*Thank you to George and Barbara Mitchell for their donation to the library in memory of Joseph R. Mannino. Thank you, also, to the staff of Behavioral Health Services at Altoona Regional Health System in memory of Sonda Frederick.

*Meetings for the week:

- School Council - Thursday, March 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the computer lab.
- PR Committee - Thursday, March 16 at 6:15 p.m. in the library.

* The students will pray the Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent at 1:30 in the church. All are welcome to join us.

* St. Rose School will offer an OPEN HOUSE, pre school to eighth grade, on Wednesday, March 22 from 6:30 PM until 8:30 PM. Teachers and parents will be here to answer questions, discuss our programs, and help you tour our school. We're looking forward to seeing you!

* The 5:30 Mass on Saturday, March 18 will be a "school" Mass.

PRE SCHOOL REGISTRATION is Tuesday, March 14 from 8:30-11:30 and 1:00-2:30). Please bring your child's current immunization records, birth certificate, Baptismal certificate and social security number. There is a \$50.00 registration fee payable at the time of registration. PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION.(942-7835)

RETREAT

Saturday, March 18 – Penance Retreat for all Parents & Students in Grade 1. It will be held in the Social Hall from 9:00-11:00 a.m.

OFFERTORY PRESENTERS

March 18	5:30 p.m.	St. Rose School Children
March 19	7:00 a.m.	Barry & Theresa Noel & Family
	8:15 a.m.	Mike & Debbie Dillon & Family
	10:30 a.m.	Linda Zakrzewski
	12 Noon	Ralph & Michele Jacobs

ICONS: SACRED DOORWAYS

Come discover why icons have been venerated for centuries in the Catholic Church. Come discover why Pope John Paul II urged all Catholics to pray with them. This Lenten presentation on Sunday, April 2, will feature a display of over 100 icons and icon prints of all types, including a rare collection of ancient Russian hand painted icons. Area iconographer, Teresa Futrick, will be on hand to answer any questions you might have about this sacred art. There will be a presentation from 1:30 until 3:00 at St. Rose, in the church, and the icons will be on display following the presentation..

WANTED: DIRECT SALES/PARTY PLAN VENDORS

We are planning a "Party Plan Expo" as a fundraiser for our school. This fun Ladies afternoon will be held on April 23. We are looking for vendors from within our school/parish families. If you are involved in any of the following organizations, please call Leigh McCall 943-6726.

Creative Memories; Stampin' Up; Tastefully Simple; Lia Sophia; Silpada; Tupperware; Longaberger; Home & Garden; Home Interior; Party Lite; Princess House; Fuller Brush; Avon; The Body Shop. (If your business is not listed, please call!) Craft vendors are welcome too! This is a great opportunity to help our school while growing your business

ST. ROSE BASKET BINGO

St. Rose of Lima School will be having their Third Annual Longaberger Basket Bingo on Monday, March 27 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Social Hall.

Tickets are \$20.00 with an additional value pack available for \$35.00. You may purchase tickets at St. Rose of Lima School Office during school hours or by calling Kim Irwin at 942-6892.

This is a fun women's' night out with food, refreshments and great prizes.

CANDLES – For the Men & Women in the Military who are serving our Country by the Christian Mothers, Fritz & Mary Werkmeister by Toby & Joyce Kjarsgaard, Deceased Friends by Katie Noel, Kyla Longo (Recovery & Test Results) by Felice Longo

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

MUSIC NOTES

Children's Choir Rehearsals will take place in the Choir Loft on Saturday Mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.. We are preparing to sing for Palm Sunday at the 8:15 a.m. Mass and Easter Morning at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. New members ages 7 to 13 are always welcome – No experience necessary. For questions contact Bryce Cossitor at 943-0174.

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS MASS will be held on Monday, March 13 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will follow in the Library.

PRAYER CARDS

Please take a Prayer Card that is on the tree in the foyer and pray for one of the candidates of RCIA, Confirmation and First Communion during Lent.

ALTAR SOCIETY

March is the month to use the Altar Society envelope. To be a member of the Altar Society gives you many spiritual benefits including a monthly Mass and your membership pays for the candles, flowers, etc for the Altar.

ADULT ENRICHMENT CLASS will be held on March 18. Time 9:20-10:20 a.m. Topic: Putting Flesh on Christ. Presenter: Larry Harker. Class will be held in the school computer room.

THE MANY COLORS OF GRACE

The liturgy of the Church makes a rich and varied use of color. The color of the stole, chasuble, and dalmatic changes according to the feast and season. The tent-like veil covering the tabernacle and other elements in the sanctuary may also change with them, following the same rules. The variety of liturgical colors signifies the different ways in which we are touched by the grace of Christ in the liturgy.

Violet, signifying longing and penance, is used in Advent and Lent. Rose-colored vestments, a sign of anticipated joy, are used on the Third Sunday of Advent and the Fourth Sunday of Lent. White, the color of purity and of glory, is used during Christmas and the Paschal Triduum, as well as on certain feasts of the Lord and on feasts of the Virgin Mary and many saints. Vestments of gold or silver cloth may be used on great solemnities. Green, symbolizing growth, fruitfulness, and hope, is worn on Sundays and weekdays during Ordinary Time. Red, recalling the blood of Christ and the martyrs, as well as the fire of the holy Spirit, is worn on Passion Sunday, Pentecost, Mass of the Holy Spirit, feasts of the Holy Cross and apostles and martyrs. For Masses of the dead and funerals, violet, white or black vestments may be worn.

The association of colors with the various feasts,

seasons, and mysteries of the Lord is part of our Catholic liturgical heritage. Even preschool children are capable of grasping the meaning of the liturgical colors. The Church, "in many-colored robes is led to the king" (cf. Psalm 45:14).

*Prepared by Father Mark-Daniel Kirby, Ocist, PhD.
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SAINT PATRICK'S DAY

This year, St. Patrick's Day falls on a Friday of Lent. It is a day of fast and abstinence. I hereby dispense from that obligation all those who are of Irish ethnic background in any degree and those who will be celebrating with them. This I do on the condition that they pray at least once for more vocations to the priesthood.

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.

"IN DEFENSE OF LIFE"

Euthanasia, presented as a "humane solution" for a suffering person, is nothing more or less than an action taken to deliberately end a human life. Included in this definition is the withdrawal of food and water which is a natural means of preserving life and therefore morally obligatory. "Faiths differ on end-of-life treatments." *San Diego Union-Tribune, 4/7/05.*

LITURGICAL REFLECTION...

Pope Benedict XVI states, "Yes, even today the Lord hears the cry of the multitudes longing for joy, peace, and love. As in every age, they feel abandoned. Yet, even in the desolation of misery, loneliness, violence and hunger that indiscriminately afflict children, adults and the elderly, God does allow darkness to prevail." In addition to the Lenten disciplines of fasting and praying, the Church encourages believers to give alms to those who stand in need of help and assistance. We are to love God and to love our neighbor as ourselves. These Lenten days our almsgiving reaches out to those who are suffering because of hunger, loneliness, poor health and sinfulness. We make our Lenten days holy by giving alms, sharing our time, talent and treasure with the needy. In the name of Christ, we offer hope to those in darkness and discouragement.

Lenten Message of Our Holy Father, Benedict XVI, 2006.

PRAYER CORNER

I ask You to walk with me Lord, today and everyday.
As long as I can feel Your presence by my side,
I feel that I can do anything!

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

As I walk with You, please hold my hand,
and take me in the direction that pleases You. Amen

The Commission for Life & Justice of the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese scheduled a lecture on "Benedict's Labor of Love: A Consideration of the Pope's First Encyclical, *Deus Caritas Est*." Dr. Anthony Dragani, Asst. Prof. of Religious Studies at Mount Aloysius College will conduct the lecture. Held on Tuesday, April 4 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at Cosgrove Hall, Mt. Aloysius College, Cresson. Admission is \$5.00; students free with valid ID. Master Catechist credit available for Catholic educators and catechists. Reservations necessary by March 10. Send registration to Commission for Life & Justice, c/o Family Life Office, 5379 Portage St., Lilly, Pa. 15938 -814-886-5551.

Retreat/Workshop: Exploring "The Holy Longing": Spirituality & the Social Gospel
Saturday, March 25, 2006- 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.-\$15.00
Family Life Office Building in Lilly
Act 47 & Master Catechist Credits available to Catechist and Catholic Educators. Reservations can be made through the Commission for Life & Justice, c/o Family Life Office, 5379 Portage St., Lilly, Pa. 15938-814 886-5551. Reservations deadline March 14.

ST. VINCENT DEPAUL

The Society of St. Vincent DePaul will hold an orientation at Bishop Guilfoyle High School on Saturday, March 18, 2006. The orientation is open to anyone wishing to learn more about the society and its Mission in the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese. There is no charge for attending but you must pre-register by Friday, March 10. For more info or to register call 942-5732.

Protecting God's Children.

In the general societal context, the effects of sexual abuse are far reaching, A high percentage of the faithful are either directly or indirectly touched by sexual abuse. Those who have committed sexual crimes have assaulted the peace and dignity of us all. Sexual abuse robs victims of their sexual safety and security and for many their emotional well being. Damage to spirituality is often severe. If you or someone you know has had such an experience as a child or youth with a number of the clergy or a church employee and has been unable to share that experience or to seek help, we encourage you to call the *Children & Youth protection and Advocacy Office, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown at 814 886-8250.*

The Society of St. Vincent DePaul is sponsoring the second annual BGHS-Altoona High Alumni Basketball game Sunday, April 23, 2006, at the BG Gym on Pleasant Valley Blvd. The game is open to all graduates, men and women, who participated in BG or Altoona basketball who can provide \$100.00 in sponsorship, which will benefit the Society and its Mission to serve the needy in our area. For more information, call 942-5732 or emailcaconsiglio@aol.com

Lenten Vespers and Eucharistic Adoration will be held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 8th Avenue and 11th Street, on Sunday, March 19, 2006, at 4:00 p.m., celebrating the memory of Father Louis Secondo, T.O.R. The Franciscan Friars invite the friends of Father Louis and parishioners to attend the service.

LENTEN FISH BUFFET

Every Friday in Lent (except Good Friday) **St. Mary's in Altoona** will be having a Fish Dinner Buffet in the Memorial Hall Cafeteria. The price of the buffet is \$9.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. (4-12) and will be served from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Proceeds to go to the elevator fund.

St. Patrick's Newry, All You Can Eat Lenten Seafood Buffet

All Fridays during Lent, including Good Friday. St. Patrick School Cafeteria-South St. Newry. 4:00-7:00 p.m. Children under 6 Free. Ages 6-12 \$4.50. Adults 13-55) \$9.25. Seniors 56+ \$8.25. Free Desserts and Beverages. Take-outs available.

FISH DINNER will be held at the Kittanning Trail Vol. Fire Dept. on all Fridays, March 10 through April 7 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Baked or Fried Haddock, French Fries or Mac & Cheese, Cole Slaw or Apple Sauce, Roll. Located just off 58th St on Poland Ave. near Ebner Elementary School Take out available. Sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary.

FISH DINNERS

Every Friday during Lent, Our Lady of Lourdes will be serving Baked or Fried Fish, Baked Macaroni or French Fries, Coleslaw, Stewed Tomatoes, Roll, Butter, Beverage & Dessert. Adults \$7.00- Children \$4.75. Dinner served from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m..

SPRING FESTIVAL

St. Demetrius Parish, Gallitzin will have a Roast Beef Dinner on Sunday, March 26, 2006. Adults \$7.50 Children \$3.50, under 4 free. Games, Baskets, Bake Sale.

Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel Church, Loretto, Pa will sponsor their Annual Men's Turkey Dinner, on Sunday, March 19- 12 Noon until 4:00 p.m. Adults \$7.50. Children 12 and under \$4.50. It is prepared and served entirely by the Men of the Parish. Served in the School Hall.

The Youth Ministry of Holy Name Parish, in Ebensburg will hold a Basket Social on Sunday, March 26. Tickets \$5.00 for 25 chances. "**A Tea Party**" is the theme. Refreshments will include biscuits and scones with a dessert and beverage. Doors open at 1:00 p.m. and auction starts promptly at 2:00. Advance tickets can be purchased at Holy Name Rectory or by contacting Diane Bopp 472-4331.

Minutes
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
February 9, 2006, 7:00 PM, Computer Room

Opening Prayer

Pat Irwin and Father Crookston opened the meeting with a prayer.

Members present were:

Father Crookston, Pat Ronan, Vi Bettwy, Sue Cossitor, Pat Irwin, Frank Fochler, Judy Rossi, Cindy Boslet, Todd Cammarata, Tom Goss, John Brown, and Dave Kibblehouse.

Minutes

Tom Goss made a motion to approve the December 8, 2005 minutes. Todd Cammarata seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Committee Reports

Liturgy

Liturgical Ministries: Sue Cossitor reported the following:

- The new members of the Liturgical Commission are Chuck Wolf, who will represent the lectors, and Regina Friedenberger, who will represent the Eucharistic ministers. They replace Pat Condrin/Randy Donnelly and Bea Shoenfelt respectively. Bea will stay on as an RCIA representative.
- A new volume (Volume 2) of *Voices* has been published and will be purchased at a special rate of \$1.00 each. A free cover for each volume will also be included. Both Volume 1 and Volume 2 of *Voices* will be in the pews. There is little or no repetition of music between the two volumes. The purchase of these volumes has been made possible by a generous donation from the Christian Mothers to help defray the cost.
- The Banner Committee reported that the only church banner yet to be purchased is the Marian banner along with a metal stand to hold the banner. One contribution has already been made for the Marian banner. Other contributions are welcomed to help defray the cost of the banner and the stand.
- The Foyer Committee reported that one item yet to be accomplished with the foyer is the purchasing of plastic bins for some of the shelves in the reading alcove. Practically all the shelves are filled. Another meeting will occur in the future to further discuss with Father Crookston the décor of the foyer.
- A handout is being prepared for Ash Wednesday to include a small pocket cross and prayer card.
- At Holy Thursday Mass, chairs for foot washing will be placed in the center aisle and staggered on both sides so more people will be able to see what is happening.
- Since the Blessed Sacrament will be placed in the Sacristy on Good Friday, all vestments, etc. will be placed in the school library, and all vesting will be done in the library that day.
- Lectors, ushers and procession leader will have a scheduled practice/meeting for Holy Week...dates and times to be announced.
- A small liturgy-preparing group (**open to anyone in the parish**) will look at the liturgy for the Easter/Pentecost season and the church picnic. Those meetings will be February 28th, 7:30 – 9:00 PM and March 14th, 7:30 – 9:00 PM. **Anyone interested in participating in the small group should notify Sue Cossitor.**
- Important dates to remember are **March 5th**, RCIA Rite of Sending at 7:00 AM; **March 12th**, Penitential Rite for Baptized Candidates in RCIA at 7:00 AM; **March 26th**, Celebration of Second Scrutiny with Zachary George at 8:15 AM; **April 2nd**, Rite of Sending for the Confirmation Class at 8:15 AM; **April 2nd**, Icon Presentation in the church foyer (sponsored by Adult Faith Formation), 1:30 – 3:00 PM; and **April 2nd**, Penance Service at 4:00 PM.

Education

Catechesis: Vi Bettwy reported the following:

- The Christmas Outreach Project was a success. Gifts for three children and seven senior citizens were bought. Each year, those in Catechesis team up with Stanton, Kentucky and furnish gifts for the needy in that area. Sister Kathleen Mullen and Sister Eileen are Franciscan Sisters who work among the poor of Kentucky. Also, the tenth and eleventh graders bought and wrapped gifts for the children at the Gloria Gates Foundation. Each student had the name of one child and bought an age appropriate gift.
- The “Touching Safety” lessons, three and four, will begin on February 19th.
- Children will again participate with the “Rice Bowls” during the Lenten season. Each child will receive a Rice Bowl to fill during Lent. Also, some form of Lenten program will be done in each grade.
- Pre-K will be starting either February 26th or March 5th.
- Pictures have been taken of the Confirmation and First Communion classes. They will be displayed along with those of the RCIA people on the bulletin board in the vestibule.
- The Rite of Sending for the Confirmation Class will be held at the 8:15 Mass on April 2nd. Twenty-eight students will be confirmed on April 19th at the Cathedral.
- Baptism classes were conducted for one couple last month; and so far for next month, two families will be attending.
- RCIA has been meeting at 7:00 AM each Sunday and the children have been meeting at 9:15 AM. They will be going to the Cathedral on the first Sunday of Lent for the Rite of Election. There are one Catechumen and one candidate, and there are five adults.

- Adult Faith Formation continues to hold enrichment classes twice a month in the computer room at 9:20 AM. They are also looking at several other projects for the parish faithful.
- In the vestibule room in the foyer, a branch of the library has been open for several weeks. A few people have taken out books. More participation is welcomed. There will be a notice in the bulletin the week of February 12th about the library branch.

Parish School: Pat Ronan reported the following:

- Catholic Schools Week was great fun for kids, staff and parents. There were special activities and two beautiful student liturgies that began and closed the celebration.
- The Public Relations Committee has been very active. They designed a St. Rose School coloring book and mailed them to the two, three, and four-year-old children in the parish. They also sponsored an Open House for Pre School and advertised it in the *Altoona Mirror*, on the public access channel, and the St. Rose, Sacred Heart, and Our Lady of Lourdes Sunday bulletins. They will be giving teddy bears promoting the value of Catholic schools to newly baptized children and sending birthday cards each year to those children (ages one to four).
- The Protecting God's Children "Touching Safety" lessons for children, K – 8, are being done the week of February 5th.
- Monitoring Protecting God's Children compliance continues for all adults involved with the school.
- A program called "Parent Assistance Student Support" is being piloted with Catholic Charities. The program is specifically designed to address at risk behaviors before a problem arises. The program social workers will immerse themselves in the daily activities of the school in an effort to identify and prevent at-risk behaviors.
- The faculty and administration are currently working on their third year report to the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Elementary Schools. The report is due in May 2006. The report is an account of the goals and action plans of the school.
- The Technology Committee is currently looking at proposals from technology companies to take over once the school is no longer part of the diocesan technology group.

Other

- The *Catholic Welcome Home* committee will meet again on February 12th with those people interested in returning to the catholic religion. Also, Kathy Kibblehouse has written a piece to hand out to those individuals who may be thinking about, but have not yet decided to return to the church.
- A discussion ensued regarding SCRIPT as a possibility to generate funds for the school. Council was asked to think about the possibility until next meeting when the discussion will continue.

Finance

Stewardship: Father Crookston reported that the Stewardship Committee is looking at length of time and reflection activities pertinent to the plans for "Time for Renewal" for next year. A recommendation regarding "Time" will be forthcoming from the Stewardship Committee.

Saint Rose Endowment: The Saint Rose Endowment Plan was discussed. Father Crookston stated that it is important to make people aware of what the endowment is. It was suggested that a gathering of parishioners occur sometime in August or early September to explain the concept of an endowment plan.

Maintenance

Other: Pat Irwin and Father Crookston asked Judy Rossi to please contact Paul Engelman and obtain the maintenance list mentioned in last month's minutes and include the list here. The maintenance list follows: (1) trim trees along Sixth Avenue; (2) glaze and seal church windows; (3) repair, prime, and paint finish coat on rectory garage doors; (4) repair facing above door (Roselawn Avenue side); and (5) replace electrical covers along Sixth Avenue fence.

Family Life/Activities

Hospitality: Cindy Boslet reported the following:

- A flyer was issued recently asking for host families who would be interested in greeting and helping new parishioners become acquainted with the parish. Cindy received a few replies and will check with Leona Lanzendorfer, church secretary, to see if any new families have joined the parish.
- St. Rosa Palooza, a social event, to benefit the St. Rose School and athletic programs, is scheduled for Saturday, February 18, 2006, 6:30 – 11:30 PM in the Maria Parish Center.

Social Justice

Pro-life Activities: John Brown reported on the Pro Life March that was held in Washington, D.C. on January 23, 2006. He indicated that 85% of the crowd appeared to be young people. The weather was cold and rainy, but did not dampen the energy of the crowd.

Schedule of Meetings

March 9, April 6 (note date change to a week earlier due to Holy Week), May 11, and June 11 (Parish Picnic).

Next Meeting's Opening Prayer

Paul Engelman will give the opening prayer at the next meeting.

Closing Prayer

Pat Irwin offered the closing prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Judy Rossi*

Second Week of Lent

Prayer for the Lenten Journey

Almighty God,
open our hearts as we continue our journey
through Lent.

Give us stamina to maintain
our commitments.

Attune us to the sights, sounds,
and sensations
that will mark our path.

May our practice of prayer open our hearts
to your constant presence.

May our fasting empty us
so that we are filled with your grace.

May our giving of alms turn us
toward all who are in need.

Bless us and sustain us
as we make our way through this
holy season.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,
who lives and reigns with you and the
Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



March 12, 2006

Maintaining Momentum

In some interpretations of the Transfiguration (Mark 9:2–8) it is Peter, James, and John who undergo a dramatic change rather than Jesus. The disciples' eyes are opened and they see Jesus in his full glory. Peter wants to stay in the rarified air that opens the mind's eye. He wants to remain on the mountaintop undisturbed by pesky doubts, needy crowds, and unrelenting travel from village to village. Descending the mountain must have been a letdown.

Such an interpretation may echo our own journey through Lent. We start out enthusiastically, planning to attend a Lenten series, give up chocolate, devote quality time to daily prayer, and donate lavishly to a charity. As days and weeks wear on, however, our resolutions

grow burdensome and our original intentions shift from sincere desire to grudging obligation.

Maintaining momentum that will get us all the way to Holy Week is a challenge. How can our discipleship inspire us on the mountaintop and sustain us as we descend to daily routines?

Using resources that offer insights into the readings, taking part in the liturgies, and connecting with the community all help us stay on track. (LTP's *What Am I Doing for Lent This Year?* guides personal planning for the season.) All spiritual treks come complete with both spectacular vistas and mundane moments.

This Week at Home

Monday, March 13

Glimpses of Glory

How the sight of Jesus amazed Peter, John, and James on the mountaintop! While we may never experience a sight as dramatic as theirs, we can catch glimpses of God's glory in smaller ways if we remain attentive. What sights, sounds, smells, and sensations caught you by surprise today and reminded you of God's presence? Share these with other members of your family as you gather for prayer or a meal.

Tuesday, March 14

Lenten Practices: Fasting

In a defense of Christianity that he wrote for the Emperor Hadrian, Saint Aristides described how his fellow Christians made sacrifices to meet the needs of others. He explained that when someone in the community was in need, others would fast for several days, sending their own food to the needy person. How might your Lenten fasting bring nourishment to someone else?

Wednesday, March 15

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Lent is an especially good time to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation (also called the sacrament of Penance). Confessing our failings to a priest acknowledges that our personal sins have affects on the larger community and need the ministry of the Church. It allows us to receive the pardon from God that brings peace to our hearts. Check your parish bulletin or Web site for the date of a Reconciliation service or for the weekly times that the sacrament is offered individually. Mark this commitment

on your household calendar so you can plan to celebrate this sacrament of healing.

Thursday, March 16

Customs of Lent: Pretzels

Pretzels originated in the fifth century as a Lenten bread because they were devoid of the dairy products that were prohibited during the six-week fast. To make homemade pretzels using frozen bread dough, thaw a loaf and cut it into small pieces. Roll these into narrow strips, shape, and let them rise. Brush each piece with oil and sprinkle with coarse salt. Bake in a hot oven until golden brown. Before eating the pretzels, offer a prayer to Jesus, the Bread of Life, and ask for his blessing and guidance during Lent.

Friday, March 17

Saint Patrick

Today we celebrate the memorial of Saint Patrick, apostle of Ireland. Although the Church's observance today is more modest than the solemnity of Saint Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which we will celebrate next Monday, the life of this fifth-century missionary has inspired and fascinated many. Born in Scotland of Roman parents, he was captured by Irish raiders when he was a teenager, taken to Ireland, and sold as a slave to a chieftain landholder. For six years he tended his master's flocks, using his solitude to develop a deep spirituality through prayer. Inspired by a dream, he escaped and found his way back to his home, determined to dedicate his life to God. He sought out spiritual formation and education in some of the great monasteries on the continent. Eventually he was sent on missionary expeditions—to Britain and then to Ireland, where his earlier experience with the language, religion, and culture of the Celtic people made him an effective evangelizer. Learn more:

<http://www.saintpatrickcentre.com/index.asp> and <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/11554a.htm>.

Saturday, March 18

Saint Cyril of Jerusalem

"I renounce you, Satan, wicked and cruel tyrant." These words of Cyril of Jerusalem may sound a bit archaic but the intent within them is more relevant than we might suppose. Lent is a time for confronting the demons that beleaguer us—nagging anxieties, caustic resentments, crippling fears, festering anger. Once we name them we can also renounce them in order to embrace the light and life that comes with being transformed in Christ.

